



**SOCIAL STORY:**

# ARRIVING AT THE AIRPORT (ARRIVALS)



MAYOR BRANDON JOHNSON

# 1

## Introduction

I am flying on an airplane that is getting ready to land at the airport. I will follow different steps to help keep myself and everyone safe.

The airport is a busy place, but that's okay. There are helpers all around if I need them.

I will take it step by step so I can feel confident and ready for my journey.



# 2

## Inside the Airplane After Landing

### **The Airplane Stops:**

When the airplane lands, it might feel a little bumpy. That's okay! It means we are on the ground.

### **Waiting for the Door to Open:**

After we stop, I need to wait for the door to open. This can take a little time. The flight attendants are working hard to make sure everything is ready.

### **Patience Reminder:**

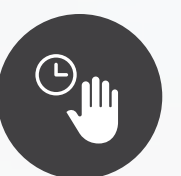
While we wait, I can stay in my seat, play with a favorite toy, or take deep breaths. It's okay to feel excited or a little nervous.



Dense Crowds



Lots of Distractions



Wait

# 3

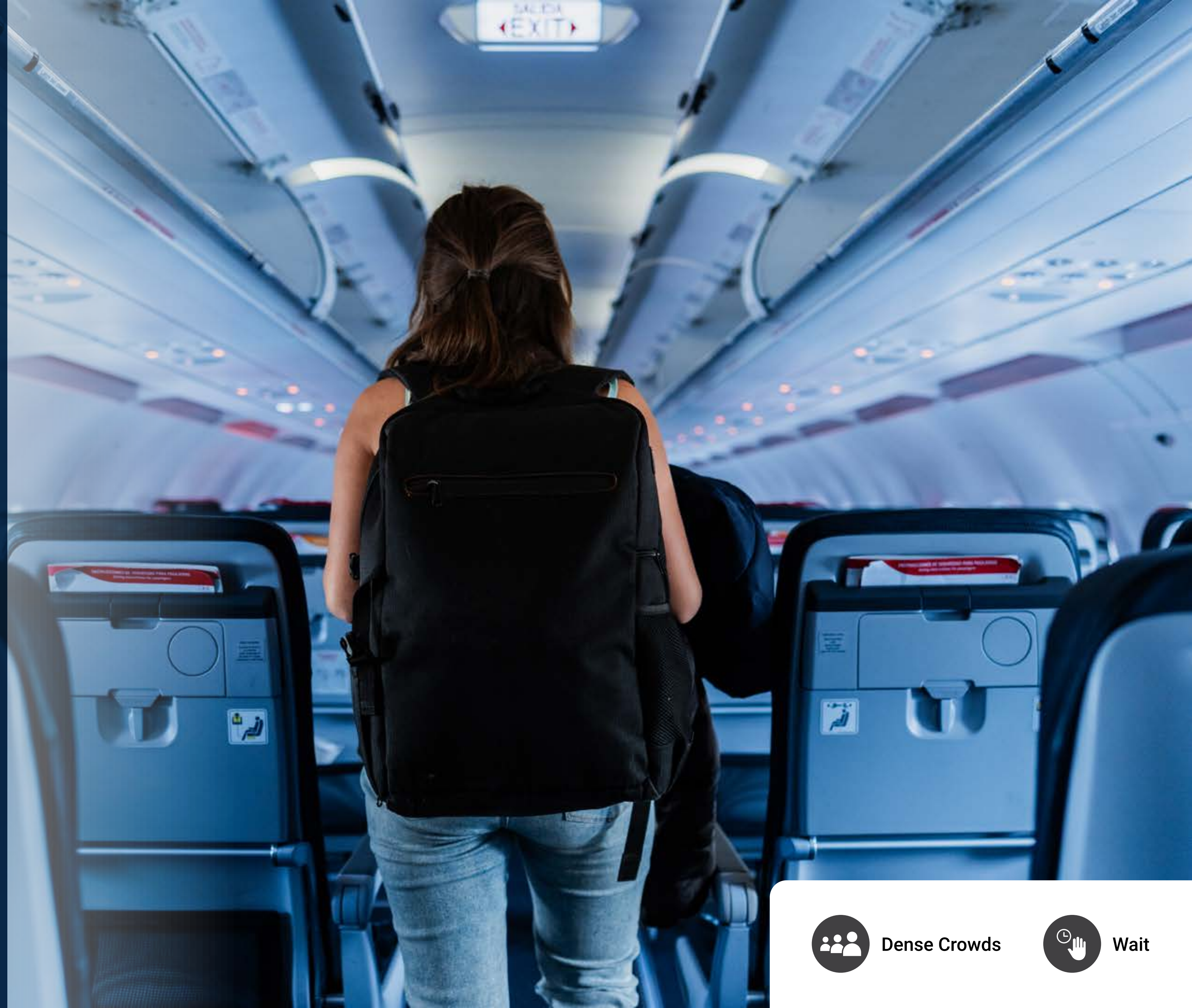
## Exiting the Airplane

### **Taking Turns:**

When it's time to leave, everyone takes turns getting their bags and walking out of the airplane. Sometimes it feels slow, but it's important to wait my turn.

### **Helpful Steps:**

When it's my turn, I can stand up, get my bag, and follow the people in front of me.



Dense Crowds



Wait

# 4

## Walking Through the Jet Bridge

### What It Looks Like:

I walk through a long hallway called the jet bridge. It might be a little loud or busy, but I am almost at the airport!

