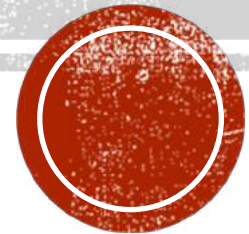




DISCOVER BOSTON

Created by ISchO, May 2019
Revised by ISO, September 2023





GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR

1. Introduce yourself
2. What activities have you already done in Boston that you recommend?

OR

3. What activities do you enjoy in general?





USE ISO WEBSITE AS RESOURCE

“Life at MIT” website

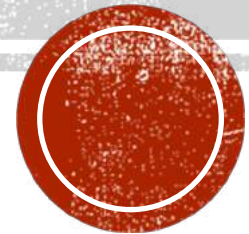
- Connect with student cultural groups
- Understand tipping in the US
- Request a SIM card for cellphone
- Learn about Cultural Adjustment

Transitioning to MIT also includes info on Housing, Furniture, Weather, Groceries, Transportation, Banking ...and more!



5 IMPORTANT THINGS

1. Use your MIT ID to get into some museums for FREE!
2. Look for reduced-fee tickets at MITAC (MIT Activities Committee) for movies, museums, etc.
3. Use the MIT & your local public library system to check out FREE movies, books, & museum passes
4. Buy \$10 MBTA Commuter Rail weekend passes for unlimited travel outside Boston on Saturdays & Sundays (and some Monday holidays)
5. Review thebostoncalendar.com for more ideas of cheap/fun things to do in Boston





DISCOVER THE MIT COMMUNITY





MITAC

MIT ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

The MIT Activities Committee ([MITAC](#)) offers discounted tickets to the MIT community for local arts and culture, sporting events, movies, & family activities. **To purchase, you must have an MIT ID (you can buy multiple tickets).**

***Spouses/partners can also purchase if they have MIT ID.**

Stata Center (32)

T-F, 12 pm to 4 pm

***You can purchase tickets online; however they are mailed to you within 2-3 business days**





Photo credit: MIT spouse and Partners

LANGUAGE CONVERSATION EXCHANGE

<https://lce.mit.edu/>

Find a conversation partner on the website!

OR come to one of the fall events & meet a language partner:

- Conversation Cafes (Bubble Tea!)
- And other events

Anyone who is affiliated with MIT can participate in the LCE to improve their language proficiency in English or another language
(Open to students, scholars/postdocs, faculty, staff, and spouses/partners)



Event sponsored by



**Graduate
Student
Council**

all graduate students welcome

Photo credit: GSC

GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL (GSC)

Join the [GSC Orientation events](#) in August!

Subscribe to the weekly **GSC Anno** newsletter for upcoming events in the summer/academic year:

<https://gsc.mit.edu/anno/>

The GSC exists to enhance the overall graduate experience at MIT by promoting the general welfare and concerns of the graduate student body, creating new programs and initiatives to provide opportunities for growth and interaction, and communicating with the MIT Administration and Faculty on behalf of graduate students.





Photo credit: MIT spouse and Partners



Visit website for all info:
<https://spouses.mit.edu/>

Upcoming Events

There is something for everyone:

- Newcomers connect
 - Social Connect
 - Parent Connect
 - Career Connect

- Weekly Wednesday Meetings
- English Conversation Group
- Monthly Crafternoons
- Career Connect Consultations & Conference





Halloween@ISO; Photo credit: ISO

MIT Website:
<https://iso.mit.edu/>



Upcoming Events:

- Welcome Socials
- Navigating MIT Series
- Virtual Cooking sessions
- Co-sponsoring events with Language Conversation Exchange (LCE) and CAPD (Career Advising & Professional Development)
- ***Celebrating Holidays! (Halloween, Christmas, etc.)***



The International Students Office (ISO) assists students in maintaining their legal status in the United States, provides support for their dependents, & promotes interaction with and integration into the MIT community.

Weekly e-newsletters are sent out with info about events & important immigration reminders. You are automatically subscribed when you start your program at MIT.

Download a
PDF of our
latest
newsletter,
“In League”

Introducing the Clothing Cube!



As part of the Women's League's ongoing commitment to support our student community, we're proud to announce the opening of the Clothing Cube! A spin-off from the ever-popular Fall Fashion Free-For-All, we now have a dedicated space on campus for students in need to stop by, year-round, if they need warm clothes or an interview-appropriate outfit, free of charge. We've partnered with **Career Advising & Professional Development, Class, Awareness, Support & Equality, the First Generation Program, the International Students Office** and **Student Support Services** to help get the word out. If you or someone you know would benefit from a trip to our free closet, ask for a referral from one of these departments.

Thank you to **Mary DesPrez, Noreen Hagerty-Ford, Elaine Kweicien, Sis de Bordenave** and **Kate Baty** and for getting the Cube up and running!

We can't do this without you! We're always looking for donations for the Clothing Cube and the FFFFA - particularly warm clothes and interview-ready threads in smaller sizes. Email wleague@mit.edu for more information.

Chorale Spring Concerts

The MIT Women's Chorale will hold its spring concert on May 11, our last concert under the baton of our inspired and inspiring Music Director, Kevin Galiè. Sadly, Mr. Galiè will be leaving the Chorale after 11 years with us, and he will be sorely missed. Our main work will be the beautiful *Stabat Mater* of the 18th century Maltese/Neapolitan composer, Girolamo Abos, with string ensemble and organ. The program will also include three French opera choruses, and an example of Gregorian chant.

