

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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AMTRAK ADDING TRAINS FOR MIDWEST THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY TRAVEL

CHICAGO – In anticipation of the busiest travel week of the year, America’s Railroad® is prepared to accommodate the surge of holiday travelers with additional capacity on several routes in the Midwest. Extra trains will operate to and from [downstate Illinois](#) and [Michigan](#) and Amtrak will also operate every available passenger railcar in its fleet.

Tickets sell out quickly so customers are encouraged to plan ahead and [book tickets](#) early for availability and pricing. Amtrak *Lincoln Service* and *Illinois Zephyr/Carl Sandburg* trains are operated under a contract with the [Illinois Department of Transportation](#) and all Amtrak services in Michigan are under a contract with the [Michigan Department of Transportation](#). Schedules for the extra trains are attached.

Amtrak is working to provide a hassle-free travel experience while connecting customers with friends and family. Improvements to the boarding process have been made at Chicago Union Station in time for Thanksgiving travel, including:

- Business class travelers on these trains have a new [Metropolitan Lounge](#), located near the station’s historic Great Hall and next to a new ticket area for those who are making cash transactions. These customers, along with [Amtrak Guest Rewards](#) Select Plus or Select Executive Members, board ahead of coach customers.
- Customers traveling in Coach class on reserved trains can receive priority boarding by buying Legacy Club access. Other coach customers, who will be boarded in the order they check in, can receive a same-day boarding pass at the new service center in the Great Hall, and at other locations in the station.
- The South Boarding Lounge in the station’s Concourse level is set aside for the assisted boarding of customers age 62 and over, those with disabilities, families traveling with children 12 and under, and active duty military personnel.

- more -

NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

Chicago Union Station, 500 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60661-5702 tel 312 544.5390 fax 202 799.NEWS MediaRelationsChicago@Amtrak.com

These additional tips will help to ensure a smooth trip:

- **Purchasing Tickets:** [eTicketing](#) is available on every train route throughout the nation. Travelers may purchase tickets early using [Amtrak.com](#), Quik-TrakSM or ticket windows at staffed stations (where available), [Amtrak mobile apps](#), or by calling 800-USA-RAIL.
- **2+2 = Free:** Amtrak has the friendliest [baggage policy](#) in the travel industry. Passengers can bring two bags and two carry-ons, up to 150 pounds collectively, for free! We encourage customers who are carrying multiple bags to use the elevator whenever possible for safety and convenience during the holiday rush.
- **Avoid the Rush:** The busiest travel days are the Tuesday and Wednesday before Thanksgiving and the Sunday after the holiday. Other than on Thanksgiving Day, morning trains typically have more available seats than those in the afternoon or evening.
- **Arrive Early:** Allow plenty of time at stations prior to departure – at least 45 minutes beforehand if picking up tickets. Arrange for pre-boarding if you need extra time or assistance, and use Amtrak [Red Cap](#) agents to help you with your baggage.
- **Check Train Schedules:** Make sure to check holiday train schedules prior to arriving at the station with a helpful, online-only [timetable](#) provided by Amtrak.
- **Carry Photo ID:** Passengers are required to show valid photo identification when purchasing tickets. Make sure to carry valid photo ID at all times, as it may be requested aboard trains.
- **Be Safe:** Be aware of your surroundings, stand back from the edge of the platform, do not leave your bags unattended, and watch your step when boarding or leaving the train or when walking between cars when the train is in motion.

About Amtrak®

Amtrak – America’s Railroad® – is dedicated to safe and reliable mobility as the nation’s intercity passenger rail service provider and its high-speed rail operator. With our state and commuter partners, we move people, the economy and the nation forward, carrying more than 30 million Amtrak passengers for each of the past five years. Formally known as the National Railroad Passenger Corporation, Amtrak is governed by a nine member board of directors appointed by the President of the United States and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Anthony R. Coscia is board chairman and Jeffrey R. Moreland is vice chairman. Amtrak operates more than 300 trains daily – at speeds up to 150 mph (241 kph) – connecting more than 500 destinations in 46 states, the District of Columbia and three Canadian Provinces. Learn more at [Amtrak.com](#) or call 800-USA-RAIL for schedules, fares and other information. Check us out at [blog.Amtrak.com](#), Like us on [Facebook.com](#) and Follow us on [Twitter](#) @Amtrak.

