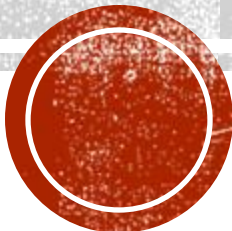




# DISCOVER BOSTON

Created by ISchO, May 2019  
Revised by ISO, September 2024





# GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR

\* Introduce yourself

\* What activities have you already done in Boston that you recommend?

OR

\* What activities do you enjoy in general?







# USE ISO WEBSITE AS RESOURCE

## “Life at MIT” website

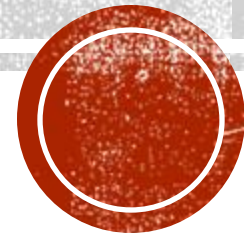
- Connect with student cultural groups
- Understand tipping in the US
- Learn about Cultural Adjustment
- Discover ‘Americanisms’
- Get tips to explore Boston

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. Purchase reduced-fee tickets at MITAC (MIT Activities Committee) in Stata Center 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](http://thebostoncalendar.com) weekly for more ideas of cheap/fun things to do in the Boston area



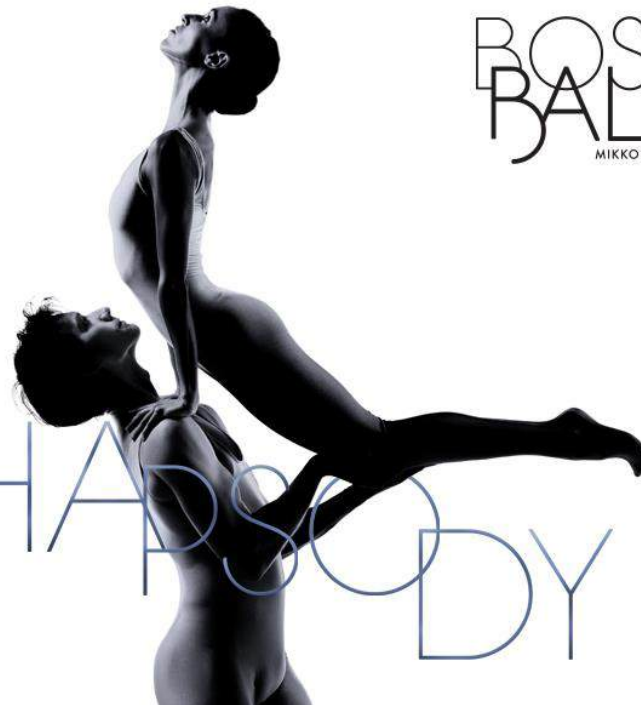




# DISCOVER THE MIT COMMUNITY







BOSTON  
BALLET  
MIKKO NISSINEN ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

# 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 you may need to pick them up or receive by physical mail.**







# MIT ARTS ACCESS

The **Council for the Arts at MIT (CAMIT)** underwrites free admission for MIT students, faculty and staff to three major Boston area museums, as well as discounted student tickets to performances.

The **Bobko BSO Ticket Fund** provides discounted student tickets to performances of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

<https://arts.mit.edu/camit/arts-access/>





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 events & meet a language partner:

- LCE Lunches
- 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)





# Graduate Student Council

of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Event sponsored by



Photo credit: GSC

all graduate students welcome

Since 1953, the Graduate Student Council's core mission has been to **represent** and **advocate** for graduate students across all departments and backgrounds to MIT and beyond.

## GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL (GSC)

Join the [Grad Student Council \(GSC\)](#) to help plan events.

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

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





Photo credit: MIT spouse and Partners



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

### Regular Events

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



There is something for everyone:

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





Halloween@ISO; Photo credit: ISO

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



### Upcoming Events:

- Welcome Socials
- Navigating MIT Series
- Virtual Cooking sessions
- Co-sponsored events with Language Conversation Exchange (LCE) and CAPD (Career Advising & Professional Development)
- ***Celebrate 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.**

## 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](mailto: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:

Download a PDF of our latest newsletter, "In League"

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

# 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





- 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/>





**HAYDEN LIBRARY:**

Humanities & Sciences

**BARKER LIBRARY:**

Engineering



**LEWIS MUSIC LIBRARY**

**ROTCH LIBRARY:**

Architecture & Planning

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

**INSTITUTE ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

**DEWEY LIBRARY:**

Management & Social Sciences

# MIT LIBRARIES

## SAVING THE WORLD, BIT BY BIT.

Use your MIT ID to check out free books & movies

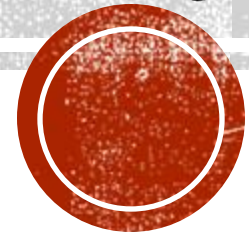
Enjoy listening to music at the **Lewis Music Library**