Our main concert will take place at on May 11th at 5pm at Harvard-Epworth United Methodist Church, 1555 Massachusetts Ave.,



Both events are free and open to the public. Parking suggestions will be posted on our website:

WOMEN'S LEAGUE A CENTER OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

<http://web.mit.edu/womensleague/>

Sample events:

- English Partner Program
- Book Discussions
- Fiber Crafts Group
- Holiday Wreathmaking
- MITell: Storytelling
- Breakfast Series

There are ways to:

- MEET people you may not otherwise meet
 - LEARN something new
- HELP one another and the community
- DISCOVER ways to make a difference
 - SERVE on a committee or board
 - LEAD an interest group or project
 - EXPLORE ideas
- PARTICIPATE in a variety of programs



- Photo credit: <http://www.mitrecsports.com>



MIT GYM RECREATION

<http://www.mitrecsports.com>

Memberships are included in your student activity fee. That means you can participate in all Open Recreation activities at no additional cost or pay the member/student rate for Private Lessons, Group Exercise, Wellness, and Instructional Programs.



Photo credit: <http://www.mitrecsports.com>



***Check the App for up-to-date pricing*:**

<https://www.mitrecsports.com/mobile-app/>



MIT LIBRARIES

SAVING THE WORLD, BIT BY BIT.

Use your MIT ID to check out free books & movies.

Enjoy listening to music at the Lewis Music Library.

BARKER LIBRARY:
Engineering

HAYDEN LIBRARY:
Humanities & Sciences

**LEWIS MUSIC
LIBRARY**

ROTCH LIBRARY:
Architecture &
Planning

DEWEY LIBRARY:
Management & Social Sciences

**INSTITUTE ARCHIVES
& SPECIAL
COLLECTIONS**

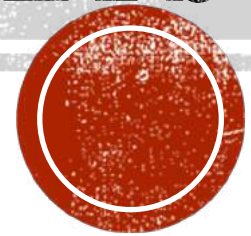


Photo credit: <https://libraries.mit.edu/>





DISCOVER INTERNATIONAL FOOD MARKETS





INTERNATIONAL FOOD MARKETS

Asian Food:
H-Mart

581 Mass Ave
Cambridge, MA

&

3 Old Concord Rd,
Burlington, MA





INTERNATIONAL FOOD MARKETS

Asian Food:

Super 88 Market

1095 Commonwealth Ave,
Boston, MA 02215-1022

&

188 Commercial St,
Malden, MA 02148





INTERNATIONAL FOOD MARKETS

ASIAN FOOD:

Jia Ho Market

692 Washington St,
Boston, MA 02111





INTERNATIONAL FOOD MARKETS

Indian Food:

India Market

315 Moody St.
Waltham, MA 02453

Make sure to check out the food
court in the basement!

Little India

438 Somerville Ave, Somerville,
MA 02143

(The US grocery supermarket,
Market Basket, is just next to it!)





INTERNATIONAL FOOD MARKETS

**Russian/Eastern
European Food:**

BAZAAR on CAMBRIDGE

424 Cambridge St.
Allston, MA 02134





INTERNATIONAL FOOD MARKETS

**Hispanic, Caribbean &
African Food:**

Tropical Foods (El Platanero)

450 Melnea Cass Blvd,
Roxbury, MA 02119





WEBSITES:

<http://www.haymarketboston.org/>

<https://www.boston-discovery-guide.com/haymarket-boston.html>

HAYMARKET

**Affordable produce &
other groceries**

**Hours: Fridays &
Saturdays, 8AM to 5 PM**

****Bring Cash!***

If you go by the T:

Haymarket line

▪ **If you go by car:**

**You can ask sellers to validate
your parking ticket; your parking
rate will be \$1 per hour; you can
park for 3 hours maximum.**

**Haymarket Garage (Parcel 7)
136 Blackstone St**



DAILY TABLE



GROCERY STORES

More info found under “Food”
on Transitioning to MIT website:

https://iso.mit.edu/how_to_guides/food/

GROCERY SHUTTLE

MIT Parking and Transportation
Office has been sponsoring a
shuttle to transport MIT students
to and from Trader Joe's and
Whole Foods Market

[More information here](#)





Cooking with Antoinette Online Recipe Book



ISO ONLINE RECIPE BOOK

Antoinette Browne in the ISO is a great cook and has shared her recipes with the MIT community through virtual cooking lessons. You can view her collection of recipes in the [Cooking with Antoinette Online Recipe Book](#); included are also several student recipes. Feel free to share a recipe from your home country!

Contact: ajames@mit.edu
and rieckman@mit.edu





Photos from website: <https://theculturetrip.com/north-america/usa/massachusetts/boston/articles/10-signature-boston-dishes-you-need-to-try/>

SIGNATURE BOSTON DISHES

Clam Chowder, Lobster Rolls, Oysters, Fish & Chips, Boston Cream Pie, Baked Beans, Cannolis, etc

Check Out: [DOLLAR OYSTERS](#)

Take advantage of
“Dine Out” Restaurant Weeks

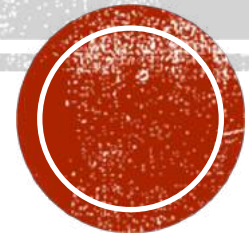
Every March and August, enjoy discounted ‘pre-fixe’ lunch and dinner menus

