


Boston ma tourism guide

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Back to the top virtual guide to boston visitors to the city of Boston should monitor the city's coronavirus page (COVID-19) for the latest information regarding COVID-19. Visitors to the city of Boston should also review the city's reopening website. Please keep these tips in mind if you plan to visit the city. As of August 1, 2020, all returning visitors and residents entering Massachusetts must follow new travel orders issued by Governor Baker. Some tourist attractions can be closed due to COVID-19. We encourage you to contact specific sites to find out how they are handling the situation. Many sites offer virtual experiences. Any museum, tour, or cultural and historical structure that reopens is subject to Commonwealth Phase 3, step 1 industry-specific guidance, and boston city industry-specific guidance. On July 2, Governor Baker updated guidelines for accommodation operators, which includes hotels, motels, inns, bed and breakfasts, and all other short-term residential rentals, including those organized through online hosting platforms such as Airbnb and VRBO. On July 2, Governor Baker updated an order regarding commonwealth size collection limits for Phase 3, Phase 1. On July 10, the city of Boston issued additional guidelines for indoor and event. In the city of Boston, the maximum allowed size for an indoor event is 25 people, and the maximum size allowed for an outdoor event is 50 people. The city of Boston will consider outdoor events for 50-100 people on a case-by-case basis. Show map Learn more about Boston history Keep these dates and events in mind as they are usually rush hour in Boston. 4 min read - Posted Aug 28, 2019From interregiate chapels to care pods, airports around the United States offer a variety of private and quiet areas for spiritual rejuvenation, emotional grounding, or simply to calm hectic nerves. Boston is a historic city, with old colonial buildings, a long history, and a strong connection to the founding of the country. Bostonians are very proud of their city and show their Boston pride every chance they can. I grew up in this city and, even with all my travels around the world, it remained one of my favorites. Although one of the largest cities in the country, it has more of a big city to feel to it than that of a metropolis. In this college town, you'll find friendly people, inn-dove sports enthusiasts, great bars, good restaurants, and a ton of American history. This Boston travel guide can help you plan a wonderful trip here without spending a of money. Boston1. Boston Freedom Trail Walk Spend a day outdoors, wear comfortable shoes, and walk this 2.5 miles (4 kilometers) route filled with historical information. This trail takes you to all the historic must-see sites throughout the city, including Boston Common, Faneuil Hall, the State House, House, Bunker Hill.2. See the Museum of Fine Arts This museum is one of the best art museums in the country, with 450,000 works of art covering everything from pre-Columbian times to Italian Impressionists. Admission costs \$25, but you can enter for free after 4:00 pm wednesday (or your birthday).3. Visit the Science Museum Although many of the exhibits are for children, it's still one of the best museums in the country. Their permanent exhibitions include exhibits showing dinosaurs, energy saving, cartography, butterflies, wind and time, nanotechnology, and of course, space. Admission is \$29.4. Play a game at Fenway Park This is one of the oldest baseball parks in the country. Even if you're not a baseball fan, the games are fun! Tickets start at about \$20 for the standing room or bleachers, and \$31 for the grandstand. Guided tours are offered year-round as well. They last an hour and cost \$21 per person.5. See the Boston Public Gardens Opened in 1837, this area was actually a mud slide before it became a garden. The land was also almost used for a cemetery, but the city decided to create the first public botanical garden. Take a swans boat over the pond in the middle of the gardens or just walk around and see some nice flowers. You can choose your favorite constellation at Harvard University's Coit Observatory. They offer free Wednesday after 8:30 pm throughout spring and summer (waiting for clear skies, of course).2. Climbing the Bunker Hill MonumentThe Battle of Bunker Hill in 1775 was one of the first major battles during the American Revolutionary War. As the British eventually took the field, the Americans brought British forces down much more than expected. After the battle, the British were much more cautious in their advance, which gave American forces much more time to prepare for the next war. The monument stands 221 feet, and you can climb to the top for