### What to Focus On:

I can count my steps, hum a favorite song, or hold a comforting item if I need to feel calm.



# 5

## Arriving in the Terminal

### Finding Your Way:

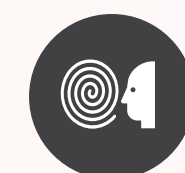
When I get into the airport, I follow the signs to baggage claim or the exit. There might be helpers in uniforms I can ask if I feel unsure.

### Sensory Note:

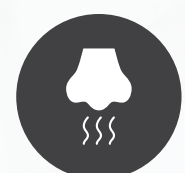
Airports can be bright or noisy. If it feels too much, I can put on headphones or look for a quieter space.



Dense Crowds



Lots of Distractions



Strong Smells

# 6

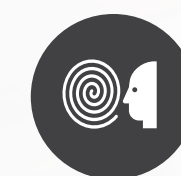
## Getting Your Luggage (if needed)

### Waiting Again:

At baggage claim, I wait by a moving belt to get my bag. The belt moves slowly, but that's okay. Watching the bags can be fun!



Dense Crowds



Lots of Distractions



Wait

# 7

## Meeting Friends, Family, or Transportation

### Reuniting:

Once I have everything, I might meet someone waiting for me. I can give them a big smile or wave!

### Next Steps:

Now I am ready to leave the airport and go to our next place!



Dense Crowds



Lots of Distractions

# 8

## Ending the Story

### Positive Note:

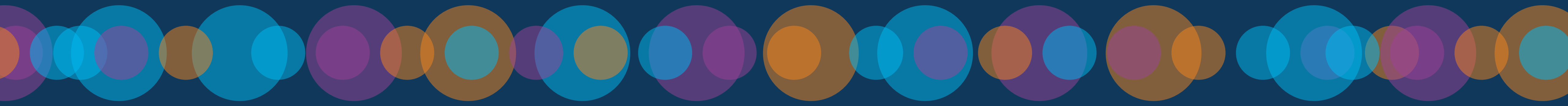
Arriving at an airport is a big adventure! I did a great job following the steps and being patient.





# SENSORY MAPS

O'HARE & MIDWAY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS



## How to use the sensory map

Review the legend first to understand colors and symbols indicating sensory input levels.

Identify low-sensory and calm spots along your route for potential breaks.

Note high-sensory areas, checkpoints, and bottlenecks to anticipate and manage sensory challenges.

