



aerosoft™

OMSI 2 Add-on

CHICAGO

Manual

Downtown





OMSI 2 Add-on Chicago Downtown

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© 2015 / **Aerosoft GmbH**
Flughafen Paderborn/Lippstadt
D-33142 Bueren, Germany

Tel: +49 (0) 29 55 / 76 03-10
Fax: +49 (0) 29 55 / 76 03-33

E-Mail: info@aerosoft.de
Internet: www.aerosoft.de
www.aerosoft.com



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Manual



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Introduction

Welcome to Chicago, the Windy City at Lake Michigan!

We reproduced a large part of Downtown Chicago with famous and surprising sights everywhere.

With a population of 8.7 million, Chicago is the third largest city of the US. It has been a capital of worldwide trade since the industrialization. Many travellers know the international airport O'Hare, which is the fourth largest in the world, and Chicago's train stations as important hubs for air traffic and trains.

Many of you will know that Chicago is Al Capone's lethal playground and considered home of the blues, but it also had the first skyscraper building in the world. Lake Michigan brings an ocean-like beach atmosphere to downtown, creating a fascinating contrast to the rusty frameworks of drawbridges and brilliant glass facades.

Although the city is based on flat terrain, cruising through multi-level streets and over bridges is interesting.

You will play a busdriver on routes 124 and 130, traveling downtown business areas, shopping districts, train stations, parks, beautiful Museum Campus and famous Navy Pier.

There are 10 additional miles of roadway for cruising, discovering and getting to your depot garage in the west suburbs.

Discover new exclusive AI events on the road: stopping delivery trucks, garbage trucks and opening drawbriges.

Included are 17 new AI vehicles plus ships and trains. We recreated all scenery and environmental objects from scratch. To complete the atmosphere of Chicago, passenger voices were recorded with native American speakers and an adopted ticket sale script was created.

Look out for a legacy of the Blues Brothers hidden somewhere in Downtown. All other sights are explained later in this manual.



System Requirements

To play the add-on as smoothly as possible, your PC has to meet the following system requirements:

- Operating System Windows XP, Vista, 7, 8/8.1
- Processor (CPU) with 2.8 GHz
- 4 GB RAM
- 3 GB free disk space
- Graphics card with 1024 MB VRAM, DirectX 9.0c or higher

Please make sure that you have „OMSI 2“ in at least version 2.2.021 installed before installing this add-on.

Additionally, an internet connection and a Steam account are necessary in order to activate this add-on.

Installing the Game

You have to be logged in with administrator rights before you start the installation of “OMSI 2 Add-on Chicago Downtown”. To start the installation of “OMSI 2 Add-on Chicago Downtown” simply insert the DVD into your DVD drive or run the file you downloaded from your shop account.

After you have chosen your preferred installation language, the welcome screen appears and you will be presented with some important information and the license agreement. Please read it carefully.

You will be asked to insert your email address and your registration key. Please insert it exactly the way it was written on the label or in the confirmation mail you received from your download shop. Please keep your registration key on a safe place, You will need it again if a new installation will be necessary.

The installation program will attempt to locate the correct path. If you wish to install to another location, then you will have to enter the correct path for installation manually.

In order to do this, click on “Browse” and navigate to the correct path. Before the installation program starts to copy the files onto your hard disc, you will be presented with all the installation details.

The installation program will now copy all of the “OMSI 2 - The Omnibus Simulator” files onto your hard disk.

If you want to make any changes or to install any updates for this program you will need the DVD or the installation file from the download shop and your registration key again.

Important note!

Subsequent to the installation the Aerosoft-Launcher will be started for the online registration. Learn more about this program in the next chapter.

Aerosoft Launcher

General information about the Aerosoft-Launcher

The Aerosoft-Launcher gives you an overview of all Aerosoft products installed on your computer. You will also have easy access to special features available for the several products.

Should the SOFTWARE PRODUCT require an Online Registration, the Aerosoft LAUNCHER will take you through this process. The Aerosoft-LAUNCHER will be automatically installed with the SOFTWARE PRODUCT and will launch at the end of the install process.

You can run the Aerosoft-Launcher at any time via the Windows START menu to check the activation state of your installed SOFTWARE PRODUCTS. Just follow this link:

START | ALL PROGRAMS | AEROSOFT | Aerosoft Launcher

The Aerosoft-Launcher starts up in the “Library” view by default. Here you can see an overview of all installed Aerosoft SOFTWARE PRODUCTS and their state of activation.



The following categories will be shown.

“Aircraft”, “Sceneries”, “Tools/Missions”, “Category-Unknown” and “Simulation”.

The SOFTWARE PRODUCT will be placed in one of these categories accordingly during installation. Older SOFTWARE PRODUCTS which do not need an online activation will be placed in the category “Category-Unknown”.

In the “Library” view you will also see an overview of current Aerosoft News.

What is required for an installation?

For an installation and an online activation you will have to have administrator rights. Please make sure that you have these rights.

You will also need an active internet connection.

How do I activate a SOFTWARE PRODUCT?

If necessary please change to the “Library” view and select the SOFTWARE PRODUCT for activation.

Click on the button “activate”.

The following screen will appear:



Check your email address and your registration key is correct and click on „Online activation“. Please note you will need an active internet connection for this procedure.

You registration data will transferred to our Aerosoft server now.

Your information will now be transferred to the Aerosoft server. After a successful transfer your system will be activated and used without further limitations.