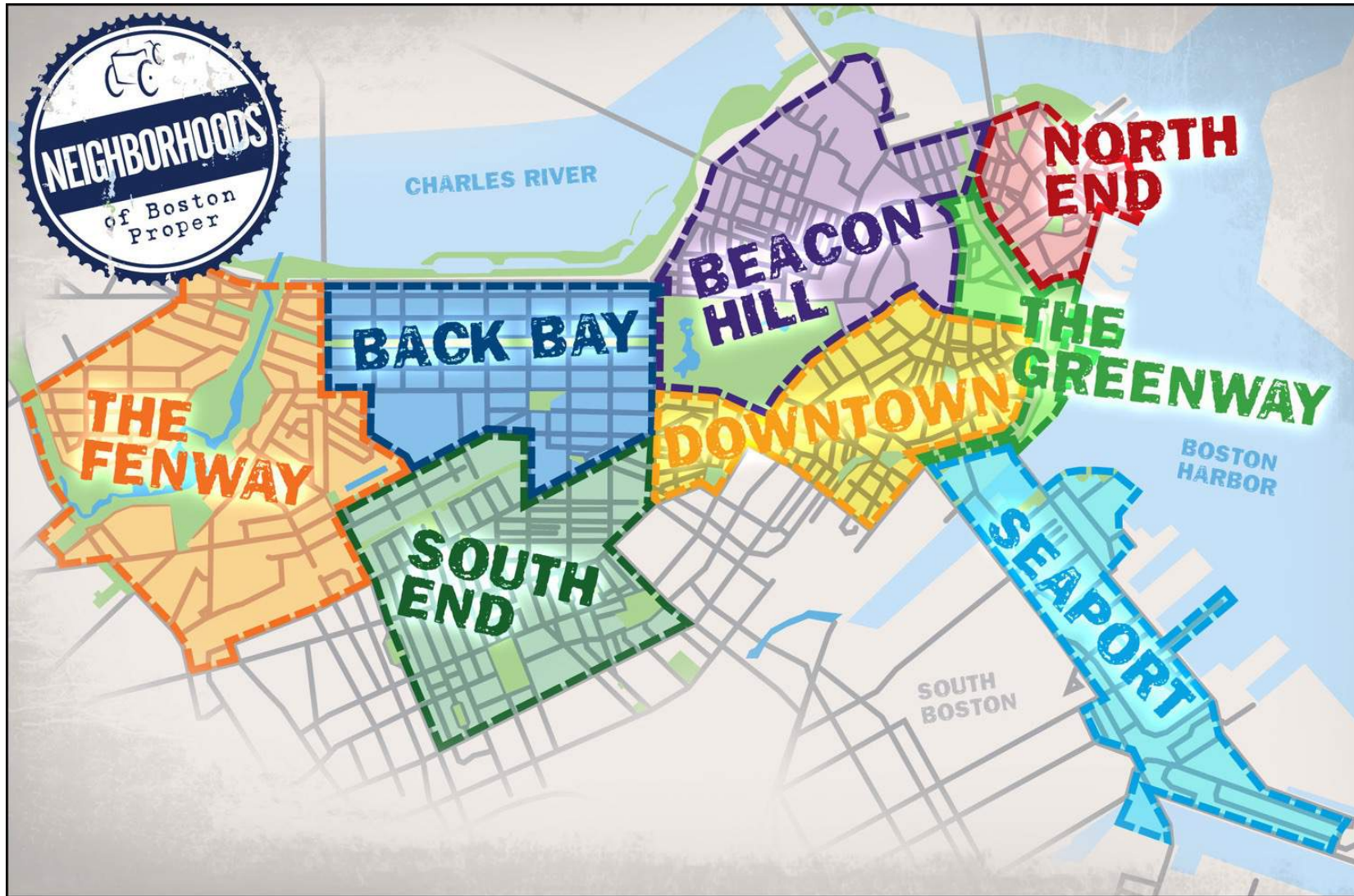
- <https://www.bostonusa.com/dine-out-boston/>





DISCOVER THE CITY





BOSTON NEIGHBORHOODS

North End (Italian)

Beacon Hill

Back Bay

The Fenway

South End

Downtown

The Greenway

Seaport

Theater District

Chinatown

ALSO:

Brookline (Coolidge Corner)

Cambridge & Somerville
(Camberville)