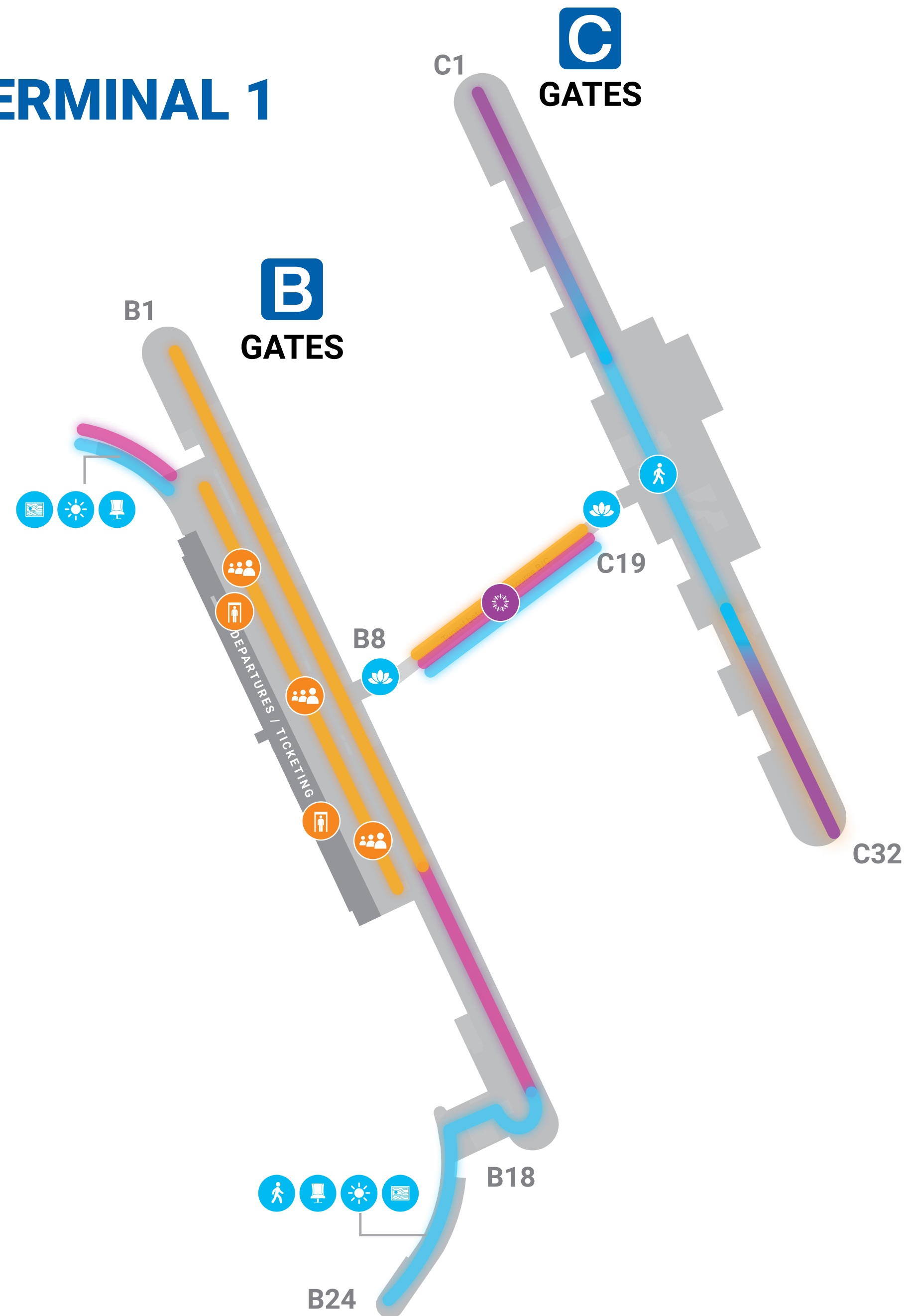
Look for resource/support icons if you need assistance or a quiet space.

### LEGEND

- High Sensory
- Medium Sensory
- Low Sensory

- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Art                  | Resources/Support   |
| Beeping Sounds       | Seating             |
| Calm Spot            | Security Checkpoint |
| Dense Crowds         | Sensory Zone        |
| Lots of Distractions | Strong Smells       |
| Low Light            | Wait                |
| Low Noise            | Walking Space       |
| Natural Light        | Yoga                |
| Open Space           |                     |

## O'HARE » TERMINAL 1



# How to use the sensory map

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Look for resource/support icons if you need assistance or a quiet space.