free. There is also a museum nearby which is also free. I'm sure this is the best view of the Boston skyline, so don't miss it. It's at the end of the Freedom Trail, so you can do one and beat both!3. Enjoy a picnic at Boston CommonOne of the nation's oldest existing parks, Boston Common is nearly 50 acres long and was once used as pasture by Puritan settlers. Boston Common sees a lot of people on hot summer days. There are plenty of routes to take, as well as the Frog Pond, where kids and adults can cool off. During the winter, there is skating on the pond. Boston Common is a great place to go and observe people and get pictures of the skyline.4. Going out to Faneuil HallFaneuil Hall is a popular spot for the of the place to hang out. During the day, a lot of people go shopping. At night, restaurants fill up with people, and the place is one of the city's biggest bar destinations. Cheap Irish filling the area are very popular! The hall has been a meeting place in the city since the 1740s, and many speeches have been given here

about American independence before the Revolutionary War. After you finish eating, go around and spend an afternoon here watching people.5. Discover Beacon HillThis is one of Boston's most picturesque and historic neighborhoods, once home to the likes of John Adams and John Hancock. Its winding, steep streets are lined with Victorian brick townhouses and old-fashioned lanterns, making for a fun afternoon wandering. You can also find the state house building here.6. Visit Castle IslandCastle Island is located in South Boston, and is famous for Fort Independence (it was actually the first state prison). The island stretches into the harbor and has excellent beaches and trails that are popular with locals. There is a picnic area here, and you can explore the old fort for free. There are also free tours in summer.8. Hanging out in Copley SquareCopley Square is a large small park where you can buy theater discount tickets, listen to musicians, and admire Hancock Tower. You can also go to Trinity Church in Boston, which is one of the oldest and most beautiful in the city. It was built in the 1870s after the original building burned down in the great fire of 1872. The style is known as Richardsonian Romanesque, which embraces the use of clay roofing, rough stones, and a massive tower. The style actually influenced churches across the country upon its completion because it was so beautiful.9. Visit Harvard UniversityHarvard University is the country's first and oldest university (pre-dating also the founding of the United States). The campus offers free one-hour tours through the gardens and buildings. Afterward, grab a coffee and see people at the alternative and artistic Harvard Square.10. Strolling through Back BayBoston's Back Bay is like a version of New York's SoHo and West Village. Boston's elite and rich live here, and nearby Newbury Street is our Madison Avenue, with plenty of expensive high-end shops and restaurants. It's a beautiful space to walk around, with pretty brownstones and tree-lined streets. You can still see a lot of old Victorian houses in this neighborhood that date back to the 19th century.11. Drinking at Sam Adams BrewerySam Adams is a big brewer in Boston, and locals drink it widely and frequently. Tours and tastings take place From Monday to Saturday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, with extended hours on Friday afternoons. There are several tours ranging from \$20 to \$35, and you'll get some generous beer tastings in the process!12. Visit the Aquarium of the New England AquariumBoston is one of the best I've been to. It's really well done, i are not all clustered in a couple of small tubs, and there's a lot of information about how to Oceans. You'll see everything from northern fur seals, giant octopuses, and penguins! Admission costs \$31.13. Explore the North End The historic North End is the heart of Boston's Italian community. You'll feel as italian as boston accent. In the morning, you'll see little Italian grandparents shopping while grandparents have their morning espresso. It's almost like being in Italy. Here you will find the best ice cream outside of Italy.14. Visit the Arnold ArboretumOver 260 acres of free public space are open from sunrise to sunset. There are running trails, gardens, open lawns, and tons of flowers from all over the world. Relax among the plants and step back from the fast pace of the city. This place is much quieter than the Public Gardens and offers a wider variety of plant life. They also have a large collection of bonsai trees.15. Taking a walking tourBoston has a plethora of hiking. Bites of Boston offers three different food tours in the city, each in a distinct neighborhood, starting at \$65 per person. You can also take a wine tour