**Tours start
at 148 Tremont St**

**Or FREE tour at
Faneuil Hall
National Park
Service**

Photos from website: Boston Globe



FREEDOM TRAIL

A walking tour of historic Boston





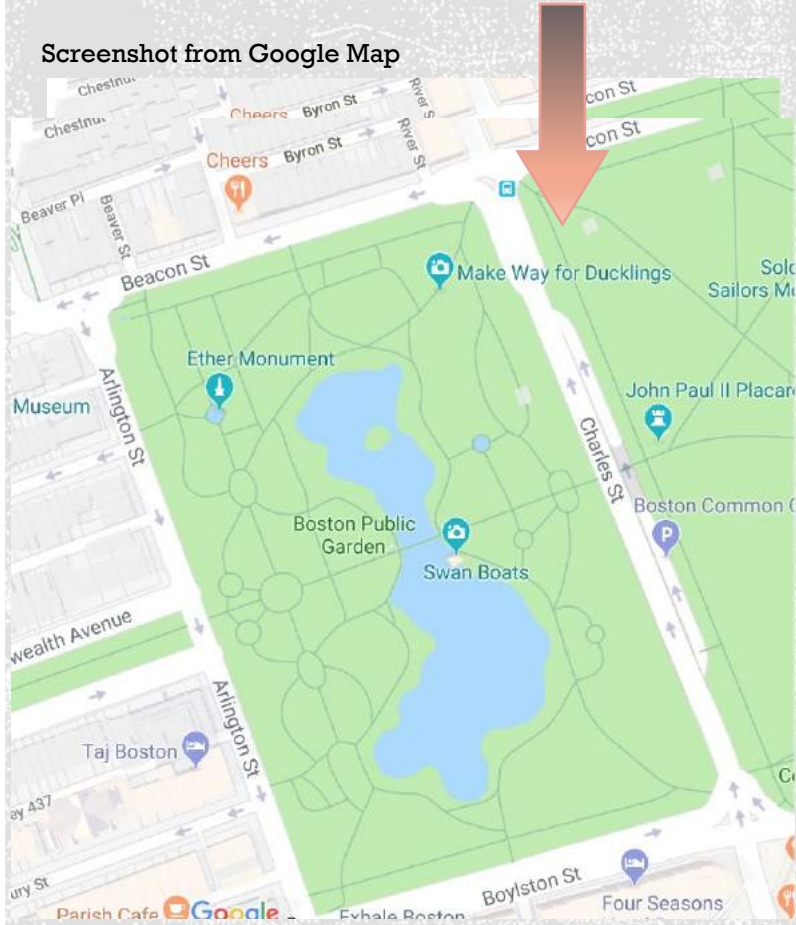
Photo from website: Boston Trolley Tour

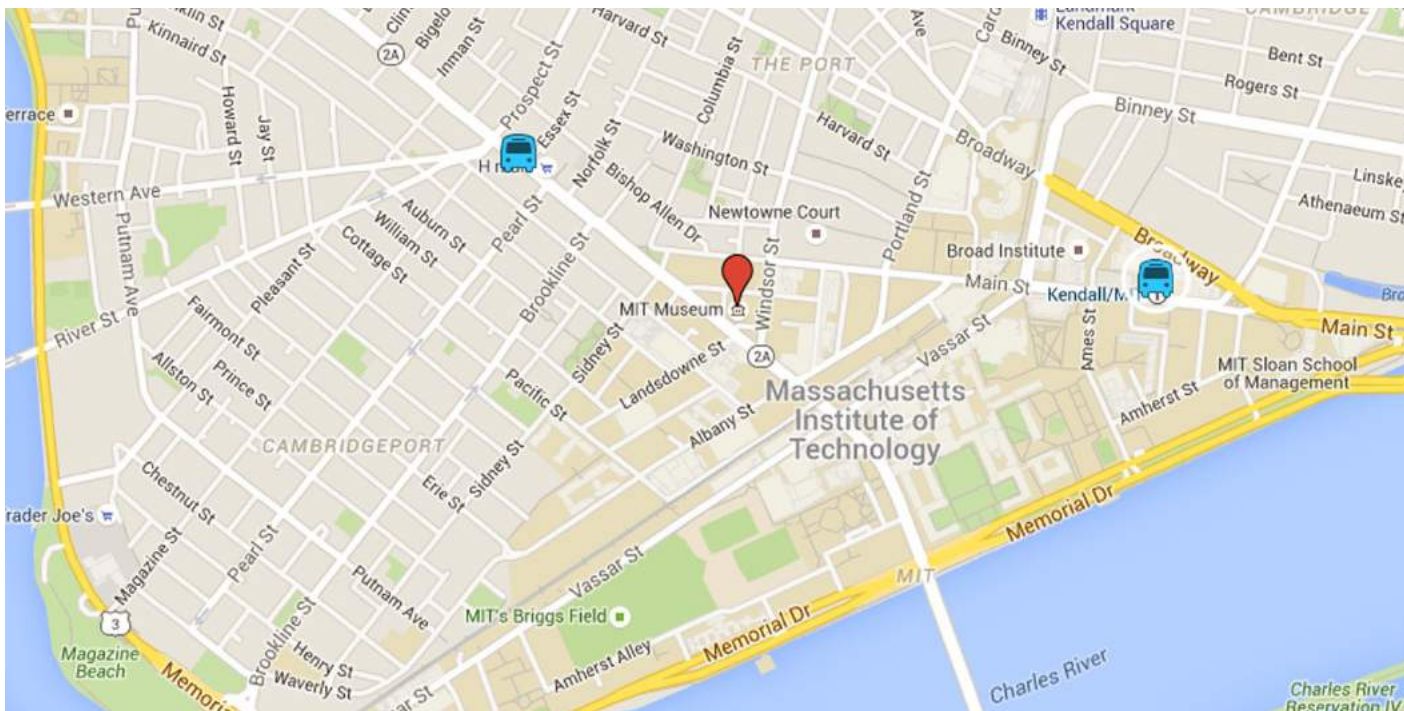


Photo from website: TripAdvisor

THE BOSTON PUBLIC GARDEN

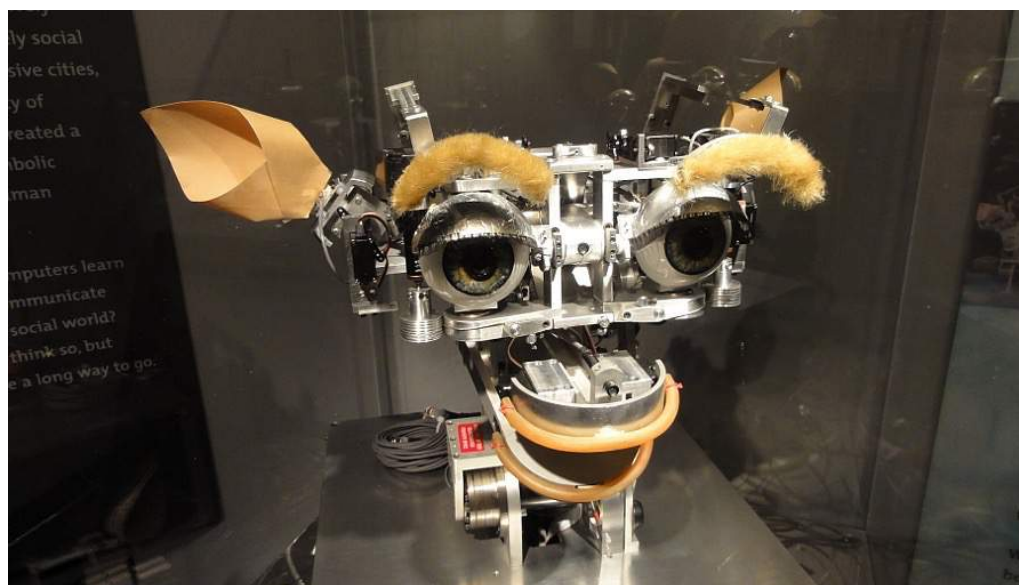
MAKE WAY FOR DUCKLINGS STATUE





Screenshot from Google Map

Photo from website: Linux Foundation Events



Free admission for MIT ID holders + one free guest

