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PANORAMA

November 16–29, 2009

The Official Guide to BOSTON

Shopping Boston's Neighborhoods

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South End
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Newbury Street in the Back Bay offers a wide variety of retail options. Refer to story, page 10.

PHOTO BY
JONATHAN DAISY




on the cover:

Newbury Street is a must-see destination for any die-hard shopper visiting Boston.

Photo: Jonathan Daisy

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November 16-29, 2009
Volume 59 • Number 13

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PANORAMA is a member of the Massachusetts Lodging Association, The Back Bay Association, The Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, The Greater Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau, Cambridge Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Boston Concierge Association, the Harvard Square Business Association, the Newbury Street League, the South End Business Alliance, the North End Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Crossing Association.

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HUBBUB

by Josh B. Wardrop

The Hub's Aglow for the Holidays

Sure, everyone's bummed out about the fact that it gets dark so early these days, a sure sign that Old Man Winter's knocking on the door. However, a much brighter indicator of the season is coming to the Hub over the next few weeks as the warm and cheery glow of holiday lights are set to begin springing up, putting everyone in the festive mood to shop for holiday gifts (*see story on pages 10-16 for a few tips on that score*), gather with friends and maybe even partake of some figgy pudding.

Festivities kick off **November 21**, at Boston's most popular outdoor shopping and dining destination, when **Faneuil Hall Marketplace** celebrates its 25th annual **Holiday Tree Lighting** (pictured). This day-long extravaganza features outdoor performances throughout the marketplace by street performers, carolers and dancers from Boston Ballet's *The Nutcracker*. At 1 p.m., Santa arrives on his sleigh, and later there's more music from all-girl pop/R&B group Jada and blues/rock combo Ernie & The Automatics, all leading up to the 5:30 p.m. lighting of the 85-foot-tall Douglas fir and some 300,000 lights throughout the Marketplace.

(cont. on page 8)

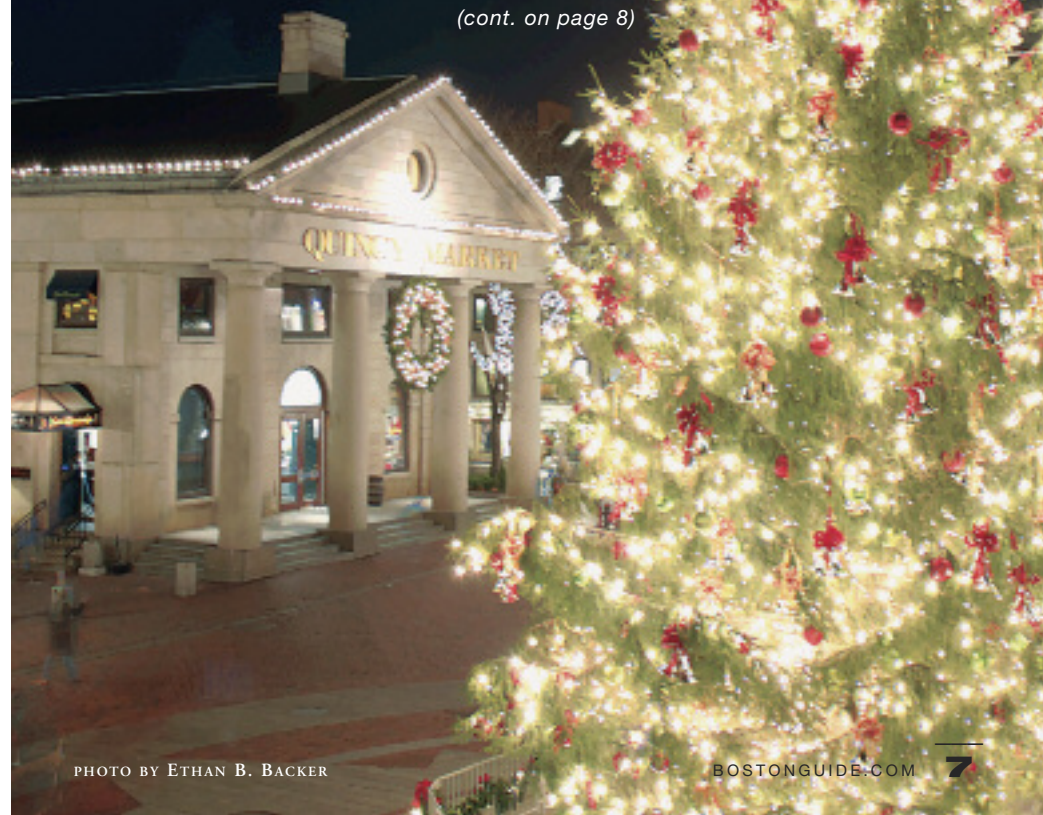


PHOTO BY ETHAN B. BACKER

BOSTONGUIDE.COM

Not far outside the city, in suburban Stoneham, the Stone Zoo (*refer to listing, page 22*) gets in on the holiday fun when **Zoolights** kicks off **November 26**. This popular annual event allows visitors to stroll the zoo after hours down paths illuminated by thousands of twinkling lights to Santa's Village, a winter wonderland filled with model trains, fairytale characters and the dude with the big red suit himself.

On **November 27**, the holiday cheer makes its way to Downtown Crossing, where **Macy's** (*refer to listing, page 56*) lights its own 50-foot-tall Christmas tree from 5–6 p.m. Meanwhile, the **Shops at Prudential Center** (*refer to listing, page 60*) light up consumers' eyes on **December 4** with its special **Gift** holiday shopping event—for a \$5 ticket that benefits local charities, shoppers get 10–20% discounts and other special deals from the Pru's array of great shops and restaurants.

Cambridge gets in on the fun beginning **November 28**, as Harvard Square kicks off its **Sparklefest** celebration. Festive events include the lighting of the Charles Hotel Christmas tree on **November 28**, the season opener for the Charles Hotel Skating Rink on **December 6** and the chance to partake in a delicious Hanukkah favorite at the **Everyone Loves Latkes Party** on **December 13**. *For a complete schedule of*



Sparklefest events and more information, visit www.harvardsquare.com.

SHOPPING AND STROLLING

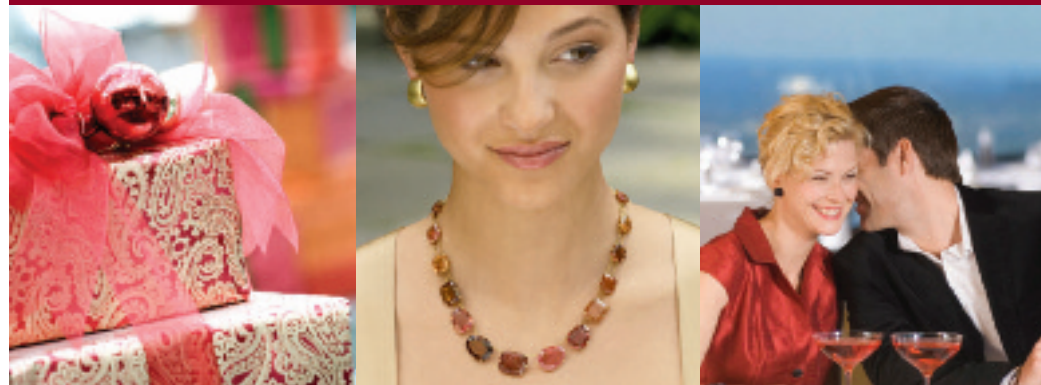
We've all experienced the unpleasant crush of desperation that comes from waiting too long to hit the malls around the holidays. That's why the historic, traditionally Italian North End neighborhood is inviting shoppers to enjoy a leisurely night of shopping amongst the growing number of fine boutiques that line its cozy streets at its third annual **Buon Natale Holiday Stroll** (pictured above) on **December 4** from 7–11 p.m.

North End shops like A Matter of Face, Bobbles and Lace, High Gear Jewelry, Shake the Tree, Sol Optics, The Wine Bottega and more

than a dozen others are offering special sales and discounts that night, on everything from designer clothes, to jewelry, to artwork for the home, gifts, cosmetic products and much more. Light refreshments and seasonal entertainment will be present for shoppers as they stroll the streets of the North End, and should you decide to stop for dinner at some point during your travels, expect to be spoiled for choice by a seemingly endless array of the city's top Italian restaurants.

Maps of the event and "passports" that allow participants to be entered in a raffle for a special holiday gift basket are available at the various participating shops up until the day of the event. *Refer to listing, page 46.*

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Holiday Shopping Guide 2009

by Josh B. Wardrop

HARD AS IT IS TO BELIEVE, CHRISTMAS AND HANUKKAH ARE nearly upon us, and whether you're Burl Ives or Ebenezer Scrooge (or, hopefully, somewhere in the middle), the traditional holiday shopping season is in full swing. Because we don't want you to end up doing your gift-buying on December 24 at an all-night truck stop (wives like beef jerky and NASCAR bumper stickers, right?), *Panorama* offers a rundown of the best neighborhoods in the city for unleashing your inner elf, and even some gift suggestions for those special people on your list. On your mark, get set...*shop!*

BACK BAY

This super-chic neighborhood is right in the middle of everything that makes Boston a super city—close to fine dining, cool nightclubs and historic landmarks—but it's primarily earned a reputation for the strong concentration of great shopping on its two main thoroughfares, Newbury and Boylston streets. Newbury's been described as Boston's own Rodeo Drive, and if you've got anyone on your list that's into designer clothing, there's no place you'll find more of it. From Armani to Ralph Lau-

ren to Burberry and Marc Jacobs, all the fashion industry's top names can be found alongside local boutiques like **Johnny Cupcakes** (279 Newbury St., 617-375-0100) and Diane Agoun's uniquely modern and trendy **Soodee** (refer to listing, page 56). And even on ritzy Newbury, there are still bargains to be found: international favorite **H & M** has a location there, while that Boston-born institution **Filene's Basement** still teems with marked-down fashions for men and women (refer to listings, page 56). Heck, even man's best friend

can get a new outfit and accompanying accessories for the holidays at **Pawsh Dog Boutique** (31 Gloucester St., 617-297-2045).

Shoe fiends can get their kicks at **Rick Walker's** (306 Newbury St., 617-482-7426), **John Fluevog** (302 Newbury St., 617-266-1079) and **Steve Madden** (324A Newbury St., 617-262-4600).

Fans of the bling can be dazzled in the Back Bay by gorgeous jewelry creations from legendary Boston designer **John Lewis**; the venerable **Shreve, Crump & Low**; giftware and jewelry masters **Lux, Bond & Green**; and, of course, the first name in glitter and sparkle, **Cartier**. Refer to listings, page 57.

Those looking to beautify their abodes can hit Newbury Street's collection of display and retail galleries, including **The Society of Arts & Crafts**, which specializes in contemporary American craftwork in media ranging from glassware to ceramic sculpture to furniture; **Galleria Florentia**, which boasts breathtaking bronze and stone sculpture, museum-quality paintings and other works created by some of

Europe's top artisans; **L'Attitude**, known for its indoor and outdoor contemporary sculpture; and the **International Poster Gallery**, home to authentic vintage art posters and prints from virtually every style and period over the last 120 years. Refer to listings, pages 55 & 56.

The Back Bay even boasts a pair of "malls," although they're unlike the Orange Julius/Spencer Gifts-laden teen hangouts we might associate with the term. This holiday season, take advantage of one-stop shopping at glamorous high-end Back Bay venues like **Copley Place**, the sleek and sophisticated home of top shops like Nieman Marcus, Barneys New York, Tiffany, Burberry and Emporio Armani, and the gorgeous, sun-drenched **Shops at Prudential Center**, which satisfies shoppers with top-notch eateries like Legal Sea Foods, P.F. Chang's, Haru and others, as well as specialty retailers like Frette, L'Occitane, Warlox Wireless

HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE 2009

The Renaissance Chess Set by artist Aldo Marsili, featuring a 12" x 12" onyx chess board and solid bronze (silver and gold plated) chessmen, \$1,950, from **Galleria Florentia**, 79 Newbury St., 617-585-9200.



For the Gamesman

For the World Traveler

Framed Norddeutscher Lloyd Bremen luggage label, c. 1930, 10" x 11", \$195, from **International Poster Gallery**, 205 Newbury St., 617-375-0076.



Diamond Bangle Bracelet designed by David Yurman, \$1,650, from **Lux Bond & Green**, 416 Boylston St., 617-266-4747.



For the Girl who Needs a Best Friend

For the Impossible to Buy For

American Express Simon Giftcards, good at all Simon Mall properties, available in any denomination from \$20–\$500 at **Copley Place**, intersection of Huntington, Stuart and Dartmouth streets, 617-369-5000.



and Ross-Simons and department stores like Saks Fifth Avenue and Lord & Taylor. *Refer to listings, page 57 & 60.*

CHARLES STREET

Ritzzy Beacon Hill's main commercial drag is a beacon for shoppers who like the finer things in life—be it antiques (**Devonia Antiques**, 43 Charles St., 617-523-8313; **A Room with a Vieux**, 20 Charles St., 617-973-6600), fine art (**Caswell Company Ltd.**, 31 Charles St., 617-523-9868; **Tesorino Gallery**, 70 Charles St., 617-742-0061), gorgeous, hand-tooled and colorful cowboy boots, belts and jackets (**Helen's Leather**, refer to listing, page 60) or even decadent chocolates (**Beacon Hill Chocolates**, 92B Pinckney St., 617-725-1900), there's bound to be something perfect here for your most blue-blooded relatives.

DOWNTOWN CROSSING

Once the premiere shopping district in Boston and home to late, great department stores like Jordan Marsh and the original Filene's Basement, Downtown Crossing retains its vibrant commercial status thanks to a combination of pushcart vendors, a number of bustling retail outlets and heavy foot traffic. The flagship **Macy's** (refer to listing, page 56) store in Boston resides here, alongside smaller shops like **Aldo Shoes** (415 Washington St., 617-357-6891),

which offers 50% off sale shoes every day. The city's original jewelry district is still represented by shops like **E.B. Horn Co.** (429 Washington St., 617-542-3902) and **DePrisco Diamond Jewelers** (333 Washington St., 617-227-3339). And the **Corner Mall** (refer to listing, page 57) offers a variety of popular shops and an extensive food court, all under one roof.

FANUEIL HALL MARKETPLACE

The name says it all—the rows of buildings that sit in the shadow of famed historic Faneuil Hall are packed with shops selling everything from top-of-the-line professional-grade running shoes (**Bill Rodgers Running Center**, refer to listing, page 60) to women's sports fashions (**Lucy's League**, 617-248-3986) to CDs, books, DVDs and pop culture toys (**Newbury Comics**, refer to listing, page 60). The city's most popular tourist attraction, you can shop here all day long, then refresh with food and drink from one of 17 nearby restaurants.

HARVARD SQUARE

As you'd expect from its proximity to America's most renowned institution of higher learning, Cambridge's Harvard Square offers great shopping options for the bookworms and young hipsters on your shopping list. The Square is home to the area's finest vintage bookstores—including


(cont. on page 16)

John Lewis

97 Newbury Street Boston 02116

Rings designed and made by John Lewis

www.johnlewisinc.com



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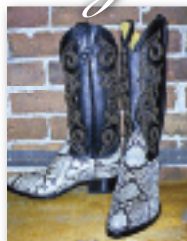


Zambian Emerald Ring
(.50 ct) on two-band ring
(18 kt gold), \$1,903, from
John Lewis, 97 Newbury
St., 800-266-4101.

For the Green Thumb

For the Urban Cowgirl

**Hand-crafted black
& white python
leather women's boots,**
by Nocona, \$359, from
Helen's Leather,
110 Charles St.,
617-742-2077.



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TALKING SHOP

Holiday shopping can be a head-scratcher for those who make a conscious effort to skip the malls 364 days a year. Panorama consulted designer Anthony Corey, owner of Anthony Corey Neckwear and Anthony Corey Design and a host on local TV network NECN's "Styleboston," to get shopping tips that will make the holidays less of a hassle for the retail-impaired.

What's the biggest mistake we tend to make when it comes to holiday shopping?

By far, it's waiting too long to do it—you don't want to be that person running around on Christmas Eve with panic in your eyes. The goal should be to think of shopping not as a chore, but something fun. Men tend to have this problem more often than women—I'd suggest that guys plan to do their shopping as part of a relaxing day. Go out to lunch, grab a couple of beers, and just pop into a few shops along the way. Or, go with your significant other—you may not end up buying much for each other while you're together, but you get a chance to see the kind of items they respond to, and that will make gift-giving easier.

Buying clothing for another person seems particularly rife with potential landmines.

Is there a way to do it successfully? The best rule, if you're going to buy clothing, is to keep it simple and classic. You can't go wrong,

for either gender, with a beautiful cashmere sweater. Bottom line, don't let some salesperson convince you that a certain outfit or style is "in" and that, consequently, it's for everyone. Making some sort of big, trendy statement with clothing can go wrong in a hurry. And if you do have a girlfriend or wife who's into high fashion, that's when a gift certificate makes a good gift. Normally, it's not very romantic to hand over a plastic card, but if it's for someplace really extravagant—like Jimmy Choo or Christian Louboutin, for a shoe lover—that's a gift that's exciting to receive.



And, as Charlie Brown has taught us, the holidays don't have to be all about commercialism and the size of the price tag, right?

Absolutely not. Particularly in the last couple of years, people seem to be agreeing that more sentimental gifts are the best ones. I think personalized things make a nice statement—a monogrammed terry-cloth robe, an engraved pen or a silver frame with a picture of your family or a favorite pet. In most cases, it's those little luxuries—things that people wouldn't buy for themselves—that make the best gifts.

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80" cultured freshwater pearl strand, \$95, from **Ross-Simons**, Shops at Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., 617-262-0935.

For the Fashionable Entomologist

Turquoise and Amber Monarch Butterfly Necklace, \$285, from **TistiK**, 54 Church St., Cambridge, 617-661-0900.



For the Culture Lover

(cont. from page 12)

the **Globe Corner Bookstore** (90 Mt. Auburn St., 617-497-6277), **The Grolier Poetry Book Shop** (6 Plympton St., 617-547-4648) and **Schoenhof's Foreign Books** (76A Mt. Auburn St., 617-547-8855)—as well as edgy clothing stores like **Urban Outfitters** (11 JFK St., 617-864-0070) and **Hootenanny** (36 JFK St., 617-864-6623). **Berk's** (50 JFK St., Cambridge, 617-492-9511) sells everything from sandals to sneakers to boots and boasts a constantly updated clearance rack loaded with name brands, while **TistiK** (refer to listing, page 57) abounds with creative handmade bags and other accessories imported from South America.

NORTH END

With its mouth-watering Italian bakeries, the North End is a good spot to pick up goodies to leave by the tree for Santa. It also boasts stylish boutiques for the woman in your life, from denim emporium **In-jean-ius** (441 Hanover St., 617-523-JEAN) to contemporary clothier **Casa di Stile** (371 Hanover St., 857-233-4885) to retro-fabulous vintage shop **The Velvet Fly** (424 Hanover St., 617-557-4359), to fashion eyewear outfitters **Sol Optics** (refer to listing, page 60).

High Gear Jewelry offers wallet-friendly sterling silver pieces, charm bracelets and other items that will delight any lover of beautiful jewelry, while **Filthy Rich** offers

replicas of pieces worn by celebrities like Jackie Kennedy, Marilyn Monroe and Cameron Diaz at prices that belie the store's high-rent nomenclature. Finally, **A Matter of Face** carries high-end cosmetics sure to be welcome in any fashionable lady's make-up case. Refer to listings, pages 27 & 56.

SOUTH END

For the artsy urbanite on your list, Boston's South End is the best place to find modern fashions and housewares to delight them this holiday season. Tremont Street is the prime shopping drag, boasting spots like jeweler **Laura Preshong's** eponymous gallery (558 Tremont St., 617-236-7660); stylish housewares boutique **Vessel** (652 Tremont St., 617-425-5292); and upscale shoe emporium **Leokadia** (667 Tremont St., 617-247-7463). And the South End remains a hotspot for funky menswear at shops like **Motley** (623 Tremont St., 617-247-6969), high-end consignment boutique **Bobby from Boston** (19 Thayer St., 617-423-9299) and **Uniform** (511 Tremont St., 617-247-2360). Finally, a real hidden gem for shoe lovers is **Zapatos** (90 Wareham St., 617-423-2842), a true hit-or-miss oddity that's been known to offer up name brands like Kate Spade, Michael Kors, Anne Klein and more for extravagant bargains and where mixed bins of Italian designer shoes can be found for \$10 a pair. ©

HOLIDAY SHOPPING GUIDE 2009

Sterling Silver Boston Duck Tours Key Ring,
\$65, from **Shreve, Crump & Low**, Berkeley
and Boylston streets, 617-267-9100.



For the Souvenir Hunter

For the 24-Hour Woman

Fitted Red Cotton Dress with
Black Belt, \$235, from **Soodde**,
170 Newbury St., 617-266-7888.



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5WITS: This interactive theme park features *Tomb*, an adventure game in which participants solve puzzles and overcome obstacles while exploring a pharaoh's final resting place. Refer to listing, below.

AMUSEMENT PARKS

5WITS, 186 Brookline Ave., 617-375-WITS. *Wed & Thu 11 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m., Sun 'til 7 p.m.* Tickets: \$20; children (12 and under) \$16. Combining the appeals of theme parks, museums and haunted houses, 5Wits provides visitors with action-packed interactive game-play and puzzle-solving activities. Current show: *Tomb*, which allows players to journey to the center of a buried pharaoh's final resting place, facing challenges and obstacles along the way.

ICE SKATING

CHARLES HOTEL ICE SKATING RINK, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge, 617-864-1200. **Beginning Dec 6:** *Mon–Fri from 4–8 p.m., Sat & Sun from 10 a.m.–8 p.m.* Fees: \$5; skate rental \$5; children (under 12) \$3. This 2,900-square-foot, illuminated outdoor ice skating rink boasts rink-side refreshments from the New England-influenced restaurant Henrietta's Table, including hot toddies and vanilla-infused hot chocolate.

FROG POND ICE SKATING RINK, Boston Common, 617-635-2197. *Mon 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Tue–Thu & Sun 'til 9 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 10 p.m.* Fees: \$4; children (under 13) free; rental skates \$8; lockers \$1. Seasonal passes available. Ice skating on Boston Common's Frog Pond has become a staple of wintertime in Boston. The heated skate house offers hot chocolate, snacks and music.

LARZ ANDERSON SKATING RINK, 25 Newton St., Brookline, 617-739-7518. *Tue & Thu 10 a.m.–noon, Fri 7:45–9:45 p.m., Sat & Sun noon–5 p.m.* Fees: \$7; children \$4; rental skates \$5; skate sharpening \$6. Named one of the most romantic destina-

tions in the Hub by *Boston* magazine, Larz Anderson Park was the former residence of the Anderson family and is now a 64-acre public park that is home to the Auto Museum, several themed gardens and historical artifacts. The skating pavillion sits atop a wooded hill in the middle of what was once an Italian garden designed by Charles A. Platt in 1901.

SIGHTS OF INTEREST

ARNOLD ARBORETUM, 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain, 617-524-1718. *Grounds open year-round dawn to dusk. Free admission. Visitor Center open Mon–Fri 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Sat 10 a.m.–4 p.m., Sun noon–4 p.m.* This 265-acre tree sanctuary designed by Emerald Necklace architect Frederick Law Olmsted opened in 1872. Now a National Historic Landmark, the arboretum and its gardens contain more than 7,000 varieties of trees, shrubs and flowers for your perusal.