with City Wine Tours starting at \$75, or something more historic like Cambridge Historical Tours starting at \$20. If you're on a budget, both free Foot Tours and Strawberry Tours offer free daily walking tours in the city. They are a great way to orientation and see the main attractions without breaking the bank. Just be sure to tip your guides!16. Visit Forest Hills CemeteryThis serene Victorian cemetery sits on nearly 300 acres of land. It is the resting place of some notable individuals, such as playwright Eugene O'Neill and poet E.E Cummings. In 2006, as part of an exhibition, sculptures, including miniature buildings, were added to the cemetery. Hostel prices – During the high season, a bed in a bedroom for four to six will cost from about 50 USD. For a room with eight beds or more, expect to pay about \$40. During the season not, a bed in a room with eight beds or more will cost about \$26 per night, while smaller rooms will cost about \$40. A basic private room for two people with shared bathroom costs from \$115 per night during high season. Prices are about \$70 in off-season. Cheap hotel prices - Nightly rates for a low-cost two-star hotel room start at around \$170 in high season. In off-season, budget rooms start at \$95. There are plenty of Airbnb options in Boston. A shared room (like a bed in a dorm) averages about \$40 per night, while a private room is about \$65 per night. A full apartment is on average about \$149 per night. Food - Boston has tons of cheap food, including street food. Since Boston is a great college city, you'll find cheap restaurants and places to visit throughout the city. You can find hot dogs with all the toppings for a while dollars, or a slice of pizza for 3 dollars (or even a whole pizza for 10 dollars!). dollars!). (including bahn mi) will cost about \$4, while a McMeal will cost about \$8. Burgers or a bowl of clam soup in a restaurant will cost you about \$10, while a classic Boston lobster roll is \$20. If not, expect to pay up to \$35 at a mid-range restaurant, with an appetizer included. A pint of beer to go with it will cost about 7 dollars. High-end lunch will cost you between \$50-\$70 for a full meal. A primary rib-eye cut will go for about \$50, while seafood starts at about \$40 per course. A soup or salad starter will start at about \$12, while vegetarian and pasta dishes start at \$20. A glass of wine to go with it is about 9 dollars. If you cook your own food, expect to pay \$60-70 a week for groceries that will include pasta, vegetables, chicken, and other essential foods. Some of my favorite places to eat/hang out are, Fugakyu, Back Bay Social Club, Row 34, Trillion Brewing Company, Legal's, Kelly's Roast Beef, the roof of the Envoy Hotel, and Park for just a few! If you're a Boston backpacker, expect to spend about \$70 a day. This budget will cover a hostel dorm, using the public bike-sharing program, street food, kitchen of their own meals, and free attractions. If you come during the season not, you can reduce your accommodation budget by at least \$15 per day. A mid-range budget of about \$193 per day will cover staying in a private hostel room, eating out for all meals, some attractions per day, and public transportation. With a luxury budget of about \$465 or more per day, you can get a four-star hotel in the city center, any meal you want, drinks, tours, unlimited public transportation, and a couple of Uber rides. If you want to distribute your budget, you can take a tour on different days and reduce your daily spend by about 50 USD. (But book your hotel well in advance -- the \$300 4-star property mentioned here is at the bottom end of the staircase.) You can use the chart below to get an idea of how much you need to budget each day, depending on your travel style. Keep in mind that these are daily averages: some days you'll spend more, some days you'll spend less (you might spend less each day). We just want to give you a general idea of how to make your budget. Prices are in USD. Boston is super expensive, even for those who live here. You can go through the money very, very quickly if you are not careful. But Boston is also a lot of a college town, so there are plenty of cheap options if you know where Here are a few ways to save money in Boston: Eating at Quincy Market - Quincy Market Food Colonnade in Faneuil Hall offers a wide range of food stalls at low prices. It is a very popular place to eat, especially during lunch. Take the walking tours -- Because Boston is such a historic area, you're able to take advantage of plenty of free walking tours including the most famous, The Freedom Trail. Free Foot Tours in Boston Boston a number of different free walking tours. Drinking outside the center - Experience Boston's nightlife in Brighton or Allston for cheaper