

Your Complete Guide to Moving to Glencoe, Illinois

Welcome to Glencoe

Nestled along Lake Michigan's North Shore, Glencoe stands out as one of Chicagoland's most desirable affluent suburbs. This village of approximately 9,000 residents offers an exceptional blend of natural beauty, top-tier amenities, and strong community values. Perhaps most notably, Glencoe provides easy access to the renowned Chicago Botanic Garden, a 385-acre living museum that serves as a beloved gathering place for residents year-round. Tree-lined streets, well-maintained parks, and stunning lakefront access create an environment where families thrive and professionals enjoy a peaceful retreat from city life.

What truly sets Glencoe apart is its commitment to preserving both its natural landscape and tight-knit community atmosphere. Despite being just 22 miles north of downtown Chicago, the village maintains a distinct identity with its historic architecture, locally-owned businesses along Vernon Avenue, and active civic engagement. The community takes pride in its public spaces, from Glencoe Beach on Lake Michigan to the numerous parks that dot the residential areas. This combination of suburban tranquility, cultural sophistication, and convenient urban access makes Glencoe an ideal destination for families and professionals seeking the best of both worlds.

Planning Your Move

Timing your move to Glencoe requires strategic planning, especially if you have school-age children. June through August represents peak moving season in this family-oriented suburb, as most residents prefer relocating when school is out of session. If you're planning a summer move, booking 3-4 weeks in advance is essential to secure your preferred dates, as moving trucks and professional crews fill up quickly during this window. Fall and spring offer excellent alternatives with better availability and less competition for moving dates, though families with students typically need to work around the academic calendar. Experienced [Glencoe movers handle these logistics daily and can help you identify the optimal timing for your specific situation.](#)

The logistics of moving in Glencoe differ significantly from urban relocations. Most properties feature single-family homes with driveways and garage access, which generally simplifies the loading and unloading process compared to city apartments. However, many Glencoe homes are multi-level with basements, finished attics, and winding staircases that require careful furniture navigation. The village's mature tree canopy and well-established neighborhoods mean narrower streets in some areas, so coordinating truck placement and timing becomes important. Additionally, since many residents commute to Chicago via the Edens Expressway or Metra's Union Pacific North Line, scheduling your move to avoid morning and evening rush hours (typically 7-9 AM and 4-7 PM) can save significant time and frustration.

Living Here

Daily life in Glencoe centers around family, education, and community engagement. The village is served by highly-regarded school districts that consistently rank among the state's best, making it a magnet for families prioritizing education. New School (pre-K through 8th grade) and nearby New Trier High School provide exceptional academic programs that often influence families' decisions to relocate here. Beyond schools, residents enjoy convenient access to everyday amenities including boutique shopping, professional services, and dining options along Vernon Avenue and neighboring communities. The Takiff Center serves as a hub for recreation and community programs, offering everything from fitness classes to arts programming.

Commuting patterns significantly influence Glencoe's daily rhythm. Many residents work in downtown Chicago, Northbrook, Skokie, or other nearby employment centers. The Metra station on Green Bay Road provides reliable train service to downtown Chicago in approximately 35-40 minutes, while drivers typically use the Edens Expressway (I-94) for highway access. This accessibility allows professionals to maintain Chicago careers while enjoying spacious suburban homes and excellent schools. The Chicago Botanic Garden, technically located in neighboring Glencoe but considered a village treasure, provides year-round recreation with walking trails, seasonal displays, and educational programs. The lakefront location also means easy access to beaches, water activities, and the scenic Lake Michigan shoreline that defines the North Shore's character.