Please note that depending on the safety settings some data of theAerosoft SOFTWARE PRODUCT need to be personalized.

Information about the activation status

GREY == undefined

GREEN == active

YELLOW == reactivation required

RED == activation unsuccessful

I want to install the SOFTWARE PRODUCT again. How do I do this?

The “Library” view will show the activation status of each SOFTWARE PRODUCT.

If it is shown in **GREEN**, the SOFTWARE PRODUCTS are active. A new activation is not necessary.

If it shows **YELLOW** the SOFTWARE PRODUCTS have at least been activated once but need a new online activation because of new hardware in your system. Click on the button “activate”. Please note that all required information has been correctly filled in.

There is an update available for the SOFTWARE PRODUCT. Does it change the activation status?

Normally the activation status will not be changed. It is possible though that an adoption of the activation status on to the new installed data is necessary.

If this is the case change to the “Library” view and select the appropriate SOFTWARE PRODUCT.

Click on the “refresh” Button to take over the activation status.

I have to reconfigure my PC-System or I have got a new PC. What do I have to bear in mind?

A check of the activation keys commences every time the Aerosoft-LAUNCHER is started. Depending on the activation status, a new activation might be necessary.

Removal

In order to fully remove “OMSI 2 Add-on Chicago Downtown” run the Aerosoft-Launcher. Change to the „Library” and select „OMSI 2 Add-on Chicago Downtown” in the „Simulation” category. The information about „OMSI 2 Add-on Chicago Downtown” will appear.

Click on the „Uninstall” button. The installation program will start to remove the program from your hard disk

Important game performance information

Please use the included recommended options! („Options” > „Load Options” > „Chicago Recommended”)

Set neighbor tiles count to 1 or max. 2.

AI traffic should be set to: 150 road traffic, 50 scheduled, 400 humans, schedule priority 2. You can also activate the reduced AI list to improve performance.

To get more frames per second, we recommend to deactivate stencil buffer effects and particle systems and reduce the realtime reflections



texture size („Graphics (advanced)”).

Please remember to set your graphics driver (NVIDIA control panel or ATI Catalyst Control Center) appropriately. These settings (anti-aliasing, texture filtering) can not be influenced by OMSI settings!

Reduce texture filtering and anti-aliasing to improve the game’s framerate.

Unlocking buses

City buses of Chicago are secured by a safety interlock that disables the transmission when the Clever Device is not logged in by the driver. This has already been done when you replace an AI driver in a scheduled bus, but you will need to log in when you spawn your own bus from the menu.

To log in, enter driver ID and PIN into the device above the windshield. The login data is displayed on the yellow paper on your dashboard as long as you are not logged in. The run number will appear on the same paper as soon as you take over a schedule.

You can customize driver login data in the file „clever_constfile.txt” in the folder „scripts” of the bus.

Acknowledgment

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Ticket sale

Set ticket sale to „None“ or „Advanced“ for best simulation experience.

There is no printed ticket in Chicago that we might know from German cities. Most passengers will use a pre-loaded card or limited-use magnet cards that can be bought at train stations and service points.

Boarding passengers scan the pre-loaded card and you will get a green confirmation screen on the lower display on the dashboard. You can also allow an entry with the button „Fare Override“ on the device.



A few passengers will pay cash and put money in the farebox on your right. You need to confirm („record rider“) every cash payment with the keypad by entering the matching fare group. Passengers need to provide exact cash as there is no changer.

There are 3 fare groups: Full fare (\$2), reduced fare (\$1) and student (\$.75).

Record the fare group by pressing 1 = Full fare, 4 = Reduced, 5 = Student on the farebox keypad. Confirm with green key.



In case you use „Easy“ ticket sale mode, just press „Shift“+ „T“ and „T“ as soon as the amount is shown in the farebox display.

Bus routes

Your base depot is Kedzie (garage between streets Kedzie and Jackson). Operating lines 124 and 130 bring a diversified view on multiple areas of Chicago.



The depot garage can be reached on Interstate 290 westbound from Downtown. Use Homan Ave exit.



Operating hours:

Rt. 124 8 am - 11 pm

Rt. 130 9 am - 6 pm

Original timetables were adapted for OMSI, with the only exception of route 130 operating year-round. This route originally operates from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day only.

Bus runs

Every operator receives a run for each workday. The run number will be displayed also in the windshield display.

Runs in OMSI Chicago Downtown are fictional so you can decide inside the OMSI timetable menu which route to operate. There are also service trips to and from the depot, this will be displayed on the run paper above the windshield and in your information red line (press „Ctrl“ + „Z“ multiple times).

There are solo bus and articulated bus runs. Some runs don't operate through the whole day or make long breaks to compensate timetable peaks.

You can find all timetable and run information in the Addons folder of OMSI 2.

To activate station announcements and target display, enter your run number into the Clever Device above the windshield. Click the button for menu „Run“ after logging in as a driver (see „Unlocking buses“). In case you replaced an AI driver in another bus, he has already entered the run number.



In case you don't remember the run number of your schedule, you will find it printed on the yellow paper on your dashboard.





AI traffic

AI traffic are routes operated by computer driven buses, ships and trains. Use the schedule priority setting in OMSI's AI traffic options to decide which AI routes are operating depending on how important they are. Choosing a low schedule priority will save (1 = only important routes, 4 = all routes).

Ships, delivery traffic and school buses are all priority 2.



