

BostonUSA 2011-2012 Tour Ideas & News

The **Greater Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau (GBCVB)** www.BostonUSA.com
Larry Meehan, Vice President of Media & Tourism; Tel: 617-867-8231; e-mail: lmeehan@bostonusa.com
Stacy Shreffler, Manager, Media Relations & Tourism Sales Tel: 617- 867-8203, e-mail:
sshreffler@bostonusa.com;
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New Tour Ideas

There are now **more than 50 great tours available in BostonUSA** There are tours by foot, boat, bike, bus and even tours in amphibious vehicles called “ducks” that explore Boston & the Charles River! There are Italian, Chinese, Russian, chocolate, or Jewish culinary walking tours, bicycle tours, kayak river tours, Freedom Trail costumed tour guide tours, cultural heritage tours, whale watch tours, lighthouse tours, movies-filmed-in-Boston tours, pedicab tours, Fenway Park tours, Segway tours, Tall Ship tours, Upper Deck (13-ft-high!) Trolley tours, college campus tours, yacht tours, ghost tours, tours of Harvard by Harvard students, youth-led neighborhood walking tours, lunch or dinner cruise tours.

Student Tours : BostonUSA National High School & College cultural, college visit, & music Festival Tours January-May

As the educational capital of the United States Boston & Cambridge hosts several high school & college festivals between January –May annually. The Greater Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau is committed to promoting these festivals- and similar future festivals- to tour planners worldwide

- **58th session of Harvard Model United Nations-for high school students. HMUN 2011 will be held** from Thursday, January 27 to Sunday, January 30, 2011 at the Sheraton Boston. www.harvardmun.org/ Harvard Model United Nations is a four-day international relations simulation for high school students held annually in downtown Boston. At HMUN, delegates gain insight into the workings of the United Nations and the dynamics of international relations by assuming the roles of UN representatives and members of other international bodies and national cabinets. HMUN is an exciting opportunity for students to debate issues that confront world leaders and to draft resolutions in response to these global issues. Participants will develop their abilities to work with others who are equally motivated and passionate about the topics of debate and to respond to global concerns. HMUN 2011 builds upon decades of experience. In 1927, Harvard held its first annual Model League of Nations, followed by the first Model United Nations conference in 1953. This longevity and the dynamic that only a conference of our size can provide make HMUN the preeminent simulation of its kind in the world. True to the spirit of the United Nations, founded in 1945, HMUN strives to foster a constructive forum for open dialogue on complex global issues, including international peace and security and economic and social progress. HMUN stresses the in-depth examination and resolution of pressing issues, emphasizing process over product. During the conference, students learn the importance of balancing national interests with the needs of the international community, while also learning about the powers and limitations of international negotiation. Delegates will preserve their countries' national policy while negotiating in the face of other, sometimes conflicting, international policies.
- **The 57th session of Harvard National Model United Nations for university students , February 17-20, 2011 www.hnmun.org Boston Park Plaza Hotel.** The event draws 3,000 college and university students from over 35 nations in order to engage in enlightening debate over the most pressing international issues. The staff of over 200 Harvard undergraduate students commits itself for over 11 months to creating a conference that will promote instructive dialogue and cultural exchange that are key to a memorable experience. As delegates fight for the interests of the countries they represent, their skills in researching, writing, negotiating, and public speaking will be put to the test. Harvard National Model United Nations or [HNMUN](http://www.hnmun.org) is the **longest running college-level Model United Nations simulation in the world and among the largest in the United States.** HNMUN was first run in 1955, ten years after the formation of the United Nations. The easiest way to contact HNMUN info@hnmun.org. **Model United Nations** (also **Model UN** or **MUN**) is an academic simulation of the United Nations that aims to educate participants about civics, current events, effective communication, globalization and multilateral diplomacy. In standard Model UN, students take on roles as diplomats and participate in a simulated session of an intergovernmental organization (IGO). Participants research a country, take on roles as diplomats, investigate international issues, debate, deliberate, consult, and then develop solutions to world problems.

- **43rd Berklee High School Jazz Festival March 5, 2011:** <http://www.berklee.edu/events/hsjazzfest/> **at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston, Massachusetts. Berklee's annual event is the largest of its kind in the United States.** Big bands, combos, and vocal jazz ensembles will perform and compete throughout the day. All ensembles are adjudicated by a panel of Berklee's top faculty and will receive a written critique of their performance. Top-ranked ensembles will be awarded partial scholarships to Berklee's Five Week Summer Performance Program, and individual students are invited to audition for tuition scholarships towards the full-time program or our Five Week Summer Performance Program. The day's events will also include performances by Berklee faculty, tours of Berklee's campus, open jam sessions, and much more. Ensembles can perform in competing categories determined by school size, or choose to participate in a non-competing category. All participating ensembles are adjudicated by a panel of Berklee's top faculty and receive a written critique of their performance.
- **Annual March & April Heritage Festival Tours to Boston:** the national Heritage Festivals tour company offer six (6) tours to the Boston Symphony Orchestra in their Heritage Music Festival series. The tour provides student groups with participation in a performance in a national music festival, an on-stage mini clinic , a gala awards ceremony, dinner, and dance, an award for participation one semester performing arts academic credit , and the opportunity for music educators to earn professional development points . The 4-day tour includes the experience to some of the nation's finest music in the historical city of Boston, featuring the Boston Symphony, tours of the Freedom Trail, the USS Constitution (Old Ironsides), & the Bunker Hill Monument. 2011 dates include: **March 24-27, 31-April 3, April 7-10, 14-17, 28- May 1& May 12-15, 2011.**
- **5th Cambridge Science Festival Apr 30-May 8, 2011:** <http://cambridgesciencefestival.org/Home.aspx> The Cambridge Science Festival, the first of its kind in the United States, is a celebration showcasing Cambridge as an internationally recognized leader in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) . The Cambridge Science Festival offers a wide range of STEM-related activities – lectures, debates, exhibitions, concerts, plays, workshops, etc. – over nine days at a variety of locations. Modeled on art, music, and movie festivals, the Cambridge Science Festival makes STEM part of the wider culture by illuminating the richness of scientific inquiry and the excitement of discovery. The festival attracted 30,000 people in 2010- individuals, families & groups . The festival is a collaboration of MIT, Harvard University, WGBH PBS TV (the producers of NOVA) & the Museum of Science Boston.
- **College Visit Tours:** Greater Boston offers the highest concentration of colleges & universities in the world. There are 58 –from well-known Harvard to less-well-known Suffolk & Emerson . There are internationally known music colleges- the New England Conservatory, the Boston Conservatory & Berklee College of Music. There are highly urban campuses and there are scenic suburban campuses such as Wellesley College & Tufts University. College visit tours -- typically an hour-long tour and an hour-long question-and- answer session with an admissions officer – provide clients with a feel of campus life that is not possible by leafing through a brochure or clicking through a web site. Students can speak to students on campus and modest meals included on the tour itinerary.
- **Backstage Tours:** Do you know about Boston backstage tours, classes or customized tours available at the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Huntington Theatre (across the street from the BSO), the Boston Ballet and other theatres for groups? Details from the GBCVB.
- **Did you know that Boston offers high school resident led walking tours? mytown (Multicultural Youth Tour of What's Now):** MYTOWN provides youth-led walking tours focused on the multi-ethnic and hidden history of Boston's neighborhoods, specifically the South End, Lower Roxbury and The Fenway. Let Boston high school students give your students an unforgettable tour of their neighborhood. To book a tour, go to the [website](#) and click the [tours tab](#).
contact: Lisa Owens, executive director; lowens@mytowninc.org; o: 617 536-8696 x12

Flower & Garden Festival Tours April-June

As the home of the first botanical garden, first arboretum, first landscape architect (Frederick Law Olmsted) first garden cemetery, first park network (The 125-year-old Emerald Necklace), in the United States Boston & Cambridge hosts many garden & park events during the nine (9) week late April- June period. In 2011 Boston celebrates the 3-year-old Rose Kennedy Greenway, the 20th birthday of the award-winning Leventhal Post Office Park, the 15th birthday of the Boston Harbor Islands National Park, and the 30th birthday of the Frederick Law Olmsted Home & Studios National Park Site.

