



State Street Thanksgiving Parade™ - General Information

Date	Thursday, November 24, 2005—Thanksgiving Day
Time	8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Place	State Street—from Congress to Randolph
Broadcast	Live on ABC 7—9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Rebroadcasts on ABC 7; TBD National syndication; available in approximately 90 million households
Units	Giant helium balloons, fabulous floats, award-winning marching bands, talented equestrian units, unique performance groups, local and national celebrities
Viewers	1.5 million
On-Street	350,000
Weather	Average high – 42; Average low – 29; Late November in Chicago can bring a variety of temperatures and conditions. You should be prepared for all weather conditions. The show will go on regardless of the weather.
Directions	<p>From the Northwest, take I-90 or I-94 East (Kennedy or Edens Expressway) and exit at Ohio Street. Turn right on State Street.</p> <p>From the East, take the Chicago Skyway to the local traffic lanes of I-94 West (Dan Ryan Expressway). Exit onto I-55 (Stevenson Expressway) and follow the signs to Lake Shore Drive north. Turn left on Balbo to State Street.</p> <p>From the West, take I-290 East (Eisenhower Expressway) into downtown as it turns into Congress Parkway and runs right into State Street.</p> <p>From the South, take I-55 (Stevenson) and follow signs to Lake Shore Drive north. Turn left on Balbo to State Street.</p>
By Train	<p>Metra operates 12 commuter rail lines into downtown Chicago from the surrounding six counties. Call 312.322.6777 for the holiday schedule. Check online at www.metrarail.com</p> <p>Amtrak has 50 trains that arrive or depart Chicago daily. Only a 20 minute walk from the parade route, Union Station is located on Canal Street, between Jackson and Adams. Call 800.USA.RAIL. Check online at www.amtrak.com</p> <p>The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) offers convenient bus and train lines to the parade route. El passengers should take the Red Line to Harrison or the Brown/Orange/Green Line to the Library/State/van Buren stop. For route, fare and schedule information, call 888.968.7282. Check online at www.transitchicago.com. CTA offers service from both O'Hare and Midway airports.</p>
By Air	Fly to Chicago on ATA . ATA serves Chicago with direct flights from over 40 cities. For flight schedules and to purchase tickets, visit ATA online at www.ata.com or call 800.I.FLY.ATA . Midway Airport serves thousands of travelers each day. Call 773.838.0600 or check online at www.chicago-mdw.com for more information. O'Hare International Airport also serves travelers flying to Chicago. Call 773.686.2200 or go online at www.ohare.com/ohare/home.asp for information.
Lodging	Hyatt Regency Chicago is the official hotel of the State Street Thanksgiving Parade™. Call 800.233.1234 and ask for the State Street Thanksgiving Parade™ block.
Parking	<p>InterPark 164 South Wabash (at Randolph) 312.986.6863</p> <p>210 South Wabash (at Adams) 312.554.0112</p> <p>203 North LaSalle (entrance also on Clark) 312.750.0868</p> <p>181 North Dearborn (Theatre District) 312.368.9090</p> <p>All meters are free on Thanksgiving.</p>
Restrooms	Portable facilities are located throughout the route. Handicap accessible facilities are available in the staging area and along the parade route.
Viewing Area for Persons with Disabilities	The State Street Thanksgiving Parade™ is accessible for persons with disabilities. Spectators with special needs can view the parade from the SE corner of State and Monroe in the designated viewing area for persons with disabilities.