# 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







# 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**

## **WEBSITES:**

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

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





# DAILY TABLE



## GROCERY STORES

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

<https://iso.mit.edu/how-to-guide/e/food/>

## GROCERY SHUTTLE

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

[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](mailto:ajames@mit.edu)  
and [riechman@mit.edu](mailto:riechman@mit.edu)







## **SIGNATURE BOSTON DISHES**

**Clam Chowder, Lobster Rolls, Oysters, Fish & Chips, Boston Cream Pie, Boston 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/>

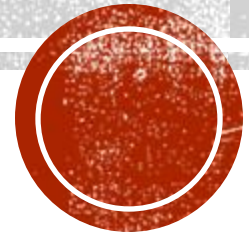
Photos from website: <https://theculturetrip.com/north-america/usa/massachusetts/boston/articles/10-signature-boston-dishes-you-need-to-try/>



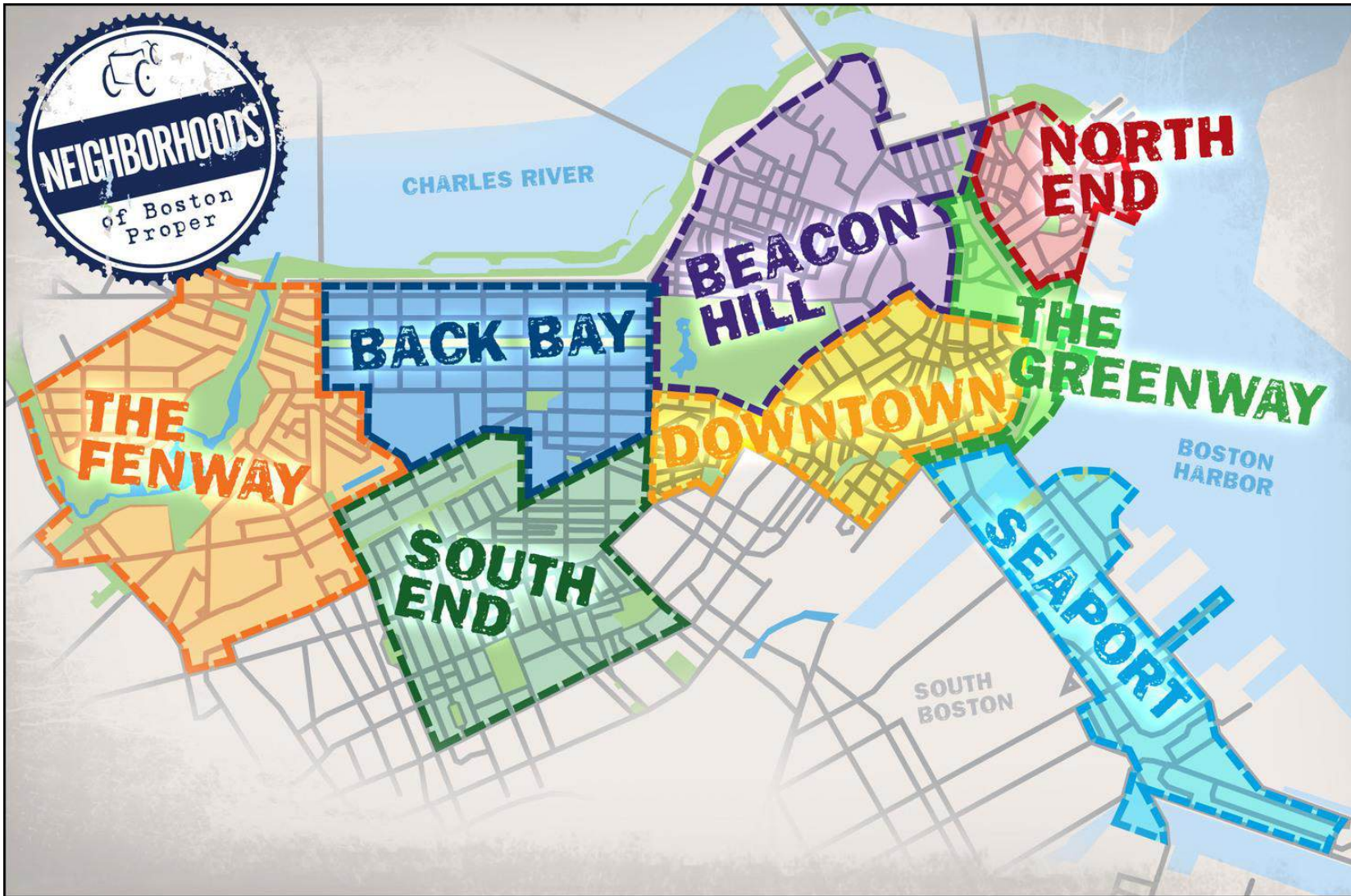




# DISCOVER THE CITY







# 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)







Photos from website: Boston Globe