This year Boston hosts WAFA- **The World Flower Show** June 15-19, 2011 at the Seaport World Trade Center. Groups are coming from all over the world- this is the first time the show has been hosted in the USA! The Greater Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau is committed to promoting these festivals- and similar future festivals- to tour planners worldwide. The neighborhood Garden Tours are quite diverse- and can feature pocket-sized patio spaces to rooftop terraces to neighborhood parks and community gardens

Details on these festivals are included on their web sites:

- **35th “Art in Bloom” indoor festival of art & flowers** created by 60 New England garden clubs Museum of Fine Arts Boston April 30-May 2, 2011 www.mfa.org
- **Mother’s Day Tribute** on Rose Kennedy Greenway May 7, 2011 www.rosekennedygreenway.org
- **103rd Lilac Sunday Celebration** Arnold Arboretum May 8, 2011 www.arboretum.harvard.edu/
- **“Make Way for Ducklings “ Celebration** Public Garden Boston May 8, 2011 www.friendsofthepublicgarden.org
- **82nd Hidden Gardens of Beacon Hill Tour Day** May 19, 2011 www.beaconhillgardenclub.org/tour.html
- **Antiques at Elm Bank Show** Elm Bank (home of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and the Elm Bank grounds which include All America Selection Trial Gardens, Weezie's Garden, The Bressingham Garden, The Italianate Garden, The Goddess Garden, The James Crockett Memorial Garden, and the Society gardens) www.masshort.org Wellesley June 11-12, 2011
- **10th World Flower Show** (WAFA) First ever in USA **Seaport Trade Center** June 15-19, 2011 <http://www.wafausa.org/>
- **Common Boston annual architecture & design festival** BSA sponsor June 16-26, 2011
- **18th Annual South End Garden Tour** <http://southendgardentour.org/> on Saturday, **June 18, 2011**
- **16th Newport Flower Show** Rosecliff Newport Mansion June 24-26, 2011 www.newportmansions.org/page4702.cfm

Holiday Season Tours November-December 2011

Boston & Cambridge present holiday lightings that can be viewed by coach, trolley or by foot, a wide selection of performances in Boston’s Theatre District & the Fenway Cultural District, during the eight (8) week November-December period. Tours can include escorted Freedom Trail Holiday strolls (walking), holiday cruises and Holiday Duck Tours. In 2011 Boston celebrates the 25-year-old Christmas Festival exposition at the Seaport World Trade Center. The largest Holiday Tree (85’) in New England is presented annually at Faneuil Hall Marketplace. In 2011: November 19, 2011 to January 2, 2012. The Shops at Pru have created a partnership with the Boston Pops which presents an annual 25-concert performance festival to break a world record. This year Keith Lockhart, Santa, members of the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, and Prudential Center friends on Boylston Plaza, Saturday, December 4th, at 12 noon are planning to set a World Record for the largest group of holiday carolers! WROR's Loren Owens and Hank Morse will host the festivities. A capella groups and choruses will perform, including the Berklee Musical Theater Club. FREE hot chocolate is served!

The Holiday Season begins on the first weekend of November with the Christmas Festival Expo & concludes with the Boston’s original New Year’s Eve arts festival **FIRST NIGHT**.

Details on these festivals are included on their web sites:

- **25th Boston Christmas Festival & Gingerbread House Competition.** Seaport World Trade Center, Nov 4-6, 2011
- **30th Boston Globe Ski & Snowboard Expo** Seaport Trade Center Nov 10-14, 2011
- **35th Antiquarian Boston Book Fair** Hynes Convention Center November 11-13, 2011 (tent)
- **2011-12 Boston Common Frog Pond Ice Skating Pavilion** 16-week Season Nov. 11-March 17, 2012
- **Holiday Lighting on Newbury Street** Nov 15, 2011
- **Historic Holiday Stroll Tours on Freedom Trail** Thurs-Sundays, Nov 17- Jan 30, 2012 (tent)
- **“Christmas at the Newport Mansions” Breakers, Elms & Marble House** late Nov 2011 -Jan. 3, 2012
- **27th Faneuil Hall Marketplace Holiday Lighting Ceremony.** Saturday, Nov 19, 2011
- **Shopping Madness/Thanksgiving Weekend Nov. 24-27, 2011**
- **Old Sturbridge Village Thanksgiving Day Celebration** Nov 24, 2011
- **Plimoth Plantation Victorian Thanksgiving Dinner** Nov 24-25. 2011
- **Stone Zoo “Zoo Lights”** Nov 24 - Dec 28, 2011
- **BostonUSA Shopping Madness Weekend** Nov 24-27, 2011 (Thanksgiving Nov. 24) Official beginning of Shopping Holiday Season. Friday, Nov 26, 2009. Most shops open early & close late daily (“Midnight Madness!” Wrentham Village & other shops open at midnight Nov. 25, 2011 for the 2011=2012 Shopping Season)
- **44th Annual “Nutcracker” Boston Ballet,** Opera House Boston Nov 25-Dec 31. 2011
- **26th Merry Tuba Christmas free 150-tuba outdoor concert** Faneuil Hall Marketplace Sat, Nov 26, 2011
- **Teddy Bear Tea** Four Seasons Hotel Boston Dec 1-23, 2011
- **“31 Nights” Prudential Tower** nightly lights Dec 1-31, 2011
- **Boston Common Holiday Lighting,** Thursday, Dec 1, 2010 (lit nightly through Dec)
- **15th Provincetown Holly Folly Celebration,** Dec 2-4, 2011
- **Handel Messiah** Symphony Hall Dec 4, 2010 at 7:30pm
- **36th Nantucket Christmas Stroll Weekend** Dec 3-5, 2011
- **42nd season of Black Nativity. Northeastern University** Dec 3-19, 2011
- **5th Everyone Love Latkes Party! Harvard Square** Cambridge Dec 4, 2011
- **Handel Messiah** Symphony Hall Dec 4 & 5, 2011
- **37th Holiday Pops (Boston Pops Holiday concerts).** Boston Symphony Hall, Dec 7-31, 2011
- **41st Annual Christmas Revels** Sanders Theatre, Dec 2011
- **11th CraftBoston crafts exposition** Cyclorama Boston Center For The Arts Dec 10-12, 2011
- **“Sparklefest” Welcome Kiosk in Harvard Square & Skating Rink Opening** Charles Hotel Dec 11, 2011
- **Old North Church Christmas Concert** Dec 12, 2011 (tent)
- **Handel & Haydn Society concert,** Jordan Hall Dec 15 & 16, 2011
- **Shop Over Weekend in Harvard Square** Dec 16-17, 2011
- **Breakfast with Santa and then Santa strolls throughout Harvard Square!** Dec 18, 2011
- **9th Christmas Celtic Sojourn performance,** Cutler Majestic mid Dec
- **“Christmas by Candlelight at Old Sturbridge Village”** mid Dec.
- **Christmas Manger & Tree Lighting Service** at Old North Church, Dec 19, 2010
- **“Bright Lights for Winter”** on Rose Kennedy Greenway Tuesday, December 20, 2011
- **Winter Solstice in Boston** Tuesday, Dec 21, 2010
- **“Bright Lights for Winter Nights”** light displays on Rose Kennedy Greenway Parks Winter Solstice-Spring Solstice December 22,2011 -March 20, 2012

- **Christmas Eve Services** at Trinity Church, Copley Square & Old North Church, Dec 24, 2011
- **Christmas: Sunday**, Dec 25, 2010
- **New Year's Eve/Day/FIRST NIGHT Weekend** (Fri-Mon) Dec. 30- Jan. 2, 2012
- **36th First Night Boston**. Saturday, Dec 31, 2011

Value Pass Programs for Tours

Do you know about the \$44.99 The Boston Explorer Pass by Smart Destinations Inc, providers of Go Boston Card. Explorer Pass lets customers choose up to **3 attraction visits** over any time period up to 30 days. **The Boston Explorer Pass** is a great new option for groups because of the price point and flexibility (valid for 30 days): One Ticket, 26 Attractions, Your Choice of 26 attractions – including the New England Aquarium, The Museum of Science, a tour of Fenway Park, and more. It's \$28.99 for youth (Ages 3-12); \$44.99 for ages 13+ Smart Destinations offers discounts for large groups (typically 10% since it's such a low priced product with limited margin to begin with).