BOSTON ATHENAEUM, 10½ Beacon St., 617-227-0270. *Mon & Wed 9 a.m.–8 p.m., Tue, Thu & Fri 'til 5:30 p.m., Sat 'til 4 p.m.* Art & Architecture tours: *Tue & Thu at 3 p.m.* Reservations required. One of the oldest and most distinguished private libraries in the United States, the Athenaeum was founded in 1807. For nearly half a century, it was the unchallenged center of intellectual life in Boston, and by 1851 it had become one of the five largest libraries in the country. Special exhibit: *through Dec 5—George Pope Morris: Defining American Culture.*

BOSTON PUBLIC GARDEN, bordered by Arlington, Charles, Beacon and Boylston streets. *Open daily dawn to dusk.* Established in 1837, the Public Garden is the nation's first public botanical garden. Its 24 acres are filled with scenic and diverse greenery, as well as sculptures, including one that commemorates the popular children's book *Make Way for Ducklings*. Other fixtures include the Lagoon—home to the famed Swan Boats from April through September—and the world's smallest suspension bridge.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, 700 Boylston St., Copley Square, 617-536-5400. *Mon–Thu 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 5 p.m., Sun 1–5 p.m.* Free admission. Art & Architecture tours *Mon at 2:30 p.m., Tue & Thu at 6 p.m., Fri & Sat at 11 a.m., Sun at 2 p.m.* The first publicly supported municipal library in the world hosts one million visitors a year, who come to view this architectural masterpiece and its collection of more than five million books. Film festivals, exhibits and children's programs run throughout the year.

CUSTOM HOUSE TOWER, 3 McKinley Square, 617-310-6300. *Observation deck open Sat–Thu at 2 p.m.; tickets: \$2.* Tours may be cancelled due to weather conditions, call ahead. Boston's first skyscraper, the Custom House, stands high over Boston Harbor as one of the city's most impressive landmarks. Crowned by its distinctive clock tower and restored with modern luxuries, the building (operated by the Marriott Corporation) epitomizes the preservation of Boston's historic architecture.

THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST SCIENTIST, 210 Massachusetts Ave., 617-450-2000. *Free tours of The Mother Church Tue noon–4 p.m., Wed 1–4 p.m., Thu–Sat noon–5 p.m. and Sun 11 a.m.–3 p.m., every half hour. Services: Sun at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Wed at noon and 7:30 p.m.* Spanish language services: *Sun at noon, Wed at 6 p.m.* The original Mother Church built in 1894 is at the heart of the Christian Science Center, situated on 14 acres in the Back Bay. The Romanesque structure is made from New Hampshire granite with stained glass windows illustrating Biblical events.

FOREST HILLS CEMETERY, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain, 617-524-0128. *Open daily from dawn to dusk.* Created in 1848, this cemetery serves as the final resting place of Eugene O'Neill, Anne Sexton, E.E. Cummings, William Lloyd Garrison and former Boston Celtic Reggie Lewis. The 275 acres of twisting paths also contain sculptural treasures, an arboretum, a "library" of life stories and an open-air museum. Special event: *Dec 13 at 2 p.m.—Borromeo String Quartet, tickets: \$30.*

NEW ENGLAND HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL, Carmen Park, Congress Street near Faneuil Hall, 617-457-8755. *Tours available.* This haunting memorial features six luminous glass towers etched with the six million prisoner numbers of those who perished in the Holocaust. Visitors can walk under the towers and read the dramatic stories of the victims and heroes of this tremendous human tragedy.

OTIS HOUSE MUSEUM, 141 Cambridge St., 617-227-3957. *Wed–Sun 11 a.m.–4:30 p.m., tours every half hour. Admission: \$8; seniors \$7; students & children (5–18) \$4; children (under 5), Historic New England members and Boston residents free; \$24 maximum per family.* Built in 1796 for Harrison Gray Otis and his wife, this grand mansion is an example of high-style Federal elegance. Tours offer insight into the social, business and family life of the post-Revolution American elite.

THE SKYWALK OBSERVATORY AT THE PRUDENTIAL CENTER, 617-859-0648. *Daily 10 a.m.–8 p.m.* Skywalk kiosk closes at 6 p.m. Admission (including a headset audio tour of points of interest): \$12; seniors & students \$10; children (under 12) \$8. Observatory may be closed due to weather conditions, please call ahead. Enjoy spectacular 360-degree panoramic views of Boston and beyond and learn about the city's 379 years of culture and history on the Antennae Audio Tour. Displays include *Dreams of Freedom*, about the Boston immigrant experience, and a theater showing *Wings Over Boston*, a spectacular aerial tour of the entire city.

TRINITY CHURCH, 206 Clarendon St., Copley Square, 617-536-0944. *Sun 7 a.m.–7 p.m., Tue–Sat 9 a.m.–6 p.m.* Tours available for \$6; seniors & students \$4; children (under 16) free with an adult. Guided tours: *Sun at 12:15 p.m. (free), other daily tour times vary.* Self-guided tours: *Mon–Fri 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m., Sat 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Sun 1–5 p.m.* Built in 1877, this house of worship, a combination of Victorian, Gothic and French Romanesque styles, is one of the great masterpieces of American church architecture.

TOURS AND TRAILS

ANTIQUE LIMOUSINE, 781-715-1922. www.Antique-Limousine.com. *Tours by appointment only.* Enjoy historic Freedom Trail tours in a 1939 Cadillac eight-passenger limousine, just like the Godfather's car. Get close to the sights where the trolleys and duck tours can't. The drivers dress, speak and act the part. Just don't mess with them or you might be riding in the trunk. They'll make you an offer you can't refuse. Ask about their specials. Call to schedule a pick up.

BOSTON DUCK TOURS, Prudential Center, Museum of Science and New England Aquarium. www.bostonducktours.com. *Tours: seven days a week, 9 a.m. 'til one hour before sunset; beginning Dec 1: Sat & Sun 10 a.m.–3 p.m.* Tickets: \$29.95; seniors, students & military \$26; children (3–11) \$20; (under 3) \$6; Group discounts available. Experience the city in an amazing vehicle that rides on land and water. The 80-minute tour visits most of Boston's famous sights. And just when you think

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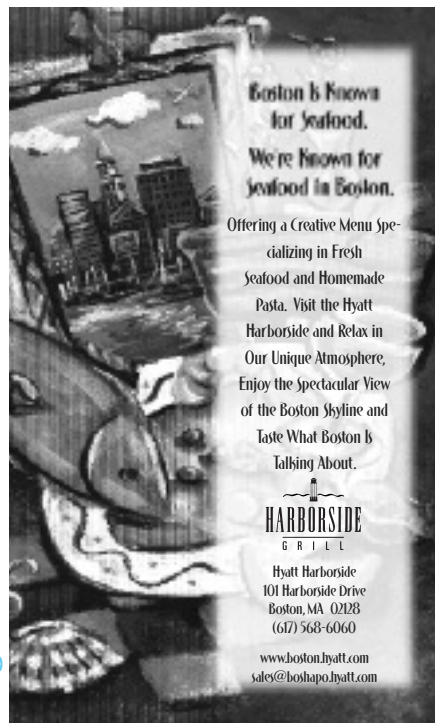
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BOSTON IRISH HERITAGE TRAIL, various sites Downtown and in the Back Bay, 617-696-9880. Maps available at Boston Common and Prudential Center Visitor Information Centers. www.irishheritagetrail.com. This self-guided, three-mile walking tour covers 300 years of history, taking you through Boston's downtown, North End, Beacon Hill and Back Bay neighborhoods. Learn about famous politicians, artists and war heroes, and the Boston Irish's rich tradition of rebellion, leadership and triumph.

BOSTON UPPER DECK TROLLEY TOURS, 617-742-1440. *Tours depart daily from 8:30 a.m.–6 p.m.; schedule is subject to change, call ahead for availability; tickets can be purchased aboard trolleys or at various locations throughout the city. Tickets: \$34; military, seniors & students \$30; children (3–11) \$16; children (under 3) free.* This fun and informative tour of the city invites visitors to get off and on at 21 different stops around Boston and Cambridge. Full tours last two hours and cover more than 100 points of interest, including the North End, the *USS Constitution*, Boston Common, the Back Bay and the Theatre District. And each Upper Deck Trolley Tour ticket entitles guests to a second day on the trolley for free, making this comprehensive tour of the Hub one of Boston's very best values for visitors.

CITY VIEW TROLLEY TOURS of Boston, Cambridge & Salem, departing every 10–20 minutes from the New England Aquarium, South Station, North Station, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston Common and other locations, 617-363-7899. *Mon–Fri 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Sat & Sun 'til 5:30 p.m. Tickets: \$34; seniors & students \$32; children (4–12) \$12. Save up to \$6 per ticket when you buy online at www.cityviewtrolleys.com.* This year-round trolley company offers Hop On & Off privileges at the most scenic and historic locations, including the New England Aquarium and sites along the Freedom Trail, Faneuil Hall and Quincy Market, the North End, Beacon Hill, the historic waterfront, the *USS Constitution*, Bunker Hill and many more.

FENWAY PARK TOURS, 4 Yawkey Way, 617-226-6666. *Tours leave daily, every hour on the hour, from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Tickets: \$12; seniors \$11; children (3–15) & military personnel \$10.* Tours originate at the Souvenir Store located on Yawkey Way across from Service Gate D, rain or shine. This tour offers an inside look at America's oldest active Major League ballpark, including a visit to the top of the famed "Green Monster" and stories from Boston Red Sox history.

THE FREEDOM TRAIL FOUNDATION'S FREEDOM TRAIL PLAYERS, 617-357-8300. *Tours depart from the Visitor Center on Boston Common daily at 11 a.m., noon, 1, 3:30 and 4:30 p.m. Tickets: \$12; seniors \$10; children (12 and under) \$6. Call for private tours.* Explore the Freedom Trail with costumed actors portraying famous patriots such as James Otis, Abigail Adams and William Dawes in this 90-minute tour. Stops include the Park Street Church, the Boston Massacre Site, the Old State House and Faneuil Hall. Private tours may be tailored to individual needs and interests.

HISTORIC PUB CRAWL, BosTix Booth, Faneuil Hall, 617-357-8300. *Reservations required. Private tours for groups are available on most days. Nov 17 & 24, Dec 1 & 8 at 5:30 p.m. Tickets: \$43.* The Freedom Trail Foundation's 18th-century costumed guide takes you on a tour of Boston's historic pubs where treasonous events were hatched more than 250 years ago. Enjoy plenty of beer and light fare along the way.

NORTH END MARKET TOUR, 64 Cross St., take the "T" to Haymarket, 617-523-6032. *Three-hour tours: Wed at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Fri at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., Sat at 9 and 10 a.m., 1 and 2 p.m. Reservations required. Custom tours for groups available. Tickets: \$50.* Michele Topor, an authority on Italian cuisine and culture, hosts walking tours through one of the nation's oldest Italian-American communities.

NORTH END SECRET TOURS, North Square (across from The Paul Revere House), 617-720-2283. *Tours: Fri & Sat 10 a.m., 1 and 4 p.m. Reservations required. Tickets: \$30.* This two-hour guided walking tour explores some of the hidden courtyards and passageways of the North End, visits the birthplace of Kennedy matriarch Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy and tells tales of Boston's oldest neighborhood, like the disastrous Great Boston Molasses Flood of 1919 that devastated much of the historic city sector.

OLD TOWN TROLLEY TOURS OF BOSTON, 617-269-7010. *Tours depart daily every 20 minutes from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Tickets: \$36; seniors & students \$33; children (4–12) \$13.* With 16 stops throughout the city, including the New England Aquarium, Fenway Park, *USS Constitution* Museum and the Trolley Stop Store on the corner of South Charles and Boylston streets, patrons can enjoy a 110-minute, fully narrated sightseeing tour of more than 100 points of interest aboard the orange-and-green, all-weather trolley.

SAMUEL ADAMS BREWERY TOUR: DRINK IN A LITTLE HISTORY, 30 Germania St., Jamaica Plain, 617-368-5080. *Tours begin approximately every 45 minutes, Mon–Thu & Sat 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Fri 'til 5:30 p.m. One-hour tours include sam-*

ples (ID required). Tickets: \$2 donation to a local charity. Call for special events and closings. Learn about the art of brewing beer and taste rich malts and spicy hops on this tour of the original Samuel Adams brewery.

VISITOR RESOURCES

PANORAMA WELCOME CENTER AT COPLEY PLACE, Adjacent to the Westin Hotel Skybridge, 617-236-1027. If you lose your copy of *Panorama* magazine while touring Boston, you can stop in at the Welcome Center and replace it, and while you're there, get further information on Boston area attractions and suggestions on "what to do, where to go and what to see."

WILDLIFE

FRANKLIN PARK ZOO, One Franklin Park Road, Franklin Park, 617-541-LION. *Daily 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Admission: \$14; seniors \$11; children (2–12) \$8; children (under 2) & military personnel free; \$8 for all from 10 a.m.–noon the first Sat of each month.* Home to more than 210 species, many of them endangered. Roam the Australian Outback Trail with kangaroos, visit the gorillas in the Tropical Forest, marvel at the lion and tigers at Kalahari Kingdom and see zebras, ostriches and wildebeests at Serengeti Crossing.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM, Central Wharf, 617-973-5200. *Mon–Fri 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Sat & Sun 'til 6 p.m. Admission: \$20.95; seniors (60+) \$18.95; children (3–11) \$12.95; chil-*

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dren (under 3) free. Refer to Current Events section under Film for IMAX theater listings. Combination ticket prices available. Dedicated to advancing knowledge of the world of water, this outstanding aquatic zoo features a 187,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank containing a Caribbean coral reef with sharks, sea turtles, moray eels and other aquatic life; a popular penguin habitat; the brand-new Marine Mammal Center; and the Simons 3D IMAX Theater.

STONE ZOO, 149 Pond St., Stoneham, 781-438-5100. Daily 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Admission: \$11; seniors \$9; children (2–12) \$7; children (under 2) free; \$7 for all from 10 a.m.–noon the first Sat of each month. Highlights include Yukon Creek, Mexican gray wolves, meerkats, snow leopards, jaguars, reindeer, river otters, llamas, black bears and Stone Zoo's newest arrivals, the white-cheeked gibbons. Special event: daily 5–9 p.m. **beginning Nov 26**—Zoolights, a nighttime holiday lights exhibit and winter wonderland, tickets: \$5; children (under 2) free.

CAMBRIDGE

Due to limited parking, it is best to take the Red Line when traveling to Harvard, Central or Kendall squares. The Cambridge Discovery Booth located at the Harvard Square "T" entrance provides additional information.

CAMBRIDGE COMMON/OLD BURYING GROUND. A grazing pasture and cemetery for Puritan Newtowne, as well as a favorite meeting spot for public figures and a tent site for the Continental Army. Early college presidents and town residents were buried in "God's Acre" across from the Common.

CHRIST CHURCH, Zero Garden St., 617-876-0200. Offices open Mon–Fri 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Call for services. This 1761 Tory house of worship was utilized as a Colonial barracks in the American Revolution.

FIRST CHURCH UNITARIAN/UNIVERSALIST, 3 Church St., Harvard Square, 617-876-7772. Please call for services. Harvard College provided the pews for its students in this 1833 building erected for the then-newly founded Unitarian Church.

HARVARD AND RADCLIFFE YARDS. Located within Harvard Campus. The centers of two institutions that have played major educational roles since Harvard's founding in 1636.

HARVARD SQUARE/OLD CAMBRIDGE. Take the "T" to Harvard on the Red Line. The center of Cambridge activity since the 17th century, the Square is home to Harvard University, historic buildings, cafes, restaurants and shops.

LONGFELLOW NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, 105 Brattle St., 617-876-4491. Grounds open daily from dawn to dusk. This 1759 Georgian mansion was home to Henry Wadsworth Longfellow from 1837 to 1882 and a central gathering place for writers and artists in the 19th century. It also served as George Washington's headquarters during the siege of Boston in 1775–76.

MOUNT AUBURN CEMETERY, 580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge, 617-547-7105. Daily 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Closing times may vary. Founded in 1831 by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, Mount Auburn was the first landscaped cemetery in the country. Many prominent Americans are buried here, including Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Isabella Stewart

Gardner and Winslow Homer. The cemetery is also an arboretum, sculpture garden and wildlife sanctuary.

TORY ROW (BRATTLE STREET). One of the nation's most beautiful residential streets, Tory Row is the site of Loyalist mansions and their elegant neighbors from every period of American architecture.

BEYOND BOSTON

MINUTE MAN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, Concord and Lexington (North Bridge Visitor Center, 174 Liberty St., Concord), 978-318-7810. Park grounds open sunrise to sunset. Created in 1959 to preserve the sites associated with the opening battles of the American Revolution, Minute Man Park consists of more than 900 acres of land along original segments of the Battles of Lexington and Concord, including Lexington Green and Concord's North Bridge. The park also preserves The Wayside, the 19th-century home of literary greats Nathaniel Hawthorne and Louisa May Alcott.

MYSTIC AQUARIUM & INSTITUTE FOR EXPLORATION, 55 Coogan Blvd., Mystic, Conn., 860-572-5955. Daily **through Nov 30**: 9 a.m.–5 p.m.; **beginning Dec 1**: 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Tickets: \$26; seniors \$23; children (3–17) \$19; under 2 free. At Mystic Aquarium & Institute for Exploration, close encounters of the incredible kind happen every day. Whether you're touching a ray, feeling the splash of New England's only beluga whales, going beak-to-nose with a penguin or exploring the deep sea with the world's only exhibits on Dr. Robert Ballard's fascinating expeditions, you'll be closer to ocean life than you ever thought possible.

OLD STURBRIDGE VILLAGE, 1 Old Sturbridge Village Road, 508-347-3362. Wed–Sun 9:30 a.m.–4 p.m.; **beginning Dec 1**: 4–9 p.m., closed Wed. Tickets: \$20; seniors \$18; children (3–17) \$7; (under 3) free. Take a trip back in time at this recreation of an early 19th-century New England village where costumed educators give visitors a glimpse of life in America's early days. Visit a tin shop, a cider mill and a blacksmith, ride the old-fashioned yellow stagecoach and tour restorations of period New England homes while marveling at authentic remnants from a long-gone age. Special events: **Nov 28**—A New England Wedding; **beginning Dec 3**—12 Nights of Christmas.

PLIMOTH PLANTATION, 137 Warren Ave., 508-746-1622. **Through Nov 29**: Henry Hornblower II Visitor Center: 9 a.m.–5:30 p.m.; Nye Barn, Hobbamock's (Wampanoag) Homesite, 1627 Pilgrim Village, Crafts Center: 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Tickets: \$28; seniors \$26; children (6–12) \$18. When the Pilgrims landed in America during the 17th century, they landed at Plymouth Rock. They built their settlement three miles south of the rock and named it Plimoth Plantation. Today, visitors can tour the Plantation and see how the Pilgrims went about their daily lives, hunting, gathering and making crafts. Special exhibit: Thanksgiving: Memory, Myth & Meaning.

YANKEE CANDLE FACTORY, 5 North St., South Deerfield, 877-636-7707. Sun–Thu 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 8 p.m. Call for additional information. The Yankee Candle Factory is one part of a larger complex devoted to the company. It also includes a museum, a candle store and the Bavarian Christmas Village. Visitors are able to dip their own creations at this one-of-a-kind must-see for fans of the popular scented candles. Special events: **Nov 22** at 4:30 p.m.—Yankee Candle Village Tree Lighting Ceremony; **Nov 28** at 10 a.m.—Santa's Arrival.

The Freedom Trail begins at the Boston Common Information Kiosk, where you can obtain a guide map, rent a self-guided audio tour or take a walking tour with an 18th-century costumed guide. (Ticket sales of Freedom Trail Foundation tours help preserve the historic sites.) Boston National Historical Park (National Park Service) tours begin at State and Devonshire streets. Please call 617-357-8300 or visit TheFreedomTrail.org for additional information.



BOSTON COMMON. Set aside in 1634 as a military training field and grazing pasture, the Common is the oldest public park in America. The park served as quarters for British as well as Colonial troops, and later housed Civil War regiments. The British Army set out for the start of the Revolutionary War from what is now Park Square.



THE STATE HOUSE. Beacon Street, top of Beacon Hill facing Boston Common, 617-727-3676. Mon–Fri 9 a.m.–5 p.m., except holidays. Guided tours 10 a.m.–4 p.m. The famous golden dome of the State House marks the government seat of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Samuel Adams laid the cornerstone, and the building

stands on land bought from John Hancock. The red brick portion was designed by legendary architect Charles Bulfinch.



PARK STREET CHURCH. Corner of Park and Tremont streets, 617-523-3383. Sunday services at 8:30 and 11 a.m. and 4 and 6 p.m. Morning services are traditional, evening services are contemporary. Built in 1809, this church was described by Henry James as "the most interesting mass of brick and mortar in America."



OLD GRANARY BURYING GROUND. Tremont Street next to Park Street Church, 617-242-5642. Daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. This historic cemetery, formerly the town granary, is the final resting place of John Hancock, Paul Revere, Robert Treat Paine, Samuel Adams, Peter Faneuil and the victims of the Boston Massacre. A stone inscribed "Mary Goose" (a.k.a. Elizabeth Goose) allegedly marks the grave of Mother Goose.



chapel, built in 1754, became the first Unitarian church in America after the Revolution.

EXPLORING BOSTON FREEDOM TRAIL



PHOTO BY DELLA HUFF

OLD GRANARY BURYING GROUND: Some of Boston's most famous historic figures are buried here along the Freedom Trail. Refer to listing, below.



SITE OF THE FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOL AND BEN FRANKLIN'S STATUE. On School Street, marked by a column and commemorative plaque. On April 13, 1635, the town voted to establish the first public school in the country. Nearby is Benjamin Franklin's statue, built in 1856, the first portrait statue erected in the United States.



SITE OF THE OLD CORNER BOOKSTORE. School and Washington streets. Constructed as an apothecary in 1718, the ground floor was later a bookstore and literary center of Boston and a meeting place for notables like Emerson, Hawthorne and Thoreau.

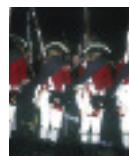


OLD SOUTH MEETING HOUSE. 310 Washington St., 617-482-6439. Daily 9:30 a.m.–4 p.m. Admission: \$5; seniors & students \$4; children (6–18) \$1. This building housed many town meetings, the most famous of which saw an outraged Samuel Adams signal the start of the Boston Tea Party.

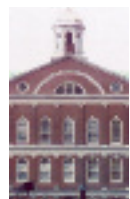


OLD STATE HOUSE. Corner of Washington and State streets, 617-720-1713. Daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: \$7; seniors & students \$6; children (6–18) \$3; children (under 6) free. Built in 1713, this seat of Colonial government was the center of ac-

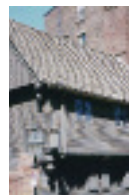
tivity for such patriots as John Hancock and Samuel and John Adams. It was from the east balcony that the Declaration of Independence was first read in Boston.



BOSTON MASSACRE SITE. State Street in front of the Old State House. At the next intersection below the State House, a ring of cobblestones marks the site of the clash between a jeering Boston crowd and a British guard of nine soldiers on March 5, 1770.