**Tours start  
at 148 Tremont St**

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



# FREEDOM TRAIL

A walking tour of historic Boston

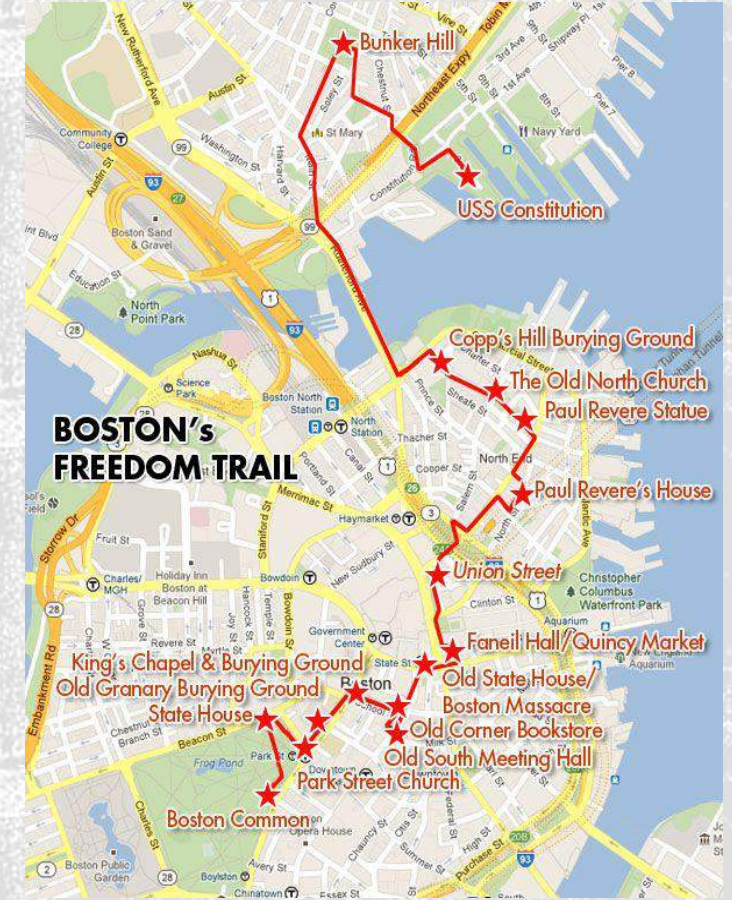






Photo from website: Boston Trolley Tour

Photo from website: TripAdvisor



# THE BOSTON PUBLIC GARDEN

## MAKE WAY FOR DUCKLINGS STATUE

Screenshot from Google Map

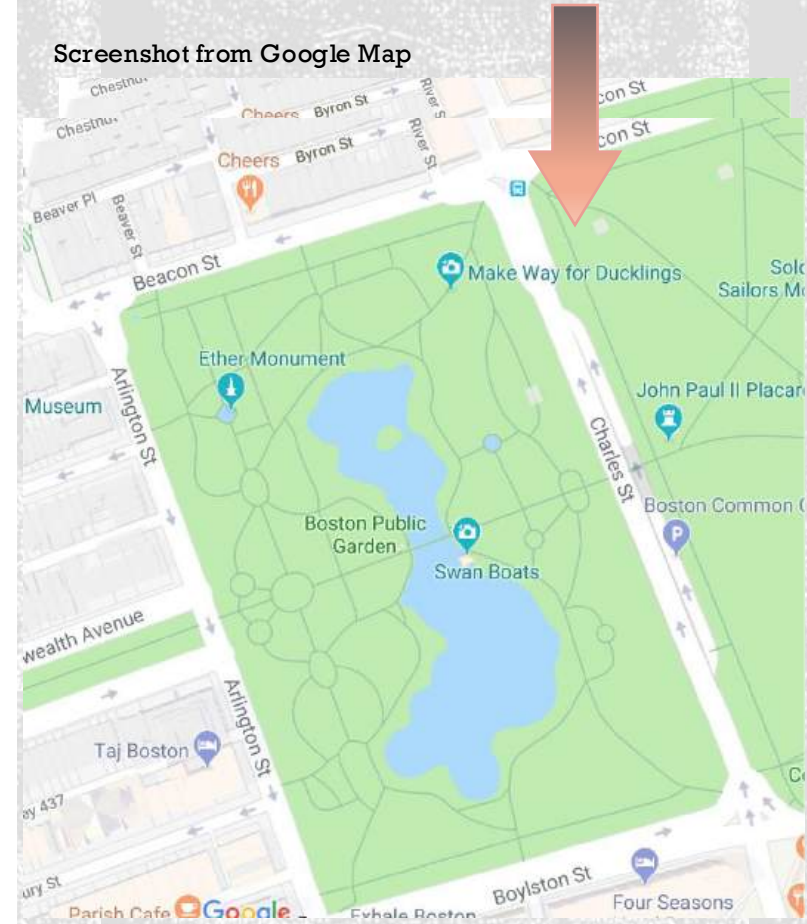
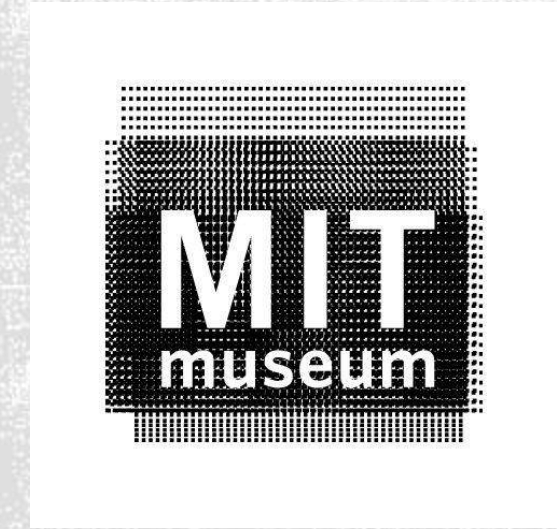
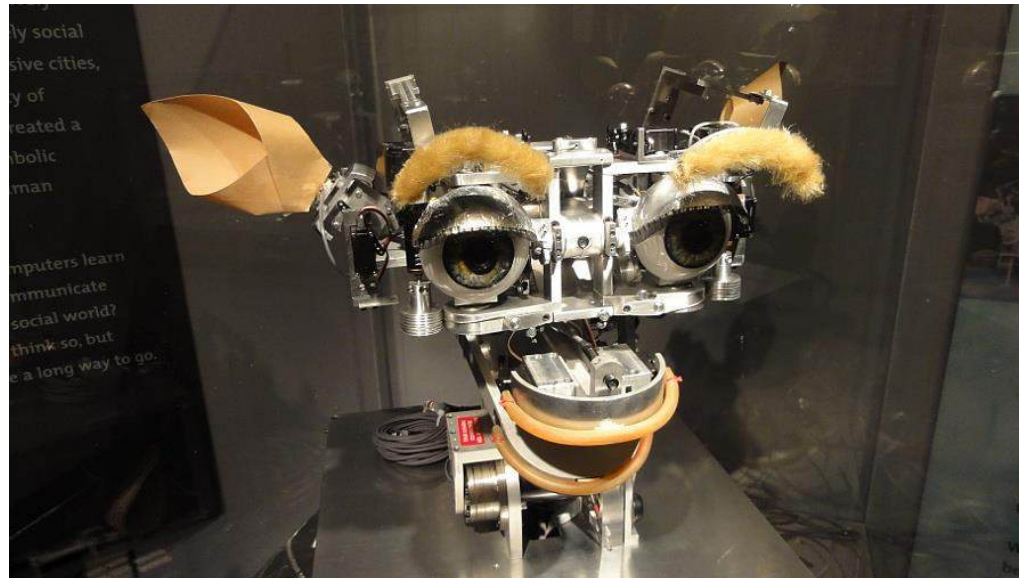