Schedule priority: 1	2	3	4
124	6	2	1
130	7	18	3
L-Train Brown Line	126	24	4
L-Train Orange Line	146	36	12
Metra Trains	151	52	56
L-Train Green Line	20	125	82
L-Train Blue Line	28	147	
	29	157	
	60	J14	
	65		
	66		

Vehicle overview

Diesel 40 ft

The traffic authority of Chicago ordered 1030 40-ft diesel buses beginning in 2004. 20 of them had hybrid drive systems for testing. This large order was delivered in 5 options between February 2006 and May 2007. All 6 bus garages have this bus model assigned, including Kedzie. Numbers 1000-2029 were used for the new fleet.

The different options (= models) of this type feature different Diesel engines and transmissions. In OMSI, you can choose between order 2 and order 3 buses. These are equipped with 6-speed automatic transmission, electric „easy touch“ rear doors, A/C, security cameras, kneeling, bike rack, wheelchair ramp and GPS-supported intelligent system with automatic station announcements. The farebox was equipped with a digital card scanner. Later vehicles (starting with #1630) have LED interior lights.

Technical data:

Length: 41 ft

Width: 8 ft 6 in

Width over mirrors: 10 ft 4 in

Height: 9 ft 3 in

Empty weight: 27434 lbs

Gross weight: 39556 lbs

Seats: 39

Engine: Diesel 6-cylinder, 345 HP (257 kw), torque: 1559 Nm at 1300 rpm, max rpm: 2100

Transmission: 6-speed automatic

Max. speed: 60 mph (governed)



Diesel-Electric Hybrid 60 ft

Following the order of over thousand 40-ft buses, 150 articulated 60-ft buses of the same type were leased in 2008. They did not use the new exterior style that was already available at that time. Due to insufficient funds, all vehicles are leased for \$13.400.000 per year.

Kedzie and 4 other garages received the new articulated buses numbered 4000-4149. All buses feature split-parallel hybrid drive with infinite ratio transmission. This hybrid drive system had been tested on 10 40-ft buses before.

Compared to the standard buses, the articulated model has a shorter wheelbase in the front car resulting in different window and seat configuration. Operation controls and all other features are comparable to the 40-ft buses. Transmission buttons are different because these models are equipped with Allison, not ZF transmissions.

58 more buses were delivered later and feature new-style seats and interior lights, these are not available in OMSI though.

Technical data:

Length: 61 ft 8 in

Width: 8 ft 6 in

Width over mirrors: 10 ft 4 in

Height: 10 ft 9 in

Empty weight: 43604 lbs

Gross weight: 63756 lbs

Seats: 54

Engine: Diesel 6-cylinder, 345 HP (257 kw), torque: 1559 Nm at 1300 rpm, max rpm: 2100

Transmission: Variable 2-mode hybrid automatic

Max. speed: 60 mph (governed)

Vehicle operations

Check this chapter for all operation elements of the buses.

Dashboard



- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 = Indicator blinker left | 20 = Indicator air ride |
| 2 = Indicator transmission lock | 21 = Indicator wheelchair ramp |
| 3 = Indicator transmission temperature | 22 = Indicator blinker right |
| 4 = Indicator engine fire | 23 = Indicator stop request |
| 5 = Indicator engine check | 24 = Indicator wheelchair ramp request |
| 6 = Indicator engine shutoff | 25 = Indicator retarder |
| 7 = Indicator engine temperature | 26 = Indicator retarder off |
| 8 = Indicator fuel | 27 = Indicator parking brake |
| 9 = Indicator coolant | 28 = Indicator start interlock |
| 10 = Indicator oil pressure | 29 = Rocker switch kneeling |
| 11 = Indicator air reservoir pressure | 30 = Rocker switch wheelchair ramp |
| 12 = Indicator ignition interlock | 31 = Gauge air reservoir front |
| 13 = Indicator auxiliary heater | 32 = Gauge air reservoir rear |



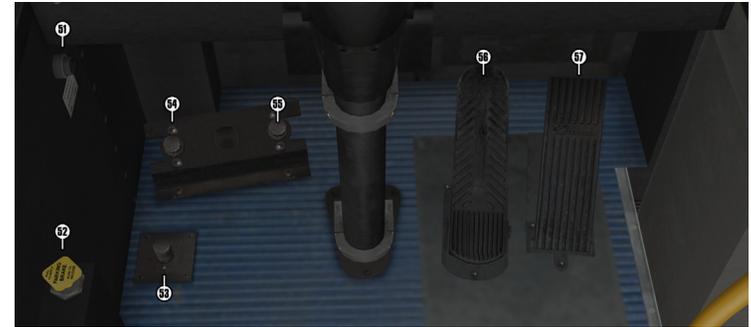
- 14 = Indicator school bus blinker
- 15 = Indicator high beam
- 16 = Indicator generator
- 17 = Indicator A/C fail
- 18 = Indicator rear door
- 19 = Indicator ABS fail
- 33 = Gauge coolant temperature
- 34 = Switch window wiper/washer
- 35 = Switch panel lights
- 36 = Lever steering wheel setup
- 37 = Speed/odometer
- 38 = Transmission selector