FANEUIL HALL. Merchants Row and Faneuil Hall Square, 617-242-5689. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m. Historical talks given every half hour from 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., when hall is not in use. “The Cradle of Liberty” combines a free marketplace on the first floor with the town meeting hall upstairs, the site of fiery revolutionary debate.*



PAUL REVERE HOUSE. 19 North Square, North Street, 617-523-2338. *Open daily 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Admission: \$3.50; seniors & students \$3; children (5–17) \$1; (under 5) free. The oldest home in Boston (built c. 1680), occupied by silversmith and patriot Paul Revere from 1770 to 1800.*



OLD NORTH CHURCH. 193 Salem St., 617-523-6676. *Daily 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Services: Sun at 9 and 11 a.m., Wed at 6 p.m. Known as Christ Church and erected in 1723, this is Boston's oldest standing church. Two lanterns were hung here on April 18, 1775, signaling the Redcoats' departure by sea for Lexington and Concord.*



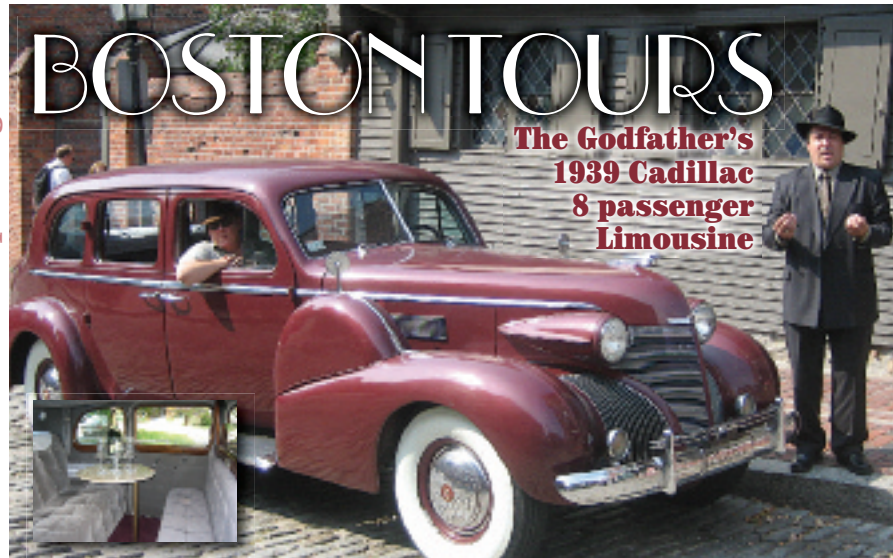
COPP'S HILL BURYING GROUND. Hull Street. *Daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Set out in 1660, Copp's Hill was Boston's second cemetery. Many remarkable people are interred here, including the Mather family of ministers and Edmund Hartt, builder of the USS Constitution.*



BUNKER HILL MONUMENT. Breed's Hill, Charlestown, 617-242-5641. *Lodge open daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m.; monument open daily 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. The site of the historic battle of June 17, 1775.*



USS CONSTITUTION. Charlestown Navy Yard, Charlestown, 617-242-5670. *Tue–Sun 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Tours every half-hour. This 44-gun frigate is the world's oldest commissioned warship, christened “Old Ironsides” during the War of 1812 when the cannonballs of a British warship literally bounced off her triple hull.*



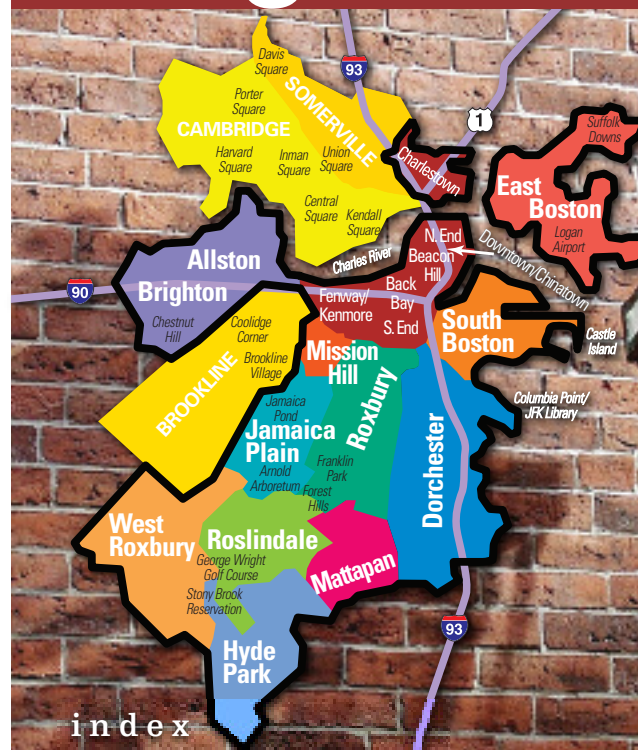
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EXPLORING BOSTON: neighborhoods



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BRIGHT LIGHT: Gas lamps and brick buildings, such as these in Beacon Hill, are two hallmarks of the city's historic neighborhoods. Refer to page 36.

PHOTO BY DELLA HUFF

NORTH END



NORTH END SHOPPING

Once known strictly for its assortment of Italian restaurants and bakeries, the North End has leapt boldly into the 21st century as one of the city's up-and-coming retail districts.

A MATTER OF FACE

Forgot your mascara? Your aftershave is in Buffalo? Not to worry! Stop by this tiny shop to pick up products from the Art of Shaving, Paula Dorf, Darphin, Bliss and more. 425 Hanover St., 617-742-5874

HIGH GEAR JEWELRY

This must-see, multi-award winning shop overflows with unique contemporary fashion jewels from around the world at great prices. 204 Hanover St., 617-523-5804

MICHELE TOPOR/ NORTH END MARKET TOUR

Take a culinary tour into the food traditions of Boston's "Little Italy." Learn cooking secrets, benchmark flavors and how to select authentic ingredients. www.foodtoursofboston.com

FILTHY RICH CELEBRITY JEWELRY

Find exact replicas of the classic Jackie Kennedy jewelry collection, those of glamorous Hollywood stars and items inspired by today's most popular designers (pictured below). 402 Hanover St., www.filthyrichofboston.com

PHOTO BY KATHERINE C. COHEN



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Renowned as Boston's "Little Italy," the North End is Boston's oldest neighborhood, having given birth to the American Revolution from its narrow, cobblestone streets. Known today for its abundance of Italian bakeries, cafes and restaurants as well as a growing number of boutiques, visitors should be sure not to miss its Freedom Trail sites: the Paul Revere House, Copp's Hill Burying Ground and the Old North Church. ☉

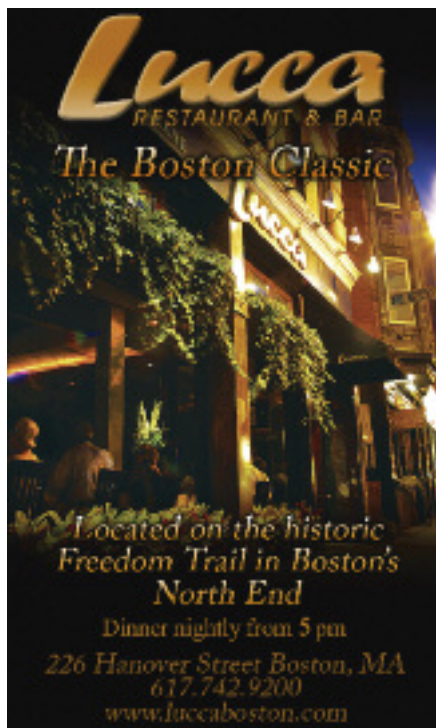
ATTRACTIONS:

- Paul Revere House
- Old North Church
- Copp's Hill Burying Ground

GET THERE ON THE ①:

Orange or Green Line to Haymarket

exploring boston: NEIGHBORHOODS




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NORTH END



MIDNIGHT RIDER: As Boston's oldest neighborhood, the North End is steeped in history and is home to three sites along the Freedom Trail, including the Old North Church, whose steeple rises near this statue of American patriot Paul Revere.



PHOTO BY DEREK KOUYOUNJIAN

A PIZZA THE ACTION: Renowned for its abundance of Italian restaurants, bakeries and cafes, the North End boasts many outstanding places to eat, including Antico Forno on Salem Street.

BACK BAY



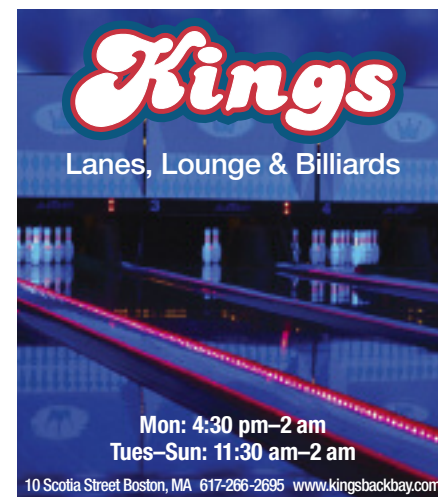
Boston's chic Back Bay is home to classically beautiful brownstone residences, glamorous retail space and a plethora of dining options, spa services and nightlife. Its crown jewel is Copley Square, home to the John Hancock Tower as well as historic landmarks like the Boston Public Library and Trinity Church. But its pulse centers primarily around the bustling commercial districts of Boylston and Newbury streets.

ATTRACTIONS:

- Trinity Church
- Christian Science Center
- Boston Public Library
- Skywalk Observatory
- John Hancock Tower
- Commonwealth Ave. Mall

GET THERE ON THE T:

Orange Line to Back Bay; Green Line to Arlington, Copley or Hynes Convention Center



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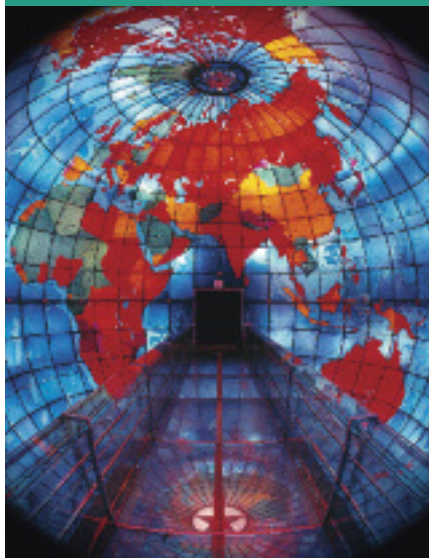


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BACK BAY



GLOBAL VIEW: The Mary Baker Eddy Library on the campus of the Christian Science Center features the Mapparium, a walk-through stained glass globe that depicts the world as it appeared in 1935.

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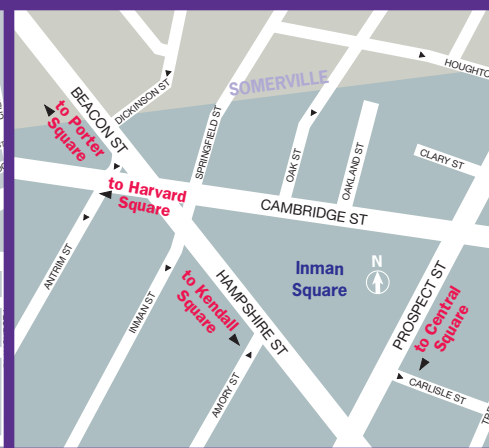
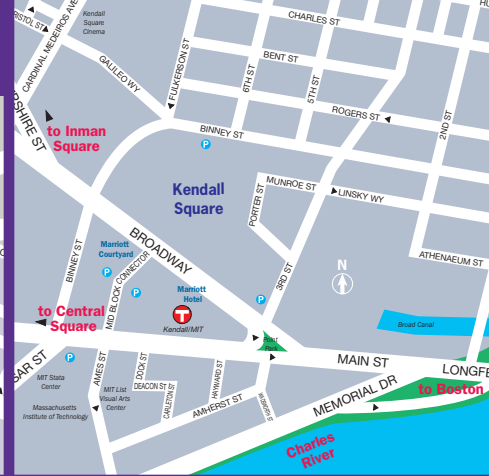
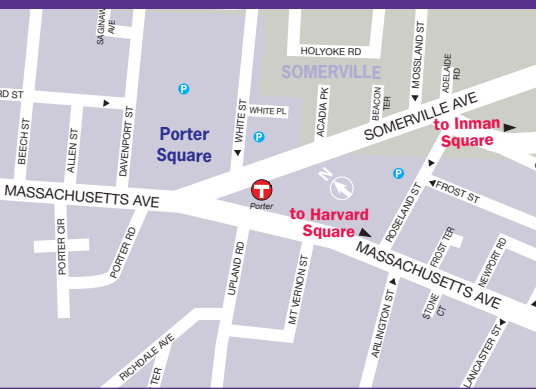
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CAMBRIDGE



Harvard Square Dining



The people of Cambridge would like to inform the world that their fine city is not a neighborhood of Boston. Although it often gets lumped together with Beantown, Cambridge stands alone with all the sustaining qualities of an international city center.

Central Square is the social center for Cambridge, with great restaurants, bars and music venues such as the Middle East Cafe, T.T. the Bear's Place and The Cantab Lounge.

Harvard Square is home to Harvard University's sprawling campus, including its associated theaters and museums. In addition, visitors flock to the neighborhood for a diverse range of shops, restaurants, coffee shops, bars and clubs that offer something to satisfy every taste (refer to Harvard Square Dining map, next page).

The quieter, more residential **Inman Square** boasts ethnic food shops, bars and restaurants along with local and national jazz acts at Ryles Jazz Club.

Kendall Square, home to MIT and many bio-tech firms, is also host to foreign and independent films at Kendall Square Cinema.

Just beyond Harvard Square, **Porter Square** is full of eclectic second-hand shops and restaurants, as well as live music at the Lizard Lounge and Toad. ☎

ATTRACTIONS:

- Harvard Yard
- MIT Museum
- Sackler Museum
- American Repertory Theatre
- Harvard Museum of Natural History

GET THERE ON THE ①:

Red Line to Kendall, Central, Harvard and Porter.

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2

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3

THE FENWAY



This neighborhood is best known for Fenway Park, home to our beloved Boston Red Sox, but its name actually comes from the Fens, the green parkland that winds its way through the area and makes up part of the famed Emerald Necklace. Nightclub dwellers should check out Lansdowne Street for dancing, sports bars and even a bowling alley, while Kenmore Square, famous for the Citgo sign, has become a bustling dining destination. ⑥

ATTRACTIONS:

- Symphony Hall
- Museum of Fine Arts
- Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

GET THERE ON THE T:

Green Line to Kenmore and Fenway, E Line to Symphony, Northeastern and Museum of Fine Arts



FENWAY'S BEST SEATS, BAR NONE

The next best thing to seats at Fenway, the venerable ballyard's pub the **Bleacher Bar** (82A Lansdowne St., 617-262-2424) is located right underneath the center field bleachers, giving patrons spectacular views of the historic home of the Boston Red Sox year-round while also serving delicious sandwiches and, of course, plenty of cold beer. *Refer to listing, page 61.*

ABOVE PHOTO BY STEPHANIE SAVAS

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The Hub's reputation as one of the most European cities in the U.S. is evidenced by a visit to this neighborhood. Home to the State House and tucked between the Charles River Esplanade, Boston Common and the Public Garden, Beacon Hill's picturesque cobblestone streets are lined by impeccable brownstones and gas-lit street lamps. To experience firsthand what it's like to live in one of our pricier neighborhoods, stroll the shops and restaurants of Charles Street or pass through historic Louisburg Square. ☺

ATTRACTIONS:

- Louisburg Square
- Massachusetts State House
- Boston Athenaeum
- African Meeting House

GET THERE ON THE ①:

Red Line to Charles or Park streets, Blue Line to Bowdoin.

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Advertiser map locator

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BOSTON LODGING

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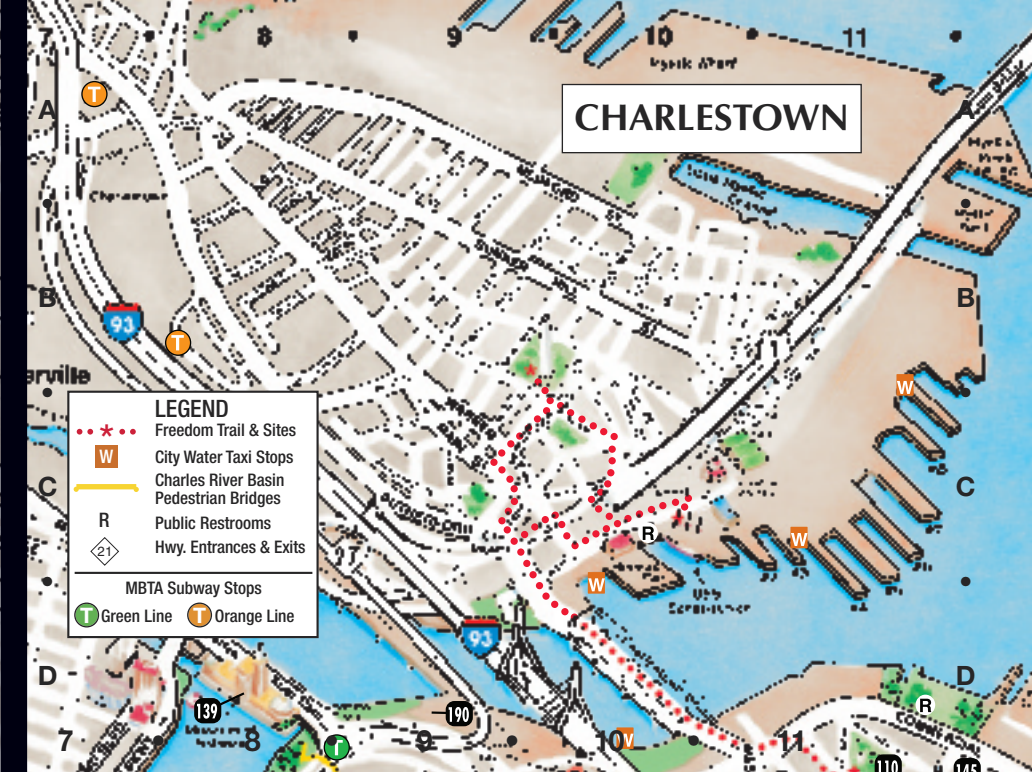
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CAMBRIDGE LODGING

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exploring boston: MAPS



LEGEND

- Freedom Trail & Sites
- Black Heritage Trail
- Pedestrian Area
- City Water Taxi Stops
- Charles River Basin
- Pedestrian Bridges
- Public Restrooms

MBTA Subway Stops

- Red Line
- Orange Line
- Blue Line
- Green Line
- Silver Line

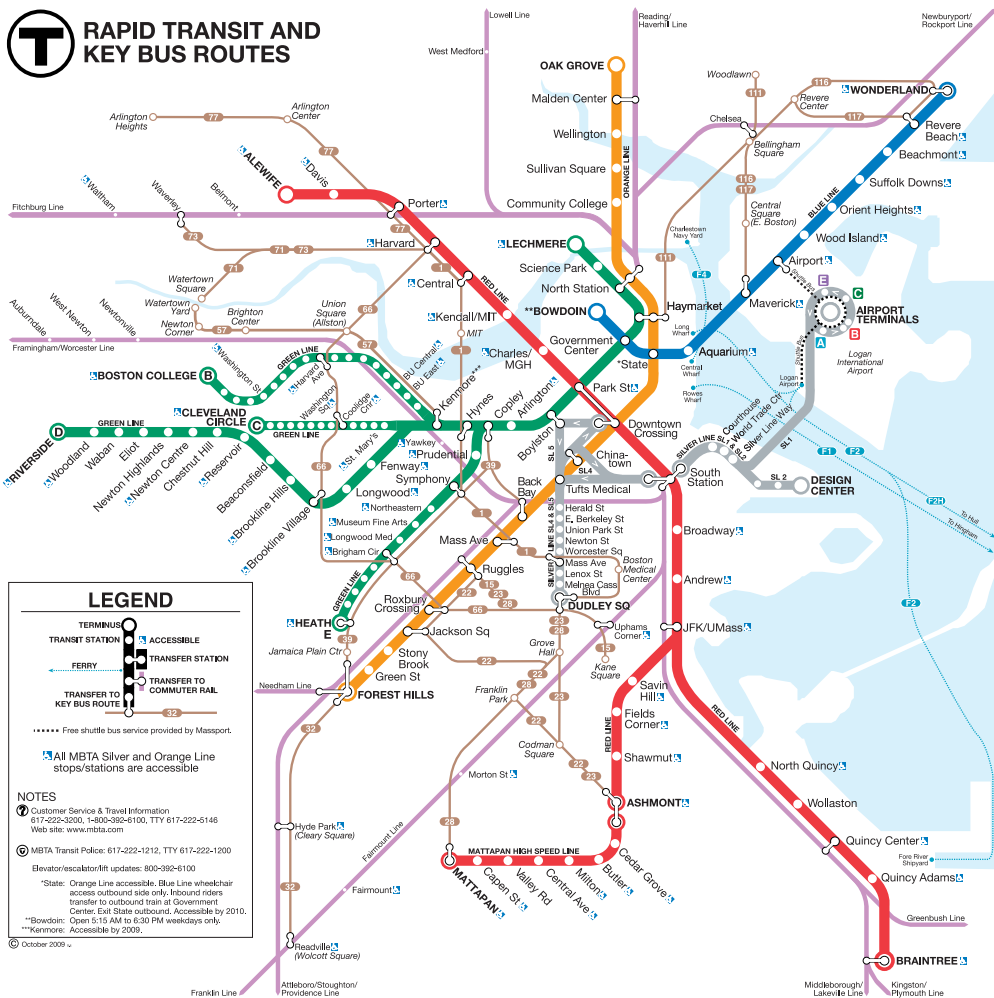
CAMBRIDGE
(see page 38)

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Walking -BOSTON & CAMBRIDGE_H

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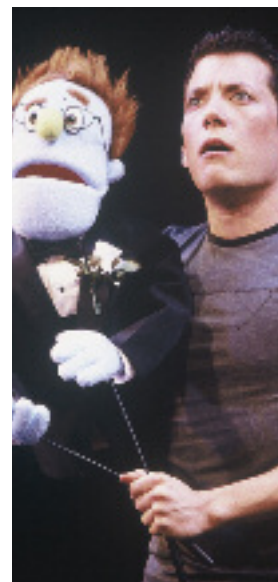
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aroundthehub:CURRENT EVENTS

Q Rating



AVENUE Q
Colonial Theater
November 17–22

You're never too old for a puppet show—especially when said puppets are primarily concerned about money woes, establishing a career and sorting out their sex lives. The puppet characters of Tony Award-winning musical *Avenue Q* certainly wouldn't fit in on “Sesame Street,” but that doesn't mean these outspoken puppets, monsters and humans from the wrong side of the tracks won't simultaneously delight your inner child and your outer adult with hilariously inappropriate jokes and clever songs like “What do You Do with a BA in English?” and “Everyone's a Little Bit Racist.” For a coming-of-age story packed with belly laughs, take a stroll down this *Avenue*. Refer to listing, page 48. —Emma Snider

TOP LEFT PHOTO BY CAROL ROSEGG;
TOP RIGHT PHOTO BY SUSAN WILSON

Party Time

THE 236TH BOSTON TEA PARTY REENACTMENT
Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St.
617-482-6439
December 13 at 5:30 p.m.