Do you know about the \$44.00 Boston CityPass, valid for nine days from day of first use and includes one admission to each of these attractions: Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Museum of Science, New England Aquarium, Skywalk Observatory and the option of either the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum or the Harvard Museum of Natural History.

Do you know about Boston's \$15.00 one-week all-system 'CharlieCard LinkPass'? In Boston & Cambridge virtually every **hotel, museum, attraction, historic site, shopping destination, & sightseeing tour is minutes walk from a "T" station**. The Boston "T" system is a 100-terminal 5-color easy-to-understand underground rail system. Single trips are **\$1.70**. A Boston CharlieCard can be preloaded with one trip, two trips- or 6 trips

Festival Tours March & June-July

Boston & Cambridge present more than 100 festivals & events every year. We have selected two for your review:

St. Patrick's Weekend Boston Annual- this year: March 17-20, 2011. Considered America's most Irish city, Boston offers visitors a packed schedule of entertainment, food & drink, during the 4-day St. Patrick's Weekend. The weekend features the **grand parade (the 109th) on Sunday March 20, 2011** that attracts 100,000 spectators. There are **one hundred Irish pubs (most with live music) within walking distance** (and easy public transit so there is no need for a car during the weekend!).

St. Patrick's Boston is not limited to Irish music- the weekend offers **live performances of music ranging from Irish folk to South African folk classical to jazz** to the annual **Dropkick Murphy's** performances (usually 4+ concerts) at Boston's House of Blues next to Fenway Park. On Saturday night comedienne **Paula Poundstone** at the Wilbur, and the Del McCoury Band with **Preservation Hall Jazz Band** Symphony on Saturday night. On Sunday **Ladysmith Black Mambazo** in concert (*one of the main inspirations of Paul Simon when he recorded the groundbreaking album Graceland*), Sanders Theatre in Cambridge. A **Celtics** home game on Wednesday night at TD Garden kicks off the weekend.

St. Patrick's Boston Tours can also include the **March 16-20, 2011 Boston Flower & Garden Show** Seaport Trade Center as well as the 2nd week of the **March 13-18 2011 Restaurant Week Boston**, **Special hotel packages are available on www.BostonUSA.com**

July 4th & 6-day Boston Harborfest Annual- this year: 30th Boston Harborfest / July 4th 2011

The award-winning festival, now in its 30th year, Harborfest is considered to be the largest July 4th & harbor festival in the nation with visitors enjoying more than 200 activities during the Festival. Over 200 Daily Events during the Festival are concentrated in Boston's historic downtown and waterfront districts, with sponsored Main Events on Boston's City Hall Plaza.

More than 200 events during these six days will provide entertainment throughout the festival. The schedule includes historical reenactments, walking tours, sunset harbor cruises, and free noontime

concerts throughout the week on City Hall Plaza. Among the highlights of the entertainment is the annual Party on the Plaza on Saturday July 2 from 6pm-10pm. Visitors to the 30th Annual Chowderfest will vote for “Boston’s Best Chowder” after sampling traditional New England style clam chowder from top Boston area restaurants on Sunday, July 3rd from 11am-6pm. Free admission to over half of the over 200 events makes the celebration accessible to all. For a detailed schedule or more information, please call (617) 227-1528 or visit www.bostonharborfest.com on the web

- **30th Boston Harborfest, Boston Harbor- Harbor Islands** June 29-July 4, 2011. **June 29** features Boston Harborfest Opening Ceremony at Faneuil Hall Marketplace featuring American Birthday Cake: 12:00 PM – Opening Ceremonies with special guest Mayor Thomas Menino. A GIANT 4th of July themed cake will be distributed to all attendees. 12:30 PM – Live Performances at Faneuil Hall Marketplace ; Afternoon: fifes & drum music; guided tour of exterior gardens and the statuary of the historic Bulfinch State House; lunch cruises Boston; historic house tour; costumed walking tour Freedom Trail; traditional Chinese Music in Concert at King’s Chapel ; tour of Old North Church; waterfront walking tour ; storytelling at Kings Chapel & Old South Meeting House ; early 19th Century Gun Drills at USS CONSTITUTION at Charlestown Navy Yard; walking tour of Bunker Hill battle site; re-enact the Boston Tea Party aboard the Liberty Clipper ; 45-piece Navy Band Northeast in Concert at Faneuil Hall Marketplace; Dinner Harbor Cruises; evening walking tour “ The Dark Side of Boston”; tour of four historic Boston pubs; Tall Ship Sunset Sail; “Ghosts and Gravestones “ Old Town Trolley tour; “ Paul Revere Tonight!” performance at Old North Church.
- **7th Navy Week Boston, Boston Harbor** June 29-July 4, 2011
- **17th Boston Harborfest Children’s Day**, City Hall Plaza June 30 features Whale Watch Cruises; morning Kids Sail aboard the Tall Ship LIBERTY CLIPPER; walking tour of Charles River Basin Bells, Bridges and Locks; all day fun and festivities with jugglers, face painters, Wayne Potash and the Music Fun Band on City Hall Plaza; presentation of “ America’s 2nd War of Independence? The War of 1812! At USS Constitution Museum; lunch harbor cruises; tours of Kings Chapel & elegant mansion of Harrison Gray Otis, a Congressman, Senator and the third mayor of Boston; “Captain Kidd’s Treasure Hunt “self-guided hunt for history with a pirate’s map; early 19th Century Gun Drills at USS CONSTITUTION; re-enact the Boston Tea Party aboard the LIBERTY CLIPPER ; Dinner Harbor Cruises; Tall Ship Sunset Sail.
- **30th Boston Harborfest July 1** features Whale Watch Cruises; noon live concert at City Hall Plaza; walking tour of Charles River Basin Bells, Bridges and Locks; presentation of “ America’s 2nd War of Independence? The War of 1812! At USS Constitution Museum; lunch harbor cruises; late afternoon live concert at City Hall Plaza; tours of Kings Chapel & elegant mansion of Harrison Gray Otis, a Congressman, Senator and the third mayor of Boston; “Captain Kidd’s Treasure Hunt “self-guided hunt for history with a pirate’s map; early 19th Century Gun Drills at USS CONSTITUTION; re-enact the Boston Tea Party aboard the LIBERTY CLIPPER ; Dinner Harbor Cruises; Tall Ship Sunset Sail; and a Harboring Boston’s Mysteries Tall Ship tour at 9 pm.
- **30th Boston Harborfest** July 2 features **Special 18th Century British Procession** from the Long Wharf (300 years old this year) west up State Street (formerly King Street) past the 1713 Old State House (formerly Government House) up Court Street (formerly Queen Street) and southwest on Tremont Street to the 1634 Boston Common for a British Encampment. Whale Watch Cruises; noon live concert City Hall Plaza; walking tour of Charles River Basin Bells, Bridges and Locks; presentation of “ America’s 2nd War of Independence? The War of 1812! At USS Constitution Museum; lunch harbor cruises; tours of Kings Chapel & elegant mansion of Harrison Gray Otis, a Congressman, Senator and the third mayor of Boston; “Captain Kidd’s Treasure Hunt “self-guided hunt for history with a pirate’s map; early 19th Century Gun Drills at USS CONSTITUTION; Afternoon “Son of Boston: A Salute to Ben Franklin” walking tour ; re-enact the Boston Tea Party aboard the LIBERTY CLIPPER ; Dinner Harbor Cruises; Tall Ship Sunset Sail; Evening concert at City Hall Plaza; USS CONSTITUTION Sunset Parade, a traditional ceremony honoring our Nation’s flag; and a Harboring Boston’s Mysteries Tall Ship tour at 9 pm.
- **30th Boston Chowderfest, Boston City Hall Plaza**, July 3, 2011
- **Boston Pops - pre-July 4 Concert Hatch Shell** July 3, 2011
- **July 4, 2011 Schedule:** 9:00 am(& 11 :00 am) Independence Day Service at Old North Church; 10:00 am Reading of Declaration of Independence at Old State House & Ancient & Honorable