SPECIAL ILLINOIS THANKSGIVING TIMETABLE

The trains shown below are in addition to the regularly scheduled trains that will also operate.

EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 23 AND 27, 2016

Amtrak® will operate eight extra trains in Illinois in order to supplement regularly scheduled Lincoln Service® and Illinois Zephyr®/Carl Sandburg® trains for the 2016 Thanksgiving Holiday period—Regular Train 383 operates 20 minutes later as indicated below, while other trains may have slight schedule adjustments. These extra trains will operate between Chicago, IL and Quincy/Bloomington-Normal, IL and serve stations as indicated.

ILLINOIS ROUTES

Southbound

Train Name ▶	Lincoln Service	Lincoln Service Extra
Train Number ▶	301	309
Days of Operation ▶	Wed, 11/23 Sun, 11/27	Wed, 11/23 Sun, 11/27
On Board Service ▶		
	Mile	Symbol
CHICAGO, IL (CT) Rockford, Madison	0	●●● Dp
Summit, IL	12	○
Joliet, IL	37	●●
Dwight, IL	74	○
Pontiac, IL	92	○●
Bloomington-Normal, IL Davenport, Indianapolis	124	●●● 9 44A
Lincoln, IL	156	○●
Springfield, IL	185	●●
Carlville, IL	224	○●
Alton, IL	257	●●
ST. LOUIS, MO (CT) Gateway Station	284	●●● Ar
	7 30A	10 30A
	8 27A	11 27A
		12 01P
		12 19P
		12 58P
	10 45A	
	11 52A	
	12 50P	

Northbound

Train Name ▶	Lincoln Service	Lincoln Service Extra
Train Number ▶	300	308
Days of Operation ▶	Wed, 11/23 Sun, 11/27	Wed, 11/23 Sun, 11/27
On Board Service ▶		
	Mile	Symbol
ST. LOUIS, MO (CT) Gateway Station	0	●●● Dp
Alton, IL	26	●●
Carlville, IL	60	○●
Springfield, IL	99	●●
Lincoln, IL	127	○●
Bloomington-Normal, IL Davenport, Indianapolis	160	●●● 6 56A
Pontiac, IL	192	○●
Dwight, IL	210	○
Joliet, IL	247	●●
Summit, IL	272	○
CHICAGO, IL (CT) Rockford, Madison	284	●●● Ar
	4 00A	
	4 45A	
	5 15A	
	5 57A	
	6 25A	
	6 56A	1 15P
	7 24A	1 43P
	7 42A	2 01P
	8 24A	2 43P
	D8 49A	D3 08P
	9 25A	3 39P

ILLINOIS ZEPHYR and CARL SANDBURG

Carl Sandburg Extra	Illinois Zephyr	Train Name ▶	Carl Sandburg Extra
385	383	Train Number ▶	384
Wed, 11/23 Sun, 11/27	Wed, 11/23 Sun, 11/27	Normal Days of Operation ▶	Wed, 11/23 Sun, 11/27
		On Board Service ▶	
Read Down	Mile	Symbol	Read Up
11 30A	0	●●● Dp	5 23P
11 49A	14	○	D4 50P
12 05P	28	●●● Ar	D4 34P
12 28P	52	○●	4 04P
12 55P	83	○●	3 37P
1 18P	104	○●	3 18P
1 39P	131	○●	2 55P
2 13P	162	●●● Ar	2 26P
2 53P	202	○	1 48P
3 53P	258	○● Dp	1 00P
		CHICAGO, IL (CT) Rockford, Madison	
		La Grange Road, IL	
		Naperville, IL	
		Plano, IL	
		Mendota, IL	
		Princeton, IL	
		Kewanee, IL	
		Galesburg, IL	
		Macomb, IL	
		QUINCY, IL (CT)	

SYMBOLS KEY

- D Stops only to discharge passengers; train may leave before time shown.
- Thruway Bus stop
- Quik-Trak self-serve ticketing kiosk
- Unstaffed station
- Staffed Station with ticket office; may or may not be open for all train departures.
- Station wheelchair accessible; no barriers between station and train.
- Station wheelchair accessible; not all station facilities accessible.