Boston is a city (ahem) steeped in history, with perhaps the most famous single historical event being the 1773 revolutionary tax uprising known around the world as the Boston Tea Party. On **December 13**, the Old South Meeting House Tea Party Players bring Samuel Adams, John Hancock, Paul Revere and other Tea Party participants to life at an interactive town meeting debating the colonial tea tax. Audience members are invited to weigh in on the fate of three shiploads of British tea before getting a chance to witness a dramatization of the fateful act of rebellion that made the waters of Boston Harbor resemble the world's biggest cup of Earl Grey. Visit www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org for more information. —Meredith Wilson



GUMDROP MOUNTAIN OR BUST

CANDY LAND TOURNAMENT

Faneuil Hall Marketplace
617-367-3322
December 12 from 10 a.m.–noon

Forget the Stanley Cup, the Final Four or the World Series of Poker—any grade-schooler knows there's no more cutthroat competition than a no-holds-barred, high-stakes round of everyone's favorite childhood board game, Candy Land. That's why your young ones will have to be at the peak of their abilities on **December 12**, as Faneuil Hall Marketplace hosts Boston's fifth annual Candy Land Tournament to benefit the Pitching in for Kids Foundation. Appropriate for children ages 3 and older (check the box!), as well as fun-loving adults, the tournament invites gamers to spend the day with Gramma Nutt, Princess Lolly and Lord Licorice while enjoying a day of face painting and gingerbread house-building, all in support of a great cause. —Josh B. Wardrop





PHOTO BY LUKAS BECK

VIENNA BOYS CHOIR: The famed Austria-based vocal ensemble makes its annual visit to the Hub, performing a special program of holiday music. Refer to listing, page 47.

CLASSICAL

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., 617-266-1200. Tickets: \$29–115, unless otherwise noted. Visit www.bso.org for a complete schedule of events. Renowned throughout the world for its distinctive sound, impressive range and virtuosity, the Boston Symphony Orchestra—led by Music Director James Levine—celebrates its 129th year of performing the world's most beloved and stirring classical music. **Nov 19 & 21 at 8 p.m., Nov 20 at 1:30 p.m.**—Guest conductor Bernard Haitink and flutist Sir James Galway join The BSO to present works by Brahms, Ibert and Debussy; **Nov 24 & 28, Dec 1 at 8 p.m., Nov 27 at 1:30 p.m.**—Guest conductor Sir Andrew Davis and violinist Joshua Bell join the BSO to perform works by Brahms, Debussy and Stravinsky; **Dec 2 at 7:30 p.m., Dec 3 & 5 at 8 p.m., Dec 4 at 1:30 p.m.**—Guest conductor Christoph von Dohnanyi and violinist Frank Peter Zimmermann join the BSO to perform works by Bartok, Martinu and Dvorak.

EMERSON STRING QUARTET, Celebrity Series of Boston, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., 617-482-2595. **Dec 4 at 8 p.m.** Tickets: \$45–58. The acclaimed quartet offers a concert of works by Shostakovich, Barber and others.

COMEDY

THE CAPITOL STEPS, Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge, 617-496-4595. **Nov 28 at 5 and 8 p.m.** Tickets: \$29–38. The popular political satirists bring their latest evening of musical comedy—*Obama-Mia*—to Cambridge for some bipartisan ribbing that will have audiences united in laughter.

THE COMEDY CONNECTION AT THE WILBUR THEATRE, 246 Tremont St., 617-248-9700. **Nov 20 at 7:30 p.m.**—Aaron Karo, tickets: \$25 & 32; **Nov 21 at 7 and 9:45 p.m.**—Pablo Francisco, tickets: \$20 & 32; **Nov 28 at 7 and 9:45 p.m.**—Jim Norton, tickets: \$20 & 33; **Dec 4 at 7:30 p.m.**—Bob Saget, tickets: \$25 & 42; **Dec 5 at 7 p.m.**—John Witherspoon, tickets: \$20 & 25; **Dec 11 at 7 and 9:45 p.m.**—Jim Breuer, tickets: \$25 & 32.

THE COMEDY STUDIO AT THE HONG KONG, 1238 Massachusetts Ave., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 617-661-6507. Doors open at 7:30 p.m.; shows begin at 8 p.m. Call for complete schedule. Cover: \$8–10. A place where fresh talent is discovered and headliners experiment. **Nov 17 & 24, Dec 1 & 8**—Mystery Lounge, featuring professional magicians; **Nov 18 & 25, Dec 2 & 9**—Rick Jenkins hosts Fresh Faces; **Nov 19**—Zack Sherwin hosts Jimmy Anicet, Rob Crean, Chris Oake and others; **Nov 20**—Renata Tutko hosts Shaun Bedgood, Rick Canavan, Reggie Williams and others; **Nov 21**—Taylor Connelly, Chris Coxen, Ed Domingues and others; **Nov 22**—Fred Bernabe, Peter Bowers, Laura Crawford and others; **Dec 6**—Bethany Van Delft hosts Sarah Blodgett, Jim Blumenfeld, Dave Boz, Rob Crean and others.

DICK DOHERTY'S COMEDY VAULT, 124 Boylston St., 800-401-2221. Shows Tue–Thu at 8:30 p.m., Fri & Sun at 9 p.m., Sat at 8 and 10:15 p.m. Tickets: \$12–15. Located in the downstairs portion of Remington's bar and restaurant across from Boston Common. **Nov 16, 23 & 30**—Kevin Knox's Comedy Benefit; **Nov 17 & 24, Dec 1 & 8**—Greg Howell's Beantown Comedy Showcase; **Nov 18 & 25, Dec 2 & 9**—Paul Nardizzi's Comedy Showcase; **Nov 19 & 26, Dec 3 & 10**—Beantown Comedy Riot with Mike Whitman; **Nov 20 & 21**—Jim Colliton, Dan Hirshon and friends; **Nov 27 & 28**—Dick Doherty, Taylor Connelly and friends; **Nov 22 & 29, Dec 6 & 13**—Open Mic Night.

IMPROV ASYLUM, 216 Hanover St., 617-263-6887. Tickets: \$10–20, dinner packages available. Visit www.improvasyllum.com for complete show schedules. Please arrive 30 minutes prior to showtime. Some of Boston's top improvisational comics perform uproarious and creative shows at their theater in the heart of Boston's North End. **Nov 17 & 24 at 8 p.m.**—House Teams; **Nov 18 & 25 at 8 p.m.**—Vanity Project; **Nov 20 & 27 at 8 and 10 p.m., Nov 21 & 28 at 7 and 9 p.m.**—Main Stage Show; at 11 p.m.—Unhinged; **Nov 20 & 27**—The Midnight Show; **Nov 22 & 29 at 8 p.m.**—NXT Show.

IMPROVBOSTON, 40 Prospect St., Central Square, Cambridge, 617-576-1253. Cover: \$7–16. This comedy troupe features sketch comedy, games, original music and audience participation. **Nov 18 & 25 at 8 p.m.**—Jonathan Katz and friends; **Nov 19, Dec 3 & 10 at 8 p.m.**—Bastards Inc.; at 10 p.m.—The 10 Slot; **Nov 20 & 27, Dec 4 & 11 at 7 p.m.**—SketchHaus; at 8 p.m.—Crime Solving Bear 2; at 9:30 p.m.—Harold Night; at 10 p.m.—Friday Night Face Off; at 11:30 p.m.—Nightcap; **Nov 21 & 28, Dec 5 & 12 at 6 p.m.**—Family Show; at 8 and 10 p.m.—ImprovBoston's Mainstage; at 11:30 p.m.—Nightcap; **Dec 2 at 10 p.m.**—Naked Comedy Showcase.

FILM

THE BRATTLE THEATRE, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-876-6837. Call for showtimes and complete schedule. Tickets: \$9.50; students & matinees \$7.50; seniors & children \$6.50. Classic, cutting-edge and world cinema with double features almost every day. Special events: **Nov 18 at 4:30 and 7 p.m.**—*Raiders of the Lost Ark*; **Nov 26–28 at 2:45, 5, 7:15 and 9:30 p.m.**—*Casablanca*; **Dec 9 at 7:30 p.m.**—*Strange Brew*; at 9:30 p.m.—*Smokey & The Bandit*; **Dec 11 at 4**

p.m., Dec 12 at 1:30 and 4 p.m., Dec 13 at 7 p.m.—*It's A Wonderful Life*.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE, 290 Harvard St., Brookline, 617-734-2500. Call for showtimes and complete schedule. Tickets: \$9.75; members, seniors & children (Mon–Thu) \$6.75 and (Fri–Sun) \$7.75. This independent movie house screens recent indie films, as well as the classics. Now showing: *Defamation*, *Precious*, *The Maid*. Special events: **Nov 16 at 7 p.m.**—*Babette's Feast*; **Nov 21 at 10 a.m.**—*Cosi Fan Tutte*; at 10:30 a.m.—*Spirited Away*.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE, Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge, 617-495-4700. Call for showtimes, complete schedule and ticket prices. With more than 300 films shown per year, HFA is one of the most active art cinemas in New England. Special events: **Nov 18 at 7 p.m.**—*Wings of Desire*; **Nov 20 at 7 p.m.**—*Manhattan*; **Nov 21 at 7 p.m.**—*Pennies from Heaven*; **Nov 22 at 7 p.m.**—*The Parallax View*; **Nov 23 at 7 p.m.**—*The Purple Rose of Cairo*; **Nov 28 at 7 p.m.**—*The Godfather*; **Nov 29 at 7 p.m.**—*The Godfather Part II*; **Nov 30 at 7 p.m.**—*The Landlord*.

MUGAR OMNI THEATRE, Museum of Science, 617-723-2500 or 617-333-FILM. Call for showtimes and complete schedule. Tickets: \$9; seniors \$8; children (3–11) \$7. Discounted admission for showtimes after 6 p.m. This IMAX theater presents larger-than-life images on a five-story high domed screen. Now showing: *Adrenaline Rush: The Science of Risk*; *Antarctica: Deep Sea*; *Coral Reef Adventure*; *The Greatest Places*; **through Nov 27**—*Mystic India*.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, 465 Huntington Ave., 617-267-9300. Screenings Thu–Sun, call for showtimes and complete schedule. Tickets: \$6–9. The Museum of Fine Arts' Film Program has grown to become one of the nation's finest exhibitors of contemporary international cinema, restored classics and premieres of American independent films. Now showing: **Nov 18 at 8 p.m., Nov 21 at 12:30 p.m.**—*Big Man Japan*; **Nov 19 at 8:30 p.m.**—*Dr. Strangelove*; **Nov 21 at 10:30 a.m.**—*Little Fugitive*; **Nov 27 at 7:30 p.m., Nov 29 at 1:40 p.m.**—*Cyborg She*; **Nov 28 at 1 p.m.**—*Vacation*; at 3:20 p.m.—*The Magic Hour*.

SIMONS IMAX THEATRE, New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, 617-973-5200. Sun–Wed 9:30 a.m.–9:30 p.m.; Thu–Sat 10 a.m.–9:30 p.m. Call for showtimes and complete schedule. Tickets: \$9.95; seniors & children (3–11) \$7.95. The Simons is the first large-format theater in Boston to have 3D viewing capability. Now showing: *Under the Sea 3D*; *Dolphins and Whales 3D*.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

BLACK NATIVITY, Tremont Temple, Converse Hall, 88 Tremont St., 617-585-6366. Performances beginning Dec 4: Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 3:30 and 8 p.m., Sun at 3:30 p.m. Tickets: \$17.50–45. This legendary Christmas celebration, now in its 40th season, tells the story of the Nativity in scripture, verse, music and dance. Based on the Gospel of St. Luke and the poetry of Langston Hughes, this song-play features a joyous company of 160 singers, actors, dancers and musicians delivering a powerful message of joy, hope, victory and liberation.

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BOSTON BAROQUE, New England Conservatory's Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., 617-484-9200. **Dec 11 & 12 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets:** \$27-66. The only Grammy-nominated interpretation of Handel's *Messiah*, Boston Baroque's annual performance unites the chorus and orchestra with soloists Amanda Forsythe, Ann McMahon Quintero, Lawrence Wilford and Timothy Jones.

BOSTON CAMERATA, First Church Cambridge, 11 Garden St., Cambridge, 866-427-2092. **Dec 12 at 8 p.m. Tickets:** \$22-46. The classic ensemble presents A Mediterranean Christmas, a holiday performance utilizing songs, chants and instruments from Spain, Italy, France and North Africa.

BOSTON HOLIDAY POPS, Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., 617-266-3605. **Dec 9 at 8 p.m., Dec 10 & 11 at 4 and 8 p.m., Dec 12 & 13 at 11 a.m., 3 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets:** \$33-122. Boston's beloved, world-renowned orchestra comes home for the holidays, with concerts of holiday favorites led by Pops maestro Keith Lockhart and guest conductors.

BUON NATALE HOLIDAY STROLL, the streets of the North End. **Dec 4 from 7-11 p.m. Free.** The galleries, boutiques and studios of Boston's North End neighborhood host an evening of special sales and discounts, light refreshments and holiday spirit.

CHARLES DICKENS' A CHRISTMAS CAROL, New Repertory Theatre, Charles Mosesian Theater, Arsenal Center for the Arts, 321 Arsenal St., Watertown, 617-923-8487. **Performances beginning Dec 6:** Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 3 and 8 p.m., Sun at 1 p.m. **Tickets:** \$35-54. This popular adaptation of the classic holiday story has all the trimmings of a lavish Victorian Christmas, offering a feast for the senses ranging from a pre-show caroling concert to luxurious period costumes, from singing and dancing to ghosts that fly through the air and evaporate into the London fog.

CHRISTMAS REVELS, Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge, 617-496-2222. **Performances beginning Dec 11:** Fri at 7:30 p.m., Sat at 3 and 7:30 p.m., Sun at 1 and 5:30 p.m. **Tickets:** \$10-52; children (under 12) \$7-42. The 39th annual production of the beloved Boston event takes its inspiration from North American tradition, combining musical contributions from Appalachia, the African-American South, pastoral Shaker communities and New England. Featured performers include singers Suzannah Park and David Coffin, Janice Allen, Leon Joseph Littlebird, the Cambridge Symphonic Brass Ensemble, The Smoky Mountain Dancers, The Roaring Gap Chorus and The Rocky River Children.

A CIVIL WAR CHRISTMAS, Huntington Theatre Company, Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., 617-266-0800. **Performances:** Tue-Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 2 and 8 p.m., Sun at 2 p.m. **Tickets:** \$25-82.50. On Christmas Eve 1864, stories of President and Mrs. Lincoln, a rebel soldier and an escaped slave intertwine into a tapestry of collective American experience in this new play by Pulitzer Prize-winner Paula Vogel (*How I Learned to Drive*) that includes beloved holiday music and is enhanced by local choirs caroling before each performance.

DOWNTOWN CROSSING'S TREE LIGHTING AT MACY'S, Summer Street, Downtown Crossing, 800-4EVENT2. **Nov 27 at 5 p.m. Free.** A brightly lit tree and old-fashioned bell ringing beckon the arrival of a new holiday season during this festive annual event.

FANEUIL HALL TREE LIGHTING, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-523-1300. **Nov 21 from 11 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Free.** Kick off the holiday season at one of Boston's most popular visitor attractions. Enjoy a day of live musical entertainment by groups

like local bluesmen Ernie and the Automatics and Motown recording artists Jada, or just stop by at 5:30 p.m. for the lighting of Faneuil Hall's massive tree.

FORT POINT ARTS COMMUNITY HOLIDAY SALE, 12 Farnsworth St., 617-423-4299. **Dec 4 from noon-7 p.m., Dec 5 & 6 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission:** free and open to the public. One of Boston's most vibrant community of artists celebrates the holiday season with FPAC's annual holiday sale, which unites area artists to display and sell works in a wide array of media.

HANDEL AND HAYDN SOCIETY, Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., 617-266-3605. **Dec 4 at 7:30 p.m., Dec 5 & 6 at 3 p.m. Tickets:** \$25-87. Conductor Harry Christophers leads the Society in its 156th annual performance of Handel's masterwork, *Messiah*.

HARVARD SQUARE HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR, First Parish Unitarian Church, corner of Church Street and Massachusetts Avenue, Harvard Square, Cambridge, 413-625-9779. **Nov 28 & 29, Dec 5, 6, 11-13:** Fri noon-7:30 p.m., Sat 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Sun noon-6 p.m. **Free and open to the public.** This venerable holiday craft event, now in its 24th season, is described as "the original rock and roll holiday fair" by its devotees, and features a funky mix of area craftspeople from New England and around the world exhibiting and selling goods ranging from clocks to jewelry, hand-printed cards to pottery, clothing to photography and much more.

HOLIDAY FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS, Edaville Railroad, off Rte. 3 South, 7 Eda Ave., Carver, 877-EDAVILLE. **Beginning Nov 27:** Mon-Fri from 4-9 p.m., Sat & Sun from 2-9 p.m. **Call for tickets and reservations.** Board Edaville's heated passenger train and tour more than five miles of forests, lakes and cranberry bogs, filled to the hilt with animated displays and millions of Christmas lights. Children's rides, concessions, Friday night fireworks in December and a cranberry museum are among other activities offered.

HOLIDAY TUBA CONCERT, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-523-1300. **Nov 28 at 2 p.m.; free and open to the public.** More than 150 tuba players unite to perform favorite holiday classics at the popular outdoor shopping center.

MANNHEIM STEAMROLLER, Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., 800-982-2787. **Dec 5 at 5 and 8:30 p.m. Tickets:** \$45-77.50. The world-renowned, multi-platinum selling musical ensemble brings its signature mix of Renaissance instruments, rock and roll beats and exciting multimedia stage performance to Boston to perform Christmas classics.

THE NUTCRACKER, Boston Ballet, The Opera House, 539 Washington St., 617-931-2787. **Performances beginning Nov 27:** Wed-Fri at 7:30 p.m., Sat at 1 and 7:30 p.m., Sun at 1 and 5:30 p.m. **Tickets:** \$35-165. This must-see holiday event for the whole family has been delighting Boston audiences for more than four decades. Join Clara on her magical journey through an enchanted winter wonderland to a palace of sugary confections, all set to Tchaikovsky's marvelous score.

THE NUTCRACKER, José Mateo's Ballet Theatre, Spingold Theater at Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham, 617-354-7467. **Performances beginning Dec 4:** Fri at 7:30 p.m., Sat at 2 and 6 p.m., Sun at 1:30 and 5:30 p.m. **Tickets:** \$15-50. This annual take on the seasonal classic presents a a lively, lower-cost alternative to other holiday shows. Ballet Theatre's acclaimed dancers—along with more than 200 children as mice, soldiers and angels—focus on the dancing rather than the usual mime and theatrics.

SOWA HOLIDAY MARKET, Cathedral High School Gymnasium, 74 Union Park St., 800-403-8305. **Dec 12 & 13 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.** For the 6th annual Sowa Holiday Market, more than 80 artisans from around New England gather to sell their wearable art, jewelry, pottery, home decor and other unusual gifts.

SPARKLEFEST, Charles Hotel, Harvard Square, 617-864-1200. Harvard Square rings in the season with its annual Christmas celebration. On **Nov 28**, the lighting of the Square's Christmas tree takes place at 4 p.m. Then on **Dec 6**, from noon-8 p.m., join in the fun at the opening of the Charles Hotel's outdoor ice skating rink, complete with a visit from Santa and holiday music.

URBAN NUTCRACKER, John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., 877-548-3237. **Performances beginning Dec 4:** Fri at 7:30 p.m., Sat at 1:30 and 7:30 p.m., Sun at 1:30 p.m. **Tickets:** \$20-55. Hailed as "A joyous, daring fusion of the old and new" by *The Boston Globe*, this production fuses ballet, swing, hip hop and urban tap with the classical score of Tchaikovsky and the pulsating beat of Ellington. Experience the classical ballet of the Snow Queen juxtaposed with the raw energy of urban dance in a way that's sure to have the audience dancing out the doors.

VIENNA BOYS CHOIR, Celebrity Series of Boston, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., 617-482-2595. **Dec 12 at 2 p.m. Tickets:** \$46-56. The angelic voices of this world-renowned children's choir fill Jordan Hall with holiday spirit, presenting songs of the season sure to enchant audiences.

KIDS CORNER

BOSTON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM, Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., 617-426-6500. *Refer to listing in Museums.* Daily organized activities in the Art Studio and Play Space such as music and movement, finger puppet making and kitchen science. **Daily**—Japanese House: Make Your Own Candy Bag; Playspace: Messy Activity; KidStage; **Nov 20 at 6 p.m.**—Autumn Origami; **Nov 21 at 11 a.m.**—Crittter Day: Teaching Creatures; **Nov 22 at 11 a.m.**—Many Thanksgivings; **Dec 4 at 11 a.m.**—Playspace: My First Yoga; **Dec 5 at 10 a.m.**—Roots & Shoots; **Dec 10 at 11 a.m.**—The Wornimator.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, 700 Boylston St., Copley Square, 617-536-5400. *Refer to listing in Sightseeing.* The first publicly supported municipal library in the world hosts many activities and special programs for children, including live performances, storytelling, interactive computer activities and films. Special events: **Nov 18 & Dec 9 at 2:30 a.m.**—Alphabet Soup Storytime; **Nov 20 & Dec 11 at 10 a.m.**—Infant/Toddler Singalong; **Dec 4 at 10:15 a.m.**—Kids' Cinema.

CELEBRATE! SERIES, John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, Columbia Point, next to UMass Boston, 617-514-1644. **Nov 27 at 10:30 a.m.** This free performing arts program (for children ages 5 and up) highlighting America's rich cultural diversity presents The Wampanoag Nation Singers and Dancers' performance of *Eastern Social Songs and Dances*, celebrating the harvest season and American Indian culture.

KIDSTOCK AT LYRIC STAGE, 140 Clarendon St., 617-585-5678. Known as the intimate "four-star theatre" in Copley Square, The Lyric Stage Company is Boston's oldest theatre company, dedicated to presenting a wide range of the highest quality plays and musicals. **Dec 5 & 6 at 11 a.m.**—*The Holiday Princess*.

PUPPET SHOWPLACE THEATRE, 32 Station St., Brookline, 617-731-6400. **Tickets:** \$10. The first puppetry center in New England

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presents the magical world of puppet theater, enlightening audiences of all ages. **Nov 18 & 19** at 10:30 a.m.—*Mathilda's Bath*; **Nov 21 & 22** at 1 and 3 p.m.—*Moccasin Stew*; **Nov 25** at 10:30 a.m.—*The Carrot Salesman*; **Nov 27–29** at 1 and 3 p.m.—*Father Goose Tales*; **Dec 2 & 3** at 10:30 a.m.—*Tales from Snowy Lands*; **Dec 5 & 6** at 1 and 3 p.m.—*Princess of Light: A Winter Solstice Story*; **Dec 9 & 10** at 10:30 a.m.—*Sir George and the Dragon*.

LIVE MUSIC

AGGANIS ARENA, Boston University, 925 Commonwealth Ave., 617-931-2000. This venue on the BU campus is a state-of-the-art, multipurpose entertainment center with more than 7,200 seats for concerts, sporting events and family shows. **Nov 28** at 8 p.m.—Aventura, tickets: \$58–98; **Dec 7** at 7:30 p.m.—Weezer, tickets: \$47.50.