Photo courtesy of MIT Museum

Photo from website: Linux Foundation Events



**Free admission for MIT ID holders + one free guest**

**\$13.50 at MITAC**

**(Reg: \$18/adult)**

**<https://mitmuseum.mit.edu/>**







Photo credit: Boston Globe



Photo credit: Flickr

# BOSTON MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Free for MIT ID Holders

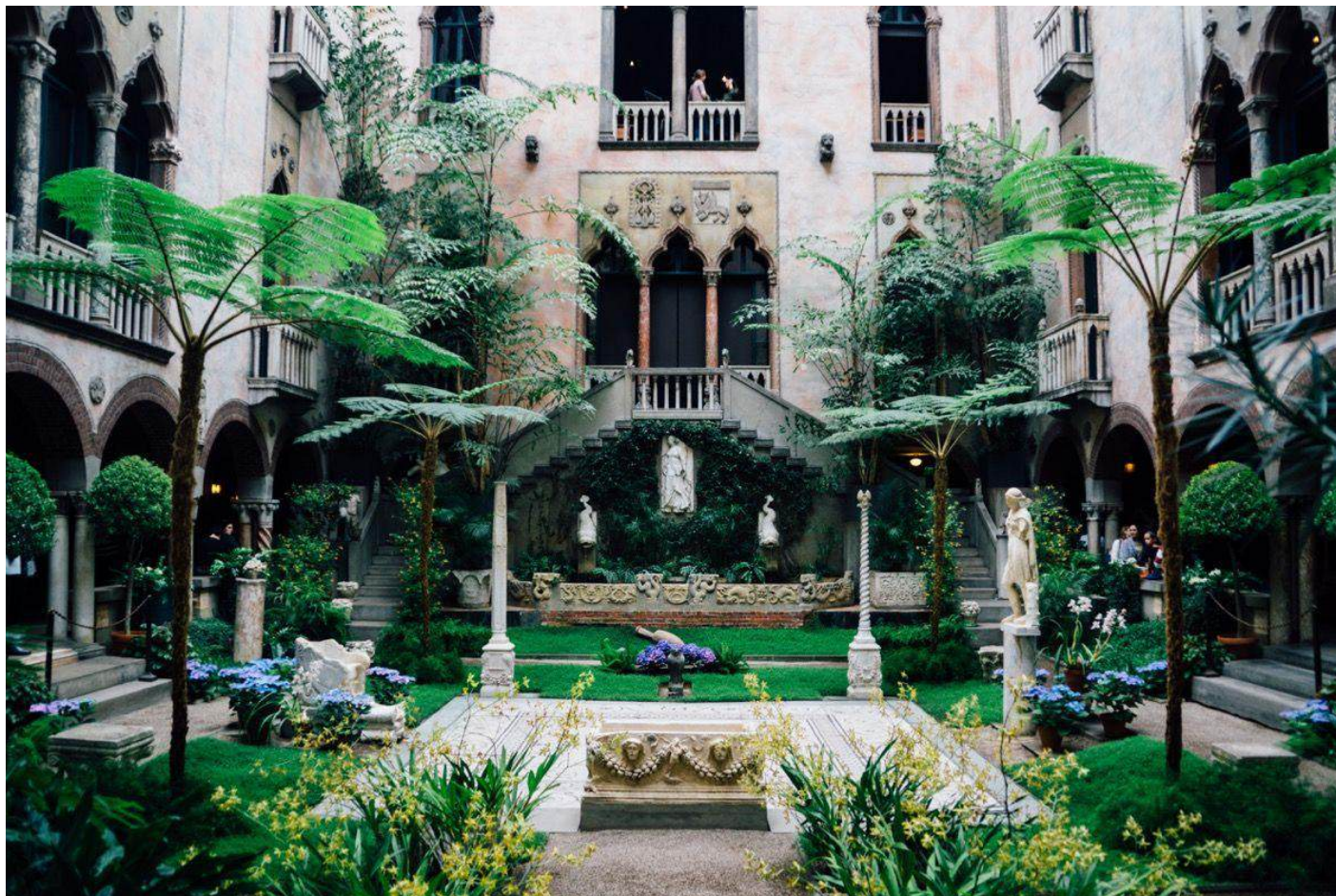
\$20 at [MITAC](#)

(Reg: \$27/adult)

Check [website](#) for  
'Free Days'







# ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM

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

**Additional tickets  
available for**

**\$8 at MITAC**

(Reg price: \$20/adult)