Service on Illinois Route Trains

- Coaches: Reservations required.
- Business class: Ticket price includes non-alcoholic beverage and newspaper, and access to the Amtrak Metropolitan Lounge in Chicago.
- Cafe: Sandwiches, snacks and beverages.
- Checked baggage at select stations.
- Wi-Fi available.
- Unboxed Bicycles and Golf Bags: A limited number of spaces are available to transport unboxed bicycles and golf bags to/from all stations. Reservations are required; nominal charges apply; passenger assists with loading, stowing and unloading.
- Passengers not carried locally between this station and Chicago except when connecting at Chicago to/from other Amtrak trains.

All Amtrak services and stations are non-smoking.

Service is financed primarily through funds made available by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Airport Connections

Chicago Airports

Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) rapid transit trains provide frequent service to O'Hare and Midway Airports. Blue Line trains to O'Hare leave from the subway station at the corner of Clinton and Congress Streets, two blocks south of Union Station. Orange Line trains to Midway leave from the elevated station at the corner of Quincy and Wells streets, three blocks east of Union Station. Pay fare in CTA station. (312) 836-7000 or www.transitchicago.com.

SHADING KEY

Daytime train Holiday Extra



Schedules subject to change without notice.

Amtrak is a registered service mark of the National Railroad Passenger Corp. National Railroad Passenger Corporation Washington Union Station, 60 Massachusetts Ave. N.E., Washington, DC 20002.

SPECIAL MICHIGAN THANKSGIVING TIMETABLE

EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 23 - 27, 2016

Amtrak® will operate 10 extra trains in Michigan in order to supplement regularly scheduled Wolverine®, Blue WaterSM and Pere Marquette® trains for the 2016 Thanksgiving holiday period—these are in addition to regularly scheduled trains. These extra trains will operate between Chicago, IL and Ann Arbor/Grand Rapids, MI and serve stations as indicated.

WOLVERINE SERVICE, BLUE WATER and PERE MARQUETTE

Wolverine	Wolverine Extra	Wolverine	Blue Water	Wolverine	Thruway	Train Name	Wolverine	Blue Water	Wolverine	Wolverine Extra	Wolverine				
350	356	352	364	354	8356	Train Number	351	365	353	359	355				
Daily	Wed, Nov 23 Sat, Nov 26 Sun, Nov 27	Daily	Daily	Daily	Daily	Days of Operation	Daily	Daily	Daily	Wed, Nov 23 Sat, Nov 26 Sun, Nov 27	Daily				
On Board Service						On Board Service	On Board Service								
Read Down						Mile	Read Up								
7 20A	9 30A	12 50P	4 00P	6 00P	10 55P	0	Dp	CHICAGO, IL —Union Station (CT)	●●○	Ar	10 46A	11 45A	3 57P	7 47P	10 56P
7 46A		1 16P		7 01P		16		Hammond-Whiting, IN	○●○	↑			L3 09P		L10 07P
9 37A	11 41A	3 09P	6 10P	8 12P		52		Michigan City, IN (CT)	○●○	↑					9 33P
10 07A	12 05P	3 33P	6 33P	8 35P		62		New Buffalo, MI (ET)	○●○	↑		11 24A	3 27P	7 18P	10 23P
10 17A						89		Niles, MI (South Bend)	●●○	↑		11 03A	2 57P	6 57P	10 02P
10 52A	12 39P	4 08P	7 12P	9 10P	10 00P	102		Dowagiac, MI	○●○	↑		10 50A			9 50P
						138		Kalamazoo, MI	●●○	Dp	9 34A	10 25A	2 24P	6 21P	9 25P
11 24A	1 11P	4 40P	7 45P	9 47P		160		BATTLE CREEK, MI	●●○	Dp	9 01A	9 52A	1 53P	5 50P	8 54P
12 01P			8 54P	12 22A		208		East Lansing, MI	●●○	Dp		8 45A	11 15A		12 50P
12 02P				9 31P	1 25A	238		Durant, MI	○●○	↑					12 00P
12 03P				10 02P		256		Flint, MI	○●○	↑		8 04A			10 00P
				10 28P		274		Lapeer, MI	○●○	↑		7 32A	8 45A		
				11 38P		319	Ar	Port Huron, MI	●●○	Dp		7 06A			
		**5 08P				184	Dp	Albion, MI	○●○	Ar		6 20A	**1 19P		
12 18P	2 14P	5 33P		10 37P		205		Jackson, MI	●●○	↑	8 06A		12 56P	4 45P	7 59P
1 05P	3 10P	6 16P		11 20P		243		ANN ARBOR, MI	●●○	↑	7 24A		12 15P	4 05P	7 19P
L1 32P		L6 43P		L11 47P		273		Dearborn, MI	●●○	↑	6 51A		11 43A		6 45P
L2 00P		L7 11P		L12 15A	5 55A	281	Ar	DETROIT, MI	●●○	Dp	6 28A		11 20A		6 23P
						292		Royal Oak, MI	○●○	↑	6 25A		11 17A		6 20P
L2 24P		L7 35P		L12 39A		296		Troy, MI	○●○	↑	6 05A		10 57A		6 00P
L2 32P		L7 42P		L12 46A		304	Ar	PONTIAC, MI (ET)	○●○	Dp	5 58A		10 49A		5 53P
3 00P		8 11P		1 17A					○●○	Dp	5 45A		10 35A		5 40P