## LEGEND

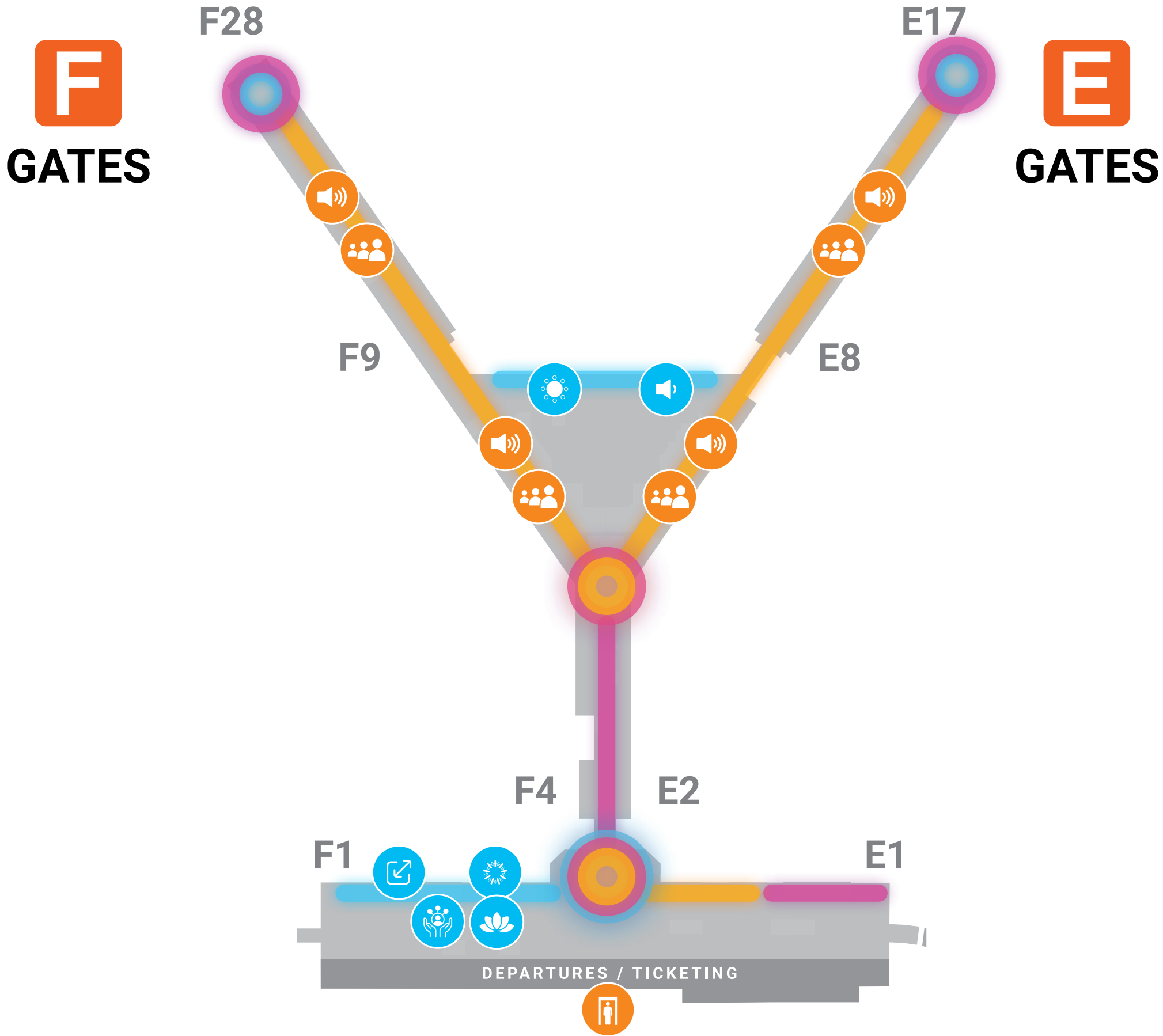
 High Sensory

 Medium Sensory

 Low Sensory

- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  Art                   |  Resources/Support    |
|  Beeping Sounds       |  Seating             |
|  Calm Spot            |  Security Checkpoint |
|  Dense Crowds         |  Sensory Zone        |
|  Lots of Distractions |  Strong Smells       |
|  Low Light            |  Wait                |
|  Low Noise            |  Walking Space       |
|  Natural Light        |  Yoga                |
|  Open Space           |   |

# O'HARE » TERMINAL 2



## How to use the sensory map

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Look for resource/support icons if you need assistance or a quiet space.

