



## ILLINOIS OFFERS EVEN GREATER VALUE WITH NEW TRAIN TRAVEL DISCOUNT

*Visitors can enjoy the Land of Lincoln for less courtesy of Amtrak and Chicago and Illinois Tourist Office partnership*

Affordable travel just got easier for those exploring the great state of Illinois. The Chicago and Illinois Tourist Office is proud to announce a new partnership with Amtrak, the primary U.S. railroad service, offering travellers a 20 percent discount off regular adult rail tickets in Illinois from now until 30th June 2009. Details on how to book a trip and the rules for the discount code\* are available at [www.gochicago.com](http://www.gochicago.com) through the packages link.

“Travellers increasingly want cost-efficient, environmentally friendly ways to travel, and this partnership with Amtrak helps achieve both needs,” said Jan Kostner, deputy director of the Chicago and Illinois Tourist Office. “Amtrak rail service is an incredible way to explore the many treasures of Illinois, including our Presidential Trails, Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial activities and award-winning wineries.”

### **Lincoln Bicentennial**

For those travelling to Springfield to celebrate Abraham Lincoln’s 200th birthday, Amtrak offers an easy, comfortable way to get there at a discount rate. During the first week in February, the capitol city will host a variety of events, exhibits, lectures and workshops to honour America’s 16th president and commemorate this historic anniversary.

### **Illinois Wine Country**

Illinois offers more than 70 wineries and 450 vineyards across the state, producing a variety of hand-crafted wines against a backdrop of rolling hills, charming towns and quaint bed and breakfasts. At many locations, visitors can partake in tours, tastings, classes and chef demonstrations.

### **Routes**

Routes included in this offer travel between Chicago and St. Louis, Chicago and Carbondale and Chicago and Quincy, offering passengers the chance to experience a number of historic and scenic locations across Illinois.

For more information about the Illinois Amtrak discount, please visit [www.gochicago.com](http://www.gochicago.com). The site also offers free travel resources, tips and deals.

### **ENDS**

\*Routes in this discount fare code V574 include *Lincoln Service* (four daily round-trips between Chicago and St. Louis); *Illini & Saluki* (two daily round-trips between Chicago and Carbondale); *Illinois Zephyr & Carl Sandburg* (two daily round-trips between Chicago and Quincy). Not available on 10 & 13 April 2009. Discount based on best available fare. Seats are limited per train. Discount is valid in Business Class with the payment of that accommodation charge - subject to availability. Other rules apply and can be found at [www.Amtrak.com](http://www.Amtrak.com)

**For further information on the city of Chicago and Illinois’ ongoing initiatives, please contact Jackie Cooper PR:**

Kerry Barnes

020 3047 4064

[kerry\\_barnes@jcpr.com](mailto:kerry_barnes@jcpr.com) or [chicago@jcpr.com](mailto:chicago@jcpr.com)