Window console



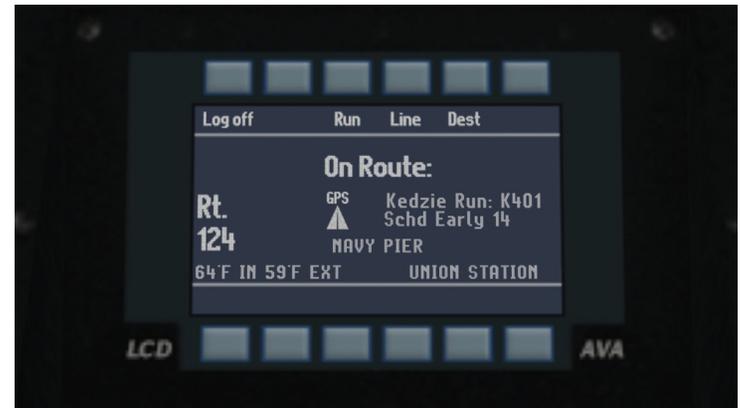
- 39 = Rocker switch auxiliary heat
- 40 = Rocker switch idle speed
- 41 = Rocker switch interior light
- 42 = Door lever
- 43 = A/C switch
- 44 = Rocker switch ventilation
- 45 = Rocker switch speaker
- 46 = Rocker switch postpone engine shutoff
- 47 = Rocker switch driver light
- 48 = Rocker switch hazard flashers
- 49 = Ignition button
- 50 = Master run switch

Floor



- 51 = Switch door manual operation
- 52 = Parking brake
- 53 = Footswitch high beam
- 54 = Footswitch blinker left
- 55 = Footswitch blinker right
- 56 = Brake valve treadle
- 57 = Accelerator treadle

Clever Device





You have already learned about the Clever Device when „Unlocking buses“ and entering „Bus runs“.

The main screen is pictured above. Press „Log off“ to log off the driver and lock the gearbox. You then have to enter driver ID and PIN to unlock.

Screens „Run“, „Line“ and „Dest“ allow to enter run number, route number and target code manually.

Usually it is sufficient to enter the run when accepting a schedule.

The main screen will show the current route, run number and garage, as well as schedule time difference („Schd Early“/„Late“), GPS reception, current stop, target display and interior/exterior temperature.

Input device



The external input device is located left of the farebox. It displays the login status and offers the possibility to override a fare payment or check the current balance.

Automatic transmission

All buses have automatic transmission (40-ft 6-speed, 60-ft infinite ratio). The transmission mode can only be selected when driver is logged in and brake is applied.

An automatic start interlock is applied when the vehicle stops until accelerator treadle is pressed. The interlock will also apply when door lever is engaged or engine is stopped without parking brake applied. Indicated by light „(S)“ on the panel.

Master run switch

The master run switch on the left window console functions like the ignition key and light switch in a normal car. It can be operated by mouse or keys „E“ for electric, „L“ for lights and „M“ for engine shutoff also. Press „M“ after „E“ is active to start the engine.

Check out the possible positions of the knob: „Stop Engine“, „Day Run“, „Night Run“ and „Night Park“.



„Stop Engine“ shuts down the engine, release air pressure from doors and cuts all electric systems except the multiplex system.

„Day Run“ is the standard operating position. After electric has engaged, hold down the engine start button (or press „M“) to ignite the engine. The engine might need some preheat time in cold conditions. This is indicated by „Wait to start“ light on the panel. Engine can only be started when parking brake is applied.



„Night Run“ activates all exterior lights and extended interior lights. This is used by most drivers in Chicago.

„Night Park“ allows parking the vehicle with active lighting. Target display and door controls remain active also.

Multiplex system

The multiplex is a collection of electric systems that will run on battery for 30 minutes after the main switch was turned off. This includes the Clever Device, the target displays, farebox, driver light, blinkers, horn, stop lights, wiper and gauges.

Brakes and chassis

All buses are equipped with a four-circuit airbrake system. The first two circuits engage brakes on front and rear axles. The reservoir pressure is displayed on the dashboard gauges. The indicator light „Low Air“ will light up when reservoir pressure is too low and gear is engaged.



Third and fourth circuit operate parking brake, air ride and doors. Low pressure is indicated by light „Kneel“.

The first retarder brake level is applied as soon as you lift off the foot from the accelerator treadle. When brake treadle is engaged, the second retarder level will kick in. The retarder brake will disengage when overheating or during a gearbox failure. On the hybrid bus, the vehicle will automatically brake and regain energy from braking for the batteries when accelerator is disengaged.

An automatic start interlock is applied when the vehicle stops until accelerator treadle is pressed. The interlock will also apply when door lever is engaged or engine is stopped without parking brake applied. Indicated by light „(S)“ on the panel. The interlock applies a moderate brake pressure to the rear wheels and engine will not accept throttle.

A warning beep will sound when the bus is shut off with no parking brake applied. You can set the parking brake by pressing „.“ or clicking the yellow button valve below the left window console.

Kneeling/wheelchair ramp

Kneeling the front axle lowers the entry height for disabled passengers. Open the protective cover of the kneel switch and pull the rocker switch down. Warning beep and light will activate. Uplift will follow automatically when doors are closed or rocker switch is moved up.

The wheelchair ramp („W/C“) is an electric fold-out ramp that folds out of the interior through the open door. There is also a small leather strip on the top corner to manually engage the ramp. Front door must be open, engine running and parking brake applied.

Open the protective cover of the ramp switch and set the rocker switch to „Deploy“. Let the switch go when the ramp has travelled 50% to take load from the motor. Gravity will move the ramp to the end position.



Engine control

The electronic engine control is equipped with speed limiter (60 mph) and automatic shut-off. Engine will force shut-off after 10 minutes of idling or engine damage and fire. The shut-off can be postponed for one minute by rocker switch #46 for a limited number of times. If you exceed the set amount of times, only the garage can reset the counter. The engine shut-off will be indicated by light „Stop Engine“.