### LEGEND

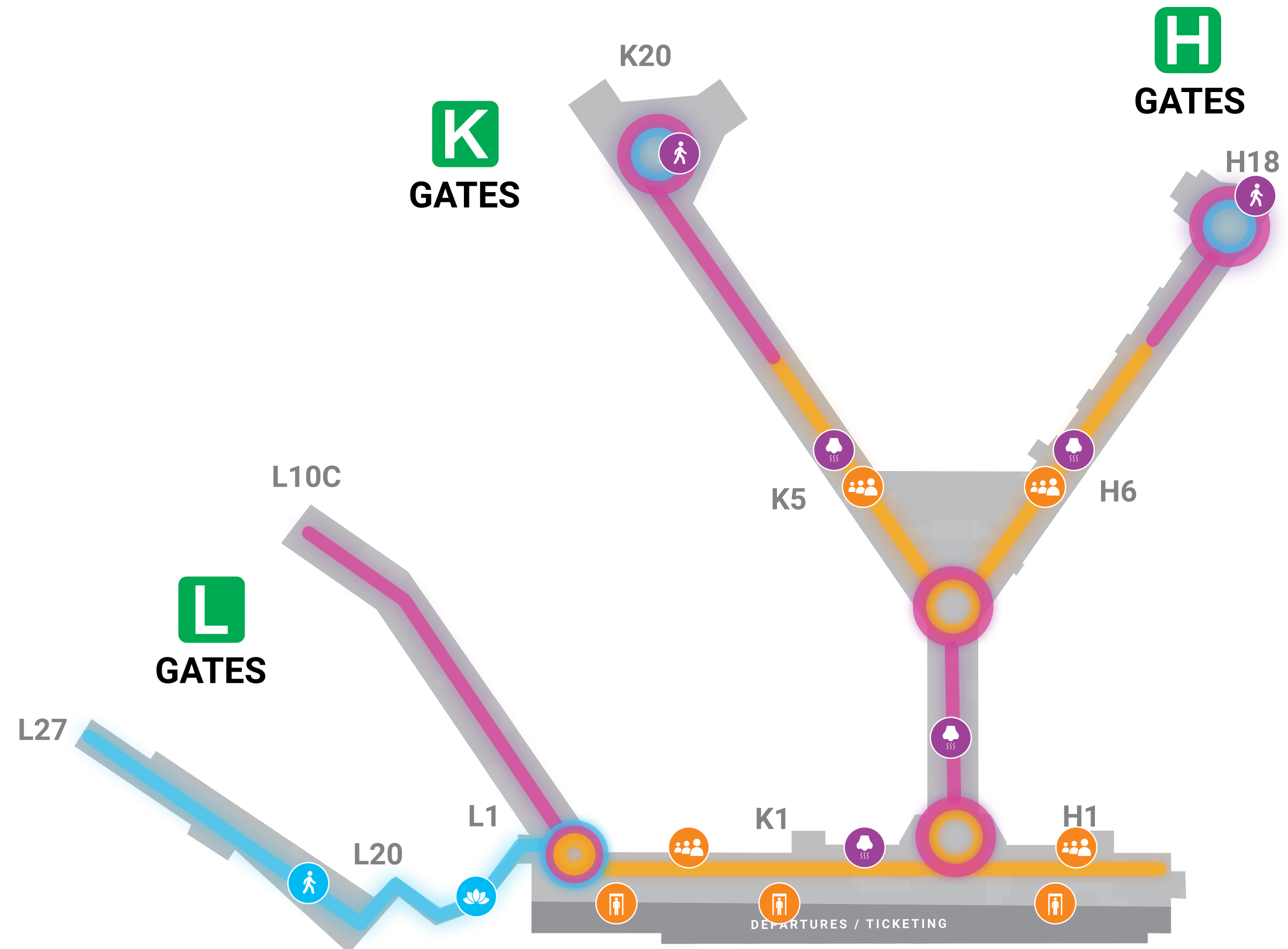
 High Sensory

 Medium Sensory

 Low Sensory

 Art	 Resources/Support
 Beeping Sounds	 Seating
 Calm Spot	 Security Checkpoint
 Dense Crowds	 Sensory Zone
 Lots of Distractions	 Strong Smells
 Low Light	 Wait
 Low Noise	 Walking Space
 Natural Light	 Yoga
 Open Space	