Artillery Parade; 11:00 am Independence Day Service Kings Chapel; 11:00 am Oration at Faneuil Hall 11:30 am USS CONSTITUTION departure from berth, Noon –12:05 pm – Salute to the Nation off the US Coast Guard Base, North End & USS CONSTITUTION fires her 21-gun salute; Boston Harborfest events all afternoon 2pm-7pm, **8:00pm Boston Pops** –Concert & **10:30pm Fireworks** Hatch Shell Details www.july4th.org

Food & Wine Tours

- **Do you know about Boston's diverse culinary tour options?**
- Book a tour with Italian food expert, Michele Topor on an award-winning culinary walking *tour & tasting* in Boston's *Little Italy*, the North End, one of the nation's oldest Italian communities. Visit the butcher, the baker and the cheesemaker. Sample their specialty store items and learn the best of olive oil, pasta, biscotti and grappa. Book a tour with Market Tours to on a culinary walking *tour & tasting* in Boston's Chinatown one of the nation's oldest Asian communities. Visit Chinese groceries, restaurants and herb shops.....
- Book a tour with Ahla Tours that offers three hour walking culinary tours in the vibrant Russian and Jewish neighborhood of Brookline, next to Boston . Taste authentic delicacies and discover traditions behind the food.
- **Book a tour with Boston's Taste of Chocolate - Boston Chocolate Tour** We offer an ever-growing array of exclusive tours, world-class tastings, hands-on workshops and chocolate-fueled corporate team building events.....
- Book a tour with the Freedom Trail Foundation to get a mix a revolutionary history and taverns on their *Historic Taverns Pub* tour....
- Book a tour with Historic Tours of America on their **Original Old Town Trolley Chocolate Trolley Tour Saturdays Jan 8-April 2011**. .
- Book a tour with Discover Roxbury to learn about the Muslim culinary cultural traditions and learn about the regional spices and how to stock your own Middle Eastern pantry. Join Chef Nadine Nelson on a tour of a Halal market and a Sudanese coffee shop to see and experience aspects of Muslim culture firsthand. Afterward, participate in an interactive cooking class where you will prepare traditional Moroccan dishes. Ahla Food Tours offers groups culinary tours in the vibrant Russian and Jewish neighborhood of Brookline. Taste authentic delicacies and discover traditions behind the food..
- Find out about the **Coastal Wine Trail**, which features four wineries in Southeastern Massachusetts: Truro Vineyards (Truro), Travessia Urban Winery (New Bedford), Westport Rivers (Westport), and Running Brook (N. Dartmouth). It also includes four wineries in Rhode Island: Sakonnet Vineyards (Little Compton), Newport Vineyards (Middletown), Greenvale Vineyards (Portsmouth) and Langworthy Farm (Westerly). All wineries are open for tours and tastings; they are affordable (less than \$10) and within one to two hours drive.
- **America's Greatest Idea: The National Parks of BostonUSA: 12 within 30 miles of Downtown Boston. Did you know that BostonUSA** can offer the story of America's revolutionary birth at Minute Man National Historic Park and Boston National Historic Park, the story of its growth as a world power at Lowell National Historical Park, America's maritime history at Salem Maritime National Historic Site, African American heritage at the Boston African American National Historic Site; the lives of three great American Presidents by stepping instead the homes of John Adams, John Quincy Adams (Adams National Historical Park) and John Fitzgerald Kennedy (John Fitzgerald Kennedy National Historic Site).
- **Did you know that in downtown Boston**, open year round, the **Freedom Trail** – actually a **National Park**- is a 2.5 mile walking trail through downtown Boston, the North End, and Charlestown which features some of the most important and famous sites in American history: **The Boston Common, The State House, Park Street Church, Granary Burying Ground, King's Chapel, Old Corner Bookstore, Old South Meeting House ,Old State House, Massacre Site, Faneuil Hall, Paul Revere House, Old North Church, Copp's Hill Burying Ground, USS Constitution, The USS Constitution Museum, and the Bunker Hill Monument.**
- **Did you know that** the 935-acre National Minuteman Historical Park is **only nine (9) miles northwest of downtown Boston**, open year round, features the North Bridge, the "Minute Man" statue, colonial homes, four miles of Battle Road, the homes of Louisa May Alcott ("Little Women") and Nathaniel Hawthorne. The Park has two Visitor Centers, interpretive exhibits and 'living history ' events from time to time.

- **Did you know** in Cambridge, next to Boston, the Longfellow House is a spectacular 245-year-old Georgian-style house **where George Washington headquartered as commander of the Continental Army during the British siege of Boston in 1775-1776.** The house is also where one of America's foremost 19th century poets, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow lived for 45 years while teaching at Harvard. The street- Brattle Street –is a magnificent attraction. Called "Tory Row" this was a residential area for British loyalists before the Revolution with many 200-year wood houses still standing.
- **Did you know that Boston by Foot** - one of America's oldest walking tour companies- caters to groups of all ages. All of Boston by Foot's classic tours are perfect for teenagers and young adults looking to experience Boston in intimate groups, with a focus on the city's unique heritage of history and architecture. Please email mary.bostonbyfoot@gmail.com for regular tour brochure and a special group rates sheet for your reference.
- **Do you know about Boston's new HarborWalk** that permits visitors to walk the waterfront of downtown Boston on a signed walking and bicycle shared **trail** from the USS Constitution to the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library Museum? In fact, it connects the new ICA contemporary Art Museum to the 18th center Fort Independence, waterfront cafes to cruises to Cape Cod- and it's 44 miles long!....
- **Do you know about Boston's new fast cruises? Boston Harbor Cruise's 'Codzilla'** offers a thrill ride from Long Wharf out into Boston Harbor? Codzilla is a 135-seat 2800 horsepower two turbo-charged thrill ride that provides a harbor cruise at 40 miles a hour.
- **Do you know about Boston's European-styled rigid inflatable boats (RIBS)** designed for a day of fun on the water (40 knots!) by Flagship Adventures, departing from the East Pier of Seaport World Trade Center. **Do you know about Entertainment Cruises dining options?** There are seven options for groups: Boston Lunch Cruise , Boston Seasonal Lobster Lunch Cruise , Boston Sunday Family Fun Brunch Cruise , Boston Dinner Dance Cruise, Boston Sunset Cruise, Boston Midnight Moonlight Cruise , & Boston Private Yacht Charters.
- **Do you know about Boston's Tall Ship cruise option:** during warm months there is a daily two-hour ride aboard **Liberty**, a 125-foot replica of a nineteenth century schooner. The tall ship will take a tour of the Boston Harbor and the Boston Harbor Islands. ..
- **Do you know about Bay State Cruises offers groups** the state of the art catamaran, the Provincetown III, with ample comfortable seating and an enclosed, air-conditioned lower deck, and get there in just 90 minutes. Or escape into the past with our nostalgic traditional style ferry, the Provincetown II, and enjoy the scenic 3 hour ride lying in the sun or taking in the sights. Boston's newest Fast Ferry is now served by Boston's newest subway service, the Silver Line! Our Boston to Provincetown ferry is now the easiest to get to from the Airport, the Subway, Expressway, and Mass Pike, AND the most convenient for parking. **Ask about Bay State Cruise Company's Student Dance Cruise**, Joining us from New York, Connecticut, Boston, or Providence? Let us get you there faster than the other ferries. You'll save over an hour by traveling with us and you'll be feeling the fresh sea air rather than staring at the brake lights in Cape and 195 traffic.
- **Do you know about Boston Harbor Cruises new 260-seat Majesty Ship** for group tours Featuring a 2 hour cruise May-October narrated by expert on the Boston Harbor Islands & lighthouses. **Group Planners a new feature:** Menu features \$32.50 cruise & lunch/brunch group rate (25 or more for group rate)
- **Do you know that 5 WITS has two new shows; "Espionage"** a spy themed adventure and **"20,000 Leagues"** an underwater adventure – perfect for groups - are **now at Patriot Place** a retail and entertainment venue in nearby Foxborough, MA? Contact Kristina Letsch kletsch@5-wits.com
- **Did you know that Boston and Eastern Massachusetts offer some of the finest glass art on display anywhere in the country?** One could start with the extraordinary LaFarge stained glass windows of Trinity Church in Boston's Copley Square, then see the world-famous Blaschka 'Glass Flowers', 3,000 amazingly realistic models of flowering plants, at the **Harvard Museum of Natural History**; perhaps live glass blowing and flameworking demonstrations or even workshops at Boston's Diablo Glass School, or a visit to the glass globe at the Mapparium at the