Moving Tips for Glencoe

1. ****Check village regulations early****: Contact Glencoe Village Hall about any required moving permits or parking restrictions. While residential moves typically don't require permits, checking ahead prevents last-minute complications.
1. ****Measure doorways and stairwells****: Many Glencoe homes feature original architecture with narrower doorways, curved staircases, and lower basement ceilings. Measure your largest furniture pieces and entry points beforehand to plan for disassembly needs.
1. ****Protect landscaping and driveways****: Glencoe properties often have mature landscaping, brick pavers, and decorative driveways. Use floor runners, protective coverings, and discuss lawn protection with your moving crew to avoid property damage.
1. ****Plan for basement and attic items****: Multi-level homes with finished basements and attic spaces are common. Create a clear labeling system and communicate with movers about which items go to which level to streamline unpacking.
1. ****Schedule utility transfers in advance****: Contact ComEd for electricity, Nicor Gas for natural gas, and the village for water service setup. Internet and cable providers may need 1-2 weeks for installation appointments, especially during peak summer months.

1. ****Consider garage and shed access****: Ensure garage doors are operational and pathways to garden sheds or storage areas are clear. Many families store seasonal items, sports equipment, and tools in these spaces that need to be included in the move.

Getting Settled

Once you've moved into your Glencoe home, connecting with community resources helps ease the transition. Register your children for school through the appropriate district offices, and consider attending village events to meet neighbors—Glencoe's strong community culture makes it easy to establish connections quickly. Update your driver's license and vehicle registration with your new address, and don't forget to register for a Glencoe Library card, which provides access to both local and regional library resources. Take time to explore the Chicago Botanic Garden with a membership, discover your favorite local restaurants and shops, and identify your preferred beach access point if you're near the lake. Many residents recommend joining community groups, athletic clubs, or volunteering with local organizations as excellent ways to feel at home in your new village.

FAQs About Moving to Glencoe

Q: How much does it cost to hire movers in Glencoe?

A: Moving costs in Glencoe typically range from \$800-\$2,500 for local moves, depending on home size and distance. A 3-bedroom house usually requires 4-6 hours with a professional crew. Larger estates with multiple levels, extensive furnishings, or long-distance relocations will cost more. Summer pricing may be higher due to peak demand, while fall and spring often offer better rates.

Q: Do I need a parking permit or special permission for a moving truck in Glencoe?

A: Most residential moves in Glencoe don't require special permits since homes typically have driveway access. However, if your moving truck needs to park on a village street for extended periods, check with Glencoe Village Hall about temporary parking arrangements. Condo or townhome communities may have specific rules about moving truck placement and building access, so contact your HOA or property management in advance.

Q: When is the best time to move to Glencoe to avoid disrupting school schedules?

A: Late June through mid-August is ideal for families with school-age children, allowing kids to settle before the academic year begins in late August or early September. If moving mid-year is necessary, winter break (late December) or spring break (March/April)

minimizes missed school days. New School and New Trier are accommodating with student transitions, but summer moves remain easiest for families.

Q: What moving challenges are specific to Glencoe homes?

A: Glencoe's housing stock includes many historic homes with architectural features like narrow hallways, curved staircases, and lower basement ceilings that complicate furniture moving. Multi-level layouts with finished basements and attics require careful planning. Additionally, protecting mature landscaping, brick or paver driveways, and hardwood floors is essential. Experienced local movers understand these challenges and bring appropriate equipment like stair-climbing dollies and protective materials.

Q: What makes Glencoe worth the moving investment for families?

A: Glencoe offers exceptional schools consistently ranked among Illinois's best, safe neighborhoods with low crime rates, and strong property values that protect your investment. The combination of Lake Michigan access, Chicago Botanic Garden proximity, easy commuting to Chicago, and an engaged community creates an outstanding quality of life. Though housing costs are higher than many suburbs, families cite the education, safety, and community as worth the premium.

Q: How far in advance should I book movers for a Glencoe relocation?

A: For summer moves (June-August), book 3-4 weeks ahead minimum, as this is peak season for family relocations. Spring and fall moves typically require 2-3 weeks' notice, while winter offers the most flexibility with potentially just 1-2 weeks needed. If you're moving into or out of a larger estate or have specific date requirements, booking 4-6 weeks ahead ensures you secure your preferred moving crew and timeline.

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