

A Guide to

BOSTON

And its Surrounding Areas



Tourists know Boston as a city rich in history, famous for the Boston Tea Party, clam chowder, The Boston Marathon, and of course, the bar from “Cheers.” While all this is true, locals know it as a city full of diversity, with different cultures all coming together to make the city one that continues to make history so we can keep our place in textbooks for years to come.

Getting to know the neighborhoods

Allston/Brighton - A neighborhood that many students and young professionals are proud to call home, the Allston/Brighton area is known for its many local shops, restaurants, and hidden parks.

By MBTA: Approximately 30-45 minutes [Green line "B", 57, 66 buses]

By Car: Approximately 20-35 minutes

Back Bay - Aside from being home to New England's super star Tom Brady, this area is home to many well-known Boston attractions, such as Copley Place, The Prudential Center, The John Hancock Tower, Trinity Church, and of course, endless shopping and dining options on the famous Newbury Street!

By MBTA: Approximately 20-30 minutes [Green Line, 39 bus]

By Car: Approximately 15-20 minutes

Bay Village - One of the smallest neighborhoods in Boston with brick row houses and a central location that manages to isolate itself just enough to miss the hustle and bustle of the surrounding neighborhoods.

By MBTA: Approximately 25 – 30 minutes [Green line, 39 bus]

By Car: Approximately 15 – 25 minutes

Beacon Hill - Known for its picturesque streets and brownstones, this Boston neighborhood is home of the Massachusetts State House and borders the Boston Commons with its beautiful public garden and in the winter, skating rink!

By MBTA: Approximately 35- 45 minutes [Red Line, Green Line]

By Car: Approximately 15 – 25 minutes

Charlestown - Boston's oldest neighborhood and home of the Bunker Hill Monument, site of a key Revolutionary war battle. Charlestown is rich in history and conveniently located on the MBTA Orange Line and right off the I-93 expressway.

By MBTA: Approximately 50 – 60 minutes [Orange Line, 93 bus]

By Car: Approximately 25 – 35 minutes

Chinatown – New England's heart of Chinese Culture and home of many local markets and restaurants, Chinatown is located right downtown, in walking distance from South Station Bus Terminal and the Theatre District.

By MBTA: Approximately 30 – 40 minutes [Green Line, Orange Line, Silver Line]

By Car: Approximately 20 – 30 minutes

Dorchester – Commonly referred to as 'Dot,' this Boston Neighborhood is comprised of 17 sub-neighborhoods and is served by five stations on the MBTA red line and is easily accessible by I-93.

By MBTA: Approximately 45 – 40 minutes [Red Line, 8, 19, 47 bus]

By Car: Approximately 20 – 30 minutes

Downtown - Downtown Boston is the Central Business District of the city, it is also location to many tourist attractions and historical landmarks, such as Faneuil Hall, Quincy Market, Park Street Church, and the Old South Meeting House.

By MBTA: Approximately 30-40 minutes [Orange Line, Red Line, Green Line, Blue Line]

By Car: Approximately 20 – 30 minutes

The Neighborhoods

East Boston – Home of Boston’s Logan International Airport, East Boston offers a wide range of diversity and homely triple-deckers located all around the blue line. Plus, you can enjoy a beautiful view of downtown Boston from Pier’s Park, right on the Boston Harbor!

By MBTA: Approximately 45 – 55 minutes [Blue Line]

*By Car: Approximately 20- 30 minutes *Includes toll*

Fenway/Kenmore – An easy commute to the Longwood Medical Area and home to enthusiastic sports fans during baseball season, the Fenway/Kenmore area is accessible by many green line stops and is home to city Target and endless dining options.

By MBTA: Approximately 10 – 20 minutes [Green Line]

By Car: Approximately 5- 15 minutes

Hyde Park - Located 8 miles south of downtown Boston, Hyde Park is known for being an “Urban City with Suburban Characteristics.” It is home to a Branch of the Boston Public Library and plenty of local dining options.

By MBTA: Approximately 55 – 65 minutes [Providence Commuter Rail Line, 32 bus]

By Car: Approximately 25 – 35 minutes

Jamaica Plain - Occupying approximately 4.4 square miles of Boston, J.P. has managed to attract a community of recent college graduates, activists, and artists. Just south of the Longwood Medical Area, this neighborhood is proudly on of the greenest neighborhoods in the city.

By MBTA: Approximately 20 – 30 minutes [Orange Line, 39 bus]

By Car: Approximately 10 – 15 minutes

Mission Hill – Adjacent to the Longwood Medical Area and Harvard Medical School, Mission Hill is one of the smaller neighborhoods in the city. It is accessible by the MBTA Green Line “E” Branch and the Orange Line. It is also within walking distance to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, The Isabella Stuart Gardner Museum, and of course, Boston Children’s Hospital.

By MBTA: Approximately 15 – 25 minutes [Green “E” Line]

By Car: Approximately 5 – 10 minutes

North End - Boston’s “Little Italy” is made up of cobblestone streets and endless pasta, pizza, and cannoli options. The 1680 Paul Revere house and the Old North Church can be found on the self-guided freedom trail.

By MBTA: Approximately 35 – 45 minutes [Green Line, Orange Line]

By Car: Approximately 25 – 35 minutes

Roslindale – Roslindale is known for maintaining a “neighborhood feel” while sitting just six miles southwest of Downtown Boston. It is home to many local restaurants and shops, plus the Roslindale Farmers Market in the centrally located Adams Park, open on Saturdays in the spring, summer, and fall!

By MBTA: Approximately 40 – 50 minutes [34, 35, 36, 37,40, 51 busses to the Orange Line]

By Car: Approximately 25 – 35 minutes

The Neighborhoods

Roxbury - A neighborhood built on diversity and community, Roxbury has a wide array of neighborhoods ranging from urban to suburban, and easy access to the Longwood Medical Area and Downtown Boston via the MBTA.