*Currently closed--
Re-opening October 2022





Photo credit: Boston Globe



Photo credit: Flickr

BOSTON MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Free for MIT ID Holders

(Reg: \$25/adult)

Note: \$5 admission on
Wednesdays (3pm to
4pm time slot)

***Reservation required**



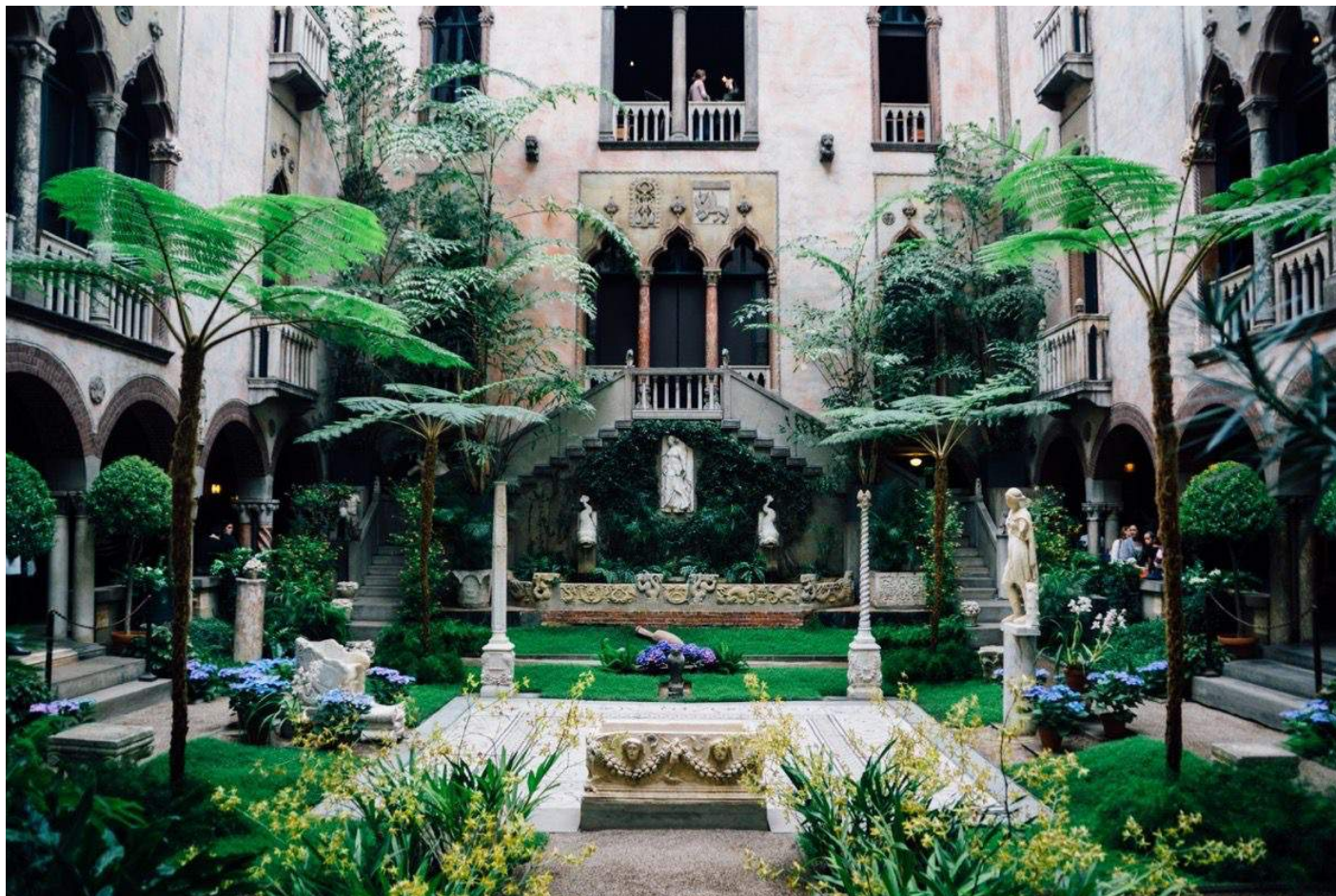


Photo credit: Just Us Gals

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM

**FREE for MIT Student and
Employee IDs.**

**Additional ticket available
for \$8 at MITAC for MIT ID
holders**

(Reg price: \$20/adult)