Engines are usually kept running during the day to keep A/C and lights on. A popular way of avoiding the automatic shut-off is keeping the bus in reverse.

You can activate the auxiliary heater in cold weather. Increasing the idle speed (rocker switch „Idle Speed“) will help warming up the engine also. This only works when parking brake is applied and should not be used longer than 10 minutes.

Hybrid drivetrains in the articulated buses have an intelligent control system that will mix Diesel and electric engines depending on the situation. Move energy of the vehicle is used to regain battery power when slowing down.

Lighting

Exterior lights are activated by setting the master run switch to „Night Run“ or pressing „L“ key.

„Shift“ + „L“ sets „Night Park“ for standing lights, engine stops.

The driver light turns on automatically with the front door when „Night Run“ is set. You can use the rocker switch or press „6“ to switch it manually. The interior lights are turned on by rocker switch „Interior Lights“ in 2 modes (or use keyboard „7“ and „8“).

The door entry lights always operate automatically with the doors.

Air conditioning

Ventilation and A/C will only function with engine turned on. You can also use roof hatches and windows for ventilation.

Ventilation of driver's place



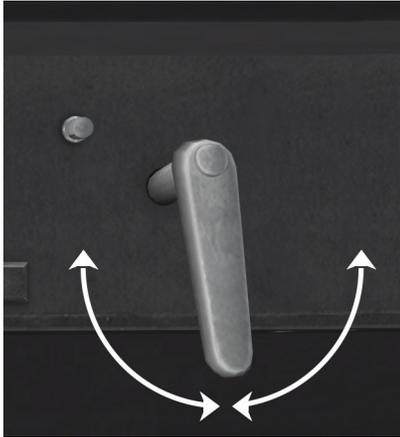
The console for driver's place air condition is placed in the middle of the windshield panel. Left lever is for blending fresh air and circulating air. Right lever is the temperature selector. The dial knob sets ventilation power for head and feet ventilation.



Passenger cabin

Controls for passenger cabin A/C are located on the left window panel. Dial knob „Climate Control“ can be set to „Heat“, „Vent“ and „Cool“. Vent mode will only use ventilation, the other modes adjust interior temperature to a fixed temperature level. Use the rocker switch „Vent Mode Fan“ to adjust the fan speed. Rocker switch „Pre-Heat“ can be used to activate the auxiliary oil heat.

Door controls



All door functions are controlled by the rotating lever on the left window console. Moving it out of the middle (off) position sets different modes for the doors. First position to the right opens front door only, first position to the left releases only rear door. The second positions in each direction triggers both doors.

You can move the lever by mouse or use standard OMSI keys („/“, „*“ and „-“).

On the 40-ft bus, only the front door is moved by air pressure. You can always open the door manually because the pressure is low.

When you turn off the master run switch or turn the manual door switch, pressure is released for easy exit. The rear door is driven by an electric motor that opens the door when a passenger touches the „easy out“ strips and the door lever is set to release rear door. The door will then close again after a few seconds.

A „drunk alert“ bell will sound when a passenger tries to force open the door.

The emergency door release is triggered by the red pull switch above the doors.

The rear door of the 60-ft articulated bus is also moved by air pressure. This bus has no electric doors.

When the rear door is released or open and the door lever is not in off position, the start interlock is engaged. Watch for the indicator „Rear Door Open“ to make sure the rear door is closing.

If driving lights are turned on, driver's light will automatically light up when the front door opens.

The green light above the rear door shows the door is released and can be opened by passengers pressing the yellow sensor strips.

The roof hatches are not only emergency exits but can also be used for ventilation in three modes.

Traffic rules

If you are not familiar with US traffic laws, take a quick look here to pass your duty without problems in the Windy City.

„Turn on Red“

You are always allowed to turn right on a red signal unless there is a prohibitive sign. Make sure to stop at the line and let all cars and pedestrians pass. You can also make a left on red in one-way streets.

„All-way stop“

On stop-sign intersections there are usually stop signs on all 3 or 4 junctions.



Make sure to come to a stop and let a car pass when it had arrived at the stop line before you. If you arrived first, you may leave first also. In case multiple cars arrive at the same time, the car on the right side is always eligible to go first.

Bus and HOV lanes

Special lanes for buses, cabs and/or HOV (high occupancy) vehicles are marked with the rhomb symbol or text „BUS“. You can usually go straight over the right turn lane at an intersection. Make sure the sign „Right only except bus“ is present.

You should normally use the rightmost lane when possible, some might be available for parking though. Watch out for intersections where you can't travel straight over the right turn lane, like Wacker and Lake.

Virtual travelguide

We want to present some interesting spots you can discover during your rides. See the map in „Addons“ folder to check out where they are.

Kedzie Depot



As an operator of routes 124 and 130 you are based on Kedzie Depot. This large garage contains a repair shop and parking space for 250 buses. It was opened in 1984. The name derives from the location on Kedzie Ave between Jackson and Congress.

Interstate 290



The I-290, also known as Congress or Eisenhower Expressway, takes you from Kedzie and Homan Ave to Downtown Congress Pkwy in the Loop area. It was opened in 1972 and meets I-94 to Wisconsin/Indiana before it ends. Before the Interstate was opened, there was a highway on the same route. The remarkable end in Chicago is the famous tunnel through the old post office.