BERKLEE PERFORMANCE CENTER, 136 Massachusetts Ave., 617-747-2261. **Nov 17** at 8 p.m.—Ray Davies, tickets: \$40–85; **Nov 19** at 8:15 p.m.—Don Was, tickets: \$20 & 25; **Nov 20** at 7:30 p.m.—Devendra Banhart, tickets: \$25; **Nov 21** at 8 p.m.—Sara Tavares, tickets: \$22 & 28 (call 617-876-4275); **Nov 28** at 8 p.m.—Linda Eder, tickets: \$30–75; **Dec 4** at 8 p.m.—Over the Rhine with Vienna Teng and Alex Wong, tickets: \$25 & 35; **Dec 12** at 8 p.m.—Hammer of the Gods, tickets: \$19–59.

CLUB PASSIM, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge, 617-492-7679. Call for full schedule. This intimate Harvard Square coffeehouse was a starting place for folk icons like Joan Baez and Bob Dylan. **Nov 16 & 17** at 8 p.m.—Grant Lee Phillips and The Wintertills, tickets: \$25; **Nov 21** at 8 p.m.—Anne Heaton with Rebecca Pronsky, tickets: \$16; **Nov 27** at 8 p.m.—Bob Franke, tickets: \$16; **Dec 11** at 7:30 p.m.—Lucy Kaplansky with The Pines, tickets: \$25; **Dec 13** at 7 p.m.—Issa, tickets: \$40.

HOUSE OF BLUES, 15 Lansdowne St., 888-693-BLUE. Shows at 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Visit www.hob.com/boston for full schedule. One of the nation's first names in live music returns to Boston with the opening of a brand-new House of Blues. This club, concert hall and restaurant across from Fenway Park welcomes top national acts from the world of rock, blues, pop and more. **Nov 17 & 18** at 7:30 p.m.—Brand New with Glassjaw and Crime in Stereo, tickets: \$25.50–35; **Nov 19**—Grace Potter and the Nocturnals with Brett Dennen, tickets: \$25 & 35; **Nov 23**—Echo & The Bunnymen, tickets: \$25 & 35; **Nov 24**—Who's Bad—The Ultimate Michael Jackson Tribute, tickets: \$20 & 30; **Nov 28** at 7 p.m.—Zero 7, tickets: \$20 & 25; **Dec 2** at 7:30 p.m.—Rob Zombie with Nekromantix and Captain Clegg, tickets: \$35 & 45; **Dec 9**—Raphael Saadiq with Soulive and Anjulie, tickets: \$25 & 35; **Dec 13**—Arctic Monkeys with Screaming Females, tickets: \$26.50.

ORPHEUM THEATRE, 1 Hamilton Place, 617-482-0106. The Orpheum opened in 1852 and was the site of the first Boston Symphony Orchestra performances and lectures by Booker T. Washington and Ralph Waldo Emerson. **Nov 29** at 8 p.m.—John Fogerty, tickets: \$32.50–60; **Dec 4** at 7:30 p.m.—Spoon with Phoenix and Passion Pit, tickets: \$27 & 30.

PARADISE ROCK CLUB, 967 Commonwealth Ave., 617-562-8800. An intimate setting with a big sound, the Paradise is one of Boston's favorite rock clubs. All shows 18+ unless otherwise noted. Visit www.thedise.com for full schedule. **Nov 16** at 8 p.m.—Peaches, tickets: \$22; **Nov 17** at 8 p.m.—The Dirty Projectors, tickets: \$15; **Nov 18** at 6:30 p.m.—Less Than Jake, tickets: \$22.50; **Nov 22** at 8 p.m.—Rakim, tickets: \$25; **Nov 27** at 9 p.m.—Bebel Gilberto, tickets: \$30; **Dec 6** at 8 p.m.—El Vez and Los Straitjackets, tickets: \$16.50;

Dec 9 at 8 p.m.—Switchfoot, tickets: \$25; **Dec 12** at 9 p.m.—Bang Camaro, tickets: \$16.50.

REGATTABAR, 3rd floor of The Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge, 617-661-5000. **Nov 20** at 7:30 and 10 p.m.—Betty Buckley & Kenny Werner Duo, tickets: \$38; **Nov 27** at 7:30 p.m.—Jack Donahue, tickets: \$20; **Nov 28** at 7:30 p.m.—Darell Nulisch, tickets: \$15.

SCULLERS JAZZ CLUB, DoubleTree Guest Suites Hotel, 400 Soldiers Field Road, 617-562-4111. Showtimes: Tue–Thu at 8 and 10 p.m., Fri & Sat at 8 and 10:30 p.m., Sun at 7 and 9 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Combination tickets include dinner and show. **Nov 17**—Elan Trotman, tickets: \$18, \$56 with dinner; **Nov 18**—Somi, tickets: \$20, \$58 with dinner; **Nov 19 & 20**—The Rippingtons featuring Russ Freeman, \$38, \$76 with dinner; **Nov 27 & 28**—Christian McBride and Inside Straight, tickets: \$25, \$63 with dinner; **Dec 2**—Livingstone Taylor, tickets: \$30, \$68 with dinner; **Dec 3**—Johnny A, tickets: \$25, \$63 with dinner; **Dec 4**—Holly Cole, tickets: \$25, \$63 with dinner; **Dec 5**—Monty Alexander's Harlem-Kingston Express, tickets: \$28, \$66 with dinner; **Dec 6**—Michael Dutra and the Strictly Sinatra Band, \$30, \$68 with dinner; **Dec 9 & 10**—Richard Elliot, Gerald Albright and Jeff Golub, tickets: \$40, \$78 with dinner; **Dec 11 & 12**—Tuck & Patti, tickets: \$25, \$63 with dinner.

SOMERVILLE THEATRE, 55 Davis Square, Somerville, 617-625-4088. **Dec 5** at 8 p.m.—Childsplay, tickets: \$15–25.

TOP OF THE HUB, Prudential Tower, 52nd floor, 617-536-1775. Enjoy food, drink and the best view in Boston as you swing to live jazz and classics from the Great American Songbook. **Nov 16, 23 & 30, Dec 7** at 8 p.m.—Marty Ballou Trio; **Nov 22 & 29, Dec 6 & 13** at noon—Lee Childs Group; at 8 p.m.—Marshall Wood Trio.

WANG THEATRE, Citi Performing Arts Center, 270 Tremont St., 617-482-9393. **Nov 27 & 28** at 8 p.m.—Pixies, tickets: \$48; **Dec 1 & 2** at 7:30 p.m.—Lady Gaga with Kid Cudi, tickets: \$43–63.

WILBUR THEATRE, 246 Tremont St., 617-248-9700. **Nov 22 & 23** at 7:30 p.m.—Sonic Youth, tickets: \$29.50; **Nov 29** at 7:30 p.m.—The Mountain Goats, tickets: \$22.50.

OPERA

ACIS AND GALATEA, Boston Early Music Festival, Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., 617-661-1812. **Nov 28**. The original 1718 chamber version of George Frideric Handel's lovely pastoral opera tells the story of the love affair between the nymph Galatea and the shepherd Acis, who must endure a long separation.

CARMEN, Boston Lyric Opera, Citi Performing Arts Center, The Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., 866-348-9738. Performances: **Nov 17** at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$34–195. Carmen and Don José crash into each other with a passion that's as much about will as it is about desire. At its premiere, Bizet's opera shocked and thrilled audiences. The thrill's still there in this new, highly theatrical production.

SPECIAL EVENTS

BOSTON TEA PARTY REENACTMENT, Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., 617-482-6439. **Dec 13** at 5:30 p.m. Tickets: \$8. Participate in this spirited re-enactment of the debate that led to the Boston Tea Party 236 years ago, as “protesters” rally against the tea tax at the Old South Meeting House—the site of the original protest on December 14, 1773.

CRAFTBOSTON HOLIDAY 2009, The Cyclorama at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., 617-266-1810. **Dec 11** from 10 a.m.–8 p.m., **Dec 12** 'til 7 p.m., **Dec 13** from 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Tickets: \$15; seniors \$13; children (12 and under) free. Presented by the Society of Arts and Crafts, this event that marries retail to artistry unites 90 skilled crafters in media such as clay, glass, furniture and jewelry for a weekend sure to help you find the perfect unique holiday gifts for the art lovers on your list.

SPORTS

BOSTON BRUINS

TD Garden, 100 Legends Way, 617-624-1000.

Nov 16 at 7 p.m.

Nov 27 at noon

Nov 28 at 7 p.m.

Dec 2 at 7 p.m.

Dec 5 & 10 at 7 p.m.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

vs. New York Islanders

vs. New Jersey Devils

vs. Ottawa Senators

vs. Tampa Bay Lightning

vs. Toronto Maple Leafs

BOSTON CELTICS NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

TD Garden, 100 Legends Way, 617-523-3030.

Nov 18 at 7:30 p.m.

Nov 20 at 8 p.m.

Nov 25 at 7:30 p.m.

Nov 27 at 7:30 p.m.

Dec 8 at 7:30 p.m.

vs. Golden State Warriors

vs. Orlando Magic

vs. Philadelphia 76ers

vs. Toronto Raptors

vs. Milwaukee Bucks

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

Gillette Stadium, One Patriot Place, Foxborough, 800-543-1776.

Nov 22 at 4:15 p.m.

Dec 13 at 1 p.m.

vs. New York Jets

vs. Carolina Panthers

THEATRE

AVENUE Q, The Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., 617-931-2787. Performances **Nov 17–22**: Tue & Thu at 7:30 p.m., Wed at 7 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 2 and 8 p.m., Sun at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$25–85. This hilarious show full of heart and hummable tunes is about trying to make it in NYC with big dreams and a tiny bank account. Called “one of the funniest shows you’re ever likely to see” by *Entertainment Weekly*, this multiple Tony Award-winner features a cast of people and puppets who tell the story in a smart, risqué and downright entertaining way.

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS, American Repertory Theatre, Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-547-8300. Performances **beginning Nov 21**: Tue–Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri & Sat at 8 p.m., Sun at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$25–75. Featuring a rotating roster of Boston's most celebrated gospel choirs, this soulful re-envisioning of Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale* takes a journey through the rich musical tapestry of R&B. When jealousy rips apart love and friendship, only the revelatory power of gospel can restore the enduring bonds of faith, family and forgiveness.

BLUE MAN GROUP, Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., 617-931-2787 or 617-426-6912. **Ongoing**. Performances: Tue–Thu at 8 p.m., Fri at 7 p.m., Sat at 4, 7 and 10 p.m., Sun at 2 and 5 p.m. Tickets: \$48 & 62. This giddily subversive off-Broadway hit features three muted, blue-painted performers who spoof both contemporary art and modern technology through wry commentary and bemusing antics. The show has been updated to include new performance pieces, new music and alterations to the sound and lighting design.

THE DONKEY SHOW, American Repertory Theatre, Oberon, 2 Arrow St., Cambridge, 617-547-8300. Performances: Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at



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8 and 10:30 p.m. Tickets: \$25–75. Bringing the ultimate disco experience to Boston, this crazy circus of mirror balls, feathered divas, roller skaters and hustle queens tells the story of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* through great '70s anthems like "We are Family," "I Love the Nightlife," "Car Wash," "Ring My Bell" and "Last Dance."

RECKLESS, SpeakEasy Stage Company, Roberts Studio Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., 617-933-8600. Performances **through Dec 12: Wed & Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 4 and 8 p.m., Sun at 3 p.m.** Tickets: \$30–50. From playwright Craig Lucas (*The Light in the Piazza*) comes this darkly comic tale of a modern-day Alice in a perilous winter wonderland. When Rachel jumps out of a window on Christmas Eve, she embarks on a series of outrageous and harrowing adventures that test her belief that it is indeed a wonderful life.

SHEAR MADNESS, Charles Playhouse Stage II, 74 Warrenton St., 617-426-5225. **Ongoing.** Performances: **Tue–Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 6 and 9 p.m., Sun at 3 and 7 p.m. (Nov 27 at 5 and 8 p.m., Nov 29 at 3 p.m.)** Tickets: \$42. Boston's hilarious whodunnit where the audience takes a stab at catching the killer. Become an armchair sleuth in the longest-running play in U.S. history.

SHIPWRECKED!, Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., 617-585-5678. Performances **beginning Nov 27: Wed & Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 3 and 8 p.m., Sun at 3 p.m.** Tickets: \$25–54. In this New England premiere by Donald Margulies, 16-year-old Louis de Rougemont leaves his sickbed and London home, vowing to see the world. As he climbs aboard a ship of pearl divers, a typhoon hits, leaving him stranded on an island. Thirty years later,

hailed as a hero, he returns to Victorian London with an amazing tale of adventure so incredible that it's hard to believe it's true.

TICKETS

ACE TICKETS, 121 Brookline Ave., 109 Causeway St. and other area locations, 800-MY-SEATS, www.aceticket.com. This local ticket retailer gets all the hottest tickets in town, specializing in concerts, theatre and the major sports teams, including the Boston Red Sox. Ace also offers a 200% guarantee on the validity of your ticket purchases.

BOSTIX, Faneuil Hall Marketplace and Copley Square, 617-723-5181. **Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m. (Faneuil Hall location closed Mon); Sun 11 a.m.–4 p.m.** Information and tickets, including half-price seats on day of event, for the best performing arts around Boston. Log on to www.bostix.org to purchase discounted tickets and receive special e-mail updates. All ticket offers subject to availability.

BOSTON CITYPASS, www.citypass.com. Visit five of Boston's best attractions for one low price. Save 50% and avoid ticket lines. **Booklet price: \$44; youth (3–11) \$28.** Ticket booklets are available at the first attraction visited and are valid for nine days. The CityPass ticket booklet includes admission to five major attractions: the New England Aquarium, Museum of Fine Arts, Museum of Science, Skywalk Observatory at the Prudential Center and your choice of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum or the Harvard Museum of Natural History, plus extra coupons for local businesses.



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MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS: The Secrets of Tomb 10A: Egypt 2000 BC features a variety of spectacular objects unearthed by Harvard University and the MFA in 1915, including this mummified head (above). Refer to listing, page 53.

BOSTON

BOSTON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM, Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., 617-426-6500. *Daily 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Fri 'til 9 p.m. Admission: \$12; children (1–15) & seniors \$9; children (under 1) free; Fri 5–9 p.m. (Family Night) \$1.* The popular museum for families of all ages features a plethora of interactive exhibits that allow children to learn about science, history and culture firsthand. Exhibits include: Construction Zone, a child-sized work site with miniature skyscrapers inspired by the Big Dig; Arthur & Friends, featuring the stars of everyone's favorite PBS program; Boston Black, celebrating Boston's Caribbean, African and African-American cultures; Kid Power, which allows active kids to use energy in healthy ways and teaches them about fitness and nutrition. Special exhibits: Tales from the Land of Gullah; Exploring Trees Inside and Out; Dreaming Cows. Refer to Kids Corner in Current Events for special events.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART, 100 Northern Ave., 617-478-3100. *Sat, Sun, Tue & Wed 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Thu & Fri 'til 9 p.m. Admission: \$15; seniors & students \$10; children (under 17) free. Free to all Thu 5–9 p.m.* Boston's first new art museum in 100 years is a state-of-the-art, gleaming structure on the South Boston waterfront which presents installations of contemporary paintings, sculptures and photographs, as well as cutting-edge live dance and musical performances. Special exhibits: On the Sandra and Gerald Fineberg Art Wall: Ugo Rondinone; ICA Collection: In The Making; Damián Ortega: Do It Yourself; Krzysztof Wodiczko: The Veterans Project; **beginning Nov 18**—Momentum 15: R.H. Quaytman. Special events: **Nov 20** at 7:30 p.m., **Nov 21** at 8 p.m., **Nov 22** at 3 p.m.—World Music/CRASharts presents:

Trey McIntyre Project, tickets: \$40; **Nov 28** from 10 a.m.–4 p.m.—Play Date: Imagination Station.

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, 280 The Fenway, 617-566-1401. *Tue–Sun 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: \$12; seniors \$10; students \$5; children (under 18) free. Visitors named Isabella are admitted free.* Commissioned by Boston aristocrat Isabella Stewart Gardner and modeled after a 15th-century Venetian palace, the museum exhibits 2,500 objects, including the works of Rembrandt, Botticelli, Raphael, Titian and Matisse. Special exhibit: Taro Shinoda: Lunar Reflections. Special events: **Nov 19** from 5:30–9:30 p.m.—Gardner After Hours: Lunaire, tickets: \$12; at 7 p.m.—Khris Miller Group, tickets: \$23; **Nov 22** at 3 p.m.—Sunday Concert Series: Trio Mediaeval, tickets: \$23; **Dec 6** at 1:30 p.m.—Sunday Concert Series: Ray Chen, tickets: \$23; **Dec 13** at 1:30 p.m.—Sunday Concert Series: Pianist Seymour Lipkin, tickets: \$23.

JOHN F. KENNEDY PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM, off Morrissey Boulevard, next to UMass Boston, Dorchester, 866-535-1960. www.jfklibrary.org. *Daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: \$12; seniors & students \$10; children (13–17) \$9; children (12 and under) free; library forums free.* This museum portrays Kennedy's life, leadership and legacy in 21 exhibits, three theaters, 20 video presentations and more. Special exhibits: Poetry and Power: The Inaugural Address of John F. Kennedy; Moon Shot: JFK and Space Exploration.

LARZ ANDERSON AUTO MUSEUM, Larz Anderson Park, 15 Newton St., Brookline, 617-522-6547. *Fri–Sun 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Admission: \$10; students, seniors & children (6–18) \$5; children (5 and under) free.* The oldest collection of historic automobiles in the nation is displayed in the owner's original home. Special exhibit: The Style and Innovation of the American Automobile.

THE MARY BAKER EDDY LIBRARY, 200 Massachusetts Ave., 617-450-7000. *Tue–Sun 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Admission: \$6; seniors, students & youth (6–17) \$4; children (under 6) free.* The Library explores the life and achievements of Mary Baker Eddy, a New England woman who defied conventional 19th-century thinking to become an influential religious leader, publisher, teacher and businesswoman. The museum also houses the famous Mapparium—a three-story stained-glass globe, opened in 1935, which allows visitors to stand in the center, giving them a unique look at how ideas can inspire individuals and change the world. Special exhibits: Hall of Ideas; Sensational Press, Radical Response; The Mapparium: An Inside View; Peace Flag; Lincoln's "Great Willing Heart" and the Life of Mary Baker Eddy; **through Nov 30**—All in Harmony: Mary Baker Eddy and Music.

MCMULLEN MUSEUM OF ART, Boston College, 140 Commonwealth Ave., Chestnut Hill, 617-552-8100. *Mon–Fri 11 a.m.–4 p.m., Sat & Sun noon–5 p.m. Free admission.* Gallery tours held every *Sun* at 12:30 p.m. This museum is lauded for presenting interdisciplinary exhibits that spark new questions and are renowned for its European, Asian and American collections. Special exhibit: First Hand: Civil War Drawings from the Becker Collection.

THE MUSEUM OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY, African Meeting House, 46 Joy St. (corner of Smith Court), Beacon Hill, 617-725-0022. www.afroammuseum.org. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Free admission; donations welcome.* Explore the

history of Boston's 19th-century African-American community at the African Meeting House, the oldest African-American church still standing in the United States. In addition, there are tour maps available for the Black Heritage Trail. Special exhibit: Let Your Motto Be Resistance.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, 465 Huntington Ave., 617-267-9300. *Sat–Tue 10 a.m.–4:45 p.m., Wed–Fri 'til 9:45 p.m. Admission (includes two visits in a 10-day period): \$20; seniors & students \$18; Wed after 4 p.m., pay as you wish; children (7–17) \$7.50 on weekdays before 3 p.m., free at all other times; children (6 and under) free.* The museum houses an outstanding collection of paintings, prints, sculptures, furnishings and other artwork from ancient times through the present, as well as the most comprehensive collection of Asiatic art in the world. Special exhibits: Preserving History, Making History: The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; RSVP: Jim Lambie; Contemporary Outlook: Seeing Songs; The Secrets of Tomb 10A: Egypt 2000 BC; Bharat Ratna: Jewels of Modern Indian Art; **beginning Nov 21**—Albrecht Durer: Virtuoso Printmaker; Harry Callahan: American Photographer; Cafe and Cabaret: Toulouse-Lautrec's Paris. Special events: **Nov 18–22** at noon—InsideOut: The Museum School Sale; **Dec 2–4**—MFA for the Holidays; **Dec 4** at 5:30 p.m.—mfafirstfridays.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE, Science Park, 617-723-2500. *Sat–Thu 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Fri 'til 9 p.m. Admission: \$20; seniors \$18; children (3–11) \$17; children (under 3) free. Planetarium, laser show and Omni theater tickets: \$9; seniors \$8; children (3–11) \$7. Combination ticket prices and evening discounts available.* Interactive science exhibits, plus laser and astronomy shows in the Charles Hayden Planetarium, are featured. Special exhibits: Colossal Fossil: Triceratops Cliff; Wild Music: Sounds and Songs of Life; Harry Potter: The Exhibition; Running the Numbers: Portraits of Mass Consumption. Planetarium shows: *Journey to the Edge of Space and Time; What Happened to Pluto?; The Sky Tonight: Ancient Astronomy; beginning Dec 1*—Winterlight: Stars and Symbols of the Solstice. Refer to Film listings in Current Events for complete Mugar Omni Theater schedule.

THE MUSEUM OF THE NATIONAL CENTER OF AFRO-AMERICAN ARTISTS, 300 Walnut Ave., Roxbury, 617-442-8614. *Tue–Sun 1–5 p.m.; by appointment for groups. Admission: \$4; students & seniors \$3.* Housed in the former Oak Bend Mansion, a neo-Gothic structure built in the early 1870s, this museum holds a slide archive and an extensive collection of African artifacts, prints and drawings. It also hosts national and international traveling exhibits. Special exhibit: Aspetla: A Nubian King's Burial Chamber.

OLD STATE HOUSE MUSEUM, 206 Washington St., 617-720-1713. *Daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Tickets: \$7; seniors & students \$6; children (6–18) \$3.* At the site of the Boston Massacre and the first reading of the Declaration of Independence in Boston, explore exhibits on the American Revolution, Boston's maritime history and the Boston Massacre. Special exhibits: The Old State House: A Hands-on History; From Colony to Commonwealth; Every Picture Tells a Story; Preservation of the Old State House; Our Favorite Things: Boston Stories; The Boston Massacre Multimedia Presentation; Treasures from the Bostonian Society's Collections.

THE SPORTS MUSEUM, 5th and 6th floor premium seating levels, TD Garden, Causeway Street, 617-624-1234. *Daily 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission on the hour only, 'til 3 p.m. Hours altered during TD Garden events, call ahead. Admission: \$6;*

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seniors & children (6–17) \$4; children (under 6) free. The Sports Museum showcases New England's rich sports heritage through an unparalleled collection of artifacts, multimedia and artwork. Exhibits include the Boston Bruins Hall of Fame portraits, the Boston Garden Penalty Box and New England's Olympic Heroes.

USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM, Charlestown Navy Yard, Charlestown, 617-426-1812. *Daily 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Free admission.* The museum preserves the treasures of "Old Ironsides," the U.S. Navy's flagship and the world's oldest commissioned warship. Includes weapons, documents, journals and more. Interactive exhibits allow visitors to load and fire a cannon, try out a sailor's sleeping quarters and virtually command the *Constitution* in battle. Special exhibits: Old Ironsides in War and Peace; The Barbary War; Model Shop; All Hands on Deck: A Sailor's Life in 1812; Paintings by George Ropes.

CAMBRIDGE

Due to limited parking, it is best to take the Red Line when traveling to Harvard, Central or Kendall squares. The Cambridge Discovery Booth located at the Harvard Square "T" entrance provides additional information.