***Reservation required**





Photo credit: Time

Photo credit: Boston ICA



ICA

Free for MIT ID holders
(Reg: \$15/adults)

Note: FREE for everyone
on **Thursdays**, 5pm to
9pm

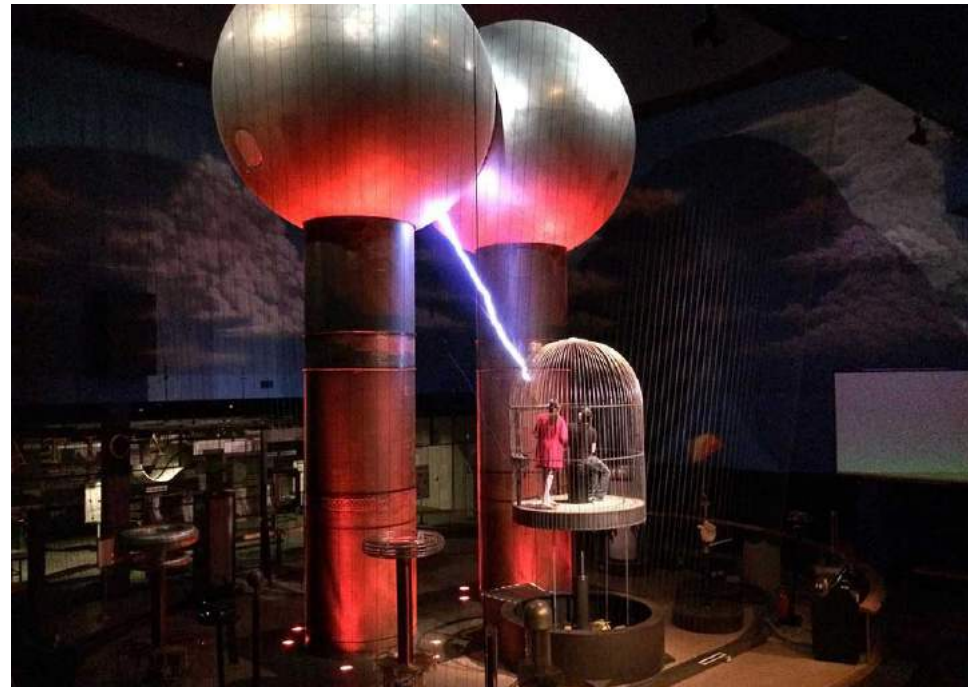
*Reservation required





Photo credit: Museum of Science

Photo credit: Bloolooop



Museum of Science

**\$8 tickets available at
MITAC for MIT ID
holders**

(Reg. price: \$29/adult)

Note:

- MoS tickets sold by MITAC have an expiration date.
- Reservation required
- Free tickets available for MIT ID holders recently. Check out the MITAC and MOS websites





Photo credit: 1843 Magazine

Photo credit: hmnh.harvard.edu



Harvard Museum of Natural History

**\$8 tickets available at MITAC for
MIT ID holders
(Reg: \$15/adults)**

**FREE to Massachusetts
residents every Sunday
morning (year-round) from
9:00 am to 12:00 pm and on
Wednesdays from 3:00 pm
to 5:00 pm (September
through May)**

<https://hmnh.harvard.edu/>





Photo credit: DuroTerra

Photo credit: DuroTerra



New England
Aquarium

Protecting the blue planet

**\$14 tickets available at
MITAC for MIT ID holders**

(Reg: \$32/adult)



BOSTON ESPLANADE

Walk Across the Longfellow
Bridge (near Kendall Square)

- Stroll along the river
- Enjoy the sunset
- Enjoy a live performance
at the Hatch Shell stage



Photo by [Alex Iby](#) on [Unsplash](#)



© Copyright BostonDiscoveryGuide.com



BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS

Take the Boston Harbor Islands Ferry from Long Wharf

Open May – October

MIT card holders price: \$18 at
MITAC (Reg rate: \$19.95)

[bostonharborislands.org](https://www.bostonharborislands.org)

- Visit historic sites
- Go camping
- See lighthouses
- Relax on a beach
 - Volunteer
- Enjoy a live performance





Photo by [Kelly Sikkema](#) on [Unsplash](#)



Source: Pinterest

ARNOLD ARBORETUM

Take the **Orange Line** to **Forest Hills** and walk for 10 minutes.

Stroll the various paths and trails

Beautiful fall foliage in October
& November

Flowers in spring: cherry
blossoms in April & lilacs in May



MBTA-Endorsed Apps

There are a variety of smartphone apps to help you plan trips on the MBTA, buy Commuter Rail tickets, pay for parking, and report safety concerns to the Transit Police.

All MBTA apps are available for free from Google Play and the Apple App Store.

Trip Planning

Transit App



The **MBTA-endorsed Transit App** is the best way to plan your trips around Boston. Use the app to find the nearest bus stop, train station, or ferry dock; see when the next bus or train is arriving; and find out how long your commute will be.