Old Post Office

The old main post office on Canal St was opened 1921 and extended 1932 to its current size. The tunnel for Interstate was already prepared at that time but not used until the Interstate was built 20 years later.

Due to multiple incidents like the famous post jam of 1966, when 10 million letters got stuck in the office and the election of Chicago as city with worst postal deliveries, a new main post office was built and the large old building was abandoned in 1997.

The old post office is maintained for \$2 million per year and is used as a movie shooting location from time to time.



Library



In the bloom of clean modern Chicago, a new main library was opened in 1991 and named Harold Washington Library. It is located between Congress, State and Van Buren. Before it came into service, there were multiple small libraries spread over the whole metropolitan area.

Federal Prison



The Metropolitan Correctional Center is a triangular shape tower building that keeps 600 prisoners in 28 floors since. The prison yard is located in a safe spot: on the roof.

Old Central Station



The impressive station of 1893 was located on the corner of Roosevelt and Michigan. When long-haul trains were relocated to Union Station in 1972, the old central station was closed and torn down 2 years later. Only a sign on the lawn indicates what had resided here for many years. Tracks under Roosevelt street bridge are still in service.



Museum Campus



The Museum Campus is part of Northerly Island and contains a park of famous Chicago museums Adler Planetarium, Shedd Aquarium and Field Museum. There used to be a small airport called Meigs Field that was destroyed illegally in 2003.

Northerly Island is a man-made land tongue and can only be reached on the Lake Shore Drive. There are dozens of school buses every day, hauling kids to the museums. All kinds of people gather in the evenings to watch the sun descend and the fireworks at Navy Pier over the shimmering water.

South of Museum Campus, the congress center McCormick Place and stadium Soldier Field can be found. The Lake Shore Drive was relocated in 1998 to re-design the park and make it more attractive for pedestrians.

Art Institute



Today's building of the Art Institute was constructed in 1893. It is located in Grant Park right in the middle of downtown Michigan Avenue.

When you turn right on Madison on route 124, you can see the building left of you. It is the second largest art museum of the US and was elected best museum in the world 2014.

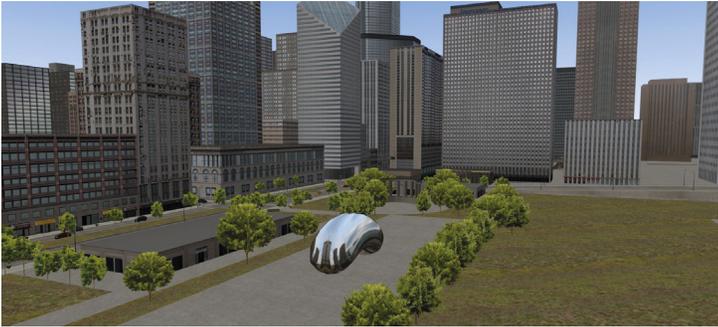
Calder's Flamingo





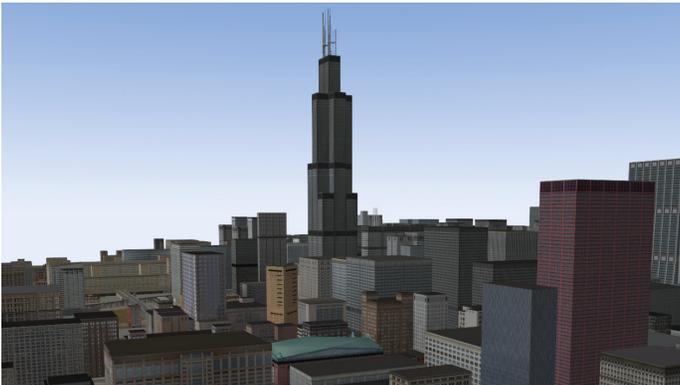
This steel sculpture in eye-catching red was built 1973 by Alexander Calder and is located on Federal Plaza between Adams and Jackson. Just watch left for a second when you are on route 130 on Adams St at Dearborn.

Cloud Gate



This massive mirror bean is placed in Millenium Park at Michigan and Washington.

Willis Tower



The highest building of Chicago was built as „Sears Tower“ and is located between Jackson and Adams at Wacker. The skyscraper was finished after 4 years of construction in 1974 and used to be the highest building in the world. It has now been replaced by One World Trade Center and many new projects in Asia. The new name Willis Tower was not adopted by public. You can already spot the clear geometry of the tower when you leave Kedzie depot 4 miles away. The famous „Skydeck“ platform offers spectacular views of the city each day.

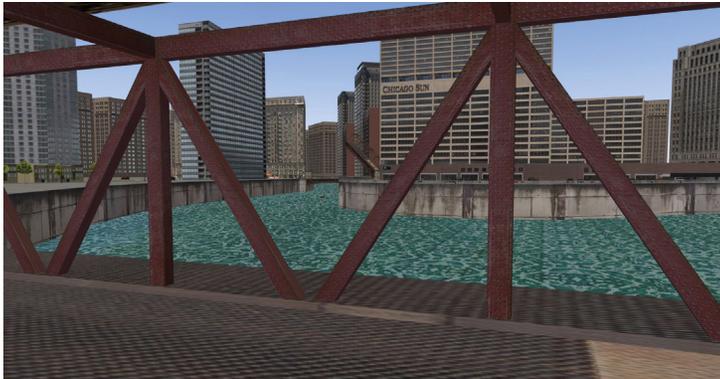
Civic Opera



The opera building on Wacker can be seen from route 124 when you cross the bridges of South River. It is the second largest opera auditorium in the USA with 3563 seats and was opened in 1929. The rear is located directly at South Chicago River.



