



Revolving around the intersection of Cermak and Wentworth Avenues, Chicago's Chinatown is one of the nation's largest ethnic-Chinese neighborhoods. Chinatown wasn't always located in this spot, though. Looking to escape the "rampant discrimination and anti-Chinese riots" on the west coast, Chinese immigrants first arrived in Chicago in 1870 after the transcontinental railroad was completed. Settling around the area of Clark and Van Buren, these new Chicagoans were quick to set up shop. "16 Chinese-owned businesses were located along the two-block stretch" by 1889, "including eight grocery stores, two butcher shops and a restaurant."

Discrimination and rising rents forced the bulk of these Chinese settlers to move south to the current location of Chinatown in the early 1900s. Since then, the neighborhood, with its restaurants, shops, Chinese-inspired architecture, landmarks and other amenities that cater to those interested in the Chinese culture, has been a destination for new immigrants, locals and tourists alike.

Population Demographic

- Total Population: 89,632
- Median Age: 39.15

Ethnic Demography

- Black non-Hispanic: 3.2%
- Hispanic or Latinx: 1.3%
- Asian non-Hispanic: 89.9%
- White non-Hispanic: 5.1%

Economic Profile

- Owner Occupied: 44%
- Renter Occupied: 56%
- Median Household Income: \$44,640
- Average people per Household: 2.7

Education Statistics

- No Highschool: 41%
- Highschool: 26%
- Associate's Degree: 9%
- Bachelor's Degree: 17%
- Graduate Degree: 8%

FUN FACTS

BACKDRAFT

Chicago Fire Department Engine 8 Company firehouse, firehouse was used in the 1991 Ron Howard film Backdraft.

PUI TAK CENTER

Pui Tak Center was designated a Chicago Landmark on December 1, 1993. It was the On Leong Merchants Association Building.

CHINATOWN SQUARE

One of the largest Chinese malls in America, Chinatown Square is a two-story outdoor mall consisting of a variety of shops and restaurants.

POPKTV

PopKTV, which opened in 2014, has become Chinatown's go-to Karaoke bar. PopKTV allows you the one thing everybody wants when they're singing karaoke: privacy!

HOYPOLOI GALLERY

Blending just about anything imaginable, from real objects to imaginative fantasy with a splash of surrealism, there is no limit to just how far art can go in the HoyPoloi Gallery.