

Boston: Hub of Culture and History

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Boston beckons the AAO for an early-spring annual meeting, May 1-5. The city's most common nicknames—the Hub, the Athens of America, the Cradle of Liberty—reflect its status as both a crossroads of world culture and a seat of the nation's history. Whether you're seeking the latest hot trends or the ashes of the American Revolution, Boston has much to offer.

In our annual convention preview, JCO highlights the things to do and places to see.

Climate and Transportation

Early May in Boston can be cool and foggy, with average highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 40s. Plan for unsettled weather, but hope for a few of those gloriously warm New England spring days with all the flowers in bloom.

Logan International Airport is not one of the easiest facilities to navigate. Each of the four terminals has its own ground transportation outside the baggage claim area; look for the signs for taxis (about \$35 to Hynes Convention Center) or shared vans (\$14 one way).

Once you're in town, the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority's subway system (the famous "T", some of which is above ground) is an easy way to get around. The convention center is on the Green Line. One-way fares to anywhere in the city are \$1.70 if you buy a CharlieCard in advance (www.mbta.com), \$2 if you pay as you go.

Attractions

To get an overview of the city, take one of the sightseeing or historical **Boston Harbor Cruises**, or book one of the ubiquitous **Boston Duck Tours**, which use World War II amphibious vehicles to tour Boston neighborhoods and then cruise down the Charles River.

There are two economical ways to visit the major historic and cultural sites. The Go Boston Card (www.gobostoncard.com) provides general admission to dozens of attractions in the city and throughout New England, including virtually all of those listed below, with one-, three-, five-, and



seven-day options.

CityPass offers about a 50% savings on admission to six top locations, including one of the world's great art institutions, the **Museum of Fine Arts** (presenting special exhibits on Japanese and decorative arts during the AAO meeting). Another highlight is the splendid **New England Aquarium** (offering a family field trip called "Tidepool Trek" on May 2 and a class on pond and river animals on May 5). The **Museum of Science** is running an IMAX film called "The Greatest Places" and an exhibit on women in science. The **John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum** focuses on presidential memorabilia and archives. The **Harvard Museum of Natural History**, across the Charles River in Cambridge, is also included in the CityPass; its adjacent **Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology** has exhibits on "Lakota Images of the Contested West" and "The

Boldface names in this article are listed in the Directory on pp. 190-192 with their telephone numbers and street addresses. For website links, click on the boldfaced or underlined name within the text.

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Continuous red line represents the Freedom Trail. (Map courtesy of the U.S. National Park Service.)



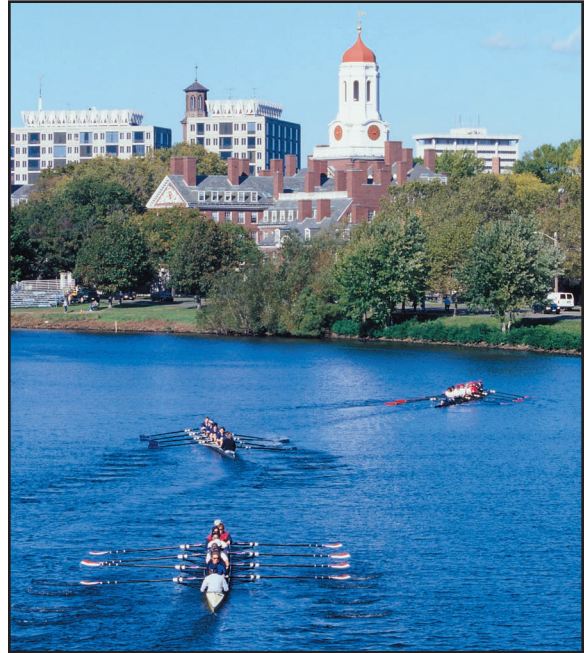
The Giant Ocean Tank, a four-story coral reef exhibit, impresses visitors at the New England Aquarium. (Photo courtesy of New England Aquarium.)

Archaeology and History of the Indian College and Student Life at Colonial Harvard”. Finally, the pass provides admission to the **Skywalk Observatory** atop the Prudential Center, along with an audio tour.

The **Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum** houses a gem of a collection assembled by a wealthy Boston couple around the turn of the last century; during the AAO convention, it will feature an exhibit called “Journeys East: Isabella Stewart Gardner and Asia”. Other specialized museums include the **Boston Children’s Museum**, the **Institute of Contemporary Art**, the **National Center of Afro-American Artists** (with a show on “A Nubian King’s Burial Chamber”) and the **Society of Arts and Crafts** (presenting “American Enamels”).

Just across the Charles River, in the Charlestown neighborhood, attractions include the

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Crew boats on the Charles River, with Harvard University in the background. (Photo courtesy of Greater Boston CVB.)

U.S.S. Constitution (“Old Ironsides”) and Museum, and the **Bunker Hill Monument** (no elevator!). In Cambridge, the distinguished Fogg and Busch-Reisinger museums at Harvard are closed for renovation, but the **Arthur M. Sackler Museum** is presenting highlights from all three collections. The **MIT Museum** is focusing on contemporary sculptor Arthur Ganson; its **Hart Nautical Gallery** is a tour de force of underwater engineering. MIT is also sponsoring the Cambridge Science Festival at various locations through May 3.