drinks and a more relaxed (and younger) environment. Enjoy the free parks - You can experience nature for free at the Arnold Arboretum. Here you can find more than 260 acres of free public space, open from sunrise to sunset. There are running trails, gardens, open lawns, and lots of flowers from all over the world. Relax among the plants and step back from the fast pace of the city. Enjoy free concerts — During the summer, there are plenty of free concerts on the Charles River.Consider the Boston City Pass -- This pass allows for nearly 50% off entry to a number of attractions. A pass costs \$64 per person and takes you to the entrance to the Museum of Science, the New England Aquarium, the Skywalk Observatory, the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, and the Boston Harbor Cruises, or the Harvard Museum of Natural History.Couchsurf — you'll find plenty of guests in the city who will show you around their city and enjoy you for free. I have used a lot of times and really enjoyed it as a way to meet people. Get free water or free top-ups — If you order a drink, most restaurants allow free refills while eating your meal or low-cost refills. And, for my non-American friends, the water is free! Save on rideshares – Uber and Lyft (my favorite company) are much cheaper than taxis and are the best way to get around a city if you don't want to take a bus or pay for a taxi. The shared/pool option (where you share a ride with other people) offers even better savings. You can save money from early rides with the following codes: Lyft (MATTHEW999 to save \$10) and Uber (jlx6v to save \$15). Take a Charlie Card - You'll probably take the train a lot and fares can add up. The Charlie Card keeps the cost of your trips slightly lower than the one with a regular ticket. Subway - Boston's public transport system is known as MBTA, and is the easiest and cheapest way to get around. The metro will take you wherever you need it, even in Cambridge. You can buy tickets for single or multiple rides at vending machines located at most stations. A single basic fee is \$2.90, but if you get a Charlie Card, the fee is \$2.40 each way (the cards are free and you can upload them with as much money as you like). You can also get a day pass for unlimited travel for \$12.75 or a weekly pass for \$22.50, which covers the subway, bus, and shuttle networks Bus – The bus goes everywhere the metro doesn't. It's \$2 per ride or \$2 per ride with a Charlie Card.Water Shuttle -- you're probably not going to use the water shuttle service very often -- just if you're visiting Boston Harbor Island and Charlestown, or some stops along the waterfront. Rates range from \$3.70 to \$9.75 each. Bicycle -- it has a bike sharing program known as Blue Bikes, with stations throughout Boston, Cambridge, Brookline and Somerville. It costs \$2.50 for each 30-minute interval of motorcycle use, or you can get a one-day pass for an unlimited number of bike rides for \$10. However, this pass is only suitable for two-hour intervals, no longer than that, and you'll have to pay \$2.50 for each extra 30-minute interval. Taxis - Taxis are not cheap here, but they are plentiful. You'll pay about \$15-20 for a ride between most tourist spots in the city center, but more if traffic is heavy. Ride-Sharing - Uber, Lyft, and Via are much cheaper than taxis and are the best way to get around a city if you don't want to take a bus or pay for a taxi. The shared/pool option (where you share a ride with other people) offers even better savings. Via is the cheapest option. You can save money from early rides with the following codes: Lyft (MATTHEW999 to save \$10) and Uber (jlx6v to save \$15). June to October is the best time to visit Boston for warm and pleasant temperatures and a mild fall season. Summer is definitely high tourist season, with accommodating rates nailing prices; however, you get all the good things like outdoor restaurants, baseball games, and free outdoor concerts. In the summer months, temperatures are as high as 27 degrees centigrade. Even in October, the average high daily temperature is 16 degrees centigrade, just pack a sweater and take advantage of shoulder season prices and a smaller tourist crowd. Winter can be cold and snowy, but it's the best time to visit if you want to see Beantown on an extremely tight budget. Boston is a safe place for backpacking and traveling -- even if you're traveling alone, and also as a solo female traveler. Violent attacks are rare, but like all big cities, practice caution wherever you go. Don't walk alone at night in unlit places and keep your valuables safe at all times. Chinatown and parts of Downtown Crossing can be a bit shabby at night, so avoid them if possible. You should always watch people pour your drinks, keep an eye on