Photo credit: Just Us Gals







Photo credit: Time

Photo credit: Boston ICA



**Free for MIT ID holders**  
(Reg: \$20/adults)

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

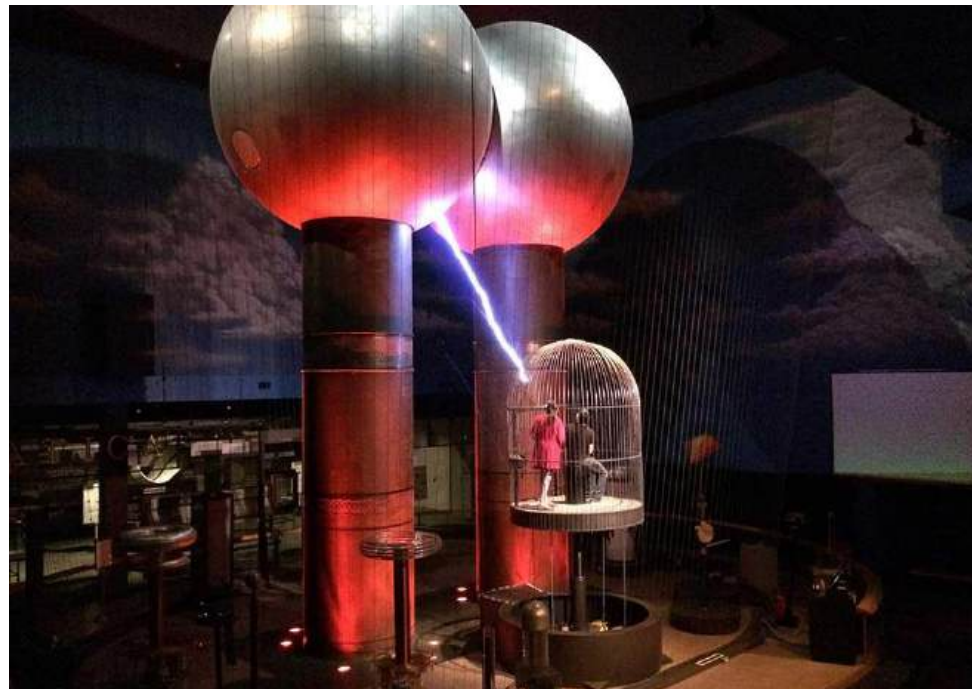






Photo credit: Museum of Science

Photo credit: Bloolooop



Museum of Science

**\$10 tickets available  
at MITAC for MIT ID  
holders**

**(Reg. price: \$29/adult)**

Note:

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







Photo credit: 1843 Magazine

Photo credit: hmn.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://hmn.harvard.edu/>







Photo credit: DuroTerra

Photo: Esther Horvath

Photo credit: DuroTerra



New England  
Aquarium

*Protecting the blue planet*

**\$17-26 tickets available at  
MITAC for MIT ID holders**

(Reg: \$25-34)





# 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: \$23 at MITAC (Reg rate: \$26)

**[bostonharborislands.org](http://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; \$133.50 / 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, as well as many Monday holidays).

Can buy on app and sometimes the 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](https://www.bostonglobe.com)



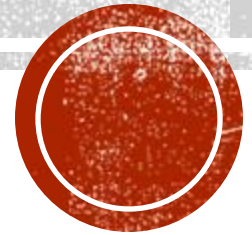
Photo credit: [iloveNY.com](https://www.iloveNY.com)