Photo credit: <https://www.li.me/>

Commuter Rail

MBTA mTicket



With the mTicket app, your smartphone is your ticket! Buy and redeem [Commuter Rail tickets and passes](#), view schedules and service alerts, and quickly contact Customer Support.



MBTA Commuter Rail App



View schedules and service alerts for all Commuter Rail lines, and quickly contact Customer Support.



GETTING AROUND TOWN

MBTA

Trolley/ Subway/T:

Your MIT ID is your “Charlie Card” (cheaper than a Charlie Ticket; (reg. \$2.90; Charlie card \$2.40)

The monthly LinkPass \$90.00

*Request a student discount month pass through Atlas Center

Buses:

\$1.70

Commuter Rail:

Varies from \$2.40-13.25

Zip car:

Discounts available for MIT students





Photo credit: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bluebikes>

BLUE BIKE

Single Trip \$2.95; Unlimited access to 2-hour trips in a 24-hour period - \$10; \$109 / year, \$50 / year for MIT employees and students!

<https://web-cert.mit.edu/facilities/transportation/bluebikes.html>





WEEKEND COMMUTER RAIL

**\$10 Commuter Rail weekend
passes** (unlimited Sat & Sun travel).
Can buy on train.





GETTING OUT OF TOWN (NY, D.C. ETC.)

Several Options:

Rail - Amtrak (regular, pass, etc.)
Book early!

Bus - FlixBus , Greyhound

Flight – Google Flight & others.
Book early!

<https://www.wanderu.com/en-us/>

Check the **Wanderu** website to compare train/bus prices



Photo credit: Bostonglobe.com

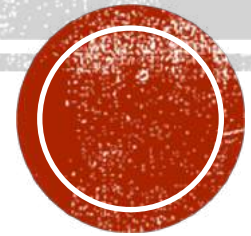


Photo credit: iloveNY.com





DISCOVER NEW ENGLAND



BEACHES ACCESSIBLE BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

<https://mommypoppins.com/boston-kids/beaches-lakes/take-the-train-to-these-10-boston-area-beaches>





CARSON BEACH

Take the **Red Line** to **JFK/UMass** and walk 10 minutes to the beach.



Source: <https://www.revere.org/revere-beach>



Source: Jana Groh, Shutterstock



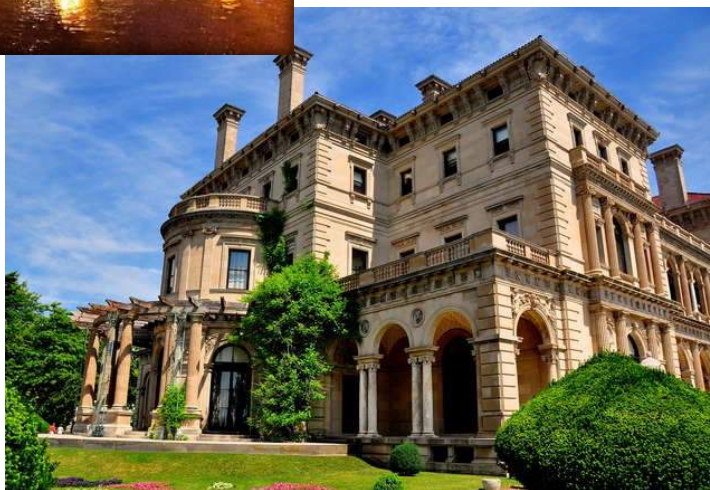
REVERE BEACH

Take the [Blue Line](#) to [Revere Beach](#); the beach is right across the street!

In July, enjoy the Revere Beach International Sand Sculpting Festival

<http://reverebeachpartnership.com/sand-sculpting-festival/>





FUN DAY TRIPS NEAR BOSTON

Photo credits: google





Photo by Boston Magazine



Photo by VisitConcord

WALDEN POND AND CONCORD

Take Commuter Rail to Concord
to explore the town

Take \$20-30 Uber to visit pond





Photo by Wikipedia



Photo by BlueLobster-Grill

ROCKPORT

Take the commuter rail to its final destination and enjoy the beaches and small-town charm!

Note: Take the Commuter Rail here using the \$10 weekend pass!





Photo by jbarrettrealty.com

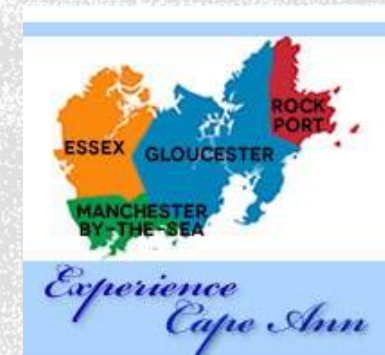


Photo credit: landvest.com

SINGING BEACH AT MANCHESTER- BY-THE-SEA

Enjoy the beautiful beach
(\$7 entrance fee per
person).

Note: Take the Commuter
Rail here using the \$10
weekend pass!





CRANE BEACH

~1 hour drive outside of the city

OR

Take the Commuter rail to Ipswich
and then a shuttle to the beach

<http://ipswichessexexplorer.com/transitinfo.htm>

It consists of a four-mile-long (6 km) sandy beachfront, dunes, and a maritime pitch pine forest. Five and a half miles of hiking trails through the dunes and forest are accessible from the beachfront.

Note: Take the Commuter Rail here using the \$10 weekend pass!





Photo credit: brown.edu/about



Photo credit: waterfire.org

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Visit Brown University and experience Waterfire, an annual event that runs multiple times throughout the summer/fall.