Mary Baker eddy Library. Galleria Florentia on Boston's famous Newbury Street has a stunning collection of Murano glass on display and for sale. And of course, include a visit to Cape Cod and the Sandwich Glass Museum, with 6,000 Sandwich-made glass objects on glittering display, with demonstrations every hour daily of glass blowing. For more, the New Bedford Whaling Museum has two galleries of New Bedford-made glass. Surely eastern Massachusetts should become a world-famous glass art destination. **Diablo Glass School** has introduced a **new evening tour**: A team of four glassblowers will gather molten glass from the furnace to blow Venetian-style wine glasses. Wine and cheese will be served in the lounge. Other fine glassware will be exhibited and sold in the flame-working shop. The school offers a 30% discount for groups of 9 students in any of their classes. If the class doesn't have openings, the schedule can be arranged according to the group and the studio availability. **Diablo Glass School serves cool drinks and food during their events**. Contact: Doris Martinez; doris@diabloglassschool.com; (617) 442-7444

- **Did you know that Concord Bike Tours offers groups historic and scenic bike tours of Concord, MA. A unique ride through history...** central to the Revolutionary War, home to esteemed authors (Alcott, Thoreau, Hawthorne, Emerson), and beautiful scenery including Walden Pond - Concord holds international interest. CBT provides, bikes, helmets, water and licensed tour guides for groups from 2 - 50. Combine one of our bike tours with a local museum for a more enriched and cost saving visit. Please email: info@concordbiketours.com for a copy of the tour brochure and more specific information. Contact: Sue Merlino, susanmerlino@hotmail.com, 978.697.1897 - www.concordbiketours.com
- **Did you know that Urban AdvenTours offers groups historic and scenic bike tours of Boston?** We are committed to promoting sustainability with our fun, green tours of Boston's historic neighborhoods and popular landmarks. Tours are filled with historical and cultural information and include sites like Fenway Park, the Charles River Esplanade, Copley Square, and the South End. Urban AdvenTours can tailor our tours to suit specific interests or to include certain landmarks and stops. Special group rates and discounts are available as well. Please email info@urbanadventours.com for brochures, questions and additional information. Contact: Andrew Prescott andrew@urbanadventours.com Office: 617.670.0637 www.urbanadventours.com
- **Do you know about Boston's growing cruise options? Set for record-breaking 300,000 visitors with 111 Port Calls**, the 2,200-passenger Norwegian Dawn one of Norwegian Cruise Lines' newest and largest ships, will start sailing the Boston-Bermuda itinerary. The ship is 10 percent bigger Norwegian Spirit and is the third upgrade to Boston in just four years by the cruise line. Also next year Cunard's newest ship Queen Elizabeth will make her maiden visit to Boston on Sep. 22, 2011. In October 2010, officials unveiled the \$11 million makeover of the Cruiseport Boston Terminal, which modernized it from a vintage World War I military warehouse, into a colorful, hip new point of arrival & departure for ocean-going visitors. Cruiseport Boston's 2011 season runs from April through October offering an attractive mix of cruises to Bermuda, Canada & New England, Europe and the Caribbean.
- **Did you know that Harvard Museum of Natural History:** with a dizzying array of hundreds of animals, dinosaurs, whale skeletons, gemstones, minerals and meteorites – including a 42-foot-long *Kronosaurus* and one of the first *Triceratops* skulls ever discovered, the Harvard Museum of Natural History amazes and delights some 175,000 visitors per year, making this the University's most visited museum and not to be missed on a visit to the nation's oldest University, founded in 1636. The museum is just a 6-8 minute walk across the historic Harvard campus from Harvard Square. A ticket to this museum also admits you to the **Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology**. The museum has easy bus drop-off and **group rates** of just **\$8/adult, \$6/senior/student. Middle and High school student groups**, age 18 and under, are just **\$5/person**. Extend your visit with a lively campus tour led tour by Harvard undergraduates, or create a full-day adventure with a **Boston Duck Tour** amphibious vehicle tour of Boston, combined with *Trademark Tours'* student-led guided tour of the University. Student groups can add a lab or course at the museum during their group visit. You can also visit the museum by hopping off the hourly Upper Deck **Trolley Tour of Cambridge** from the Cambridge Galleria,

Tour News

Boston's new trolley tour: Boston Upper Deck Tours!

Upper Deck Tours are available now on fourteen (14) custom-built (13) feet tall bright green vehicles that look like a double-decker bus on the outside while featuring top deck stadium seating inside, offering a new option for Boston & Cambridge visitors. Upper Deck provides free transfer to their 1-hour fully narrated Super Trolley Tour of Cambridge including Harvard Square, MIT and the CambridgeSide Galleria Mall. **Added value- free admission vouchers to Upper Deck Tour ticket-holders: !** Old South Meeting House and Harvard Museum of Natural History, Charles Riverboat and Boston Harbor Cruise (choice of two) Upper Deck was been awarded a Trolley stop in the center of Harvard Square and is the only Trolley Tour that includes a scheduled tour out to Harvard Square. The Upper Deck Trolley Ticket. Includes both Boston Loop & Cambridge Loop. This year they are also offering \$4.00 all day parking with their ticket at the Galleria Mall in Cambridge. Later this year they will introduce a new Duck Splash & Upper Deck combo package. Bob Leikauskas , Captain, Super Tours 617-719-2910 bleikauskas@superducktours.com Details www.bostonsupertrolleytours.com

Trademark Tours, a four-year-old Harvard Student tour company, is growing!

Trademark Tours runs "laugh & learn" walking tours, travel packages and technical visits of Harvard University and the Freedom Trail. Founded by Harvard Alumni in 2006, the company has been called "the Daily Show of walking tours" by the New York Times and has been praised on NBC, CNN & National Public Radio for their funny, informative tours and youthful guides. **At Harvard, Trademark Tours runs "The Hahvahd Tour" a 70-minute walking tour of the Harvard Campus.** The tour is scripted to be entertaining and is performed by two Harvard students! The company offers enhanced packages and suggested itineraries at Harvard that include lectures & workshops with graduate students, special "sneak-peaks" into areas of Harvard normally off-limits to the public, and special dining opportunities at top Harvard Square Restaurants. **In Boston, Trademark Tours runs "Ye Olde Boston Tour" a 70-minute walking tour of the Freedom Trail & Downtown Boston.** For the first time in over 20 years a professional company has brought a new spin to classic tours of the Freedom Trail! The tour is scripted to be entertaining and is performed by two youthful guides, many of whom are from the theater department at Emerson University. Trademark Tours offers enhanced packages and suggested itineraries in Boston that include riding on the Duck Tours and dining at the famous Union Oyster House. <https://www.trademarktours.com/harvard/>

The **Boston Duck Tours** now offers **forty (40) group packages!** The Legal Seafood package, the Quack Em & Rack Em package, the Quack, Quack, Mangia package, the Dinner & a Movie package, the Duck, Duck, Juice package, the PRUferred package, the JFK- Year of Achievement package, the Blue Man Special package, the Souper Aquarium package, the Cheers from Faneuil Hall package, the Taste of The Back Bay package, The Rock 'N' Madness package, the Ducks & Bowling at Kings package, the Grand Finale package, the One if By Land, Two if By Sky package, the Boston History & the Mystery of Science package, the Boston Spirit package, the Improvisational Experience package, the See Boston See Food package, the Red Sox Experience package, The Parlez-Vous Quack Quack package, A Day At The ICA package, the Boston Birthday Party package, the Whale of a Time package, the Last Resort package, the Mexican Fiesta package, the Pizza Party package, the Picture Perfect package, the Harvard Happenings package, The Caught Up in Copley package, the Tinseltown Meets Beantown package, the Tinseltown Meets Beantown package, the Shop Til You Drop package, the Bon Voyage from Boston package, the Numero Uno package, the Waterfront Dining package, the Avenue of The Arts package, the Royal Splash package, the Broadway in Beantown package, & the Sports Fan package!... **Boston Duck Tours** has added a **third seasonal** departure location at the **New England Aquarium** to complement locations at the Museum of Science and Prudential Center. Now that the Rose Kennedy Greenway is complete and the Big Dig is a thing of the past, Boston Duck Tours is partnering with the **New England Aquarium** to bring the DUCKs back to the Waterfront area of the city.