pickpockets, and stay alert if you're using the metro late at night, but this is true for all major cities. Worried about travel scams? Read about these top 14 travel scams to avoid. There aren't many here in the United States though. Always trust your instincts. If a taxi driver looks shady, stop the taxi and get out. If your hotel is more serene than I thought, get out of there. Make copies of your personal documents, passport and ID. Forward your itinerary to your loved ones so they know where you are. If you don't do it at home, don't do it when you're in Boston. Follow this rule and you will be fine. The most important advice I can offer is to buy good travel insurance. Travel insurance will protect you from illness, injury, theft and cancellation. Cancellations. complete protection in case something goes wrong. I never go on a trip without it as I have had to use it many times in the past. You can use the widget below to find the right policy for you:Below are my favorite companies to use when traveling around Boston. They are included here because they constantly raise the best deals, offer world-class customer service and great value for money, and overall, they are better than their competitors. Momondo – This is my favorite flight search engine because they are looking for a wide range of sites and airlines. I never book a flight without checking here first. Skyscanner – Skyscanner is another great flight search engine looking for loads of different airlines, including many of the budget carriers that larger sites lack. While I always start with Momondo, I also use this site as a way to compare prices. Airbnb – Airbnb is a great accommodation alternative to connect with homeowners renting their homes or apartments. Big cities have tons of ads! (If you're new to Airbnb, you get \$35 from your first stay!) Hostelworld - This is the best hostel accommodation site out there, with the largest inventory, best search interface, and wider availability. Hotwire – This is probably the hotel site I use the most. I really like his blind booking process. Essentially they say we have a super rate on a 3 star hotel in downtown Boston, and you book it without knowing the name of the hotel. While that sounds scary, I never ended up in a bad hotel and they saved a ton of money in the process. Highly recommended. Priceline – I like this website because it allows you to bid on hotels and save a lot more money than booking directly. When used in combination with the Better Bidding offer site, you can greatly reduce the cost of your hotels, up to 60%. Take Walks – This day tour company will give you access within attractions and places you can't get anywhere else. Their guides swing too! Intrepid Travel – If you want to take a group tour of the United States, go with Intrepid Travel. They offer good small group tours that use local operators and leave a small environmental footprint. If you go on tour with someone, go with them. And, as a reader of this site, you will get exclusive discounts when you click on the link! EatWith – This site allows you to eat your home-cooked meal with locals. Locals run ads for dinners and special meals for which you can sign up. There is a fee (everyone sets their own price), but this is a great way to do something different, give the brain a local, and make a new friend. World Nomads – I buy all my travel insurance from World Nomads. They have great customer service, competitive prices and in-depth coverage. I've been using them since I started traveling in 2003. Don't leave the house without it! In this section, I will give you my for the best travel backpack and tips on what to pack. What is the best backpack to travel to Boston? I recommend the REI Flash 45 Pack. It is light and comfortable, front load, and fits perfectly into the overhead bin of an airplane. Size: 45-47L Straps: thick and comfortable with compression technology that pulls the package load up and inwards so that it doesn't feel so heavy. Features: removable top cover, large pocket at the front, compatible hydration, shaped hip beltYe you want something different, refer to my article on how to choose the best travel backpack for more tips and tricks, as well as suggested travel backpacks. What to pack for BostonClothes1 pair of jeans (heavy and not easily dryable, but I like them: a good alternative are the khaki pants)1 pair of swim shorts1 T-shirt1 t-shirt1 of pair of sneakers-flop8 pairs of socks (I will always end up losing half)7 pairs of boxer shorts (I'm not a boxer type!) 1 toothbrush1 toothpaste tube11 razor floss package1 small bottle of shampoo1 small bottle of shower gel1 towelDeodorantSmall Medical Kit (safety is important!!) MiscellaneousFemale Travel Packing List I'm not a woman, so I don't know what a woman is wearing, but