CARPENTER CENTER FOR THE VISUAL ARTS, Harvard University, 24 Quincy St., 617-495-3251. *Main Gallery: Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–11 p.m., Sun noon–11 p.m.; Sert Gallery: Tue–Sun 1–5 p.m. Free admission.* Housed in the only building in North America designed by famed French architect Le Corbusier, the Carpenter Center hosts a lecture series with working artists and exhibits contemporary works on paper, in sculpture and mixed media, video and film. Special exhibits: ACT UP New York: Activism, Art and the AIDS Crisis, 1987–1993; Installation by artists collective Fierce Pussy.

HARVARD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 26 Oxford St., 617-495-3045. *Daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: \$9; seniors & students \$7; children (3–18) \$6.* Among the museum's 17 galleries is the internationally acclaimed Ware Collection of Blaschka Glass Models of Plants, a unique collection of more than 3,000 glass flower models created between 1886 and 1936. Special exhibits: Dodos, Trilobites and Meteorites; Climate Change: Our Global Experiment; Arthropods: Creatures that Rule; Evolution; The Language of Color.

MIT LIST VISUAL ARTS CENTER, 20 Ames St., 617-253-4680. *Tue, Wed & Fri–Sun noon–6 p.m., Thu 'til 8 p.m. Free admission.* One of Boston's premier showcases for contemporary art, the List Center reflects MIT's position as a cutting-edge research institution by presenting works from the world's leading contemporary artists. Special exhibits: Tobias Putrih & MOS: Without Out; Sung Hwan Kim's *Summer Days in Keijo—written in 1937*; *through Nov 29*—On the Media Test Wall—David Van Tieghem: Ear to the Ground; *through Dec 11*—BAM Photography Portfolio III.

THE MIT MUSEUM, 265 Massachusetts Ave., 617-253-5927. *Daily 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: \$7.50; children, seniors & students \$3, children (under 5) free.* Exhibits interpret themes and ideas related to MIT research and activities. Ongoing exhibits: Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers; Holography: The Light Fantastic; Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT; Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson; Learning Lab: The Cell; Sampling MIT.

SACKLER MUSEUM, 485 Broadway, 617-495-9400. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun 1–5 p.m. Admission: \$9; seniors \$7; students \$6; children (18 and under) free.* Designed by James Stirling, Britain's famous post-modernist architect, the Sackler boasts pieces from Harvard's extensive art collection spanning centuries and encompassing one end of the globe to the other. Special exhibits: Re-View, a collection of highlights from the Harvard Art Museum; The Western Tradition: Art Since the Renaissance.

BEYOND BOSTON

BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME, 1000 West Columbus Ave., Springfield, 413-781-6500. *Sun–Thu 10 a.m.–4 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 5 p.m. Tickets: \$16.99; seniors \$13.99; children (5–15) \$11.99; (4 & under) free.* In 1891, James Naismith developed the game of basketball and its original 13 rules in Springfield, Mass. Now Springfield is home to the Hall of Fame, an edifice that pays homage to the greatest to play and coach the game, like Bill Russell, Magic Johnson, Michael Jordan and Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski. The Hall of Fame also includes interactive basketball fun for visitors and numerous exhibits.

CONCORD MUSEUM, 200 Lexington Road, Concord, 978-369-9763. *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun noon–5 p.m. Admission: \$10; seniors & students \$8; children (6–17) \$5; family rates available.* Ample free parking on Cambridge Turnpike. Relive Concord's history, from Native American habitation and European settlement to the days of Emerson, Thoreau, the Alcotts and Hawthorne. Special exhibit: A Dedication to Craft: North Bennett Street School@125. Special event: *Nov 27 & 28 from 11 a.m.–2 p.m., admission on the hour only*—Thanksgiving Family Weekend.

DECORDOVA SCULPTURE PARK AND MUSEUM, 51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln, 781-259-8355. *Tue–Sun 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: \$12; seniors, students & children (6–12) \$8.* *Sculpture Park: open sunrise to sunset, admission charged during museum operating hours only.* Tour one of the largest contemporary art museums and the only permanent public sculpture park in New England. Special exhibits: Lalla Es-saydi: Les Femmes du Maroc; Jules Aarons: In the Jewish Neighborhoods, 1946–1976; Platform 1: Andrew Mowbray; Out of the Box: Photography Portfolios from the Permanent Collection; Platform 2: Eric Hongisto.

NATIONAL HERITAGE MUSEUM, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington, 781-861-6559. *Tue–Sat 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Sun noon–4:30 p.m. Free admission.* Devoted to presenting exhibitions on American history and popular culture as a way of preserving our national heritage. Special exhibits: Sowing the Seeds of Liberty: Lexington and the American Revolution; The Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts; The Way We Worked: Photographs from the National Archives; For All Time: Clocks and Watches from the National Heritage Museum; Freemasonry Unmasked!: Anti-Masonic Collections in the Van Gordon-Williams Library and Archives; The Art of the Movie Theater: Photographs by Stefanie Klavens.

PEABODY ESSEX MUSEUM, East India Square, Salem, 866-745-1876. *Tue–Sun 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: \$15; seniors \$13; students \$11; children (16 and under) free.* The nation's oldest continually operating museum boasts a new wing with a 190-seat auditorium and a glass-covered atrium. The collection showcases African, Asian, Pacific Island and American

folk and decorative art, a maritime collection dating back to the museum's earliest days and the first collection of Native American art in the hemisphere. Special exhibits: Auspicious Wishes and Natural Beauty in Korean Art; Of Gods and Mortals: Traditional Art from India; All of My Life: Contemporary Works by Native American Artists; Perfect Imbalance: Exploring Chinese Aesthetics; ReVisions: Indian Artists Engaging Traditions; Fish, Silk, Tea, Bamboo: Cultivating an Image of China; Trash Menagerie; Rare Bird of Fashion: The Irreverent Iris Apfel; Valerie Belin: Made Up.

SALEM WITCH MUSEUM, 19½ Washington Square North, Salem, 978-744-1692. *Daily 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: \$8; seniors \$7; children (6–14) \$5.50.* Life-size stage settings and historically accurate narration recreate the hysteria of the Salem Witch Trials and executions of 1692. Translations available in Japanese, French, German, Italian and Spanish. Special exhibit: Witches: Evolving Perceptions.

GALLERIES

ARDEN GALLERY, 129 Newbury St., 617-247-0610. *Mon–Sat 11 a.m.–5:30 p.m.* Arden specializes in contemporary oil paintings and sculpture by nationally and internationally renowned artists, whose styles range from super-realism to abstraction. Special exhibits: *through Nov 30*—Robert C. Jackson: Seeing Things; *beginning Dec 1*—Works by Pedro Bonnin.

BARBARA KRAKOW GALLERY, 10 Newbury St., 617-262-4490. *Tue–Sat 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.* The Barbara Krakow Gallery attracts top contemporary artists from around the world, showcasing work that focuses on minimalism and conceptualism. Special exhibits: Reading and Writing Group Show; *beginning Nov 28*—Annual AIDS Benefit Exhibition.

BOSTON SCULPTORS GALLERY, 486 Harrison Ave., 617-482-7781. *Wed–Sun noon–6 p.m.* A sculptors' cooperative that has served as an alternative venue for innovative solo sculpture exhibitions since 1992. Special exhibit: Works by Donna Dodson and Peter Haines.

BRICKBOTTOM GALLERY, 1 Fitchburg St., Somerville, 617-776-3410. *Thu–Sat noon–5 p.m.* This not-for-profit gallery presents thoughtful and professionally curated art exhibitions and fosters a stable, permanent artist community of residents and non-resident members. Special exhibit: *through Nov 22*—Open Studios Directory Exhibition; *beginning Dec 6*—Holy, curated by Pauline Lim.

BROMFIELD ART GALLERY, 450 Harrison Ave., 617-451-3605. *Wed–Sat noon–5 p.m.* Boston's oldest artist-run gallery features shows by members of the cooperative, while exhibitions by visiting artists are selected by current members. Special exhibits: *through Nov 28*—Adria Arch: Glyphs/Constructions and Works on Paper; Gary Duehr: Interstices.

CHASE GALLERY, 450 Harrison Ave., 617-859-7222. *Tue–Sat 11 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun 'til 4 p.m.* Since 1990, Chase Gallery has been one of the city's top galleries for the exhibition of contemporary artists, both representational and abstract. Special exhibits: *through Nov 30*—Works by Rob Douglas; *beginning Dec 2*—Works by Holly Farrell.

COPLEY SOCIETY OF ART, 158 Newbury St., 617-536-5049. *Tue–Sat 11 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun noon–5 p.m.* The oldest non-

profit art association in the United States represents more than 500 living artists and hosts between 15–20 exhibitions each year by contemporary painters, photographers, sculptors and printmakers. Special exhibits: Holiday Small Works 2009; Works by Gail Sauter.

GALLERIA FLORENTIA, 79 Newbury St., 617-585-9200. *Tue–Sat 11 a.m.–6 p.m. or by appointment.* Galleria Florentia is a gallery and boutique featuring European fine arts including bronze sculptures, Capodimonte porcelain, Persian miniature paintings and Lombardy inlay furnishings epitomizing Old World elegance.

INTERNATIONAL POSTER GALLERY, 205 Newbury St., 617-375-0076. *www.internationalposter.com. Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* This acclaimed fine art poster gallery displays original vintage posters from the 1890s through post-World War II modern masters. Special exhibit: *beginning Dec 1*—Winter Poster Delights.

JUDI ROTENBERG GALLERY, 130 Newbury St., 617-437-1518. *Tue–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m.* The Judi Rotenberg Gallery is one of the longest-standing independent galleries in Boston and is committed to both established and emerging talent in all media. Special exhibit: *beginning Nov 19*—Works by Brian Knepp.

LANOUE FINE ART, 160 Newbury St., 617-262-4400. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Sun noon–5 p.m.* Featuring contemporary representational and abstract art, Lanoue is committed to exploring diverse media and concepts. Special exhibits: *through Nov 30*—Maggie Taylor; *beginning Dec 1*—Winter Group Show.

L'ATTITUDE GALLERY, 218 Newbury St., 617-927-4400. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun noon–5 p.m.* This gallery boasts contemporary sculpture, crafts and art for the home, garden and commercial environments, as well as an outdoor sculpture garden.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RESOURCE CENTER, Boston University, 832 Commonwealth Ave., 617-975-0600. *Tue, Wed & Fri 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Thu 'til 8 p.m., Sat & Sun noon–5 p.m. Admission: \$3; students & seniors \$2; children (under 18) free.* PRC exhibitions and educational programs are guided by a philosophical inquiry into the intersection of photography with aesthetic, professional and critical discourses. Special exhibit: 2009 Leopold Godowsky Jr. Color Photography Award Winners.

PUCKER GALLERY, 171 Newbury St., 617-267-9473. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Sun 10:30 a.m.–5 p.m.* Features work by Israeli, American and internationally known contemporary artists. Special exhibits: *through Nov 30*—Imagined Reality: New Work by Roger Bowman; Gathering Energy: New Work by Mark Davis; *beginning Dec 5*—A Year in the Woods of Maine: Paintings by Marguerite Robichaux; Striking Balance: The Ceramic Art of Randy Johnston.

SOCIETY OF ARTS AND CRAFTS, 175 Newbury St., 617-266-1810. *Tue–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m.* The oldest non-profit crafts organization in the country specializes in contemporary American crafts. The jewelry, furniture, glass and ceramics range from cutting-edge to traditional, from functional to sculptural. Special exhibit: From Minimal to Bling: Contemporary Studio Jewelry. Special event: *Dec 11–13*—Craftboston Holiday Show 2009 (refer to listing, page 49).

AROUND THE HUB SHOPPING



PHOTO BY ASHLEY D'HOOGHE

DOWN TO BASICS: This shop on Newbury Street has offered the finest, most luxurious bed linens, down comforters and pillows for more than 20 years. Refer to listing, below.

ART & ANTIQUES

GALLERIA FLORENTIA, 79 Newbury St., 617-585-9200. *Tue–Sat 11 a.m.–6 p.m., or by appointment.* This premier source for original, museum-quality art displays exclusive furnishings from Milan, masterful Murano glass, bronze and stone sculptures, exquisite paintings, chess sets, hand-tooled Tuscan leather and Capodimonte porcelain.

INTERNATIONAL POSTER GALLERY, 205 Newbury St., 617-375-0076. www.internationalposter.com. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* This acclaimed fine art poster gallery displays original vintage posters from the 1890s through post-World War II modern masters.

ARTS & CRAFTS

THE SOCIETY OF ARTS AND CRAFTS, 175 Newbury St., 617-266-1810. *Tue–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m.* The oldest nonprofit craft organization in the country, established in 1897. The Society specializes in contemporary American crafts, jewelry, furniture, glass and ceramics ranging from cutting edge to traditional, and from functional to sculptural.

CLOTHING

LOUIS BOSTON, 234 Berkeley St., 617-262-6100. *Mon–Wed 11 a.m.–6 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til 7 p.m.* Housed in a historic former Back Bay museum building, this Boston institution maintains its cutting-edge allure by offering upscale men's fashions by up-and-coming designers, as well as women's fashions, bed and bath items and home accessories.

SOODEE, 170 Newbury St., 617-266-7888. *Mon–Wed 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til 8 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* This boutique offers fun pieces of clothing that transport the buyer to a different age and place, with items that are modern, trendy and high fashion alongside others that are timeless and classic. Whether you need a party dress at the last minute, a designer bag at an affordable price or fashionable accessories to impress your friends, you will find it all at Soodee. Show *Panorama* ad (page 59) and get 10% off.

DEPARTMENT STORES

FILENE'S BASEMENT, 497 Boylston St., 617-424-5520. *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.* This classic Boston off-price store—touting the slogan “Where Bargains Were Born!”—offers designer and brand name fashions for men, women and the home.

H & M, 350 Washington St., 617-482-7081; 100 Newbury St., 617-859-3192. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.* This youthful, cutting-edge department store's mission of “fashion and quality at the best price” translates to inexpensive, trendy clothes for men and women, as H & M boasts the freshest, most up-to-date fashion trends in color, material and style.

MACY'S, 450 Washington St., 617-357-3195. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–8 p.m.* Discover the season's hottest trends, newest styles and best prices. Choose from your favorite designers: Coach, Polo, DKNY, Hugo Boss, the Martha Stewart Collection and more.

MARSHALLS, 500 Boylston St., 617-262-6066. *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.*; 350 Washington St., Downtown Crossing, 617-338-6205. *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–7:30 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* Its mantra “Brand name clothing for less” has made this discount retailer a bargain hunter's dream come true. From Ralph Lauren to Calvin Klein, Marshalls features designer clothing for men, women and children.

GIFTS & SOUVENIRS

TEDDY BALLGAME'S, 1 South Station, 617-330-1230. Located at the South Station concierge desk, Teddy Ballgame's offers tours of Boston that leave right from South Station, a wide variety of Red Sox souvenirs, T-shirts and books about the history of Boston.

HOME GOODS

DOWN TO BASICS, 249 Newbury St., 617-267-3696. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* For more than 20 years, Susan Fowler's Down to Basics has been providing homes, hotels and spas across the country with the most luxurious, light and lofty down comforters, down pillows, linens and gifts.

JEWELRY/ACCESSORIES

HIGH GEAR JEWELRY, 204 Hanover St., 617-523-5804. *Mon–Fri 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sat 'til 9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.* Merilee Wolfson's platinum-drenched contemporary fashion jewelry shop dazzles with an impressive selection of costume jewelry and semi-precious pieces. Whether you're looking for eco-friendly “green” jewelry from South America or looks fresh from the pages of the world's top fashion magazines, this is the go-to spot in Boston.

JOHN LEWIS, INC., 97 Newbury St., 617-266-6665. *Tue–Sat 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* John Lewis has been creating jewelry of imaginative design in Boston for more than 30 years. Using only solid precious metals and natural stones, Lewis aims “to make jewelry at a reasonable price of excellent workmanship and uncommon beauty.”

LUX BOND & GREEN, 416 Boylston St., 617-266-4747. *Mon–Fri 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sat 'til 5 p.m.* Since 1898, Lux Bond & Green has provided its customers with diamonds, gold jewelry, watches and giftware from around the world. The store offers a corporate gift division, bridal and gift registry, a full-service repair department, gift certificates and elegant gift wrapping.

ROSS-SIMONS JEWELERS, The Shops at Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., 617-262-0935; The Natick Collection, Natick, 508-655-2956; Atrium Mall, Chestnut Hill, 617-965-5300. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.*; Chestnut Hill: *Sun noon–6 p.m.* Ross-Simons Jewelers is New England's famous destination for fabulous jewelry and fine Swiss watches—all at legendary great prices. If you're thinking about diamonds, Ross-Simons is a must-visit attraction. They have one simple promise: the absolute best prices on certified diamonds anywhere in the country.

SHREVE, CRUMP & LOW, 440 Boylston St., 617-267-9100. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Thu 'til 7 p.m., Sun noon–5 p.m.* Serving Bostonians since 1796, this Boston institution boasts of being the oldest continuously operating luxury business in the U.S. Its Back Bay location is filled with glittering diamonds, fine jewelry, watches, silver, china, porcelain, stationery, antiques and more.

TISTIK, 54 Church St., Cambridge, 617-661-0900. *Mon–Wed 10:30 a.m.–8 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til 9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* www.shoptistik.com. This Harvard Square retailer specializes in handmade, unique and fashionable jewelry, accessories and home decorating products made by artisans in developing countries who work independently or in partnership with socially responsible organizations that help them improve their living standards through the sale of their work.

MALLS/SHOPPING CENTERS

CAMBRIDGESIDE GALLERIA, 100 CambridgeSide Place, Cambridge, 617-621-8666. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–9:30 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.* This three-level mall features department stores such as Sears and Best Buy, as well as more than 100 other stores and specialty shops including the largest Gap in Boston, J. Crew, Old Navy, Borders, Victoria's Secret and more.

COPLEY PLACE, Copley Square, 617-369-5000. The magnificent Copley Place features more than 100 upscale stores, including Neiman Marcus, Tiffany & Co., Gucci and Williams-Sonoma. A variety of restaurants, including Legal Sea Foods, offer shoppers numerous dining options. To receive a free Ultimate Shopping Excursions card, stop by one of the customer service kiosks.

THE CORNER MALL, corner of Winter and Washington streets. One-stop shopping in Downtown Crossing. You'll find the latest styles at shops like Discovery Imports, Bath & Body Works, Champs, Wet Seal and Aldo Shoes. In addition, the Corner Mall features an international food court to please every palate, including Sakkio Japan and India Entrees.

(continued on page 60)

THE CORNER MALL ... JUST A HEARTBEAT AWAY!

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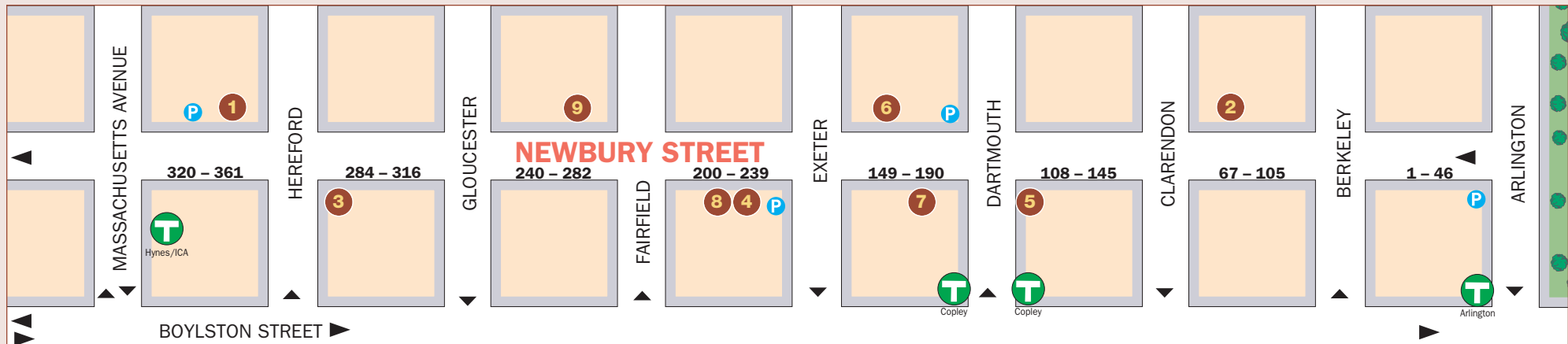

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BALLGAME'S
at South Station

Located in South Station
T-Shirts/Souvenirs/Trolley Tours
617-330-1230

(continued from page 57)

MARKETPLACE CENTER, located between Faneuil Hall and the Waterfront. Twenty-four distinctive shops surround an open court known as the Exedra, where you will always find a wide range of unusual pushcarts and entertainment events unique to this wonderful area. Within walking distance are literally hundreds of other shops, restaurants, pubs and nightspots.

THE SHOPS AT PRUDENTIAL CENTER, 800 Boylston St., 800-SHOP-PRU. *Mon-Sat 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.-6 p.m.* The Shops at Prudential Center features over 75 stores and restaurants including The Cheesecake Factory, Saks Fifth Avenue, Ann Taylor and J. Jill. It is also the launch spot for the city's renowned tourist resource, the Boston Duck Tours.

MUSIC/VIDEO

NEWBURY COMICS, 332 Newbury St., 617-236-4930. *Mon-Thu 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-7 p.m.* Also: 36 JFK St. (Garage Mall), Cambridge, 617-491-0337; North Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-248-9992. You'll have a "wicked good time" at this upstart local chain, which boasts the cheapest CD prices in town, including import, indie and major label releases, as well as T-shirts, comics and other pop culture kitsch items.

SHOES

HELEN'S LEATHER, 110 Charles St., 617-742-2077. *Mon-Wed, Fri & Sat 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Thu noon-8 p.m., Sun 'til 6 p.m.* For more than 35 years, Helen's Leather has supplied New Englanders with quality Western boots by makers like Lucchese, Tony Lama, Justin, Nocona and Frye. In addition, Helen's sells Western belts, buckles, shirts and Stetson hats, as well as leather jackets and bags.

SPORTING GOODS

BILL RODGERS RUNNING CENTER, 353 North Market Bldg., Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-723-5612. *Mon-Sat 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Sun noon-6 p.m.* Owned by the four-time Boston Marathon winner, the Bill Rodgers Running Center boasts the most experienced running staff in Boston. Since 1977, they have been helping fellow runners find the best shoes for their individual needs.

SUNGLASSES

SOL OPTICS, 329 Hanover St., 617-523-3005; seven other locations. *Daily 10 a.m.-9 p.m.* www.x-wear.com. For fashion, sport or recreation, this North End retailer is your sun-glass destination. The store carries more than 35 brands and showcases hundreds of styles. Check out the web site to view the complete line of merchandise.

WIRELESS PHONES

WARLUX WIRELESS, 800 Boylston St. (Prudential Center), 617-927-7500. *Mon-Sat 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Sun 'til 6 p.m.* www.iUnlock.com. This mobile phone headquarters specializes in unlocked GSM phones and carries a wide variety of Bluetooth headsets and hundreds of other wireless accessories.

PUBS AND BARS

THE BELL IN HAND TAVERN, 45 Union St., 617-227-2098. *Daily 11:30 a.m.-2 a.m.* Opened in 1795, the Bell in Hand is the oldest tavern in the U.S. This casual pub, offering pints, food and live music, attracts locals, students and tourists alike. *Tue*—Karaoke night.