Boston's newest culinary tour: Boston Chocolate Tours

Touring on Saturdays in the South End and the Back Bay and Sundays on Beacon Hill, **Taste of Chocolate** presents **Boston Chocolate Tours**, 2.5 hour guided walking and tasting neighborhood tours

of select Boston chocolate shops, bakeries, and cafes. Tours are the perfect blend of history and trivia, combined with a range of simply amazing chocolates. Details www.tasteofchocolate.com...

Bay State Cruise's Boston to Provincetown-Fast Ferry Service-2011 Season Schedule May 20-October 17 - 3 roundtrips daily- Docking in down town P/town. Dune Tours, Trolley Tours, pilgrim Monument climb, shopping, restaurants await you in this Cape Cod town. Fast, sleek service, outdoor deck seating, climate controlled cabin, wifi, food and beverage onboard- group rates available 20 or more starting @ \$40.00 per person round trip. www.provincetownfastferry.com

Bay State Cruise's New Bedford/Martha's Vineyard Fast Ferry- 2011 Season- April - May up to 6 roundtrips daily- 1 Hour transport to the towns of Oak Bluffs, or Vineyard Haven. Sightseeing Tours, Gay head Cliffs, shopping, restaurants or your choice on this tiny island of 20 miles in length. Ride controlled, climate controlled cabin, fast sleek ferries, outdoor deck seating, food and beverage onboard- group rates available - 20 or more @ \$40.00 per person. www.seastreakmv.com

The Boston Little Brewster Lighthouse Island Tour: The three-hour adventure begins with a boat cruise and a narrated tour on a comfortable vessel through Boston Harbor Islands, where you will experience the geology and rich maritime history of the islands with a National Park Service ranger. Disembark at Little Brewster Island to visit the first and oldest lighthouse station in the United States, and the last to retain a Coast Guard keeper. For Boston Harbor Islands (**setting of the new "Shutter Island" movie!**) map & tour Details: www.bostonislands.org

Boston Harbor Cruises Luncheon /Brunch Cruise is new Majesty is Boston's most elegant way to cruise and dine.... Two hour Luncheon cruises depart Monday through Friday at 12 noon. Two hour Brunch cruises depart Saturday & Sunday at 12 noon. Narration is provided by Doug Bingham, president of the Massachusetts chapter of US Lighthouse Society. Award winning menu provided by Talk of the Town caterers.

This summer the **Bostonian Society** –the 1713 **Old State House** - introduced **Revolutionary Boston**[®], new 20-minute '**Boston Massacre Tours**' led by historic interpreters that will be free with admission to the Old State House Museum, located right on the Freedom Trail next to the National Park Service Visitors Center. www.bostonhistory.org

Freedom Trail Foundation Tours: New tours, new partnerships: **Cruise to the Freedom Trail.** A new partnership with Old Town Trolley enables cruise passengers to purchase Freedom Trail *Walk Into History* tour tickets right on-board the ship/ trolley and all Old Town Trolley ticket outlets at a discounted rate. A 90 minute tour. New: **Pirates, Patriots and Privateers – Boston's Revolutionary Maritime History:** Walk the plank, or stay on the Freedom Trail, your choice when you take the Freedom Trail Foundation's newest tour of the Freedom Trail along Boston harbor. Pirates and privateers, shipbuilders and merchants, rebels and patriots fill the stories of Boston's colorful maritime history during the American Revolution. Walk with an 18th century costumed guide for the sites, sounds and tales of England's once most important colonial port. 90 minute tour begins at the Bostix Booth, Faneuil Hall. **New ! Bunker Hill or Bust:** Hear the details of *Don't fire 'till you see the whites of their eyes* from an 18th century costumed colonialist or a British Red Coat soldier, when you walk into history on the Freedom Trail Foundation's newest tour. Originating at the Charlestown Navy Yard, next to the USS *Constitution*, this walking tour takes you on the path followed by Red Coats as they stormed Bunker Hill three times on that fateful day June 17, 1775. Learn of the massive British losses and their pyrrhic victory, as it launched a Revolution. 90 minute tour begins as NPS VIC in the Charlestown Navy Yard. All tours offered as public, private and group tours. Contact: Freedom Trail Foundation Sam Jones 617.357.8300 x 204 sam@theFreedomTrail.org

Urban AdvenTours offers quality bike rentals and guided bike tours of Boston from their convenient downtown location. They are committed to promoting sustainability with fun, green tours of Boston's historic neighborhoods and popular landmarks like Fenway Park, the Charles River Esplanade, Copley Square, and Beacon Hill. Tours are filled with historical and cultural information, **perfect for student & adult groups** and can be customized to meet particular needs. Special group rates and discounts are available as well. Please email info@urbanadventours.com for brochures, questions and additional information. Contact: Andrew Prescott andrew@urbanadventours.com Office: 617.670.0637 www.urbanadventours.com

Entertainment Cruises, Boston's premier dining cruise company offers a wide variety of cruise options to meet any group's needs. The Spirit of Boston features a fun and festive atmosphere with buffet meals, interactive DJ emcees, singing wait-staff and harbor narration. The Odyssey offers elegant dining, live entertainment and harbor narration. Ask about our tour operator luncheon specials from \$34 per person inclusive. Contact: Fred Stern, Tourism Account Manager, (617) 603-0810
fstern@entertainmentcruises.com

Hollywood in BostonUSA 2011: Visitors can visit “The Town” & “Social Network” filming sites On Sep. 17, 2010 “**The Town**” a crime/bank robbery/heist film starring Ben Affleck, Jon Hamm, Rebecca Hall was released and became the number one USA box office movie that weekend. Greater Boston filming venues included Fenway Park, Harvard Square, the North End, Charlestown, and may other parts of Boston. The story of Cambridge as the birthplace of Facebook in 2004, “**The Social Network**” starring Justin Timberlake, Jesse Eisenberg, and Rashida Jones, used Harvard Square, the Thirsty Scholar pub in Somerville, Posh shop in Boston's South End, Milton Academy, Wheelock College, and Phillips Academy in the filming.

Attractions Cultural & Performing

The **John F. Kennedy Presidential Library Museum** is presenting a new exhibit celebrating the 50th anniversary of John F. Kennedy's inauguration. The preview *Passing the Torch – the Inauguration of John F. Kennedy* will open to the public on Friday, December 10, 2010 and be on display through September 2011. Featuring original documents, photographs, and artifacts from the collection of the Kennedy Presidential Library, this exhibit will showcase treasures from the ceremonial events leading up to and surrounding the inauguration of John F. Kennedy. Highlights of the exhibit include: the never-before-displayed top hat and brown suede gloves worn by President Kennedy to his inauguration; the Oleg Cassini evening gown worn by Jacqueline Kennedy to the inaugural-eve gala; a reading copy of President-elect Kennedy's farewell address to the state of Massachusetts, also known as the “City upon a hill” speech; never-before-published or exhibited photographs by award-winning American photographer Phil Stern showing spectators lining the Inaugural Parade route on January 20, 1961; and a draft and the final version of Ernest Hemingway's tribute to President Kennedy, penned after watching the inaugural address on television. Experience the life and legacy of President John F. Kennedy by taking a self-guided tour of the 25 Multimedia exhibits in our Museum. Visit the Museum as part of a group of 12 or more and receive a **discount on admission** with reservations made at least one week in advance. Contact Kennedy.GroupVisits@nara.gov and Lee Statham lee.statham@JFKFOUNDATION.org.