By MBTA: Approximately 30 – 40 minutes [Orange Line, Commuter Rail Lines, 44, 8, 19, 47 busses]

By Car: Approximately 15 – 25 minutes

Seaport – Residing right on Boston’s waterfront, the Seaport has a vibrant and unique vibe that is hard to find anywhere else in the city. It is filled with entrepreneurs, innovators, and artists that enjoy living in the newly developed yet greatly historical neighborhood.

By MBTA: Approximately 45 – 55 minutes [Silver Line]

By Car: Approximately 25 – 35 minutes

South Boston - Referred to as “Southie” by locals, this neighborhood borders the waterfront and has many parks, including the “Lawn on D” which is a hot spot for live music, games, and light up giant swings!

By MBTA: Approximately 45 – 55 minutes

By Car: Approximately 25 – 35 minutes

South End - When it comes to entertainment and food, the South End is far from lacking. Known for its Victorian styled homes, this Boston neighborhood has no MBTA trains running through it, but is close to neighboring subway stops, such as Copley, Symphony, and Prudential on the Green Line!

By MBTA: Approximately 20 – 30 minutes

By Car: Approximately 10 – 20 minutes

West End - Home of TD Garden and Massachusetts General Hospital, the West End is dominated by high-rises and enthusiastic sports fans on game days. This neighborhood rests conveniently on the Red, Green, Blue, Orange, and commuter rail MBTA lines to points north, giving you easy access to the entire city and suburbs!

By MBTA: Approximately 40 – 50 minutes

By Car: Approximately 20 – 30 minutes

West Roxbury – With a short commute to center city, West Roxbury offers a friendly neighborhood vibe and definitely doesn’t fall short on local restaurants and shops.

By MBTA: Approximately 50 – 60 minutes [35, 36, 37 busses to the Orange Line]

By Car: Approximately 25 – 35 minutes

Getting to know the Surrounding Areas

Brookline – Birthplace of John F. Kennedy, Brookline borders six Boston neighborhoods, and gives you a small town charm while being just about a ten minute drive away from the big city action. Coolidge Corner, a popular neighborhood for bookstores and local restaurants, is just a 20 minute walk away from Children’s Hospital!

By MBTA: Approximately 15-25 minutes [Green “C” line, 65 bus]

By Car: Approximately 10-20 minutes

Cambridge - The proud home of Harvard and MIT, Cambridge sits right on the Charles River and has so much to offer, including a beautiful library and endless bookshops and local cafes.

By MBTA: Approximately 35 – 45 minutes [Red Line, Green Line, 66 Bus]

By Car: Approximately 15 – 25 minutes

Malden – Malden is a diverse neighborhood with a mix of old Victorian homes, high-rise apartments, and two to three family homes. It is also part of the Middlesex Falls Reservation, with plenty of space to walk, hike, rock climb, and picnic.

By MBTA: Approximately 50-60 minutes [Commuter Rail, Orange Line]

By Car: 25 – 35 minutes

Medford – Home of Tufts University, Medford is just 3.2 miles northwest of Boston, and is notably one of the best suburbs for young professionals in Massachusetts. It includes many parks, including a hike up to Wright’s Tower, which will earn you a breathtaking view of Boston.

By MBTA: Approximately 50-60 minutes [Commuter Rail, Orange Line]

By Car: 30 – 45 minutes

Quincy – With 27 miles of Coastline, Quincy is a lively, vibrant city that has tons of dining, shopping, and things to do for residents and visitors alike.

By MBTA: Approximately 60-70 minutes [Red Line]

By Car: 35 – 45 minutes

Somerville – Though Somerville only spans across four square miles, it certainly knows how to pack a lot into such a small area. Between local farmers markets, community theatre, and always being within walking distance of a good cup of coffee, Somerville has it all!

By MBTA: Approximately 35 – 45 minutes [Red Line, 87, 88 bus]

By Car: Approximately 25 – 35 minutes

Watertown Bordering the Massachusetts Turnpike and Soldiers Field Road, Watertown is home to many family owned businesses and is able to give you a town vibe while being located right next to the City of Boston.

By MBTA: Approximately 55-65 minutes

By Car: Approximately 35-45 minutes

Know Before You Move

Parking

Please know that the city of Boston is **VERY** good at giving out parking tickets. Keep the following information in mind if you decide to bring your car with you and your apartment/home does not include parking options:

Parking Permits— Many of Boston’s residential streets are now “Resident Parking Only.” If you are going to be leaving your car on the street, you will need a permit to avoid getting a ticket. Parking permits are **free** however you will need to provide proof of residency, and your car must be registered at your current address.

To obtain your permit, you can apply online by going to www.boston.gov and searching “Parking Permit Application.” You will need to have your Massachusetts vehicle registration handy, as well as a document that proves your residency (credit card bill, cable bill, gas or electric bill, current apartment lease signed within the past 30 days, etc.)

MBTA

If you live in the city, the MBTA is probably one of the easiest ways to get around. Boston Children’s Hospital offers employees 50% off with a maximum subsidy allowance of \$125 per month. You have the option of purchasing either a bus pass, a link (bus and subway) pass, or commuter rail pass.

*For more information, including how to sign up for an MBTA pass, please visit the Parking And Commuter Services link on the Boston Children’s Internal Webpage at <http://web2.tch.harvard.edu/parking/>

Local MBTA Prices as of 7/1/2019

SERVICE	MARKET VALUE	YOU PAY
Local Bus Services	\$55.00 / month	\$27.50 / month
Local Bus and Subway Lines	\$90.00 / month	\$45.00 / month