## O'HARE » TERMINAL 3



## How to use the sensory map

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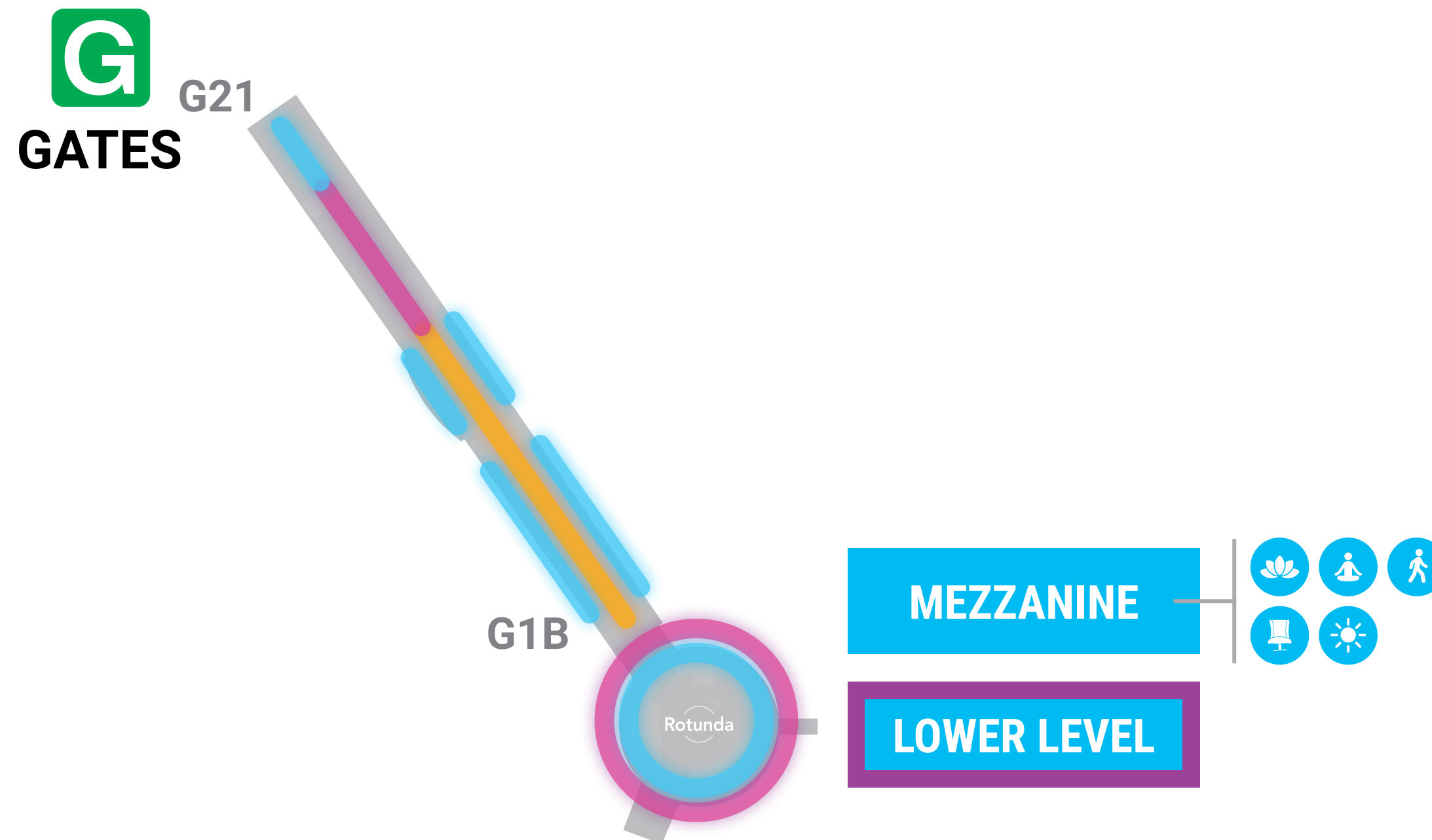
Look for resource/support icons if you need assistance or a quiet space.

### LEGEND

- High Sensory
- Medium Sensory
- Low Sensory

- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Art                  | Resources/Support   |
| Beeping Sounds       | Seating             |
| Calm Spot            | Security Checkpoint |
| Dense Crowds         | Sensory Zone        |
| Lots of Distractions | Strong Smells       |
| Low Light            | Wait                |
| Low Noise            | Walking Space       |
| Natural Light        | Yoga                |
| Open Space           |                     |

