

Antique Trail

Blue Island

Blue Island Antiques
13123 S. Western Ave.
708-239-0033

Carr Gardens
13114 South Western Avenue
708-824-9171

Lillian's Attic Antiques
13039 S. Western Ave.
708-597-4647

Three Sisters Antique Mall
13042 S. Western Ave.
708-597-3331

Through the Looking Glass
13114 S. Western Ave.
708-489-1661

Vermont Antiques
2403 W. Vermont St.
(131st and Western)
708-388-8448

Will's Mom Antiques
13021 S. Western Ave.
708-388-4240

Crete

A Change in Seasons
533 W. Exchange St.
708-672-0170

Farmers Daughter
1246 Lincoln Ave.
708-672-4588
www.the13thcolony.net

Gatherings
1362 Main St.
708-672-9880

Market Place
550 W. Exchange St.
708-672-5556

Third Generation Antiques
1362 W. Exchange St.
708-672-3369
http://members.aol.com/antique3rd/index.htm

Village Antiques & Lamp Shop
595 W. Exchange St.
708-672-8980

Spend a day browsing the Chicago Southland Antique Trail!

Looking for something to do during your stay in the Chicago Southland? Whether you have a couple of hours or an entire day, you can get out and explore the Chicago Southland Antique Trail.

This exciting trail takes you through Crete, Frankfort, Orland Park and Blue Island, four of the Southland's finest "antiquing" communities. The following suggested itinerary will lead you through each of these historic communities, suggesting shops to explore and restaurants to visit. No matter which antiquing community you choose, you're sure to find something to pique your interest!

Before you travel the Chicago Southland Antique Trail, be sure to print a map of the trail from the Chicago Southland Web site, www.visitchicagosouthland.com.

Antique and specialty shops in each community are listed in the sidebars.

We begin our day of antiquing in **Crete**, a community settled in 1836. Located about 10 miles south of I-80/94 on IL-394, take IL-394 south to Exchange Street, turning right (west) onto Exchange and into downtown Crete (about 2.7 miles).

A variety of antiquing opportunities are available in Crete. Shops are concentrated along Main and Exchange Streets, and a host of restaurants are also situated in the downtown area, including: Aurelio's Pizza (1372 Main Street, 708-672-4000, www.aureliospizza.com), Agee's Dining Room (1403 Main Street, 708-672-6366), Northwoods Hearty Home Cookin' (968 E. Steger Road, 708-672-1167, www.northwoodssaloon.com), and Vic's On Main (1336 Main Street, 708-672-5670, www.vicsonmain.com).

After browsing the fine shops in Crete, we move on to **Frankfort**, the second community along the Chicago Southland Antiquing Trail. Exit Crete via Exchange Street, traveling west on Exchange. You'll notice that Exchange turns into University Parkway at Western Avenue, where you'll encounter a traffic signal. Continue through the signal, driving west on University Parkway, and as you round the bend, you'll pass the east entrance to Governors State University (GSU). Looking to your left, you'll see several large sculptures on the grounds of GSU in the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park.

You'll come to a stop sign on University Parkway and see signs for Hidden Meadows Golf Club and University Golf Club. Take a left turn continuing west on

University Parkway to Central Avenue. Total mileage from Exchange & Main in Crete to Central Avenue is 6.7 miles. When you arrive at University Parkway and Central Avenue, take a right turn onto northbound Central Avenue and drive about one mile to Steger Road.

At Steger Road, take a left and continue west approximately five miles, through an industrial park and then rolling hills, horse stables and farmlands. You'll go from pavement to an unpaved road at about 3.5 miles, and it will only be about another mile to Center Street (96th Avenue). At Center Street, take a right and continue northbound until Center Street ends. This will be Nebraska Street in historic downtown Frankfort. Cross the street and drive right into the parking lot of the Trolley Barn, the first antiquing stop in Frankfort.



Antiques abound in the Chicago Southland communities of Blue Island, Crete, Frankfort and Orland Park. MSP

The Trolley Barn and Breidert's Green are two interesting locations in Frankfort. Built in 1885, the Trolley Barn once housed trolleys on the old Joliet and Northern Indiana Trolley Line. Numerous other rail lines passed through Frankfort, which was known at that time as a "stop on your way West."

Frankfort was settled by immigrant German farmers in 1855, and is the highest point between Chicago and the Mississippi River. Downtown Frankfort's architecture is mainly from the mid- to late-1800s, as you'll see when you stroll through the quaint streets and visit the many fine antique and specialty shops in this lovely community.

Frankfort, too, has a variety of restaurants within walking distance of the antique shops, including: Courtyard Bistro (21 S. White St., 815-464-1404), Enrico's Italian Dining (427 N. LaGrange Rd., 815-469-4187, www.enricositalian.com), Francesca's

Antique Trail

Fortunato (40 Kansas Street, 815-464-1890, www.miafrancesca.com), and Kansas Street Grill (20 Kansas Street, 815-469-9670).

After shopping Frankfort and perhaps taking in a light lunch, it's on to **Orland Park**, our third Chicago Southland antiquing community. First, we'll exit the parking lot and turn right onto Nebraska Street.

Continue west on Nebraska to Route 45/LaGrange Road, about six blocks. At LaGrange, take a right and follow LaGrange Road north to 143rd Street (approximately 9.6 miles).

