recreation & parks

During its early years as members of the Big Ten Conference, the University of Chicago was known to field one of the nation’s top football teams. Today, the Maroons continue the legacy of athletic excellence with 19 NCAA Division III varsity teams, more than 75 intramural and sport clubs programs, and state of the art training facilities across campus.

RECREATION FACILITIES

GERALD RATNER ATHLETICS CENTER
5530 S. Ellis Ave. (at E. 55th St.)

Ratner Athletics Center is home to UChicago Athletics. The 150,000 square foot facility boasts an Olympic-size pool, numerous indoor courts, a 1,700-seater competition gym, cardiovascular and weight training equipment, group class and dance rooms, and the University’s Athletic Hall of Fame. All students have free membership; staff and faculty pay a small fee.

DID YOU KNOW? Ratner is home to the first ever Heisman Trophy, awarded to UChicago’s Jay Berwanger.

CAMPUS SOUTH ATHLETIC FIELD
E. 61st St. (at S. Woodlawn Ave.)

Campus South Athletic Field accommodates intramural and club sports, serving as the Varsity Soccer and Football teams’ new practice venue. It features lighting banks for evening events, a synthetic turf field, bleacher seating, and an additional warm-up area.

AMOS ALONZO STAGG FIELD
E. 56th St. (at S. Drexel Ave.)

Named in honor of the University’s first athletic director, Stagg Field is home to the University of Chicago’s football, softball, and soccer teams. This complex has grass fields and a 1,650-seater turf venue that lies just east of Ratner Athletic Center. Stagg Field also hosts intramural sports for the entire University community.

DID YOU KNOW? Amos Alonzo Stagg served as the head coach of the University of Chicago football, basketball, and baseball teams. He is also credited with inventing such staples of football as the varsity letter, the linebacker position, and padded goal posts.

HENRY CROWN FIELD HOUSE
5550 S. University Ave. (at E. 56th St.)

Constructed in 1932, Henry Crown Field House, a popular campus recreation center, offers an indoor track, punching bags, squash courts, and batting cages, as well as standard cardio and exercise equipment. Students can enjoy these amenities for free, while memberships for faculty and staff can be purchased for a modest price. Visitors can purchase $15 guest passes.

J. KYLE ANDERSON FIELD
E. 55th St. and S. Drexel Ave.

Forget the Cubs and the White Sox, catch the Chicago Maroons at Anderson Field! Men’s baseball uses Anderson for their home games in the spring quarter.

PARKS

JACKSON PARK
This 500-acre park, nestled between UChicago and Lake Michigan, was once the grounds for the World’s Colombian Exposition of 1893. These days, all that remains is Chicago’s second most attended cultural attraction, the Museum of Science and Industry. The park is also a great place for birding with over 250 avian species!

WASHINGTON PARK
To the west of campus lies Washington Park, a 372-acre green space which hosts numerous festivals, a wetland lagoon, and the largest 16-inch softball league in Chicago—34 teams play on 13 diamonds. The park is also home to the DuSable Museum of African American History.

MIDWAY PLAISANCE
The Midway, originally intended to be a Venetian style canal linking Lake Michigan with Washington Park, is today a green expanse where students can relax on sunny days, play intramural sports against other houses, and throw snowballs in the winter.

Share your experience
#UChicagoVisit
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   E. 55th St. and S. Drexel Ave.

2 HENRY CROWN FIELD HOUSE
   5550 S. University Ave. (at E. 56th St.)

3 GERALD RATNER ATHLETICS CENTER
   5530 S. Ellis Ave. (at E. 55th St.)

4 AMOS ALONZO STAGG FIELD
   E. 56th St. (at S. Drexel Ave.)

5 CAMPUS SOUTH ATHLETIC FIELD
   E. 61st St. (at S. Woodlawn Ave.)

6 MIDWAY PLAISANCE
   South of campus between E. 59th St. and E. 60th St.