BLEACHER BAR, 82A Lansdowne St., 617-262-2424. *No cover. Sun-Wed from 11 a.m.-1 a.m., Thu-Sat 'til 2 a.m.* Inside Fenway Park, underneath the bleachers, take in center field views of America's most beloved ballpark. With the feel of a neighborhood pub and featuring a deli-style menu and cold beer, Bleacher Bar is open all year round.

BRISTOL LOUNGE, Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., 617-351-2037. Jazz entertainers create sounds as lush as their setting on a Boston-made, antique Steinert piano. Live music nightly.

CASK 'N FLAGON, 62 Brookline Ave., 617-536-4840. *Mon-Sat 11:30 a.m.-2 a.m., Sun 'til 1 a.m.* A hangout for Red Sox fans since the days of Yastrzemski and Fisk, this classic bar boasts tons of TVs for watching the Sox—if you get shut out of Fenway Park across the street—and is loaded with photos depicting the histories of Fenway and the Sox. The Cask also boasts Oliver's, a back room nightclub with a dance floor and second bar.

CHEERS, 84 Beacon St., 617-227-9605. *Daily 11 a.m.-1 a.m.* Also: Faneuil Hall Marketplace. The model for the beloved sitcom, this Back Bay pub is one of the top tourist attractions in Boston. Live weekend entertainment.

DICK'S LAST RESORT, Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-267-8080. *Daily 11 a.m.-2 a.m.* Watch for the outrageous antics of Dick's sassy staff as they serve up buckets of sloppy ribs, succulent crab and shrimp, juicy steaks and chicken, two-fisted sandwiches, burgers and salads. If that isn't entertaining enough, there's live music every night with no cover. **SEE LOCATOR #3 ON CENTER MAP.**

TOP OF THE HUB, 800 Boylston St., 617-536-1775. Listen to the sounds of live jazz seven nights a week while experiencing the breathtaking view atop Boston's Prudential Center. Featuring a midnight menu *Sun-Wed 'til 1 a.m., Thu-Sat 'til 2 a.m.*

NIGHTCLUBS

THE BEEHIVE, 541 Tremont St., 617-423-0069. *Nightly 5:30 p.m.-2 a.m.; Sat & Sun Brunch 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m., bar 3-5 p.m.* This South End establishment offers a full and diverse dinner menu, sophisticated cocktail selection and nightly live jazz performances, making The Beehive the mature hipster's choice for a fun and funky night out.

GAME ON, 82 Lansdowne St., 617-351-7001. *Mon-Fri 7 a.m.-2 a.m., Sat & Sun 8 a.m.-2 a.m.* The ultimate for any sports club enthusiast: a bar/restaurant/nightclub built inside Fenway Park. The newest jewel in the renovation of the Fenway area, this nightspot offers a cool, sleek spot in which to sample a full menu and watch the Sox, and other sporting events, on a number of big-screen TVs.

AROUND THE HUB NIGHTLIFE



PHOTO BY STEPHANIE SAVAS

GAME ON! Whether looking to watch the game or for a night on the town, this bar/restaurant/nightclub inside Fenway Park is always a home run. Refer to listing, below.

JILLIAN'S BOSTON, 145 Ipswich St. (behind Fenway Park), 617-437-0300. *Mon-Sat 11 a.m.-2 a.m., Sun noon-2 a.m. Sun-Thru 18+, Fri & Sat 21+ after 8 p.m.* One of Boston's largest entertainment complexes, this fun and diverse club features 50 pool tables, 200 high-tech games, blackjack for fun and six full bars. Lucky Strike Lanes bowling is located on the third floor, and there's late-night dancing at Tequila Rain ("spring break 52 weeks a year") on the first floor. Proper dress required.

KINGS, 10 Scotia St., 617-266-BOWL. *Mon 5 p.m.-2 a.m., Tue-Sun 11:30 a.m.-2 a.m.* Voted Best of Boston 2006, Kings features state-of-the-art bowling lanes, pool tables and video technology for sports viewing. With three bars and a full-service restaurant serving top-notch American cuisine, Kings is truly a playground for grown-ups.

GAY AND LESBIAN

CLUB CAFE, 209 Columbus Ave., 617-536-0966. *Mon-Thru 11 a.m.-1:30 a.m., Fri & Sat 2 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover.* In the back of this restaurant, you'll find the Moonshine and Satellite lounges, voted "Best of Boston" by *Boston* magazine and *The Improper Bostonian* for best gay and lesbian nightspot. *Wed at 9 p.m.*—Karaoke; *Thu*—Boom Thursdays; *Fri*—Edge Fridays with DJ Aga; *Sat*—Mayhem Saturdays, featuring Top 40 and dance hits.

MACHINE, 1254 Boylston St., 617-536-1950. *Fri & Sat noon-2 a.m. Cover varies. Cash only.* With two dance floors, four bars, six pool tables, pinball machines, video games and theme nights, this club offers Boston's gay and lesbian party-goers a plethora of nightlife options. *Thu at 10 p.m.*—Karaoke with Adam Morris; *Fri*—VJ Tom Yaz and DJ Darrin Friedman; *Sat*—Rotating dance nights; *Sun*—Club Classics with DJ Ace Boogie.





Park's Got Spark

GINGER PARK

1375 Washington St.
617-451-0077

During the last two years of economic freefall, people have almost become accustomed to seeing banks disappear from the landscape. However, it's a sure bet they've left nothing as delicious in their wake as new South End eatery Ginger Park, which now resides in the spot vacated by its chic culinary predecessor, BanQ. Acclaimed New York chef Patricia Yeo looks to expand her epicurian empire with this stylish new restaurant that boasts a menu of Thai-, Malaysian- and Chinese-influenced small plates, moderately priced from \$7–19, including everything from short rib, sweetbread and leek potstickers to duck meatballs to five-vegetable spring rolls with carrot ketchup. —Josh B. Wardrop

SEASON'S EATINGS

COOKING CLASSES

BiNA Alimentari
571 Washington St.
617-357-0888
November 21,
December 5 & 12 at 2 p.m.



Chefs of all levels tackling any of the season's many impending holiday dinners are sure to flock to BiNA Alimentari in Downtown Crossing to pick up special high-end ingredients like house-made breads and pasta, imported olive oils and fine wines. This year, the foodies at BiNA also encourage you to embrace your inner "Top Chef" and sign up for one of their cooking classes and workshops (\$10 per participant) designed to help you wow your dinner guests. Get tips on making creative holiday pies (November 21), crafting delicious gingerbread men and houses (December 5) and choosing the best sparkling wines (December 12). 'Tis the season to satisfy both your appetite and your budget while you learn tricks of the culinary trade. —Meredith Wilson

Haute Hotel Cuisine



Boston's come a long way since the days when hotel dining consisted of a burger and shake at a Howard Johnson's. This fall, the city's hottest new eateries are springing up in hotels old and new. Here's some places to check out as you're checking in.

- Chef Robert Bean crafts menus that match small plates with superb wine at innovative new eatery **Pairings** (Park Plaza Hotel, 50 Park Plaza, 617-262-3473).
- Warm, laid-back ambiance and upscale American comfort food combine to create a friendly neighborhood vibe at **City Table** in the Lenox Hotel (61 Exeter St., 617-933-4800, pictured above).
- The brand-new Ames Hotel boasts **Woodward** (1 Court St., 800-606-6090), a "modern-day tavern" that serves breakfast, lunch and dinner in addition to a wide range of cocktails and its exclusive beer, Woodward Ale.
- Finally, three-star Michelin chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten recently opened **Market** in the glam W Boston Hotel (100 Stuart St., 617-261-8700), which treats Theatre District diners to a menu inspired by French, Asian and Italian cuisines.

—Meredith Wilson



P.F. CHANG'S: This chain of upscale Chinese eateries has two Boston locations, in the Theatre District and at the Prudential Center in the Back Bay. Refer to listing, page 76.

ALLSTON/BRIGHTON

BIG CITY PIZZA KITCHEN & POOL HALL, 138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020. In this renovated, two-floor bank building, you'll find one-of-a-kind "retro-metro" décor featuring life size murals, as well as 15 champion-size pool tables, 6 foosball tables, 80 beer taps and outrageous thin crust pizzas that always keep customers coming back. L, D, LS, Sat & SB. \$

THE SUNSET GRILL & TAP, 130 Brighton Ave. (corner of Harvard and Brighton avenues), Allston, 617-254-1331. This popular Allston hangout features Boston's best beer selection, with more than 112 beers on tap and over 400 microbrews. Its food entices too, with award-winning steam beer burgers, famous curly fries, buffalo wings and giant nachos. L, D, C, LS, SB. \$

BACK BAY

CAPITAL GRILLE, 359 Newbury St., 617-262-8900. Everything you expect in a steakhouse can be found right here at this upscale Newbury Street favorite, from the extraordinary dry-aged porterhouse to the homemade cheese-cake. A perfect spot for power lunches or special occasions. D, C, LS. \$\$\$\$

CLIO, The Eliot Hotel, 370-A Commonwealth Ave., 617-536-7200. James Beard Award-winning chef Ken Oringer serves up French-American fare with some striking Asian influences in a sleek, sophisticated atmosphere that's styled after a

Parisian supper club. Bacon-wrapped foie gras, caramelized swordfish au poivre and ginger-glazed oxtail keep customers coming back for more. D. \$\$\$\$

COTTONWOOD CAFE, 222 Berkeley St., 617-247-2225. Specialties include open-grill steaks, poultry, pasta and vegetarian dishes. Voted "Boston's Best Southwestern Restaurant" and "Boston's Best Margarita." Reservations recommended. Two hours free validated parking. L Mon–Fri 11:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.; D Sun–Thu 'til 10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m.; Sat & SB 11 a.m.–2:30 p.m. C, LS, VP. www.cottonwoodboston.com. \$\$

DAVIO'S NORTHERN ITALIAN STEAKHOUSE, 75 Arlington St., 617-357-4810. Enjoy fine steaks, pasta and seafood, or lighter fare in the spacious bar. L Mon–Fri 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m.; D Sun–Tue 5–10 p.m., Wed–Sat 'til 11 p.m. C, VP. www.davios.com. \$\$\$ **SEE LOCATOR #2 ON CENTER MAP.**

GRILL 23 & BAR, 161 Berkeley St., 617-542-2255. This top-notch, classy eatery offers prime dry-aged beef, imaginative fish and seafood, and an impressive wine list, as well as a clubby yet congenial atmosphere. Lauded for its impressive bar and as a spot for people watching. Inducted into *Boston* magazine's Hall of Fame for Best Steakhouse. Reservations strongly suggested. D. \$\$\$\$

JASPER WHITE'S SUMMER SHACK, 50 Dalton St., 617-867-9955; 149 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge, 617-520-9500. Top-notch fare such as pan-roasted lobster, award-winning fried chicken and an impressive raw bar in a casual setting. Boston: Sun–Wed 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til 11 p.m., raw bar Thu–Sat 'til 1 a.m. Cambridge: Mon–Thu 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m., Sun 3–9 p.m. \$\$\$ **SEE LOCATOR #5 ON CENTER MAP.**

L'ESPALIER, Mandarin Oriental Boston, 774 Boylston St., 617-262-3023. Situated in the new, luxurious Mandarin Oriental Hotel, this sophisticated French classic helmed by top chef Frank McClelland is a favorite of both power brokers and couples out for a romantic evening. Widely acknowledged by critics and diners alike as one of the finest French restaurants in the nation, and the crème de la crème of acclaimed Boston eateries. D. \$\$\$\$

MORTON'S THE STEAKHOUSE, One Exeter Plaza (699 Boylston St. at Exeter Street), 617-266-5858; World Trade Center East, Two Seaport Lane, 617-526-0410. These renowned steakhouses are famous for their prime-aged beef, including filet mignon and New York strip steak. They also serve a variety of other non-beef entrees, including jumbo lump crab cakes and double rib lamb chops. Mon–Fri 5:30–11 p.m., Sat & Sun 5–10 p.m. \$\$\$\$

***THE OAK ROOM**, Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Ave., 617-267-5300. This sophisticated spot offers a tradi-

KEY

B	.....Breakfast
L	.....Lunch
D	.....Dinner
BR	.....Brunch
SB	.....Sunday Brunch
C	.....Cocktails
LS	.....Late Supper (serving after 10 p.m.)
VP	.....Valet Parking
NC	.....Credit Cards Not Accepted
*	.....Entertainment

AVERAGE PRICE OF DINNER ENTREES

\$	.....Most less than \$12
\$5	.....\$12–18
\$\$\$	.....\$19–25
\$\$\$\$	.....Most more than \$25

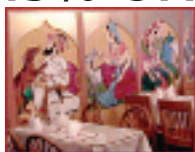
Many restaurants offer a wide range of entrees and prices; therefore, the classifications are only approximations.
Refer to Cuisine index, page 78.

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tional steakhouse menu of prime steaks and chops and fresh seafood. Replete with stately wood paneling, rich draperies and wall ornaments for a comfortable yet elegant feel. The adjoining Oak Bar offers martinis, raw bar and full Oak Room menu. B, L, D daily. \$\$\$\$

POST 390, 406 Stuart St. (corner of Clarendon Street), 617-399-0015. This bi-level restaurant located at new luxury residence The Clarendon offers refined, upscale comfort food—including Kobe beef hot dogs, meatloaf and homemade ravioli—and three fireplaces for a swank, urban tavern atmosphere with fantastic views of the Back Bay. L, D, C, LS. \$\$\$

SKIPJACK'S SEAFOOD EMPORIUM, 199 Clarendon St., Copley Square, 617-536-3500; other locations outside Boston. Enjoy a comfortable atmosphere and specialties such as blackened tuna sashimi, moonfish, Maryland crab-cakes and lobster. Winner of Best of Boston 2003 award for seafood. Jazz Brunch Sun 11 a.m.–3 p.m., L & D Sun–Thu 11 a.m.–10:30 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til midnight. \$\$

SNAPPY SUSHI, 144 Newbury St., 617-262-4530; 420 Highland Ave., Davis Sq., Somerville, 617-625-0400. If your day of shopping has left you craving sushi, this tiny, subterranean sushi bar specializes in freshly prepared maki rolls and fun specials. Affordably priced, Snappy offers Newbury Street shoppers a fast, cheap dining alternative. L & D. \$

SONSIE, 327 Newbury St., 617-351-2500. Recommended by *Boston* magazine as the place to "see and be seen." The lively restaurant features a streetside cafe, 50-foot mahogany bar, brick oven, creative takes on classic American cuisine and a colorful dining room. The restaurant also boasts a downstairs candlelit wine bar, an intimate and lovely brick-walled spot in which to enjoy items from a 250-bottle menu. L, D, C, LS, VP. \$\$\$

STEPHANIE'S ON NEWBURY, 190 Newbury St., 617-236-0990. Lauded by *The New York Times*, chef/owner Stephanie Sokolove's eatery showcases sophisticated cooking and classic comfort food. Casual elegance at its best with a sidewalk cafe, club-like bar and skylit dining space. Mon–Sat 11:30 a.m.–11 p.m., Sun 10 a.m.–10 p.m. L, D, SB 10 a.m.–3 p.m., C, VP Tue–Sat evenings. \$\$\$

STEVE'S GREEK CUISINE, 316 Newbury St., 617-267-1817. For more than 20 years, this family-run restaurant has offered Greek hospitality and masterfully prepared Greek cuisine. Serving specialties like spanikopita, pastichio, shish kebabs and gyros, Steve's is a favorite. B, L, D. \$

***THE TAJ BOSTON**, 15 Arlington St., 617-536-5700. This 1927 landmark offers award-winning contemporary French cuisine. The historic Dining Room is available for special events only. The Cafe: B, L, D, Sat & SB. The Lounge: L, D, C, LS. The Bar: L, D, C, LS. \$\$\$\$

***TOP OF THE HUB**, 800 Boylston St., Prudential Center, 617-536-1775. There is nothing like sitting 52 stories above Boston for dining and a spectacular view of the city. The magnificent cuisine complements the breathtaking views. Live jazz seven nights a week. L, D, LS, C. \$\$\$\$

TURNER FISHERIES, Westin Hotel Copley Place, Stuart and Dartmouth streets, 617-424-7425. Winner of several regional awards, Turner Fisheries is known for its fresh seafood, as well as the decor designed by Peter Niemitz, which features seven-

foot-high French windows, banquettes, mahogany paneling and cobalt blue tile. Private dining rooms accommodate 10–140 guests. VP available on Dartmouth Street. B, L, D, C, LS. \$\$\$

THE UPPER CRUST, 222 Newbury St., 617-262-0096; 20 Charles St., 617-723-9600; 683 Tremont St., 617-927-0090; 49B Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-497-4111; 286 Harvard St., Brookline, 617-734-4900; 435 Moody St., Waltham, 781-736-0044; 94 Main St., Watertown, 617-923-6060. Traditional Neapolitan-style pizza (thin crust, chunky sauce) in an urban setting. Come sit with friends in the uniquely designed dining room, enjoy a specialty pizza and watch your favorite team on an HDTV screen. If you're on the go, call ahead for take-out (allow 20–25 minutes) or just pop in for a slice. Delivery is available. \$\$

VLORA MEDITERRANEAN RESTAURANT & WINE BAR, 545 Boylston St., 617-638-9699. Located in Copley Square, Vloro embraces the Mediterranean adage of "eat better, live well." Featuring authentic southern Italian, Greek and Albanian cuisine, the fresh ingredients are enhanced only with olive oil and fresh herbs, making Vloro's signature dishes unmatched in the city. Open daily 10 a.m.–1 a.m. B, L, D, C, LS, Sat & SB, VP. www.vloraboston.com. \$\$\$

BEACON HILL

ANTONIO'S, 288 Cambridge St., 617-367-3310. One of Boston's finest Italian restaurants (across from Mass. General Hospital on historic Beacon Hill). Traditional Italian food with nightly specials and complementing wine list. Spe-

cials include homemade fusilli, shrimp margarita and chicken/sausage vinegar peppers and potatoes. L, D Mon–Thu 11 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 10:30 p.m. \$

***CHEERS**, 84 Beacon St., 617-227-9605; Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-227-0150. Both the original Beacon Hill pub and its spinoff offer a tasty selection of traditional fare and an abundant beverage selection, including their award-winning Bloody Mary and a variety of draft beers. Live entertainment Thu–Sat nights, and officially licensed Cheers merchandise sold on site. L, D, C, LS. \$

CLINK, The Liberty Hotel, 215 Charles St., 617-224-4004. Serving a menu that artfully marries European culinary tradition with contemporary American innovation, Clink features a dining room with vestiges of original jail cells and an open kitchen, while gold leather seats, butcher block tables and granite accents add to the contemporary style. Clink's lobby bar draws urban dwellers and hotel guests to an energetic and social nightlife scene in the heart of Boston. B 6:30–11 a.m.; L 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m.; D 5–11 p.m. C. \$\$\$

NO. 9 PARK, 9 Park St., 617-742-9991. Nationally acclaimed chef Barbara Lynch serves up French and Italian style dishes in a sophisticated bistro atmosphere atop Beacon Hill. Chef Lynch has a subtle hand in the kitchen, turning out inventive renditions of classic Italian and French fare such as fresh pasta and foie gras. L, D, LS. \$\$\$\$

SCOLLAY SQUARE, 21 Beacon St., 617-742-4900. Scollay Square is a warm, inviting environment serving American



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comfort food at a reasonable price with a sophisticated cocktail list. This neighborhood bistro-style restaurant is a great meeting place for friends and small groups to eat, drink and socialize, and features a nightly three-course \$22 menu and a "Make Your Own Bloody Mary Bar" for SB. Open daily 11:30 a.m.–11 p.m. L, D, SB, C. www.scollaysquare.com. \$\$\$

BROOKLINE/CHESTNUT HILL

FUGAKYU, 1280 Beacon St., Brookline, 617-734-1268. One of the largest Japanese restaurants in the area, this popular eatery features a floating boat sushi bar and tantalizing specialties like the caterpillar maki (eel and avocado) and the house special (salmon, tuna, clam and octopus), as well as tempting tempura and seafood dishes. L, D, LS. \$\$\$

CAMBRIDGE

***THE ASGARD IRISH PUB & RESTAURANT**, 350 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, 617-577-9100. The Asgard was designed in Ireland, with local artists putting the finishing touches on a truly one-of-a-kind bar. Communal tables and a variety of cool, comfortable places to sit—along with an extensive menu, a large craft beer selection, outdoor patio, live music, trivia nights, DJs and no cover charge—make the Asgard a perfect spot for a pint and a meal. Open Mon–Wed 11 a.m.–1 a.m., Thu & Fri 'til 2 a.m., Sat 10 a.m.–2 a.m., Sun 'til 1 a.m. www.classicirish.com. \$

BAMBARA, Hotel Marlowe, 25 Edwin H. Land Blvd., Cambridge, 617-868-4444. Bambara blends sophistication and comfort, with such menu items as grilled cheese and tomato soup alongside spice cured duck breast with a bonny doon rhone blend. Bambara's cuisine celebrates New England's bounty and its seasonal flavors, which can be enjoyed in concert with its fine wine selection. B, L, D, C. \$\$

***DANTE**, Royal Sonesta, 40 Edwin H. Land Blvd., Cambridge, 617-497-4200. Chef Dante de Magistris dishes out playful, rich fare with Italian, French and Spanish influences. The sophisticated eatery boasts a seasonal patio and gorgeous views of the Charles River and the Boston skyline. B Mon–Fri 6:30–10:30 a.m., Sat & Sun 7–11 a.m.; L Mon–Fri 11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.; D Mon–Thu 5:30–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m.; Sat & SB 11 a.m.–2 p.m. \$\$\$\$

HENRIETTA'S TABLE, The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, 617-661-5005. Nothing but locally grown and organic produce is used to create a lively, textured menu of reinterpreted New England classics. Private dining room available. B Mon–Fri 6:30–11 a.m., Sat 7–11 a.m., Sun 7–10:30 a.m.; Sat and SB noon–3 p.m.; L Mon–Fri noon–3 p.m.; D daily 5:30–10 p.m. \$

***HONG KONG**, 1238 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, 617-864-5311. A local favorite for more than five decades, this Harvard Square fixture serves a full array of classic Chinese dishes and exotic drinks, including its world-renowned scorpion bowl. Perfect for a meal with friends, including lunch, dinner or late-night snacks, or for checking out the latest sports action in the bar. Open Sun–Thu 11:30 a.m.–2 a.m., Fri & Sat 'til 2:30 a.m. \$

INDIA PAVILION, 17 Central Square, Cambridge, 617-547-7463. One of the best traditional Northern Indian cuisine restaurants in the area, India Pavilion has been a Cambridge staple for

more than 25 years. A menu of lamb, chicken and vegetarian specialties is complemented by a selection of fine Indian wines and beer. L buffet daily noon–3 p.m.; D daily 5–11 p.m. \$

RIALTO, The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, 617-661-5050. One of Greater Boston's top restaurants, Rialto specializes in fine wines and delectable Italian cuisine. Chef Jody Adams showcases her creative talents on a brand-new menu. Reservations recommended. D. \$\$\$\$

SHERATON COMMANDER RESTAURANT, 16 Garden St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 617-547-4800. New England-style cuisine in a relaxed, elegant setting with a casual atmosphere. B, L, D, SB. \$\$

TORY ROW, 3 Brattle St., Harvard Square, 617-876-TROW. Located at the heart of Harvard Square, Tory Row takes its name from the 1770s term for Brattle Street, once populated by British loyalists. Serving up an eclectic mix of Euro-American dishes at affordable prices, this neighborhood bar and restaurant has shed the conservative roots of its name and replaced them with a diverse and creative culinary aesthetic. L, D. \$\$

TUPELO, 1193 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 617-868-0004. Located in Cambridge's Inman Square, this popular dinner destination features down-home, New Orleans-influenced Southern comfort food. Reasonable prices, a cheery waitstaff and simple, excellent cooking make for a deeply satisfying excursion Down South. D. \$\$

UPSTAIRS ON THE SQUARE, 91 Winthrop St., Cambridge, 617-864-1933. Boasting an eclectic decor, this lush urban oasis features everything from gourmet pizza to Colorado rack of lamb. A charming blend of eccentricity and culinary luxury. L, D, C, LS. \$\$\$\$

ZEPHYR ON THE CHARLES, Hyatt Regency Cambridge, 575 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, 617-441-6510. This restaurant serves a traditional menu of appetizers and entrees—including jumbo lump blue crab cakes and Maine lobster—bursting with flavor and flair. The setting features spectacular views of the Boston skyline. B, L, D, C. \$\$

ZOE'S, 1105 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, 617-495-0055. Offering a menu of delicious homemade Greek and American food in a fun atmosphere, this retro establishment serves breakfast all day, and take-out and catering are available. A popular destination for the weekend brunch crowd, Zoe's is also a great place for dinner, boasting an affordable selection of beer and wine. For dessert, try the delicious cheesecake frappe or the famous frozen hot chocolate. B, L, D, SB. Mon–Sat 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Sun 'til 9 p.m. \$

CHARLESTOWN

OLIVES, 10 City Square, Charlestown, 617-242-1999. Celebrity chef Todd English got his start with this local eatery, and the Charlestown flagship restaurant is still the unparalleled king of his endeavors. Sample English's multi-layered, ingredient rich, pan-Mediterranean creations. D. \$\$\$\$

DOWNTOWN

AVENUE ONE, Hyatt Regency (near The Opera House and Downtown Crossing), 1 Ave. de Lafayette, 617-422-5579.

