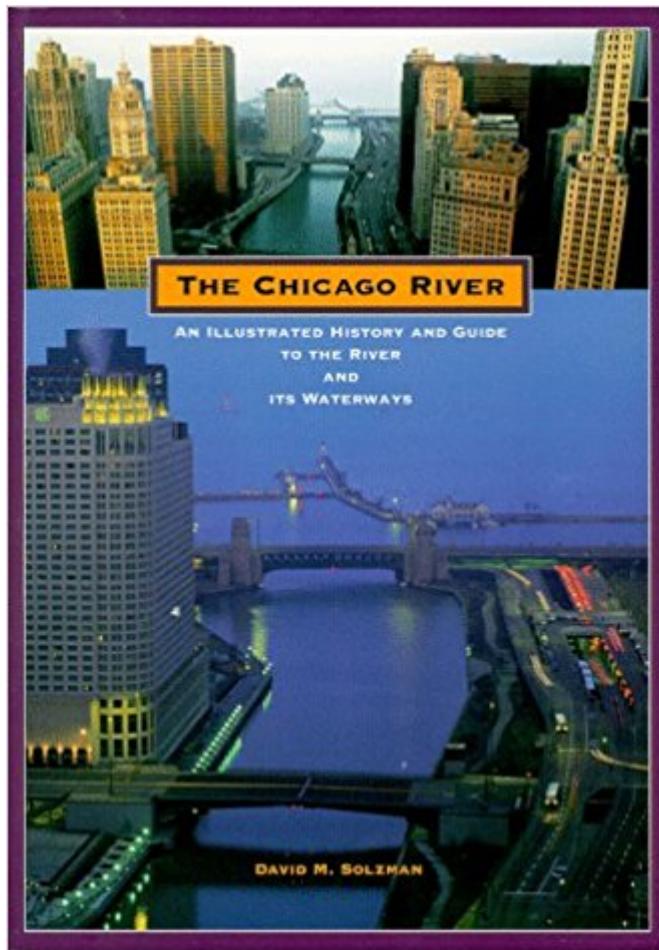


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# The Chicago River: An Illustrated History And Guide To The River And Its Waterways



## Synopsis

“The river has seen it all, done it all, carried it all,” writes David Solzman. “Its current whispers of the past even as it rushes into the future. Those who know the river and its connected streams know Chicago in an elemental way. In a strong sense, the river is Chicago. Follow the river and travel into the soul of the city.” The river is indeed the soul of the city—it runs through the heart of downtown, and it is a vehicle for both pleasure and the industry that keeps Chicago humming. With *The Chicago River*, Solzman has succeeded in writing an encyclopedic work—at once guidebook and history—that explores the river’s physical character and natural history. Examining the river’s past, contemplating its present, and forecasting its future, Solzman draws on his unparalleled knowledge to point out places of scientific and historic interest— involving everything from infamous murder cases to invasive zebra mussels. The book’s 200 photographs and maps perfectly complement Solzman’s vivid prose, leading readers on a visual journey as sinuous as the river it celebrates—a journey interspersed with plenty of river lore, facts, and literary quotations. Solzman, a veteran Chicago River tour guide, has also compiled a diverse collection of easy and enjoyable tours for anyone who wants to experience the river by foot, boat, canoe, or car. And he provides an appendix that lists river-related organizations, museums, tours, and riverfront restaurants and clubs. With practical tips, evocative language, and an astonishing array of anecdotes, *The Chicago River* is the most comprehensive guide to the river and its waterways, the perfect companion for everyone from the active river enthusiast to the armchair traveler. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"The entire work adds greatly to the history of Chicago. It will appeal to many audiences, from anglers and paddlers to environmentalists, urban planners, and Chicago fans." - Cathy Maloney, author of *The Prairie Club of Chicago*" --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

David M. Solzman is associate professor emeritus of geography and anthropology at the University of Illinois at Chicago. A professional photographer, he also leads Chicago River cruises for the University of ChicagoÃ¢â„¢s Graham School of General Studies. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

David Solzman paints a portrait of the Chicago River that glows with vitality. His book is a careful mix of scholarly detail, gorgeous graphics (many photographs were taken by the author), and a resounding voice expressing his love for one of Chicago's natural treasures. Solzman, a professor of geography at the University of Illinois at Chicago, is a long-time lover of the Chicago River: "lover" is the significant word here. Solzman knows the River like the back of his hand. Her history, both natural and cultural, is fully detailed here. Her past troubles are dissected, and her future is assessed. Solzman's work for the nonprofit group "Friends of the Chicago River" provides him with the ability to examine what the future of the Chicago River will be. This book makes me want to closely watch and rejoice in the River.

As a native of Chicago I loved this book. I thought I knew all about Chicago's wonderful history, the waterways, the neighborhoods, its colorful past and promising future. Solzman's book reminded me of so much I had forgotten or never knew. As an avid canoeist I felt connected to the river as I travelled "arm chair style" past familiar haunts and intersections. All this from my new home in the hot deserts of Arizona. Thank you David for your wonderful story telling and accurate accounting of Chicago's waterways.

I bought this book before my 2nd time to Chicago. When I read the introduction of the book at .com, I thought it would be useful as the tour guide to the river tour in Chicago. However, I found it is useless for the travelers who would like to take the ship and enjoy the time on the Chicago River as the scene in 'My Best Friend's Wedding'. This book is good if you are interested in the history,

geography, architecture and any other things about the Chicago River. On the other hand, if you want to be a lazy traveler who only wanna enjoy the sights and the atmosphere on the river, just throw this book away and open your eyes to see the beautiful things around.

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