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Mercury, Chicago's Skyline Cruiseline Celebrates its 85th season showcasing Chicago's skyscrapers by day and by night!

Chicago's premiere sightseeing experience announces 2021 season schedule, including the return of Chicago's only Canine Cruise, departing from its prominent location on Chicago's Riverwalk

CHICAGO, May 27, 2021— For 85 years, Mercury, Chicago's Skyline Cruiseline has been a cornerstone of the Chicago Riverwalk offering family-friendly daytime and evening cruises. The popular cruise returns for its 2021 season launching this Friday, May 28. From Instagram-worthy views of the Chicago River and Lake Michigan, to summertime cruises with a canine companion, cruising with Mercury is the ultimate way to experience the city—and kids under five ride FREE!

Known for lively local tour guides, Mercury Cruises offers visitors and Chicagoland residents front row seats to the city's breathtaking skyline, historic landmarks, moveable bridges and skyscrapers. As travelers begin planning adventures again, Mercury Cruises offers a perfect open-air setting for locals looking to acquaint themselves with the city and regional and cross-country visitors looking for a fun weekend getaway. Mercury Cruises' tours zip across the Chicago River into the heart of the city and Lake Michigan, offering lively narration and 360-degree, selfie-worthy views of the city's famous skyline and feature unparalleled views of iconic landmarks and skyscrapers—from the Willis Tower and Marina City to 875 N. Michigan Ave. and Museum Campus. Professional local tour guide narrations offer a local's take on Chicago, informing guests about the city's best dining options, sports and entertainment destinations and more that will help guests maximize their time in the city.

"As one of the first local Chicago tour boat operators, we're honored to continue providing Chicago families and visitors with some outdoor epic fun as they experience Chicago's Riverwalk, amazing skyline and waterfront. We provide guests with lasting memories of their visit to our City," said **Bob Agra III, Mercury Cruises' Vice President.**

Mercury, Chicago's Skyline Cruiseline, a third and fourth-generation family-owned and operated cruise line, has long been an important fixture in the city's cultural landscape. The original Mercury company, a single speedboat operation founded by Portuguese immigrant Arthur Agra in the 1930s, was a fast

success and became Chicago's first sightseeing boat company. The cruises were popular among locals seeking an enjoyable, cool lakefront respite during a period of national economic depression.

Mercury Cruises remains committed to ensuring the safety of crew, docents and passengers by continuing COVID-19 safety and cleaning policies including complying with the federal mask mandate. While the outdoor open-air deck provides natural safety for those aboard. Mercury Cruises offers the following daytime and evening tours for the 2021 season. To purchase advance tickets and additional safety measures, visit [MercuryCruises.com](https://www.MercuryCruises.com).

2021 Schedule

Mercury Cruises offers the following daytime and evening tours, departing from Michigan Avenue and Wacker Dr, 112 E. Wacker on Chicago's Riverwalk. *Additional weekends and departure times will be announced at a later date; please visit MercuryCruises.com for updates.*

Urban Adventure Cruise

Mercury Cruises' signature tour dazzles guests with stunning views of legendary skyscrapers and bridges while gliding along the main branch of the Chicago River, through the Chicago Harbor Lock and into the downtown harbor of Lake Michigan. The 90-minute narrated cruise is perfect for families of all ages and offers a picture-perfect view of the famous Chicago skyline.

The tour route helps guests plan the remainder of their Chicago trip by orienting themselves to the city and offering views of other must-visit attractions. Tours feature unparalleled views of iconic landmarks and skyscrapers including: Willis Tower, Marina City, 875 N. Michigan (formerly the John Hancock Building), the new St. Regis Chicago, Buckingham Fountain and the famed lakefront Museum Campus. Professionally trained local tour guides offer an insider's take on Chicago, from the best pizza options, to sports and entertainment destinations, and tips to help guests maximize their time in the city! Soft drinks, adult beverages and packaged snacks are available for sale onboard.