Kristin Addis, our solo women's travel guru, wrote this list as an addition to the above basics:Clothing1 swimsuit1 sarong1 pair of elastic jeans (they wash and dry easily)1 pair of leggings (if it's cold, they can go under jeans , otherwise with a dress or shirt)2-3 long-sleeved top2-3 T-shirt3-4 spaghetti tops1 light cardiganToiletries1 shampoo dry spray and talc powder (long keeps keeps hair fat free between washes)1 hairbrushMakeup you use hair hair hair and hair clipsMinine hygiene products (you can choose to buy there too, but I prefer not to count on it, and most people have their favorite products)For more information on packaging, check out these posts:On the Road, by Jack Kerouac Written in 1957. Jack Kerouac's Beat Generation classic is a classic travel novel. Kerouac's character's frustration (which he modeled on himself) is frustration, desire to see the world, and adventures resonate with all of us who need some relief from modern life. The story follows his character, Sal, as he leaves Boston and heads west, riding the tracks, befriending, and partying all night. Find emotions, adventure, love, sex, drugs, poverty, and excitement as you move from a weak character to someone whose life experience brings It's a true American classic. Tip of the Iceberg, by Mark Adams in 1899. Edward H. Harriman (a wealthy railroad magnate) converted a steamer on a luxury cruise for some of The American's best scientists and writers and embarked on a summer trip around Alaska. Now, author Mark Adams traces that expedition, traveling more than 3,000 miles along the state's coast. Mark is one of my favorite writers, and this book is very very to turn right at Machu Picchu. Mark brings the vision of the people, history and culture of the state in a way he did with his other book. Wild, by Cheryl Strayed Forgetting the hype of the book (and the next movie), I really enjoyed this book. Cheryl Strayed's book is about her journey along the Pacific Crest Trail when she was 26. She leaves in the hope of finding herself and dealing with the death of her mother, the breakdown of her marriage and the use of drugs. He's looking for a fresh start. Along the way, he meets kindness, fellow happy hikers, and a deep sense of belonging. Full of wonderful prose, I found this book deeply moving. It's easy to see why the book became such a success. Dispatches from Pluto: Lost and Found in the Mississippi Delta, by Richard Grant As a big fan of the state of Mississippi, I was really eager to read this book. The state is an often overlooked tourist destination with quirky but wonderful people; beautiful parks, rivers and marshes; breathtaking architecture; and a complex and rich history for history buffs like me. In this book, English writer Richard Grant and his girlfriend moved to rural Pluto, Mississippi, to live a better life, escape the big city, lower their cost of living, and try something new. They learn to hunt, garden, fend off wildlife, handle snakes, and make friends with interesting characters along the way. The Not-Quite States of America, by Doug Mack The United States of America is more than 50 states. There are also the non-states of American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. In this fun, detailed, fact-rich book, Doug Mack explores these largely forgotten territories from the rest of the country, which play a more important role in our country than we realize. I had the pleasure of hearing Doug talk about his book in New York, and it's a wealth of knowledge -- just like his book! This is one of those travel books that expands your mind on the spot that you don't really know. Blue Highways: A Journey into America, by William Least Heat-Moon This is a deep dive into America's unknown small towns scattered around the map of the country, such as New Hope, Tennessee, Remote (Oregon), Why (Arizona) and Whynot, Mississippi. Yes, they are real city names! Heat-Moon's book is considered a masterpiece in American travel writing, and you'll love his adventures and the incredible people he encounters as he reveals the true American experience. This book shows you how to easily collect and redeem travel points so you can get a free air ticket and accommodation. Kristin Addis writes our column Solo women's trip and its step-by-step guide provides specific tips and advice for female travelers. This book features interviews with dozens of teachers and detailed information on how to land your dream job and make money the best-selling book will teach you how to master the art of travel so as to save money and have a richer and more local travel experience. Want more information? Check out all the articles I've written about traveling to the United States and keep planning your trip: travel.

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