## O'HARE » TERMINAL 3



# How to use the sensory map

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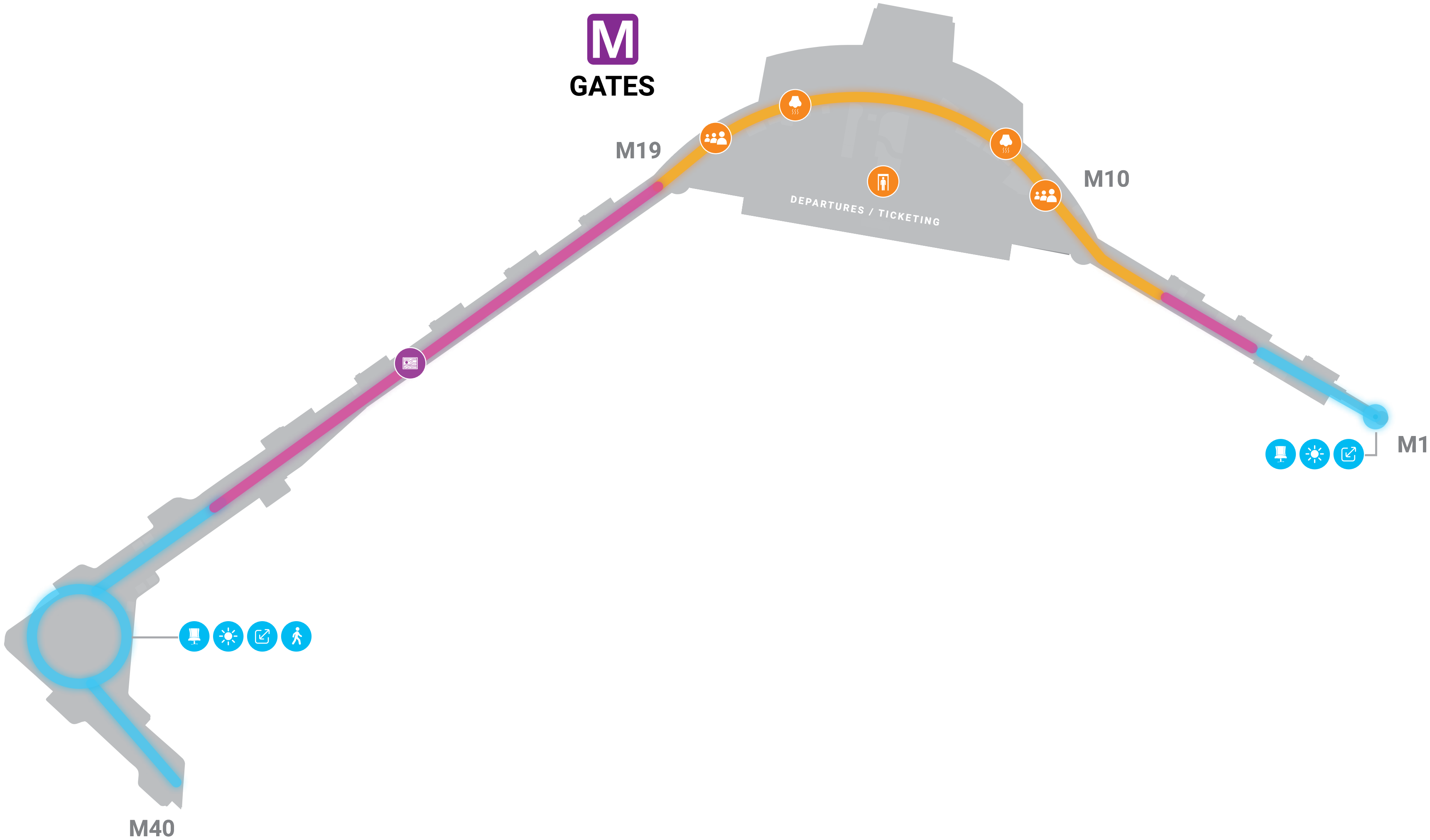
## LEGEND

- High Sensory
- Medium Sensory
- Low Sensory

- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Art                  | Resources/Support   |
| Beeping Sounds       | Seating             |
| Calm Spot            | Security Checkpoint |
| Dense Crowds         | Sensory Zone        |
| Lots of Distractions | Strong Smells       |
| Low Light            | Wait                |
| Low Noise            | Walking Space       |
| Natural Light        | Yoga                |

Open Space

# O'HARE » TERMINAL 5



# How to use the sensory map

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Look for resource/support icons if you need assistance or a quiet space.