- **May 28-31; Memorial Day Weekend**
90-minute Cruise departs daily at 10:15am, 12:30pm, 2:45pm, 5:00pm and 7:15pm. Cost: \$39 for adults; \$17 for kids under 15; free for children under five.
- **June 3 - 6**
Thursday: 5:00pm & 7:15pm; Friday: 10:15am, 12:15pm, 2:15pm; and
Saturday & Sunday: 10:15 am, 12:15pm, 2:45pm

3D Fireworks Cruise

Join us after dinner every Saturday to cap off your day with a fireworks show! This cruise provides a relaxing experience after a busy day at work, at home or out sightseeing. Sit back, relax and enjoy an unbeatable view of a spectacular fireworks display. Complimentary 3D glasses add to the viewing fun. In addition to Chicago's celebratory fireworks, this 2-hour lakefront experience will showcase our city's unforgettable nighttime skyline.

- **Weekly every Saturday**
2-hour Mercury's 3D Fireworks Cruise: Departs Saturdays at 9:00pm (Wednesday night cruises TBA). Cost: \$42 for adults; \$19 for kids under 15; free for children under five; ticket price includes complimentary 3D Fireworks glasses.

Mercury's Canine Cruise

Named "one of the 10 best dog-friendly vacation destinations in 2021" (*Chewy.com*), Mercury's Canine Cruise is Chicago's only cruise where pooches and their people embark on a 90-minute getaway with plenty of spacious outdoor seating, water bowls and newspaper-lined restrooms. The canine-centric cruise includes a narrated tour of the city's famous skyline and dog-friendly sites such as dog parks, fire hydrants and dining hot-spots. Leashes are required on this cruise.

- **July 10**

90-minute Cruise beginning July 10. Departs at 10:15 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Cost: \$39 for adults; \$17 for kids under 15; Dogs \$8 and free for children under five.

CHICAGO BY NIGHT! Cruise

Guests will be captivated by the sparkling skyline and Buckingham Fountain's dazzling light display on this 90-minute, river and lakefront evening cruise featuring live local tour commentary. Feel the City come alive as millions of twinkling lights line the cruise route. Our vessel offers amenities to keep your family comfortable including optional climate-controlled indoor seating, restrooms and a full-service bar to complement the voyage.

- **Full schedule will be announced at a later date.**

90-minute nightly cruise (excluding Wednesdays & Saturdays) this summer: please visit MercuryCruises.com for departure times. Cost: \$42 for adults; \$19 for kids under 15; free for children under five.

Boarding Location

Mercury Skyline Cruises departs from Chicago's Riverwalk at Michigan Avenue and Wacker Drive. Look for the street-level blue awning at the southeast corner of the Michigan Avenue Bridge and follow the stairs down to the Riverwalk. Discounted parking with validation is located at the Illinois Center, 111 E. Wacker Dr. Federal mandate requires that all passengers wear a mask aboard the vessel.

Tour Tickets

Guests may purchase tickets online at MercuryCruises.com or the Mercury Cruiseline ticket window, located at 112 E. Wacker Dr., Riverwalk level. For groups, please call 312-332-1368 or email grouptours@mercurycruises.com for special group rates and additional information.

Visuals

High-resolution photos and video of Mercury Cruises' tours can be found here: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/vgl20tse62j2kz2/AADlorDcqChTEiuKbbZoMeoOa?dl=0>

About Mercury, Chicago's Skyline Cruiseline

Mercury, Chicago's Skyline Cruiseline, brings Chicago's stunning views and vibrant culture to life through a variety of fun, narrated family-friendly cruises and special tours for both visitors and Chicagoland residents. A cornerstone of the city's Riverwalk for more than 80 years, Mercury Cruises is a fourth generation owned and operated cruise line. It is also the sister company of Chicago's First Lady Cruises, an authentic tourism experience that explores the city's rich architectural history through the official Chicago Architecture Foundation Center River Cruise. Both cruise lines are committed to fueling their vessels with only clean energy sources. All vessels are operated by a U.S. Coast Guard-licensed captain and crew. For more information on Mercury Cruises, visit MercuryCruises.com or call 312-332-1353

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