

THERE'S NOTHING STOPPING YOU

go

13 Best Caribbean Resorts

Who has the HOTTEST offerings under the SUN?

pg 31



Gifts to Go

All the GEAR a traveler can't live without

pg 40

The Con Game

pg 87 What's behind the SUCCESS

of pop-culture conventions?

Jeff Bridges



Inside the post-Oscar world of Hollywood's HUMBLEST star—the Dude definitely abides

pg 48

airTran.com

COMPLIMENTARY COPY

DECEMBER 2010

HOMETURF

Like a Hawk

NHL STAR PATRICK SHARP IS FLYING HIGH IN THE WINDY CITY.



ICE, ICE BABY Chicago Blackhawk
Patrick Sharp in action

Chicago Blackhawks alternate captain Patrick Sharp has had a memorable 2010: After posting a career-high 66 points to help his team win the NHL's Central Division title, Sharp tallied an astonishing 11 goals and 11 assists in the playoffs, grounding the Philadelphia Flyers en route to hoisting Lord Stanley's Cup in June. Here, the Blackhawks' prolific center shares thoughts and tips on life in the Windy City.

CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS

DECEMBER 2010 GO MAGAZINE



POWER PLATE Sharp loves Ristorante Prosecco for its variety of dishes, including the sautéed halibut with avocado, arugula, capers and lemon-infused olive oil.

What's the best thing about being a Blackhawk? "Chicago is a great city and it's very passionate about its sports teams, especially the Blackhawks. The atmosphere in the arena is unlike any other, and we're fortunate to have the best home-ice advantage in the NHL."

Other than its sports-centric attitude, what do you like about Chicago? "To me, Chicago is a big city with a small-town feel. There are fun neighborhoods and friendly people. I especially like Wrigleyville—it's a cool part of town with lots to offer. There is always a fun vibe there. Whether you're looking for a lively corner bar or just want to grab something to eat, there are a lot of options. A few of my favorite bars are Houndstooth and Sluggers, and I like Rise for sushi."

Pardon the assumption, but as a Canadian, you probably have discerning taste in beer. What's your favorite local brew and top spot to grab one? "My favorite local brewery is Goose

"I order something different every time I go and I still haven't found something I don't like!"

Island Beer Co., and my favorite of its beers is the 312 Urban Wheat Ale. The Pony Inn is a good place to have one—always full of 'Hawks fans supporting the team."

What about a nice place for a high-end dinner? "Ristorante Prosecco in the River North Gallery District is a great spot offering upscale Italian comfort food. It

has a great wine list, too. The atmosphere is classic and intimate. The menu's got variety and that's what I love about it. I order something different every time I go and I still haven't found something I don't like!"

What should visitors do while in Chicago this time of year? "Millennium Park has an outdoor ice rink that is fun to skate on, especially during the holidays. The shopping downtown is a can't-miss, too. There are so many options on Michigan Avenue and in Water Tower Place. And it's all walking distance"

How do you enjoy the holidays when you're at home? "We have a busy schedule, so I try to relax as much as possible. I've spent a few holidays at [teammate] Brent Seabrook's house. He has a few people over and we do our best to celebrate together. As long as he stays out of the kitchen, I'm happy."

—Bryce Hubner

CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS 1901 West Madison St; 800-745-3000; chicagoblackhawks.com

HOUNDSTOOTH SALOON 3369 N Clark St; 773-244-1166; zexton.com/houndstoothsaloonwebsite

SLUGGERS 3540 N Clark St; 773-248-0055; sluggersbar.com

RISE SUSHI & SAKE LOUNGE 3401 N Southport Ave; 773-525-3535; risesushi.com

GOOSE ISLAND BEER CO. various locations; gooseisland.com

THE PONY INN 1638 W Belmont; 773-828-5055; theponychicago.com

RISTORANTE PROSECCO 710 N Wells; 312-951-9500; prosecco.us.com

MILLENNIUM PARK bordered by Michigan Ave, Columbus Dr, Randolph St and Monroe St; 312-742-1168; millenniumpark.org

WATER TOWER PLACE 835 N Michigan Ave; 312-440-3166; shopwatertower.com

TO LEARN more about what to do, where to eat and where to shop in Chicago, turn to page 119 in the Go Guides.