## LEGEND

High Sensory

Medium Sensory

Low Sensory

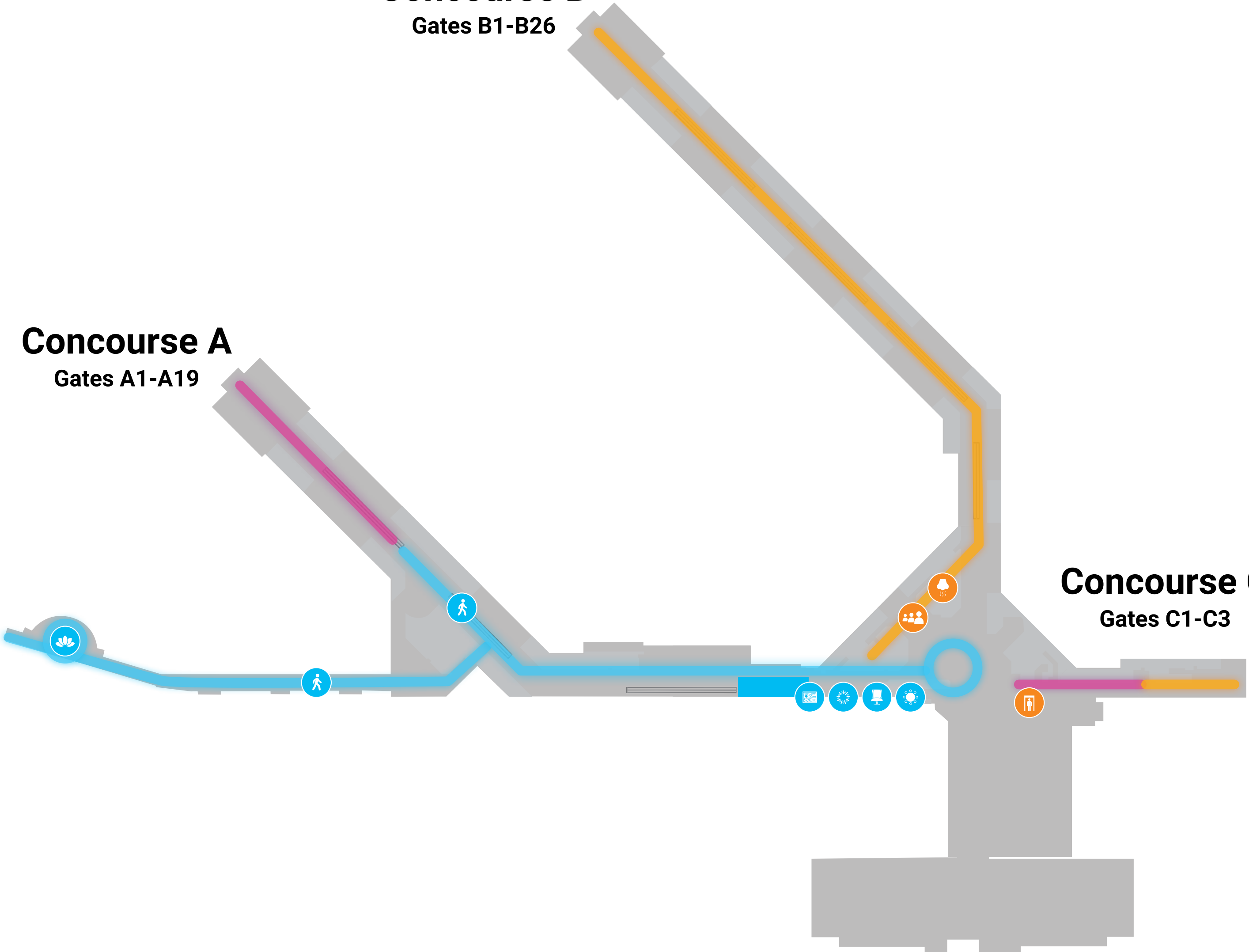
- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Art                  | Resources/Support   |
| Beeping Sounds       | Seating             |
| Calm Spot            | Security Checkpoint |
| Dense Crowds         | Sensory Zone        |
| Lots of Distractions | Strong Smells       |
| Low Light            | Wait                |
| Low Noise            | Walking Space       |
| Natural Light        | Yoga                |
| Open Space           |                     |

# MIDWAY

**Concourse B**  
Gates B1-B26

**Concourse A**  
Gates A1-A19

**Concourse C**  
Gates C1-C3



# Sensory Information on Midway & O'Hare

Scan the QR code or visit  
[flychicago.com/Sensory](https://flychicago.com/Sensory)



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