

# A Practical Guide to Hyde Park and Beyond

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## Buying Food and Drink

- **55TH STREET CO-OP MARKETS** [Hyde Park Shopping Center at 55th and Lake Park]  
The only good-sized grocery store in Hyde Park. Among other things it has a large full-service deli, food sold in bulk (such as beans, different types of flour, nuts and spices), and the best selection of meat and fish in Hyde Park. The produce is overpriced here, but you can usually find what you are looking for. You can also find some stuff for your kitchen here (like cheap pots and pans) and cleaning supplies. There is a flower shop on the first floor where you can buy potted plants. In the basement of the Co-op are a post office, cheap video rentals, and a liquor store.
- **53RD STREET CO-OP MARKETS** [Kimbark Plaza at 53rd between Woodlawn and Kimbark]  
A smaller grocery store which pales in comparison to the 55th street Co-op. They recently reopened their deli and are trying to improve their selection. The only thing this place has going for it is its location; if you live nearby this is a really useful place.
- **47TH STREET CO-OP MARKETS** [47th and Lake Park]  
Apparently this is bigger and better than the 55th Street Co-op but a little out of the way for most people.
- **VILLAGE FOODS** [Village Center at 51st and Lake Park]  
Another small grocery store which is similar to the 53rd Co-op, but they sell alcohol here and have longer hours.
- **HYDE PARK PRODUCE** [On 53rd Street just east of Kimbark]  
This place is wonderful. The produce here is cheaper and better than anywhere else in Hyde Park. You can also buy nice, fresh herbs here. They have a small deli at the back and sell things like homemade salsa, guacamole, and pesto. They also sell baked goods from other bakeries around town.
- **MEDICI BAKERY** [57th Street between Kimbark and Kenwood]  
A bakery run by the Medici restaurant. Their breads are really good.
- **BONNE SANTÉ HEALTH FOODS** [53rd between Harper and Lake Park]  
Sells natural foods (but mostly foods that can be shelved, like bottled juice and dry foods), vitamins and nutritional supplements. They also sell a lot of natural skin care products. There is a student discount on all purchases made.

- KIMBARK LIQUOR [Kimbark Plaza at 53rd between Woodlawn and Kimbark]

A liquor store that has reasonable hours, unless it is Sunday.

- BINNY'S EXPRESS [Hyde Park Bank building at 53rd and Harper]

A smaller store that sells alcohol with terrible hours but a great wine selection.

A good idea when shopping for groceries around here is to pay attention to the sales each week. The grocery stores in Hyde Park are overpriced, but the sales are quite good.

## Drug Stores

- WALGREENS [Hyde Park Shopping Center at 55th and Lake Park]

- WALGREENS [51st and Cottage Grove]

- OSCO [53rd and Dorchester]

There are two main drugstores in Hyde Park and they are quite similar. Both have pharmacies and carry hair and skin care products. If you are new to the country the variety of things sold in these stores might surprise you. You can buy some of your groceries here. They also both sell things for your kitchen like plates and small appliances (coffee makers, toasters). You can occasionally find small, cheap furniture (like little tables and stools) and seasonal items for your apartment (like fans for instance). They sell some electronic equipment (phones, cd players, etc.), and both have photo developing services. The Osco distinguishes itself with the availability of sale-priced alcohol.

## Buying stuff for your apartment in Hyde Park

- ACE HARDWARE [Hyde Park Shopping Center at 55th and Lake Park]

Besides selling traditional hardware store fare like tools and anything to do with plumbing, this place is really a great starting point if you are attempting to buy things for your apartment and don't want to leave Hyde Park. You can find almost everything you might need for your kitchen including microwaves, standup mixers, etc. There are lamps, most things a bathroom requires, and mirrors. This is also the only place I know of in Hyde Park where you can get a vacuum cleaner and a granny cart for groceries. They also have the best selection of mops, brooms, and other cleaning implements around.