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***BOND**, Langham Hotel Boston, 250 Franklin St., 617-451-1900. This swanky restaurant and lounge boasts a diverse cocktail and wine menu to accompany a wide range of exotic international cuisine, all served in a sophisticated, modern setting. L, D, C. \$\$\$

***CAFÉ FLEURI**, Langham Hotel Boston, 250 Franklin St., 617-451-1900. Enjoy what *Boston* magazine calls "the best Sunday brunch in Boston," or sample a la carte Mediterranean and American fare, and French desserts—all within a sunlit garden atrium. B Mon–Fri 6:30–11:30 a.m., Sat 7:30–11 a.m.; L daily 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m.; D Mon–Sat 6–10 p.m., Sun 4–10 p.m.; SB 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m. \$\$

CALITERRA, Hilton Boston/Financial District, 89 Broad St., 617-348-1234. Located in the heart of the Financial District, this casual, upscale restaurant features Cal-Ital cuisine with seasonal New England flavors. B, L, D. \$\$

CHART HOUSE, 60 Long Wharf, 617-227-1576. The Chart House boasts an impressive menu of fresh seafood, including specialties like the crab, avocado and mango stack appetizer, shrimp fresca, macadamia crusted mahi-mahi, slow roasted prime rib and its signature dessert—hot chocolate lava cake. Private parties for 30 or more by reservation only. L, D, C, free VP. \$\$\$

***ELEPHANT & CASTLE**, 161 Devonshire St., 617-350-9977. This British pub and restaurant is famous for its fish and chips, great beer selection and the warmth of its hospitality.

Also enjoy trivia Tue at 6:30 p.m., live music Fri at 6:30 p.m., Sat karaoke, murder mystery dinner theater and comedy. Banquet space available. B Mon–Sat 6:30–11 a.m., Sun 7 a.m.–noon; L & D daily 'til 11 p.m.; C 'til 1 a.m. \$\$

FAJITAS & 'RITAS, 25 West St., 617-426-1222. Established in 1989, Fajitas & 'Ritas features fresh, healthy Tex-Mex and barbecue cuisine. The restaurant stresses generous portions, affordable prices, open casual space and prompt, friendly service. Mon & Tue 11:30 a.m.–9 p.m., Wed & Thu 'til 10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m., Sun noon–8 p.m. C, LS. www.fajitasandritas.com. \$\$. **SEE LOCATOR #4 ON CENTER MAP.**

IVY RESTAURANT, 49 Temple Place, 617-451-1416. Ivy Restaurant is a warm neighborhood restaurant featuring Italian-inspired small plates priced \$6–18 and a unique flat-priced wine list with more than 30 bottles, all priced at \$26. L Mon–Fri 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m.; D Sun–Wed 5–10:30 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til 11:30 p.m. C, LS, VP. www.ivyrestaurantgroup.com. \$\$

***THE KINSALE IRISH PUB & RESTAURANT**, 2 Center Plaza (Cambridge Street), 617-742-5577. Hand-crafted in Ireland and shipped to Boston, this classic pub features a cozy interior with beautiful Celtic motifs and a menu of steaks, seafood, burgers, pasta and traditional Irish fare with 20+ beers on tap, including many craft brews. Also enjoy the 100-seat seasonal patio, live music and trivia on Wed. Sat & SB \$7.99–11.99. Validated parking after 6 p.m. L, D, C. \$\$

LOCKE-OBER, 3 Winter Place, 617-542-1340. Helmed by local culinary innovator Lydia Shire, this downtown landmark

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has been refurbished and restored to its former glory. The menu of this Boston Brahmin bastion has been updated, but Shire has kept many of its classics, including the legendary lobster Savannah. L, D, LS. \$\$\$\$

THE MARLIAVE, 10 Bosworth St., 617-422-0004. The Marliave has existed as a Boston dining landmark for more than 120 years, weathering two World Wars, the Great Depression and Prohibition. Its current incarnation, envisioned by Chef Scott Herritt of Grotto Restaurant, features French, Italian and New England cuisine, much of it mined from past menus and updated to include seasonal, locally farmed meat and produce. The meticulously restored building is a testament to the restaurant's rich past, its funky vintage interior providing ambiance and history. L, D, BR, C. \$\$\$

MAX & DYLAN'S, 15 West St., 617-423-3600; 1 Chelsea St., Charlestown, 617-242-7400. This hip, casual restaurant features appetizers, flatbreads, sandwiches and refined comfort food entrees along with vibrant cocktails. Priced for value, this is a great meeting place for groups or friends. Open daily 11:30 a.m.-2 a.m. L, D, LS, SB. www.maxanddylans.com. \$\$

MERITAGE, Boston Harbor Hotel at Rowes Wharf, 617-439-3995. Fresh, seasonal cuisine is carefully matched to an appropriate vintage from the 12,000-bottle wine collection. The restaurant's interior combines slate, marble, exotic wood and leather, creating a luxurious atmosphere to accompany a hearty meal. All menu items come in appetizer and entree sizes. D, LS. \$\$\$\$

MIEL, InterContinental Hotel, 510 Atlantic Ave., 617-217-5151. This "Brasserie Provençal" brings the feel and flavor of the French countryside to Boston's waterfront. No butter is used in preparing the cuisine, with heart-healthy olive oils and aromatic herbs instead flavoring classic Provençal dishes like bouillabaisse, salad Nicoise and ratatouille. Diners can enjoy the extensive wine list and an exquisite "small plate" SB in a dining room overlooking Boston Harbor. \$\$\$

OCEANA, Marriott Long Wharf Hotel, 296 State St., 617-227-3838. Executive chef Joseph Chaves serves seasonal dishes, including fresh seafood delivered directly to the hotel's dock, in a dining room offering panoramic views of Boston Harbor. www.marriottlongwharf.com. B, L (Mon-Fri), D, SB. \$\$

O YA, 9 East St., 617-654-9900. Diners and critics alike are enthused about this contemporary and edgy sushi eatery that was crowned Boston's best restaurant of 2009 by *Boston* magazine. A simple, natural decor perfectly complements the exquisitely created dishes. The intimate seating capacity of 37 diners make reservations a must. D, C, VP. \$\$\$

PARKER'S RESTAURANT, Omni Parker House, 60 School St., 617-725-1600. Executive chef Gerry Tice celebrates nostalgic cuisine with a contemporary flair. The stately dining room reflects the rich culinary heritage that lives on at the birthplace of Boston cream pie and the Parker House roll. B, L, D. \$\$\$\$

RADIUS, 8 High St., 617-426-1234. James Beard Award-winning chef/owner Michael Schlow and staff offer impeccably prepared nouveau French fare in an ultra-modern, minimalist setting. The ambiance is powerbroker chic, and the service is top-notch. L, D, C, LS. \$\$\$\$

ROWES WHARF SEA GRILLE, Boston Harbor Hotel at Rowes Wharf, 617-856-7744. Chef Daniel Bruce helms the kitchen

at this new restaurant that celebrates its spectacular harbor-front setting by showcasing the best offerings of the sea. Simple, fresh cuisine, contemporary, nautical-influenced design and a vibrant harbor setting combine for the ultimate waterfront dining experience. B, L, D. \$\$\$

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, 45 School St., 617-742-8401. Housed in Boston's Old City Hall, Ruth's Chris Steak House offers the finest USDA prime steaks served sizzling hot, as well as fresh seafood and an award-winning wine list, all in a gracious environment with warm hospitality. L, D, C. \$\$\$\$

YE OLDE UNION OYSTER HOUSE, 41 Union St., 617-227-2750. Steps from Quincy Market stands America's oldest restaurant, serving Yankee-style seafood, beef and chicken. Famed for its oyster bar where Daniel Webster dined daily. Specialties include clam chowder, swordfish and fresh lobster. L, D Sun-Thru 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 10 p.m. VP. www.unionoysterhouse.com. \$\$\$

EAST BOSTON/AIRPORT

HARBORSIDE GRILL, Hyatt Harborside, 101 Harborside Drive, 617-568-6060. The Harborside Grill offers panoramic views of the Boston skyline from every seat in the dining room. During the day, the Grill is a welcoming casual location for a bowl of chowder, and in the evening is transformed into a sophisticated seafood restaurant. Open daily 6 a.m.-10 p.m. B, L, D, SB, C, VP. \$\$\$

FANEUIL HALL MARKETPLACE

***DICK'S LAST RESORT**, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market, 617-267-8080. Watch for the outrageous antics of Dick's sassy staff as they serve up buckets of sloppy ribs, succulent crab and shrimp, juicy steaks and chicken, two-fisted sandwiches, burgers and salads. If that isn't entertaining enough, there's live music every night with no cover. L, D, C. www.dickslastresort.com. \$\$ **SEE LOCATOR #3 ON CENTER MAP.**

***HARD ROCK CAFE**, 22-24 Clinton St., 617-424-ROCK (7625). Hard Rock Cafe offers classic American cuisine served up with a healthy dose of rock 'n' roll at its new, larger digs. After you eat, check out the largest collection of authentic rock 'n' roll memorabilia around, stop by the Rock Shop for the coolest gifts and enjoy live music from the hottest bands around. L, D, C, LS. \$

NORTH 26, Millennium Bostonian Hotel, 26 North St., 617-557-3640. North 26 offers a fresh take on New England cuisine, combining a commitment to fresh, local meats and seafood with a dedication to simple, hearty regional dishes. Drop by for one of three square meals offered daily or visit the bar for after-dinner cocktails and enjoy the homegrown elegance of North 26. B, L, D, C. \$\$\$

WAGAMAMA, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market, 617-742-9242; The Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., 617-778-2344; 57 JFK St., Cambridge, 617-499-0930. This international chain, modeled on the classic Japanese ramen



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FENWAY/KENMORE SQUARE

BOSTON BEER WORKS, 61 Brookline Ave., 617-536-2337; 112 Canal St., 617-896-2337. Located directly across from Fenway Park, Boston's largest restaurant/brewery is always packed before and after Sox games, boasting 15 microbrews on tap and an extensive menu of bold American food, including BBQ baby back ribs, classic sandwiches, buckets of fries and a full burger menu. And Celtics and Bruins fans are covered as well at BBW's second Boston location, just steps from TD Garden. Daily 11:30-1 a.m. \$

BRAVO, Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., 617-369-3474. Chef Jacqueline Kelly brings her creative touch to an eclectic and contemporary menu. The eatery's bold decor, created by famed restaurant designer Peter Niemitz, meshes with a rotating selection of the MFA's modern masterpieces. L daily 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.; D Wed-Fri 5:30-8:30 p.m.; SB 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. \$\$\$

EASTERN STANDARD, Hotel Commonwealth, 528 Commonwealth Ave., 617-532-9100. This brasserie in the heart of Kenmore Square resembles an old hotel dining room with its decor, but the restaurant attracts a diverse crowd, from businessmen to Red Sox fans seeking a pre-game bite. Its menu caters to both crowds, with offerings ranging from pork tenderloin to frog's legs and foie gras to sandwiches. B, L, D. \$\$

THE GARDNER CAFÉ, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, 617-566-1088. Chef Peter Crowley offers casual-yet-elegant, French-infused fare with an artistic twist. The seasonal menu changes every few weeks, often inspired by current events at the museum as well as Mrs. Gardner's own recipe books. Warmer weather allows seating amongst the lush vegetation of the museum's Monks Garden. L, SB. \$\$

***HOUSE OF BLUES**, 15 Lansdowne St., 617-960-8358. The popular national chain known for live music and good times also offers delicious cuisine with a Southern influence. Enjoy a full menu of appetizers, sandwiches, pizzas and entrees like the baby back ribs with mashed sweet potatoes, cajun meatloaf and mushroom gravy and the spicy creole seafood jambalaya in a distinctly rock 'n' roll setting, as well as its famous Gospel SB. L, D, C. \$\$

***THE LANSDOWNE**, 9 Lansdowne St., 617-247-1222. As part of the Fenway nightspot renovation, the newly opened Lansdowne lends an air of sophistication to the area with a spacious bar, swanky wood interior and a comprehensive beer list featuring hard-to-find European imports. The lunch and dinner menu, meanwhile, serves up traditional Irish pub food favorites—from shepherd's pie to a full Irish breakfast all day long. L, D, C, LS. \$\$

NORTH END

ANTICO FORNO, 93 Salem St., 617-723-6733. Antico Forno (Italian for "old stove") features brick-oven classics such as roasted chicken with garlic and herbs; pizza with artichoke hearts, porcini mushrooms and buffalo mozzarella; and lin-

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guini with clams, mussels, calamari and shrimp, sautéed in a plum tomato sauce and baked in parchment. L Mon–Sat 11:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.; D Mon–Thu 3:30–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 10:30 p.m., Sun 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m. \$\$

G'VANNI'S RISTORANTE, 2 Prince St., 617-523-0107. A boutique-style restaurant with eclectic decor located on the Freedom Trail where diners can enjoy fresh pasta dishes or great seafood. Be sure to sample the Veal & Vintage menu, famous for its "Veally Good Deal" of two dinners and a bottle of wine for \$29.99. L & D. www.gvannis.com. \$\$

LUCCA RESTAURANT & BAR, 226 Hanover St., 617-742-9200; 116 Huntington Ave., 617-247-2400. This North End eatery (with a second location in the Back Bay) is still racking up accolades for its regional Italian cuisine, lively bar and elegant atmosphere. D nightly 5 p.m.–12:15 a.m. C, Valet Parking. \$\$\$ **SEE LOCATOR #6 ON CENTER MAP.**

MASSIMINO'S CUCINA ITALIANA, 207 Endicott St., 617-523-5959. Owner/chef Massimino was formerly head chef of Naples' Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel. His eatery's specialties include veal chop stuffed with arugula, prosciutto, smoked mozzarella and black olives, amongst numerous other delights. L, D, LS, C. Mon–Thu 11 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri–Sun 'til 11 p.m. \$

SENSING, Fairmont Battery Wharf, 3 Battery Wharf, 617-994-9001. Although just recently opened, Sensing—the first U.S. restaurant by acclaimed French Chef Guy Martin—is garnering abundant amounts of praise. Try the signature "Tasting

Plate"—appetizer-sized portions of the unique and delicious dinner options. L, D, Sat and SB. \$\$\$\$

TERRAMIA RISTORANTE, 98 Salem St., 617-523-3112. Since opening in 1993, Terramia has aimed to convince North End diners that there was always more to Italian food than red sauce. Specializing in creative interpretations of Italian classics, Terramia offers seasonally based dishes and an extensive wine list in a cozy, rustic atmosphere. D Sun–Thu 5–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 10:30 p.m. \$\$

SOUTH BOSTON

AURA, Seaport Hotel, One Seaport Lane, 617-385-4300. The newly expanded and renovated waterfront restaurant features chef Rachel Klein's global, Asian-influenced menu, as well as steakhouse offerings such as the Painted Hills Farm all-natural sirloin and the Brandt all-natural filet. B, L, D, SB. \$\$\$

LTK BAR AND KITCHEN, 225 Northern Ave., 617-330-7430. LTK (Legal Test Kitchen) is just that—a test kitchen that ventures into uncharted waters and pushes the boundaries of innovation in both its bar and restaurant menus. With inspired seasonal cocktails, an award-winning wine list and multicultural, non-coursed dining options, LTK offers a cutting-edge yet comfortable environment. L, D, LS, C. \$\$\$

SAUCIETY, Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel, 425 Summer St., 617-532-4670. As its name implies, this modern American

grill is all about the sauce. Sauciety's dinner menu is weighted toward grilled, seared and pan-roasted meat dishes, served with a diverse choice of sauces—from parmesan foam to whiskey-spiked ketchup to amber ale caramelized onion and beyond. B, L, D, C. \$\$\$\$

606 CONGRESS, Renaissance Hotel, 606 Congress St., 617-476-5606. Vaulted ceilings, an exhibition kitchen and patio seating make this restaurant on the Boston waterfront a visually appealing locale in which to enjoy the delicious new American cuisine of Chef Gregory Griffie. B, L, D, C, VP. \$\$

SOUTH END

B&G OYSTERS, 550 Tremont St., 617-423-0550. This sophisticated South End raw bar from James Beard Award-winning chef Barbara Lynch (No. 9 Park) and partner Garrett Harker features bivalves from Wellfleet to the West Coast, as well as signature dishes like the lobster BLT and the Maine lobster roll. L, D, LS, VP. \$\$

HAMERSLEY'S BISTRO, 533 Tremont St., 617-423-2700. This pioneering French-American classic, helmed by the husband and wife team of Gordon and Fiona Hamersley, first put the South End dining scene on the map. Try the duck confit or the roast chicken with garlic, lemon and parsley. Long regarded as one of the city's top tables. D. \$\$\$\$

MASA, 439 Tremont St., 617-338-8884. Bringing the Southwest to the South End, chef Philip Aviles serves up

specialties such as roasted salmon with chipotle and horse-radish crust and chili rubbed cowboy cut steaks. Masa also serves Sunday brunch, a variety of margaritas and other cocktails, and a \$1 tapas menu. D, BR, C. \$\$\$

SIBLING RIVALRY, 525 Tremont St., 617-338-5338. Sibling Rivalry combines the simple elegance of classical cooking with the rich, bold flavors of Modern American cuisine. Chefs David and Bob Kinkead created a "dueling" menu that showcases their talents with different interpretations of seasonal ingredients. D Mon–Thu 5:30–10 p.m., Fri 'til 11 p.m., Sat 5–11 p.m., Sun 4–9 p.m. C, LS. siblingrivalryboston.com. \$\$\$

TORO, 1704 Washington St., 617-536-4400. Chef Ken Oringer's Spanish restaurant aims for a highly social dining experience. The seating is a series of communal tables and the small, perfect-for-sharing tapas dishes—such as salt cod fritters, rainbow beet salad and salty fried peppers—blend a variety of vibrant styles and flavors. D, C. \$\$\$

THEATRE DISTRICT

AVILA MODERN MEDITERRANEAN, One Charles Street South, 617-267-4810. Enjoy the flavors of Spain, Portugal, France, Italy and Greece with a modern flair at this sister restaurant to Davio's Northern Italian Steakhouse. The menu includes small plates of crispy squid, baked moussaka and chicken livers, appetizers of tuna tartare, onion soup and foie gras, as well as the finest quality all natural beef and fresh



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INTERMISSION TAVERN, 228 Tremont St., 617-451-5997. The Intermission Tavern offers a variety of delicious food and drinks in a theatrical-themed, relaxed atmosphere. Food ranges from delectable fish and chips to savory burgers, and the stellar cocktail menu includes the famous Intermission Manhattan. L & D Mon-Sat 11 a.m.-2 a.m., Sun noon-2 a.m. \$\$

***JACOB WIRTH**, 37 Stuart St., 617-338-8586. Opened in 1868, Jacob Wirth is the city's second-oldest restaurant, serving traditional German fare, including wiener schnitzel, sauerbraten and a great selection of German beers. This Theatre District mainstay still resembles an old-time saloon, complete with ancient mahogany bar, weathered floors and weekly piano sing-alongs. L, D, C, LS. \$\$\$

JER-NE RESTAURANT & BAR, The Ritz-Carlton Boston Common, 12 Avery St., 617-574-7176. This lively hot spot takes center stage in the Theatre District and features signature seasonal surprises as well as "common dishes" for patrons to share. B, L, D, SB, C, LS. \$\$\$\$

LEGAL SEA FOODS, 26 Park Plaza, Park Square Motor Mart, 617-426-4444; 255 State St., Long Wharf, 617-227-3115; Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., 617-266-6800; other locations. Legal Sea Foods, a Boston tradition for more than 50 years, features more than 40 varieties of fresh fish and shellfish as well as an award-winning wine list. Named "Boston's Most Popular Restaurant" (*Zagat* 2009). L & D. www.legalseafoods.com. \$\$\$

THE MELTING POT, Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 76 Arlington St., 617-357-7007. The Melting Pot brings a truly unique upscale/casual dining experience to Boston. At this dinner-only restaurant, fondue becomes a memorable and interactive four-course adventure, where patrons can "dip into something different." The eatery also features specialty cocktails and an extensive wine list. Reservations accepted. D Mon-Thu 4-11 p.m., Fri 'til midnight, Sat 3 p.m.-midnight, Sun 'til 10 p.m. C, VP. www.meltingpot.com/boston. \$\$\$

P.F. CHANG'S, 8 Park Plaza, 617-573-0821; Prudential Center, 617-378-9961. Enjoy unforgettable Chinese cuisine, attentive service and delicious desserts all served in a stylish bistro setting. Featuring an award-winning wine list, P.F. Chang's offers an extensive wine-by-the-glass program as well as original cocktails like the Lucky Cat Martini. L, D & LS. Reservations accepted. Sun-Thu 11 a.m.-11 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til midnight. www.pfchangs.com. **SEE LOCATOR #7 ON CENTER MAP.**

SMITH & WOLLENSKY, The Castle at Columbus & Arlington, 617-423-1112. Located in a spectacular setting, this legendary restaurant features USDA Prime dry aged steaks. The meticulously restored former armory, known simply as "The Castle," is accented by seven working fireplaces and dining rooms that span four floors to blend fun and formality. D, C. \$\$\$\$

THEATRE CAFE, Radisson Hotel, 200 Stuart St., 617-574-2752. Located in the heart of the Theatre District, this restaurant features traditional American fare in a comfortable atmosphere and is a great location for pre- and post-theater dining. Seasonal outdoor dining and discounted parking at on-site garage is available. B, L, D. \$\$\$



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