On the way to Orland Park, traveling north along LaGrange Road, you'll pass a fine Italian trattoria, Balagio

Ristorante (19917 S. LaGrange Rd., 815-469-2204, www.balagio-restaurant.com). Crossing 159th Street, you'll pass Harrison's Restaurant & Brewery (15845 S. LaGrange Rd., 708-226-0100, www.harrisonsbrewpub.com), a micro-brewery serving up a variety of special brews, a cigar/martini bar and casual dining with a Cajun flair.

More shopping is just ahead at Orland Park Place Shopping Center (153rd and LaGrange Rd.) and Orland Square Mall (151st and LaGrange Rd., www.simon.com), both of which offer a variety of stores, restaurants and services. Orland Square is the Southland's largest indoor mall, offering hundreds of shops and several well-known department stores. At Park Place Mall, you'll find specialty retailers. Fronting both of these malls — along LaGrange Road — are a variety of fine dining and casual restaurants for your dining pleasure. Buca di Beppo (15350 S. 94th Ave., behind Orland Park Place, 708-349-6262, www.bucadibeppo.com), serves up family-style Italian fare.

Arriving at 143rd Street and LaGrange Road, make a left turn and drive about four blocks west along 143rd Street, through a traffic signal, over the railroad tracks and through one more light, before turning left onto Union Avenue.

This area is known as the "Old Orland Historic District," with original homes from yesteryear. Union Avenue is where we begin our tour of Old Orland's antique shops. Stop and browse here, then take a short walk westward along Union Avenue to Brook Avenue. Turn left onto Brook Avenue and proceed south about a half block to 144th Street. Take another left and walk or drive eastbound under the railroad overpass (about one block), bearing to your left, to Beacon Street. One more

left will put you on Orland Park's "Beacon Avenue Antique Row" with numerous antique/specialty shops on a single block. Free street parking is available.

By now you're probably ready to tackle the final Southland antiquing community, **Blue Island**. After packing away all of your newfound treasures and buckling up, we'll proceed north on Beacon Avenue to

143rd Street. Take a left and go over the tracks again, but this time bear to your right and proceed to Southwest Highway (U.S. Route 6/IL Route 7). Take Southwest Highway northeast to 123rd Street, bearing right, up the ramp and onto 123rd Street. But be careful, because there is a stop sign at the top of the ramp.

Now you are driving eastbound, and as you round a bend you'll notice the road has changed into 127th Street. Follow 127th Street east to Western Avenue (about seven miles). Take a right on Western Avenue and proceed south about four or five blocks. Parking is available on the street or in several public parking lots. The Blue Island antique shops are situated along Western Avenue.

Blue Island is the oldest community in Cook County. Settled in 1836 as a major commercial center, Blue Island followed the rail lines and became one of northern Illinois' most bustling communities in the late 1830s and early 1840s. The name Blue Island is fitting, because about 10,000 years ago Blue Island actually was an island! Strolling along Blue Island's main street, Western Avenue, you'll notice to your east a hill descending about 30 or 40 feet. This was the former shore of Lake Chicago, a pre-historic lake that eventually receded to become Lake Michigan. A little history to take your mind off antiques!

There is also a nice variety of restaurants in Blue Island. Try one of these restaurants before or after tackling the antique shops in this beautiful community: Blue Oasis Cafe (12947 S. Western Ave., 708-653-5018), Double Play Saloon (13011 S. Western Avenue, 708-388-0811), Island's Café (13000 S. Western Ave., 708-489-1747), and Harry's Long Bar (13115 S. Western Avenue, 708-388-5319).

In Blue Island we come to the end of the Chicago Southland Antique Trail, and hope you've found treasures that will be passed on through the generations. For more information, be sure to visit the Chicago Southland Web site, www.visitichicagosouthland.com.

Enjoy the Chicago Southland!



MSP

Frankfort

Antique Alley

20 S. White St.
815-469-3711

Dreaming in the Attic

21 Ash St., Suite 6
815-806-0850
www.dreamingintheattic.com

Farrell's Cottage Antiques

11 S. White St.
815-469-8062

Fire & Spice Gourmet Food

11 S. White Street
815-464-1005
www.fireandspice.com

The Old Book Seller

11 S. White St.
815-464-1005

Golden Age

19 S. Ash St., South Unit
815-464-7644

The General Store & Antiques

119 Kansas St.
815-469-4002

Pizazz

21 S. Ash St., Suite 7
815-469-4600

Sharon's Unique Glass

19 S. Ash St.
815-464-9160

The Pickwick Society Tea Room, Gifts and Antiques

21 S. White St.
815-806-8140

Orland Park

Beacon Hill Antique Shop

14314 S. Beacon Ave.
708-460-8433

Cracker Barrel Antiques

9925 W. 143rd Pl. (Union Ave.)
708-403-2221

General Store

14314 S. Union Ave.
708-349-9802

The Old Bank Antique Shop

14316 S. Beacon Ave.
708-460-7979

Pam Benson Antiques & Fine Jewelry

14322 S. Beacon Ave.
708-403-3850

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CHICAGO O'HARE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

CHICAGO MIDWAY AIRPORT



Lincoln Highway
National Byway
Metra Train Lines & Stations

CHICAGO SOUTHLAND
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU
2304 173rd Street
Lansing, Illinois 60458-6006
708-895-8200
Toll Free 888-895-8233

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