

WESTIN CHICAGO RIVER NORTH

Best Jazz and Blues Clubs in Chicago

Jazz Clubs

Andy's Jazz Club 11 E. Hubbard Street 312-642-6805 andysjazzclub.com

Andy's Jazz Club is one of Chicago's best-known and most respected jazz venues featuring full dining, creating a truly unique experience. All reservations are good for 1 show only. Please make reservations in accordance with your desired show start time to get the most out of your experience! Admission is \$15 per person, per show. Venue hours: 5:30pm-12am. Dining room hours: 5:30pm-11:15pm. Live shows 6pm, 8:15pm, 10:30pm. Mon/Tues venue closes 10pm. Guests 21 and under are welcome to all shows with standard table reservations.

Winter's Jazz Club 465 N. McClurg Court 312-344-1270 wintersjazzclub.com

Located near Navy Pier in downtown Chicago, the venue overlooks the Ogden Slip where you may see beautiful views of the Chicago River and skyline. The club seats 100 in the performance space and 25 in the bar/lounge and you can expect straight-ahead jazz most days, but you can be surprised with a bout of live Gypsy-jazz, swing, a Bourbon Street quartet and some other riffs on the genre. This is a "listening room" so conversation is saved for after the show. Sets run 75 minutes at 7:30 and 9:30 pm Tuesday -Saturday and 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. Sunday. There's a one-drink minimum of \$10/person/set. Cover charge varies but sit at the bar and enjoy half-off of the standard listening room cover charge. Enjoy 25-percent off drinks during Happy Hour Tues-Sat. 5:30-7pm. And Sun, 4-5 p.m. Seating is on a first-come first serve basis.

Jazz Showcase 806 S. Plymouth Court 312-360-0234 jazzshowcase.com

Founded in 1947 by Joe Segal, this Chicago jazz icon has welcomed many famous musicians including Dizzy Gillespie (who appeared there on his birthday for many years), Count Basie and McCoy Tyner just to name a few. Determined to spread the faith to the next generation of jazz fans, the Showcase invites families to the Sunday 4 p.m. matinee provided the fans-in-the-making observe the unwritten "no-talking rule". The club accepts cash at the door and you can also purchase tickets online with your credit card). Ticket prices vary depending on the show. Venue hours: Every night 8pm and 10pm. Sunday matinee at 4pm. (Free for kids under 14).

Green Mill 4802 N. Broadway Avenue 773-878-5552 greenmilljazz.com

Once a hangout of Al Capone, Charlie Chaplan and Gloria Swanson, the Green Mill has what modern clubs lack-character. It was also a speakeasy during Prohibition and retains an early 20th-century look and feel. The live music schedule is packed with jazz, big band, blues and swing music, plus the popular, long-running Uptown Poetry slam on the third Sunday of every month. If you want a table, get to the cash-only venue early and enjoy cocktails before the bands play their first note. Green Mill hours are Sunday through Thursday 4pm-1am. Friday, 4pm-2am and Saturday, 1pm-2am. Bands play from 8pm-midnight. Thursday nights they feature bands that play dance music. This means you can dance on Tuesday and Thurs nights.

Blues Clubs

House of Blues 329 N. Dearborn Street 312-923-2018 houseofblues.com/chicago
House of Blues is a music venue and restaurant with a Southern-inspired menu. The music hall hosts live acts of all sizes and genres. The concerts are standing room only with the choice to upgrade to seating through the VIP department. Age restrictions vary on a show to show basis. The restaurant features live-blues performers every night they are open- typically Wednesday-Saturday from 5pm to midnight. House of Blues also has an exclusive 21+ V.I.P. lounge and dining room called the Foundation Room featuring live music. For more information on all events please call the HOB box office 312-923-2018.

Blue Chicago 536 N. Clark Street 312-661-0100 bluechicago.com
Blue Chicago has been presenting the best in authentic Chicago Blues in a warm and friendly atmosphere since 1985. Throughout the years it has showcased such Blues legends as Koko Taylor, Magic Slim and Eddie Clearwater just to name a few. Doors open at 8pm until 1am - 2am on Sat. Open Wed-Sun. First set begins at 9pm. Last set ends at 1:30am-2:30 on Saturday. Admission is first-come, first-served \$12. \$15 Fri-Sat. Cash only. Guests must be 21 years of age. Blue Chicago serves alcoholic beverages and soft drinks, no food.

Buddy Guy's Legends 700 S. Wabash Avenue 312-427-1190 buddyguy.com
Named after Chicago's most prominent blues artist still playing today, Buddy's draws the biggest blues artists around having hosted famous musicians including the man himself, Koko Taylor, Kid Rock, Eric Clapton and John Mayer. Peruse the mellow blues joint's calendar online and you'll see it jam-packed with great artists. Enjoy New-Orleans-inspired food and great music with free all-ages acoustic shows, too. Fascinating memorabilia dot the walls of the cavernous room while pool tables and a Southern kitchen serving po'boys and jambalaya keep the patrons satisfied. All ages allowed till 8pm when it becomes strictly 21. Cover \$15-\$25.

Kingston Mines 2548 N. Halsted Street 773-477-4646 kingstonmines.com
Kingston Mines is the largest and oldest continuously operating blues club in Chicago, so it's a must for fans of the genre. Magic Slim, Koko Taylor, Sugar Blue, Billy Branch and Junior Wells and other blues' legends have packed the house with nonstop blues seven nights a week. Home to blues since 1968, the club includes a late night kitchen that serves bites, chicken and shrimp right up to the end of the night. The cover charge covers two bands on two stages and music until 3:30am (Sunday-Friday) and 4:30am (Saturday). Students (21+)/faculty get in free Sunday-Thursday night and enjoy discounted admission Friday/Saturday; those 65+ get a discount all week and US military (current and separated)/police/firefighters get in free all week.

Piano Bars

Howl at the Moon 26 W. Hubbard St. 312-863-7427

If love puts a song in your heart, then this rocking piano bar is for you. Dueling pianists battle it out nightly on a pair of baby grands, and singing along is practically required. Typical bar fare menu. Hours: 5pm-2am Mon-Fri; 5pm-3am Sat; 7pm -2am Sun. Pianos start 8pm Sun-Thurs; 5:45pm Sat; 6:45pm Sun.

Piano Bar at Mastro's 520 N. Dearborn St. 312- 521-5100

Enjoy lively music from 6:30pm-midnight nightly in the lounge of this elegant steakhouse.

Redhead Piano Bar 16 W. Ontario St. 312-640-1000

A one of a kind piano bar with a fun crowd hovering around the piano singing classic tunes. Hours: Sunday-Friday 7pm-4am, Saturday 7pm-5am