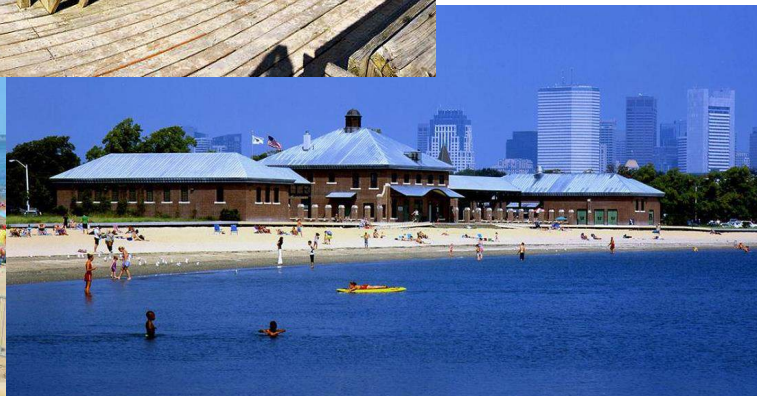
# DISCOVER NEW ENGLAND





# BEACHES ACCESSIBLE BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT

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

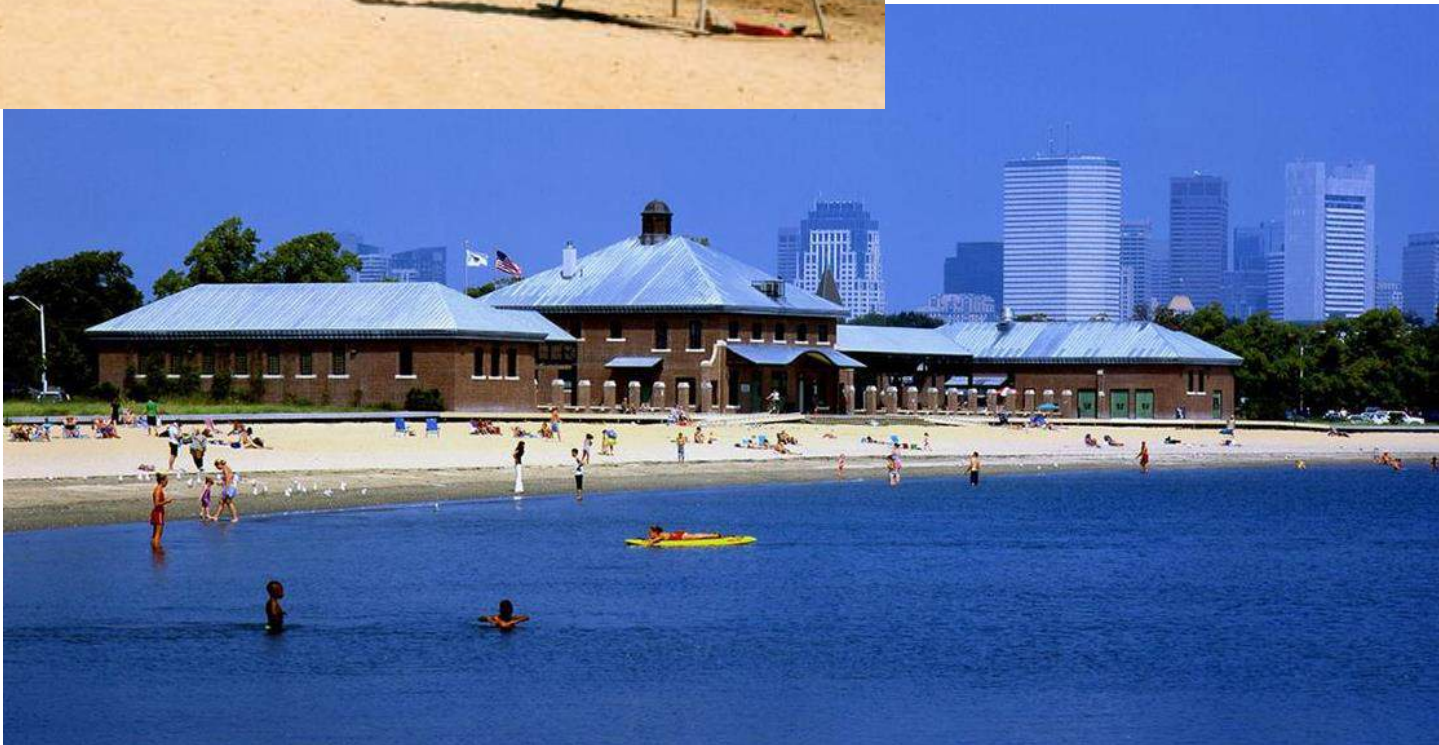






# CARSON BEACH

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







Source: 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

<https://www.internationalsandsculptingfestival.com/>

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







# FUN DAY TRIPS NEAR BOSTON

Photo credits: google

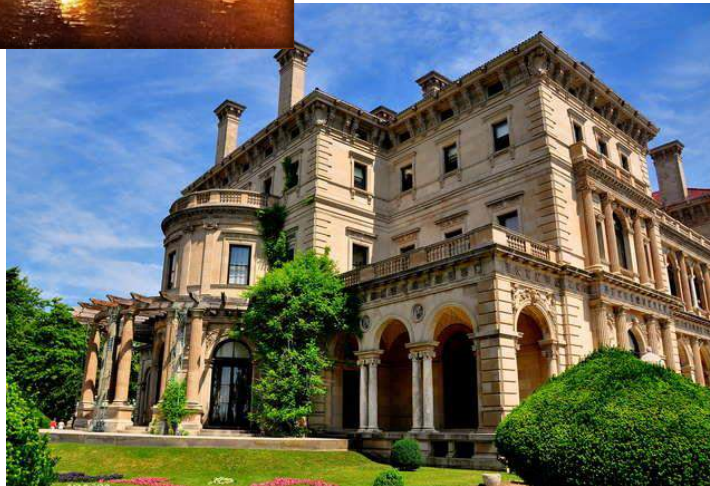






Photo by Boston Magazine

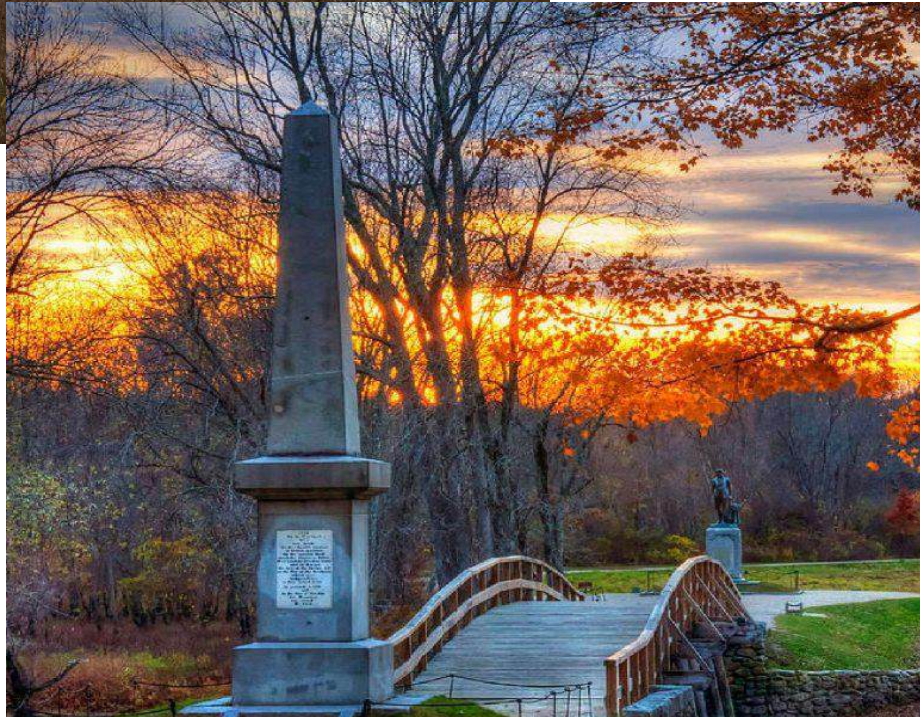


Photo by VisitConcord

# 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: landinvest.com

# SINGING BEACH AT MANCHESTER- BY-THE-SEA

Enjoy the beautiful beach  