The \$504 million **Museum of Fine Arts (MFA) Art of the Americas Wing** is now open! Come to the MFA and see masterpieces from around the world and across the ages; At every turn, you'll find breathtaking works of art, from masters of American painting to the icons of Impressionism, from exquisite Asian scrolls to ancient Egyptian mummies; Group tours, both guided and self-guided, are available by appointment, year-round. **Museum of Fine Arts has announced dates of five major 2011 exhibitions:** “*Conversations: Photography from the Bank of America Collection*” Feb 9 – June 19, 2011; “*Chihuly: through The Looking Glass*” exhibition of the world- famous glass artist Apr 10 – August 2, 2011; “*Jewels, Gems & Treasures: Ancient to Modern*” July 19-Nov 1, 2011; “*Ellsworth Kelly*” Sept 18, 2011 - March 4, 2012; “*Degas & The Nude*” Oct 2, 2011 –Jan 22, 2012; & “*Aphrodite & The Gods of Love*” Oct 26, 2011-Feb 20, 2012 . Contact Martha Davis (mdavis@mfa.org)

New England Aquarium: The New England Aquarium \$10 million New Balance Marine Mammal Center has opened on the waterfront side of the Aquarium with fur seals **Cordova, Ursula, JD, Isaac & Baranov**. The new open-air pavilion features a 60-foot-long 68,000 gallon pool. The new Boston HarborWalk (the entire Boston waterfront is now bordered by the HarborWalk which is 44-miles in total) wraps around the Center so that visitors can view the seals from the HarborWalk.

Coming April 2011: The Largest Shark and Ray Touch Tank on the East Coast

This exhibit will feature sharks and rays in a 25,000-gallon tank surrounded by shallow edges and viewing windows, allowing visitors to experience a close encounter with these animals.

Note: This exhibit is still under construction. Species are subject to change.

The **New England Aquarium's visitor map** has been translated into the following languages: Chinese (Traditional), French, German, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish.

The new **Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA)** on the waterfront has exceeded its visitor projections & been featured as an architectural landmark throughout the world. The new waterfront Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) has become a visitor landmark. **Institute of Contemporary Art Boston is 75 in 2011: The ICA announces two exhibitions: "Kuri" & "Vinyl Records."** Mexican **Gabriel Kuri's** first solo museum exhibition in the U.S will include 30 sculptures and 15 collages that feature sales receipts, newspaper and plastic bags. *The Record* is the first museum exhibition to explore the culture of vinyl records within the history of contemporary art. *Gabriel Kuri: Nobody needs to know the price of your Saab, Feb. 2 – July 4, 2011; The Record: Contemporary Art and Vinyl April 15 – Sept. 5, 2011.*

As Museum Fine Arts Wing Opens, new \$32 million Boston Conservatory theatre opens and \$115 million Gardner Museum Wing tops off. Two blocks west of the Museum of Fine Arts, the Renzo Piano 70,000-square-foot **\$115 million addition** to the **1903 Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum** has topped off, and is set for opening in **March 2012**. The new Wing features a three-story glass jewel box of a 300-seat performance hall and a temporary-exhibitions gallery. Two blocks east of the MFA the **Boston Conservatory**, the oldest performing arts conservatory in the nation, has opened the new \$32 million 16,000 sq. ft. Hemenway state-of-the-art 300-seat theater on *Oct. 13, 2010*. In the midst of the Frederick Law Olmsted-designed Fenway parkland between these landmarks (the "Back Bay Fens"), a new **\$1.3 million Emerald Necklace Visitor Center**, created from a 1887 H. H. Richardson designed granite Gatehouse, opens in March 2011.

Historic Tours of America® is renovating and expanding the **Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum to open in Spring 2012**. Museum spaces will be expanded to approximately twice their current size and will offer a multitude of easy to understand exhibits, video presentations, living history programs, and memorabilia that tell the story of the Boston Tea Party. Two traditional tall ships - replicas of the Dartmouth and the Eleanor - will be added to join the Brig Beaver, giving the site the full complement of the ships that took part in the Tea Party. Onboard the historic ships, visitors will explore authentically restored ship's decks, crew's quarters, and cargo holds. The wharf areas will also provide significant additional space for exhibitions, receptions and displays. There will be a **new Boston Tea Room** food service area which will be open for free public access during the day and will serve group functions at night. **The new Boston Tea Party site will be able to accommodate groups of up to 500 persons** for cocktails, dinner and events. There will be two new enclosed show spaces that will allow us to more efficiently handle larger visitor and school groups. Finally, the expanded gift shop will offer tea and Boston related gifts in a themed setting, and the addition of heat, air conditioning and working public restrooms will improve the site for locals and visitors alike. The **Eleanor** and the **Dartmouth, which will be built on site** (so visitors in 2011 will be able to see the construction in progress). *Congress St. Bridge, Open April 2012.*

\$60 million Kennedy Institute will break ground next to JFK Presidential Library in early 2011; open 2013. The 40,000 sq. ft. dramatic waterfront Kennedy Institute, designed by international architect Rafael Vinoly (Tokyo International Forum, Boston's BCEC) will feature multimedia archives and exhibits, a representation of the U.S. Senate Chamber, classrooms, and a replica of Sen. Kennedy's Capitol Hill Office. *Opening April 2013.*

On the Rose Kennedy Greenway: Armenian Heritage Park & Boston Harbor Islands Visitor Center
A new \$6 million Rose Kennedy Greenway park broke ground on Sep. 7, 2011. The Armenian Heritage Park at Atlantic Avenue opposite the Columbus Waterfront Park is a memorial to immigrants to the United States, and is dedicated to lives lost in the Armenian genocide of 1915 and all genocides since. The

park's design features a labyrinth of grass and inlaid granite, a fountain, and 12-sided split dodecahedron abstract sculpture on a reflecting pool of water that drains underground and comes out in the center of the labyrinth in a 16-ft single jet of water. The park anticipates a *Fall 2011 completion*. The new 4,500-square-foot **Boston Harbor Islands National Park Service Visitor Pavilion** (Utile Architecture, designer) that will serve as a gateway to the 15-year-old Boston Harbor Island National Park, under construction several feet away and will open in *May 2011*.

In Boston's Theatre District: historic 1913 Modern Theatre opened on **November 4, 2010**. The third of three endangered Theatre District historic landmark theatres on Washington St. is now restored as a **'new' mixed-use performing space and residence**. Suffolk University has restored the historic façade, created a 200-room student residence hall & 184-seat performance space. **Next door:** the \$38 million **Opera House**, home to the Boston Ballet, & the \$77 million **Paramount Theatre** (Emerson College) are restored and presenting extensive 2010-2011 performance seasons.

On Boston's Beacon Hill: The **1806 African Meeting House** has received \$4 million to complete renovation and will open in Fall 2011. The Meeting House is a key visitor site of the National Park Service African America National Historic Site, which is 30 years old this year.

The **Fogg Art & Busch Reisinger** museum buildings have closed for a multimillion renovation by designer **Renzo Piano**; key artworks from the Fogg will be on display at the **Sackler Museum** in a dynamic show called "Re:View" which will be available at all times during the renovation

The New Rose Kennedy Greenway Once the site of the 'Big Dig' and now 15 acres of flourishing parks, the Rose Kennedy Greenway feature the **new Boston Drop Off/Pickup Coach Area!** [Click here](#) for a map or email sshreffler@bostonusa.com.

The new **44-mile Boston HarborWalk** is complete www.bostonharborwalk.com

The **Boston Pops : Group Planners** a new feature: on www.bso.org select TICKETS/Group Sales check out the Boston Symphony Orchestra / Boston Pops to view the "Working with the Masters", a new video about the **BSO's popular clinic and masterclass programs for student performing groups**. Tour contacts: Helen Brady HBrady@bso.org & Jason Lyon jlyon@bso.org

Boston Ballet is in its **new home-** The Opera House Boston. The Boston Ballet offers groups 10+ save up to 50% on tickets to Boston Ballet's October – May season. **Groups- a new feature: take an exclusive behind-the-scenes Tour of The Boston Opera House prior to most performances**. Visit www.bostonballet.org or call Katie Wood ,Group Sales at (617) 456-6343 for more information.