Old Railway Bridge



The Kinzie street bridge can clearly be distinguished by its one-sided bridge arm pointing upward in the sky. Watch left on route 124 right before the stop Wacker and Lake to see the abandoned bridge. It was built in 1908 and has not been in use since the Chicago Sun-Times newspaper moved its production out of downtown.

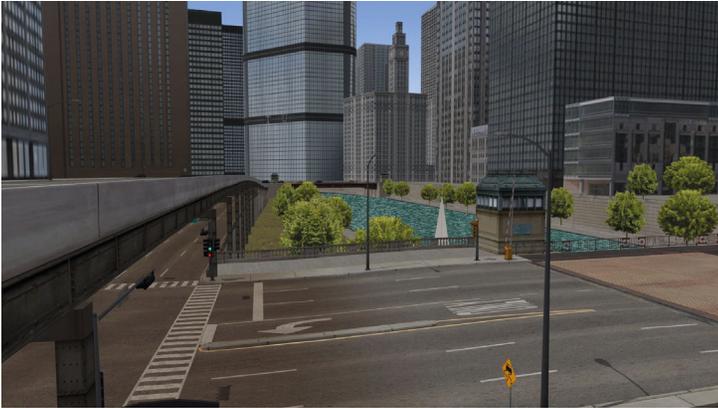
Merchandise Mart



The huge Merchandise Mart is located right of Kinzie street bridge. Built in 1930, it might not impress with its 25 floors but used to be the largest building in the world by floor space. It also had its own ZIP code. The mart is now used by wholesale and luxury stores and has a designated train station in the basement.



Wrigley Building



The 130 m high building with its famous clock tower is located on Michigan Avenue north of the river. It was finished 1924 and considered a skyscraper back then. You can look left on route 124 to Navy Pier when crossing the river on Columbus Street bridge. The Wrigley Building is known to be the first office building in Chicago to have air conditioning.

Wacker Drive



The Wacker Drive is a 2 mile long road along Chicago River at first sight. You will soon notice it is more than that, it contains a complex multi-level road system built in 1926 and considered a predecessor of today's freeway bridges and urban planning.

The upper level is designated for tourist and local rides, the lower levels for through and delivery traffic. Many buildings have a direct delivery entrance down here and even parking lots or bus stops.

The lower levels are a mysterious world for all strangers because you will hardly see any optical indication from the surface and there is weak GPS reception.

You will get a good impression of this secret place on route 124 between Columbus and Michigan stops.



Navy Pier

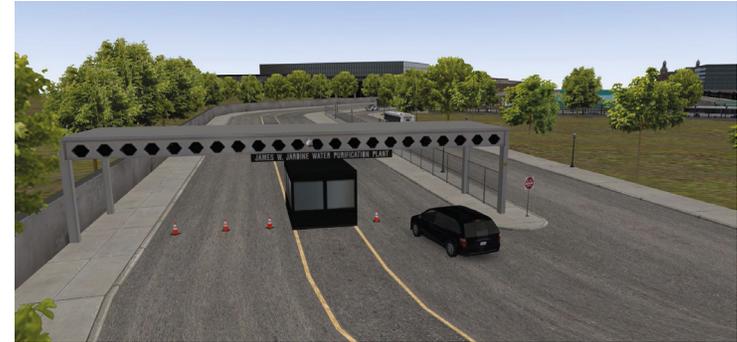


Navy Pier is a 0.7 mile long sea bridge in the north-east corner of downtown. It was built as storage and freight handling place in 1914. There was already a restaurant and amusement area back then because the fresh breeze from the lake was very welcome to citizens with no air conditioning.

After being used by the Navy, the pier was abandoned and brought back to life by the city in 1989. It is now very famous among families and all visitors and probably the most famous place of Chicago besides Willis Tower and Hancock Center.

The ferris wheel (built 1995) is one of the main attractions, together with fireworks every Summer Wednesday and Saturday.

Water Purification Plant



North of Navy Pier another sea tongue can be found. The purification plant is considered largest filtration site in the world and was opened in 1968. It collects water from the lake in far-out water cribs, bringing pure drinking water to the town. The water of Chicago river can't be used for drinking water as it is polluted by industry.

You can spot the security checkpoint of the plant entry right before you approach Navy Pier final stop on route 124.

Union/Ogilvie Stations





Routes 124 and 130 terminate at Union and Ogilvie Stations. This large train station area is located under the surface and sprawls over 9 blocks. There are no through tracks, so all passengers need to change trains here when they travel through Chicago.

The main building of Union Station was opened 1925 at Canal St between Jackson and Adams. It contains ticket booths and waiting area. The monstrous stairways was often used for movie scenes.

Entrances on the other side of Canal St and north at Madison are connected with tunnels.



Ogilvie Transportation Center is also located on Canal St, north of Union Station between Madison and Randolph. It was opened 1912 and contains 16 train tracks. You will circle around Ogilvie Transportation Center on route 130 when you turn south back to Museum Campus between Canal/Randolph and Clinton/Washington.

La Salle Street Station



The old LaSalle station from 1852 was replaced in 1981 by this terminal containing an office tower and train station. Today, the station is only used by local (Metra) trains. You might not see the tracks from street level but you will definitely recognize the two-arch tunnel on Congress Pkwy.

