

Your Complete Guide to Moving to Beverly Shores, Indiana

Welcome to Beverly Shores

Beverly Shores offers something truly special: a small lakefront community nestled within Indiana Dunes National Park, just an hour from Chicago. This unique town of quiet, tree-lined streets provides immediate access to miles of pristine Lake Michigan beaches, hiking trails, and natural dunes—all while maintaining the peaceful atmosphere of a close-knit residential community. The town attracts families and professionals seeking an escape from urban density without sacrificing proximity to Chicago's employment opportunities and cultural amenities.

What sets Beverly Shores apart is its remarkable setting as one of the few residential communities actually located within a national park. Historic homes, including several "Homes of the Future" from the 1933 Chicago World's Fair, dot the landscape alongside mid-century cottages and newer construction. The town maintains a deliberately low-key character with minimal commercial development, prioritizing preservation of natural spaces and a quiet residential atmosphere. For those relocating from Chicago, Beverly Shores represents an opportunity to trade traffic and crowds for a lifestyle centered around outdoor recreation, natural beauty, and genuine community connection.

Planning Your Move

Timing your move to Beverly Shores requires strategic planning, particularly if you're relocating with children. Summer months are the most popular for family relocations, allowing families to settle before the school year begins. If you're planning a summer move, book your moving date 3-4 weeks in advance to secure your preferred timing, as this is peak season for cross-state relocations between Illinois and Northwest Indiana. Fall and spring offer excellent alternatives with better availability and less competition for moving dates, though you'll want to coordinate with school calendars if you have school-age children. Cross-state moves inherently require extra planning time compared to local moves, so build in additional days for preparation.

The logistics of moving between Chicago and Beverly Shores involve several considerations beyond a typical local move. Experienced [Beverly Shores movers handle cross-state regulations, toll route planning, and timing coordination daily. Your move will likely involve I-94 to I-80/94 \(Indiana Toll Road\), with toll costs typically ranging from \\$10-14 for the complete route including the Chicago Skyway. Professional movers build these costs into upfront estimates and plan routes to avoid Chicago rush hour congestion, which can add 30-60 minutes to travel time. Since Beverly Shores is a residential community without commercial centers, your movers should be familiar with navigating quiet residential streets and coordinating timing without the typical urban loading zone complications.](#)

Living Here

Daily life in Beverly Shores centers around the natural environment and the town's unique position within Indiana Dunes National Park. Most residents make regular trips to nearby communities like Michigan City or Chesterton for grocery shopping, dining, and services, while maintaining Beverly Shores as their residential sanctuary. The town offers immediate access to seven miles of Lake Michigan shoreline, extensive trail systems, and the cultural and recreational programming of the National Park Service. Many residents commute to Chicago via the South Shore Line from nearby stations, making the lifestyle viable for those who work in the city but prefer lakefront living.

Beverly Shores is served by Duneland School Corporation, which many families moving from Chicago cite as a significant draw due to smaller class sizes and strong academic programs. Porter County offers considerably lower property taxes than Cook County, and housing costs provide substantially more space for your investment compared to Chicago real estate. The trade-off is fewer immediate amenities—you won't find restaurants, grocery stores, or shopping within walking distance. Instead, you'll discover a community where neighbors know each other, children play outside freely, and the rhythm of life follows the seasons and the lake rather than the urban clock.

Moving Tips

1. ****Verify cross-state licensing****: Confirm your moving company holds both Illinois and Indiana operating authority for interstate moves, as this is legally required and protects your belongings under federal regulations.
1. ****Plan for toll costs****: Budget for Chicago Skyway (\$6) and Indiana Toll Road (\$4-8) costs. I-PASS and E-ZPass work on both routes, saving time at toll plazas during your move.
1. ****Coordinate utility transfers carefully****: Since you're crossing state lines, you'll need to establish new utility accounts with NIPSCO (gas/electric) and typically well/septic or municipal water services depending on your specific property.
1. ****Time your move to avoid rush hour****: Whether moving to or from Chicago, avoid weekday departures between 7-9 AM and arrivals between 4-6 PM when possible, as Chicago traffic can significantly impact timing.
1. ****Research property access****: Beverly Shores properties vary widely—some have long driveways, wooded lots, or challenging access. Provide your movers with specific information about tree coverage, driveway length, and any access limitations.
1. ****Schedule school registration early****: If you have children, contact Duneland School Corporation as soon as your move date is confirmed, as registration requires documents

that may take time to obtain from your previous school district.

Getting Settled

Once you've arrived in Beverly Shores, start by establishing your essential services and exploring your new community. Register your vehicles with the Indiana BMV within 60 days (you'll need proof of residency and an Indiana driver's license). Connect with the Beverly Shores Town Hall to understand local ordinances, trash collection schedules, and community events. Take time to explore the Indiana Dunes National Park visitor center, which offers programming, trail maps, and information about your unique location. Join local Facebook groups and attend town meetings to connect with neighbors—Beverly Shores has an engaged community that welcomes newcomers who appreciate the town's special character.

FAQs About Moving to Beverly Shores

Q: How much does it cost to move from Chicago to Beverly Shores?

A: Moving costs typically range from \$800-2,500 depending on home size and belongings volume. A two-bedroom apartment averages \$1,200-1,800, while a three-bedroom home runs \$1,800-2,500. Cross-state moves cost more than local moves due to licensing requirements, toll routes, and additional planning. Request detailed written estimates from licensed interstate movers, with toll costs and any fuel surcharges clearly itemized.

Q: What's the best time of year to move to Beverly Shores?

A: Summer (June-August) is ideal for families relocating before school starts, but requires booking 3-4 weeks ahead. Fall and spring offer better moving company availability and pleasant weather without peak-season premiums. Avoid moving during harsh winter months (January-February) when lake-effect snow and icy conditions can complicate cross-state transportation and make moving more challenging.

Q: Do I need special permits to move in Beverly Shores?

A: Beverly Shores generally doesn't require moving permits for residential relocations, unlike Chicago's permit requirements. However, you should notify your moving company about any property-specific access challenges like narrow driveways, low-hanging tree branches, or unpaved roads. Some homeowners associations or condo associations may have specific moving requirements or time restrictions.

Q: What makes Beverly Shores appealing to Chicago relocators?

A: Beverly Shores offers lakefront living within a national park at a fraction of Chicago housing costs. Residents gain space, lower property taxes, excellent schools, and immediate access to beaches and nature while remaining within commuting distance to Chicago. The trade-off is minimal walkable amenities and a quiet, residential-only atmosphere—perfect for those prioritizing natural surroundings and community over urban convenience.

Q: What challenges should I expect moving from Chicago to Beverly Shores?

A: The lifestyle shift from urban to small-town living is significant. You'll need a car for everything—groceries, dining, shopping—as nothing is walkable. Winter lake-effect snow is heavier than Chicago. Commuting to Chicago requires planning around South Shore Line schedules or facing daily toll costs and traffic. Property maintenance increases with larger lots, and some homes use well/septic systems rather than municipal services.

Q: How long does the moving day take between Chicago and Beverly Shores?

A: Most moves take 4-8 hours total depending on home size and timing. Drive time alone is 1-1.5 hours without traffic, but Chicago congestion can add significant time. Professional movers schedule around rush hour and build in buffer time. Packing time on both ends depends on your home size—a two-bedroom apartment takes 1-2 hours per location, while larger homes require 2-3 hours for loading and unloading.

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Affordable City Movers Chicago

3033 N Clark St Suite 007, Chicago, IL 60657

Phone: 312-210-0259

Website: <https://affordablecitymovers.com>

Google Business Profile: [View Our Profile](#)

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