Pere Marquette Extra	Pere Marquette	Train Name	Pere Marquette	Pere Marquette Extra
372	370	Train Number	371	373
Wed, Nov 23 Sun, Nov 27	Daily	Normal Days of Operation	Daily	Wed, Nov 23 Sun, Nov 27
On Board Service				
Read Down		Mile	Read Up	
10 00A	6 30P	0	Dp	9 11A
				5 27P
12 45P	9 15P	89	↓	8 16A
				4 32P
1 21P	9 51P	116	↓	7 38A
				3 54P
2 11P	10 34P	151	↓	6 54A
				3 10P
	11 39P	176	Ar	6 00A

Service on Wolverine, Blue Water and Pere Marquette

- Coaches: Reservations required.
- Business class: Ticket price includes non-alcoholic beverage and newspaper, and access to the Amtrak Metropolitan Lounge in Chicago.
- Cafe: Sandwiches, snacks and beverages.
- Wi-Fi available.
- Amtrak Quiet Car (Monday-Friday only).
- Bicycles: A limited number of spaces are available to transport standard bicycles to/from most Blue Water and Pere Marquette stations. Reservations are required; nominal charges apply; passenger assists with loading and unloading as carry-on baggage on the Blue Water and checked trainside on the Pere Marquette.
- Indian Trails Thruway Connection available between Battle Creek, East Lansing and Flint.
- Indian Trails Thruway Connection available between Kalamazoo, East Lansing and Flint.

SYMBOLS KEY	
L	Stops to receive and discharge passengers; train may leave before time shown.
⚙	Thruway Bus stop
🚩	Flag stop
🚪	Quik-Trak self-serve ticketing kiosk
○	Unstaffed station
●	Staffed Station with ticket office; may or may not be open for all train departures.
♿	Station wheelchair accessible; no barriers between station and train.
♿	Station wheelchair accessible; not all station facilities accessible.

SHADING KEY	
	Reserved corridor service train
	Wolverine/Pere Marquette Extra
	Thruway and connecting services



Golf Bags: A limited number of spaces are available to transport golf bags to/from all stations. Reservations are required; nominal charges apply; passenger assists with loading, stowing and unloading.

All Amtrak services and stations are non-smoking.

The Wolverine Service, Blue Water and Pere Marquette are financed primarily through funds made available by the Michigan State Department of Transportation.

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