- FREELING POT AND PAN [53rd slightly west of Dorchester]

A surprisingly nice store that sells pots, pans, and other things you might need while cooking.

- OFFICE DEPOT [Hyde Park Shopping Center at 55th and Lake Park]

You can find everything you would need to use in an office. This includes office furniture, storage bins, filing cabinets, boxes, computers, coffee makers, printers, fancy phones, clocks, and even small refrigerators. If you need luggage for business travel, you can find it here too.

- RADIO SHACK [53rd between Blackstone and Harper]

You can find most electronics here, but it is a little overpriced.

## Bookstores

- SEMINARY CO-OP BOOKSTORE [58th and University in the Theological Seminary]  
The best place to buy math books, and apparently holds some sort of record for sales per square foot. If you buy 3 shares (which you can sell back at any point in time) you get 10% off of all of your purchases.
- 57TH STREET BOOKS [57th and Kimbark]  
A sister store to the Seminary Co-op, has a similar selection but doesn't sell textbooks.
- POWELL'S BOOKS [57th and Harper]  
A used bookstore that occasionally has useful math books.
- O'GARA WILSON BOOKS [57th between Harper and Blackstone]  
A smaller used bookstore, with mostly older books.
- BARNES & NOBLE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO BOOKSTORE [58th and Ellis]  
The official bookstore of the university, with a computer store upstairs with student discounts.
- BORDERS [53rd and Lake Park]  
Doesn't have a very good literature section but is good for non-academic books, DVD's, and CD's and has a café.

## Post Offices

- BASEMENT OF THE 55TH STREET CO-OP [Note, this is closed on weekends]
- 58TH BETWEEN ELLIS AND DREXEL

## Banks

- CITIBANK [Ellis between 58th and 59th]
- BANK ONE [Kimbark Plaza at 53rd between Woodlawn and Kimbark]
- UNIVERSITY NATIONAL BANK [55th and Kenwood]
- HYDE PARK BANK [53rd between Harper and Lake Park]

The first two banks are large and have ATMs (Automatic Teller Machines) around the city, while the other two are smaller banks. The Citibank has only two ATMs in Hyde Park which are both on campus. Also the Citibank lets you open an account without a Social Security Number, so I would recommend it if you are new to the country. Bank One is new to the neighborhood and has only one ATM that I know of (at the Walgreens at 55th). You might want to ask around about the the last two banks.

## Buying stuff outside of Hyde Park (without a car)

- SEARS [Downtown at State and Madison]

This department store (stores which try to sell everything ...) is easily accessible by public transit. You can usually find what you are looking for, and most items are not too expensive, even at regular prices.

- CARSON PIRIE SCOTT [Also at State and Madison]

More expensive and nicer than Sears, but occasionally you can find things on sale for great prices. For instance I once bought a suitcase there for 80% off the original price.

- FILENE'S BASEMENT AND TJ MAXX [State and Madison]

These are two discount stores that sell mostly clothes. They are extremely useful if you need to buy yourself clothing for the upcoming winter and don't have a lot of money to spend. You also might find things for your apartment.

In general most of the stores downtown are pricey, and if you stick to the rule "South of the river go on State and North of the river go on Michigan" you will find many, many stores.

## Buying stuff outside of Hyde Park with a car

- FORD CITY MALL [7601 South Cicero Ave.]

A ridiculously big mall, find out more at [www.shopfordcity.com](http://www.shopfordcity.com).

- TARGET [7100 S. Cicero Ave.]

Another store mostly for your apartment that sells cheap things that aren't ugly. See [www.target.com](http://www.target.com).

- IKEA [Schaumburg IL, 1800 E McConnor Parkway]

If you've never heard of IKEA, it is a Swedish furniture store that caters mostly to new families and young people such as ourselves. They also sell many accessories for your apartment; find someone with a catalogue if you are interested in going before making the drive or see [www.ikea-usa.com](http://www.ikea-usa.com) for more info.