(\$10 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

<https://northofboston.org/listings/ipswich-essex-explorer/>

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](http://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.

**\$25-42 admission for MIT ID holders at MITAC for tickets**

(Reg. Ticket is \$27-44)

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







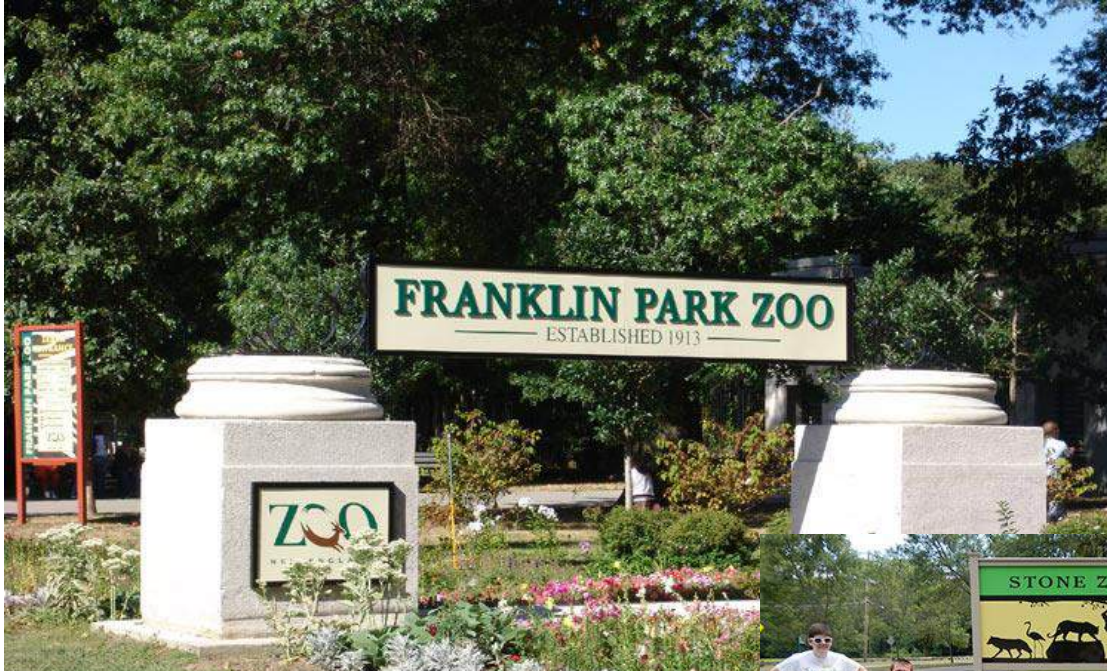
**\$9 admission for MIT ID holders**

**(Reg. price: \$22)**

**ages 1+ (under 12 months are free)**







# FRANKLIN PARK ZOO

<https://www.zoonewengland.org/>

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





# Find Free/Cheap Events around Boston

[thebostoncalendar.com](http://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 2024.
- 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.

