

Explore DuPage History & Heritage

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3-Day Suggested Visit

Day 1

Your first stop is the [Graue Mill and Museum](#) in Oak Brook. Adjacent to a scenic forest preserve and waterfall, Graue Mill is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as the only operating waterwheel gristmill in Illinois and features an Underground Railroad exhibit. Just a few miles down the road is [Mayslake Peabody Estate](#), where you can tour the Tudor Revival style mansion once owned by coal baron F.S. Peabody. Witness restoration in progress at this nationally registered historic building by renowned architect Benjamin H. Marshall. Next stop is the [William L. Gregg House Museum](#), an 1872 Victorian home/museum in Westmont built shortly after the Chicago Fire of 1871. Gregg, among other brick manufacturers of his time, jumped at the chance to supply bricks for the rebuilding of Chicago. This museum is a homage to the collective contributions of the many men and women of the Western Suburbs who helped rebuild Chicago. Round out your evening with live entertainment at the historic Tivoli Theater in Downers Grove, or catch a classic movie at the Glen Ellyn Theater.

Day 2

Start your day at [Naperville Settlement—Outdoor History Museum](#), where history comes to life at this 12-acre museum village with 30 historic structures, including a Victorian mansion, fort, chapel, one-room schoolhouse and working blacksmith and print shops. Then, cross over to the Naperville Riverwalk on your way to vibrant Downtown Naperville to take in the charming shops and restaurants for lunch. After lunch, visit the [DuPage County Historical Museum](#) in Wheaton to explore DuPage County's rich history from the 1830s to the present. Later, dine in style overlooking the breath-taking rose gardens at [Meson Sabika](#), a restaurant located in an 1847 Georgian-style mansion, featuring tapas and authentic dishes of Spain.

Day 3

Stroll through the lovely [Lilacia Park](#) in the Village of Lombard before walking a few short blocks to visit the [Sheldon Peck Homestead](#), an 1840s farmhouse that features reproductions of the artist's folk paintings and exhibits on the Underground Railroad, the first school, farming and pioneer life. Break for lunch at [Red Arrow Taproom](#), one of DuPage County's influencers in the growing microbrewing industry, and take a ride on the seasonal [Explore Elmhurst Express Trolley](#) into [Elmhurst's City Centre](#). Speaking of beer, Elmhurst is home to the 3rd largest St. Patrick's Day parade in the nation. For a bit of Elmhurst history be sure to visit the award-winning [Elmhurst Historical Museum](#), featuring national touring exhibits and interpretive exhibits on the history of this vibrant Midwestern town. You may also want to travel a few short blocks to the unique museum campus that features the [Elmhurst Art Museum](#) including the [McCormick House](#), a single-family home designed in 1952 by [Mies van der Rohe](#), one of the great architects of the 20th Century. The McCormick House is one of only three residences designed and built by Mies in the United States – and one of only two open to the public. Not to be missed are also the [Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art](#), and beautiful [Wilder Park](#). End your sightseeing with the renovated Spanish-style [York Theatre](#) built in 1924, where you can take in a first-run movie in one of their ten state-of-the-art auditoriums.