Note: Take the Commuter Rail here using the \$10 weekend pass!





Photo credit: www.plimoth.org



PLIMOTH PATUXET MUSEUMS

Take a **Commuter Rail** train to the Kingston/Plymouth station.

OR From Boston Logan Airport, bus transportation is available to Plymouth.

\$32.00 admission for MIT ID holders at MITAC for combo tickets

(Reg. Ticket is \$40)

Note: Take the Commuter Rail here using the \$10 weekend pass!





SIX FLAGS NEW ENGLAND

Location: Agawam, MA

*Note: you will have to
drive ~2 hours

<https://www.sixflags.com/newengland>





Photo by Boston Magazine

Photo by WorldofEscapes



BODABORG/ ESCAPE THE ROOM

BODABORG:

90 Pleasant St, Malden, MA 02148

Escape the Room:

33 West St 3rd floor, Boston, MA
02111





PICK YOUR OWN FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Pick your own
Harvest Calendar:

<https://www.pickyourown.org/MAharvestcalendar.htm>

Favorite Farms (including
petting zoos and cider
donuts!):

[Smolak Farms](#)

[Honey Pot Hill Orchards](#)





Photo credit: MIT spouse and Partners

ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN



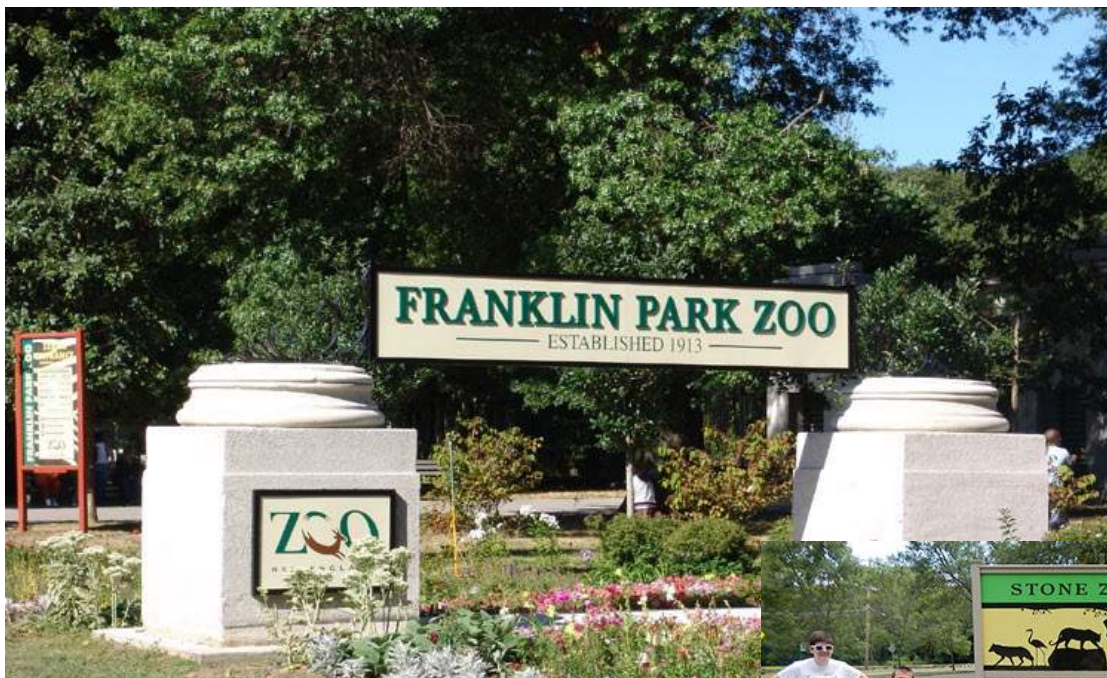


\$9 admission for MIT ID holders

(Reg. price: \$20/adult)

ages 1+ (under 12 months are free)





FRANKLIN PARK ZOO

Adult: \$22.95

Senior (62+): \$20.95

Child (ages 2-12): \$15.95

Children under 2: Free

Take the **Orange Line** or
Commuter Rail to Forest Hills
Station, then take the Route 16
bus to Franklin Park Zoo.



BOSTON CHILDREN'S THEATRE | 2018-2019 SEASON



**MEMBERSHIPS
ON SALE
NOW!**

BOSTONCHILDRENTHEATRE.ORG | 617.424.6634



Boston Children's Theatre
100 Cummings Center,
Suite 506-E
Beverly, MA 01915



Find Free/Cheap Events around Boston

thebostoncalendar.com

- Weekly lists such as “90 FREE things to do this week” and “86 things to do this weekend”
- You can filter events by category, including “free” and types of events, as well as by date.



Photo by [todd kent](#) on [Unsplash](#)



Photo by [Sahaj Bedi](#) on [Unsplash](#)

THE BOSTON CALENDAR

The **Boston Calendar** is a place for Bostonians (and non-locals) to find interesting, fun, under-publicized, mostly-free **events** happening around the city ...

[Berklee Summer in the City:](#)
Free Concerts by Berklee College of Music students!

Check the ISO [Explore Cambridge & Boston website](#) for other ideas!



- This slideshow was created for an event called Discover Boston held on May 8, 2019 by the International Scholars Office (ISchO) and revised for multiple events for ISO, most recently in September 2023.
- Please note: information including upcoming events and ticket prices may be out of date. Please review the most up-to-date information online when making plans, especially due to possible COVID restrictions.