Blue Man Group is a multi-media, multi-sensory theatrical journey that features three bald and blue characters backed by a three-piece band, that take the audience through an experience that is funny, intelligent, and visually stunning. Student Matinees now available for April, May and June of 2011. Kirstin Beal, Group Sales Manager Blue Man Group / Boston @ the Charles Playhouse krisseyb@blueman.com Group Sales: 617-542-6700 x3 ~ Direct: 617-542-6700 x14

In 2011 Broadway Across America/BOSTON will present: "**Jersey Boys**" Dec. 16-Jan. 30, 2011 at the Colonial Theatre; "**Mary Poppins**" Feb. 17-March 20, 2011 at the Opera House Boston; "**Burn The Floor**" March 8-13, 2011 at the Colonial Theatre; "**Hair**" March 22-April 10, 2011 at the Colonial Theatre; & "**West Side Story**" June 14-July 9, 2011 at the Colonial Theatre...Every year Broadway Across America/BOSTON presents a spectacular season of critically-acclaimed Broadway musicals and plays at historic Boston theatres, offering an exciting array of group programs designed to provide prime seats, ticket discounts, and personalized VIP service to group leaders. Broadway Across America – Boston is your official provider for tickets to the Broadway in Boston series which offers the best productions Broadway has to offer. Our Group Sales department is standing by to assist you with all of your group needs including the best discounts and seat locations. We are also always happy to assist you with recommendations on group friendly dining and accommodations within walking distance to our historic downtown venues. Linsey MacDougall - Group Sales Manager Linsey.MacDougall@BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com 617-482-8616

Huntington Theatre Company Boston: Groups of 10 or more receive at least 20% off the full ticket price. For groups age 35 or under, tickets are always \$25 each. For groups of full-time students, tickets are always \$15 each. For every 20 tickets purchased, 1 is free. **Groups- a new feature:** post-show chats with actors, backstage tours, behind-the-scenes peeks with Huntington staff, and on-site receptions. The **Huntington Theatre Company Boston celebrates its 30th season in 2011-2012!** : Contact: Adam Roberts, ARoberts@huntingtontheatre.bu.edu

Attractions Shopping

There are more than 500 shops within walking distance of hotels in Boston & Cambridge

Faneuil Hall Marketplace **50** shops, Copley Place **75** shops on 2 floors, Pru Shops **75** shops, Newbury Street **75** shops, Charles Street **25** shops , Downtown Crossing **25** shops , CambridgeSide **120** shops & Harvard Square – another **30** shops! Not one **Macy's** – two. Not one **Abercrombie & Fitch**-two. Not one **Apple Store**-two. **And just beyond Boston** Wrentham Village Premium Outlets offers **170 shops** . Legacy Place **25 shops**. Natick Collection 270 boutiques. Kittery Outlets **120** shops.

At Boston's Faneuil Hall Marketplace, we welcome group visitors! In 2011 we celebrate our 35th birthday year! Among the

For group travel, the properties offer the following programs:

- Meet & Greet Programs with special incentives, discounts and activities from select retailers and restaurants, including a Welcome Packet.
- Pre-Arranged Spouse Programs for meetings and conventions.
- Guided Tours upon request.
- Welcome Bags prepared for convention and meeting delegates.
- Gift Cards are available for purchase to include in the group's welcome bags.
- All three properties offer unique features/activities such as Bodies....The Exhibition, Museums, Production Studio with tours, Water activities and much more.
- Private Event and Meeting Space, including space for receptions.
- Private Lunch, Dinner and Cocktail Functions with all-inclusive group menus - available upon request.
- All properties offer pre-paid commissionable Food Court Dining Vouchers! Plus, some properties offer a "Top Purchasers Reward Program".
- Downloadable shopping/dining vouchers.
- Easy Motorcoach drop off/pickup nearby parallel to Rose Kennedy Greenway between Hanover & Clinton Streets.
- Marketing Support Materials - Images, logo and text for your printed and on-line brochures.
- Res agent seminars and training, plus agent incentive programs such as sweepstakes.
- FAM tour assistance.
- The program provides group travelers with dining vouchers redeemable at a number of participating restaurants in the Quincy Market Colonnade. 2010-2011 Dining & Dessert vouchers. Faneuil Hall Marketplace 'Savings at the Marketplace' booklets are available upon request. Savings Booklets offer exclusive discounts to over two-dozen of our shops and restaurants. There's no better place for a private party or business meeting than at Faneuil Hall Marketplace. Private event space is available in the Quincy Market Building as well as within a number of our full-service restaurants. For more information and to discuss private event opportunities, contact Rebecca Stoddard, Marketing Manager at Rebecca.Stoddard@ggp.com or call (617) 523-1300 x7093. The following applications are available to download: [Food Voucher Information & Order Form](#) ; [School Performance Registration Form](#) .For information regarding Dining Vouchers and/or School Group Performances, please contact the Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Marketing Department at patricia.marcus@ggp.com

Wrentham Village Premium Outlets Find impressive savings at Banana Republic, Barneys New York, Burberry, Coach, Elie Tahari, Hugo Boss, J.Crew, Kenneth Cole, Lacoste, Nike, Polo Ralph Lauren, Saks

Fifth Avenue Off 5th, Salvatore Ferragamo, Sony and more. **Wrentham Village Premium Outlets has nonstop daily coach service from Boston & Cambridge hotels!**

Wrentham has partnered with Uno's Chicago Grill located at Wrentham Village to provide group tours with great dining options. The bus driver and group leader will each receive a \$10 meal voucher good at Uno's. They also have a new group tour friendly menu if the entire group would like to dine before or after a day of Premium Outlet shopping Contact **Susan Bladd** sbladd@simon.com

Boston's newest shopping attraction is Legacy Place. A open-air shopping, dining and entertainment destination located at 950 Providence Highway at the intersection of Routes 1 and 128 in Dedham, southwest of Boston (26 minutes drive) , the center features a unique blend of retailers, including L.L.Bean, Kings, Borders, and Showcase Cinema de Lux. Legacy Place also hosts an exceptional lineup of restaurants that includes P.F. Changs, Aquitaine, and Met Bar & Grill alongside exciting specialty retailers such as Anthropologie, Urban Outfitters, and City Sports.

What's New at Logan International Airport

New air service to Boston's Logan International Airport continues to grow in 2010, with nonstop flights from 30 international markets & 71 USA markets.

Southwest now offers daily service to Boston from **St. Louis & Denver**, five (5) daily nonstop flights from **Chicago** Midway & seven (7) daily nonstop flights from **Baltimore**. On **June 27, 2010** Southwest will launch 5x daily service **Philadelphia** to Boston (increased to 8 in August) and Phoenix daily nonstop on Sept. 7, 2010

JetBlue now offers 4 daily nonstop flights from **Baltimore to Boston**, added **San Jose** nonstop daily service to Boston. JetBlue - will add seven (7) daily nonstop flights from **Washington Ronald Reagan National to Boston** on **November 1, 2010**. JetBlue launched new daily nonstop service from **Phoenix** to Boston on Sep. 2, 2010; Southwest added **Phoenix** to Boston daily service on Sept. 7, 2010. Delta has added **Las Vegas** twice-weekly nonstop service to Boston on Sept. 10, 2010. JetBlue will begin four daily Newark-Boston flights in **May, 2011**.

Porter Airlines now offers **5 daily nonstops** from **Toronto** City Center Airport to Boston.

What's New at CruisePort Boston

CruisePort Boston: \$11 million Terminal improvements underway at Boston's downtown waterfront: A multimillion dollar program is underway to make Boston's cruise ship terminal and pre-and-post Boston visits more 'visitor friendly.' Increasing arrival & departure terminal space by 40%, designing new East Entry & West Exit spaces, streamlined baggage drop off, new moving walkways & signing are featured in the 2010 \$11 million program. Visitor information in the Arrival area, easy-to-use Visitor Shuttle & easy-to-use Silver Line are key visitor service components. Next to Boston's Design Center CruisePort Boston is a 15-minute walk to downtown (visitors can take the HarborWalk which passes the waterfront **Institute of Contemporary Art** and **Boston Children's Museum** along the way).