Also located in there is the “Chicago Stock Exchange”, making Chicago one of the trading capitals of the US.

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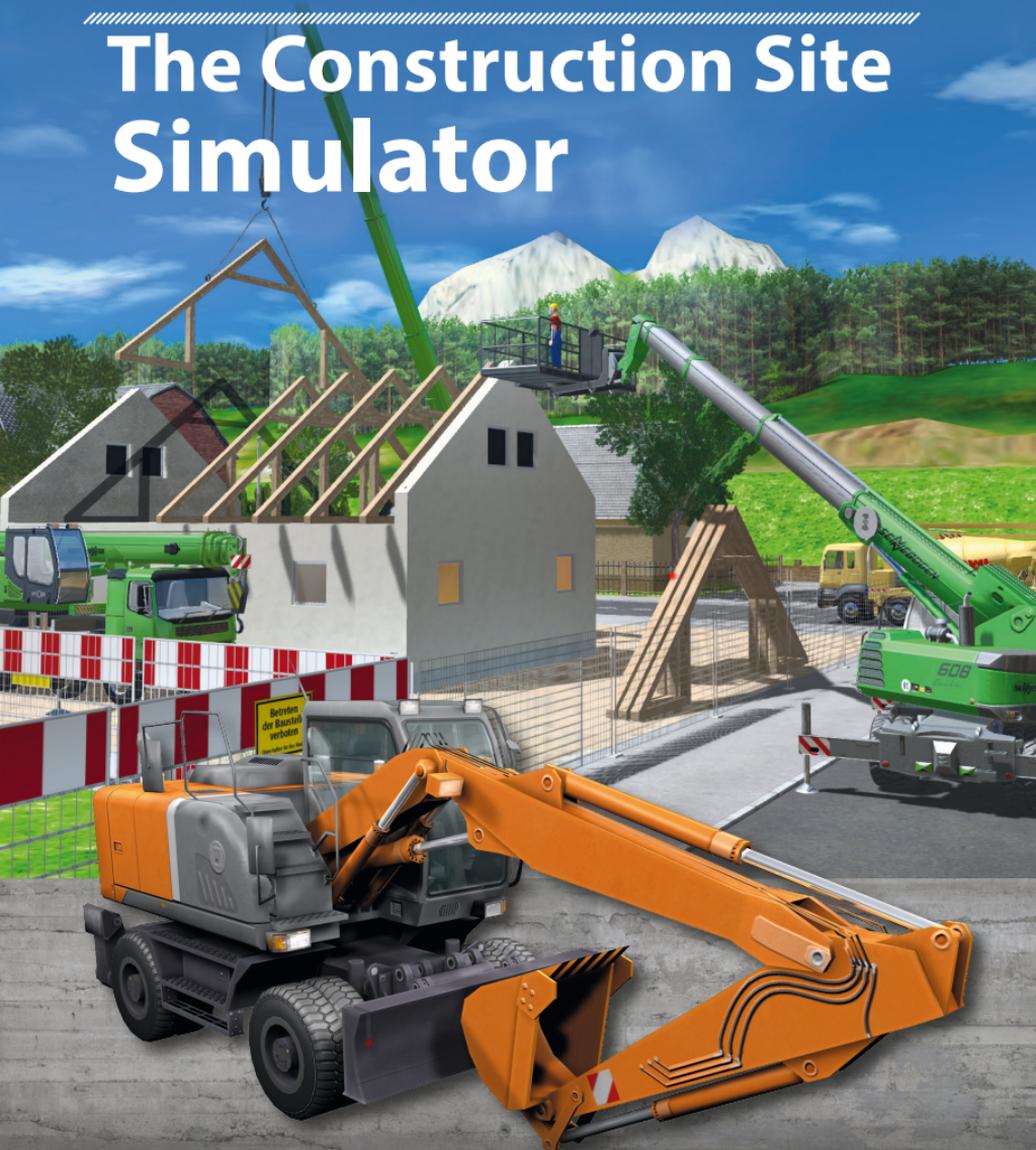
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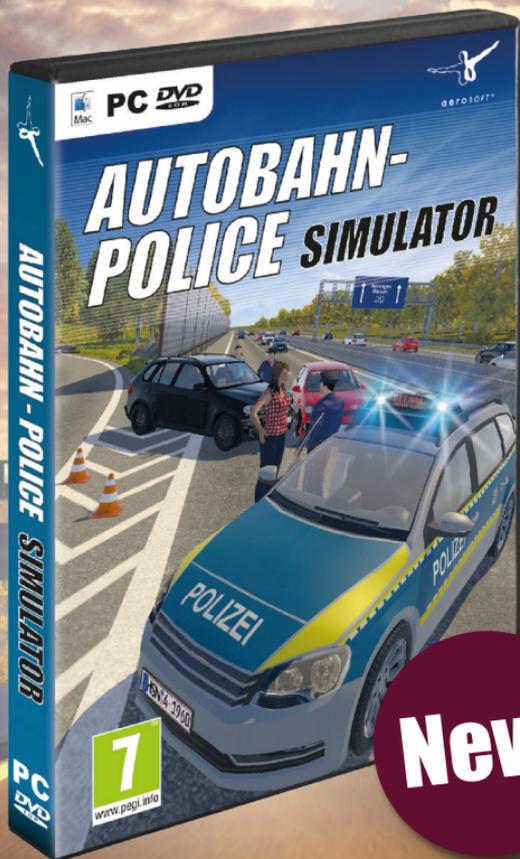


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