Farther afield, top attractions include the **Adams National Historic Park** (homes of John and John Quincy Adams) in Quincy, the **Hull Lifesaving Museum** at Point Allerton, **Plimoth Plantation** (a replica of Wampanoag and colonial settlements from the 1600s) in Plymouth, and the **Rose Art Museum** (featuring a Hans Hofmann painting exhibit) at Brandeis University in Waltham.

The best way to see historic Boston is to walk the 2½-mile Freedom Trail, marked off by red bricks in the pavement. Don’t miss **Faneuil Hall**, the market built in 1742, now filled with charming

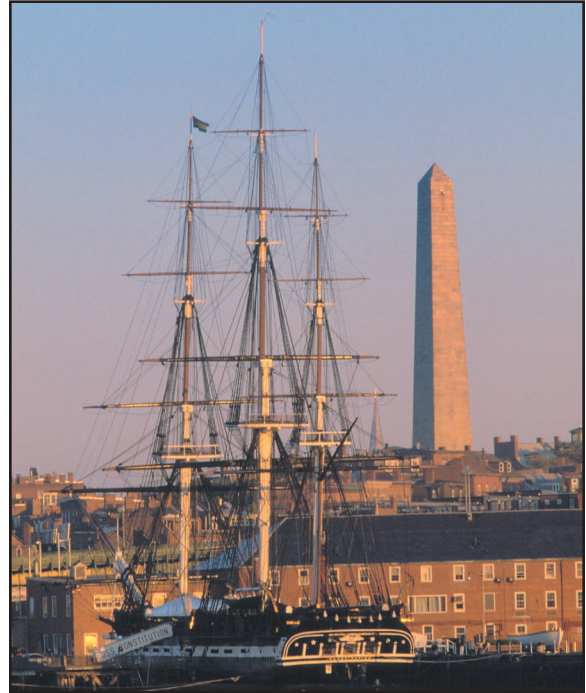
shops; **Paul Revere House**; and the **Old North Church**, where Revere flashed his legendary warning of the British advance. In fact, the city is full of stunning church buildings, including the **First Church of Christ, Scientist** (the “Mother Church”) and **Trinity Church** in Copley Square.

Performing Arts

Boston has perhaps the longest tradition of musical excellence in the United States. The **Boston Symphony Orchestra**, conducted by Colin Davis, presents a program featuring the stunning *Te Deum* by Hector Berlioz on April 29-30 and May 1-2 in Symphony Hall. A talented early-music group, Boston Baroque, will perform “Mozart and the Haydns” (Franz Joseph and Michael) on May 1-2 in **Jordan Hall** at the New England Conservatory of Music. Also in Jordan Hall, America’s leading soprano, Dawn Upshaw, will be in recital on May 3. The Moët Trio performs chamber music by Ludwig van Beethoven, Joan Tower, and Maurice Ravel on May 3 in the Gardner Museum. An intriguing world-music program, Shelley Neill’s “Irish Eyes Gypsy Soul”, is on tap on May 1 at the **Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center**.

Opera Boston presents Bedrich Smetana’s *The Bartered Bride* on May 1, 3, and 5 in the Cutler Majestic Theatre. The **Boston Lyric Opera** has W.A. Mozart’s *Don Giovanni* running through May 5 at the Shubert Theatre. For dance buffs, the **Boston Ballet** is presenting Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky’s *The Sleeping Beauty* through May 3 at the Citi Performing Arts Center, and Alvin Ailey’s American Dance Theater 50th Anniversary Celebration runs April 28-May 3 at the **Boston Opera House**.

The Opera House is also presenting a touring production of the Tony-award-winning Broadway musical, *Spring Awakening*, April 28-May 24. The **Boston University College of Fine Arts** offers two dramatic plays, *I Am My Own Wife* (through May 10, at BU’s TheatreLab) and *Trumpery: The Darwin Project* (through May 3, on the BU Theatre Mainstage). The “longest-running play in the history of the American theater”, *Shear Madness*, is



The U.S.S. Constitution, “Old Ironsides”, is moored in the Charlestown Navy Yard. (Photo courtesy of Greater Boston CVB.)

still bringing laughs at the **Charles Playhouse**, which is also presenting the ever-popular Blue Man Group. If you prefer improvisational comedy, try **ImprovBoston** or the **Improv Asylum**.

Restaurants and Nightlife

Restaurant recommendations are provided by our sister publication, *Sommelier Journal* (www.sommelierjournal.com). For fine dining, our top choices are **L’Espalier**, newly settled in the swanky Back Bay Mandarin Oriental; the highly regarded **No. 9 Park**, across the street from the state capitol; the wine-friendly **Meritage**, in the Boston Harbor Hotel; the innovative **Clio** and its sushi bar, **Uni**, in the Eliot Hotel; the hip **Troquet**, overlooking Boston Common; the elegant **Radius**, in the Financial District; and the classy **Aujourd’hui**, in the Four Seasons Hotel.

For more bistro-like fare, try the influential and unsurpassed **Hamersley’s Bistro** or the more refined **Mistral**, both on the South End. If you’re craving a New England lobster dinner, go to the venerable **Locke-Ober** or one of the many **Legal**



Fenway Park, home to the Boston Red Sox since 1912. (Photo courtesy of Greater Boston CVB.)

Sea Foods locations. And to satisfy a sweet tooth, don't miss the Chocolate Bar at **Café Fleuri** in the Langham Hotel.

The bar scene is led by the infamous **Cheers** on Beacon Hill; nowadays, it's more of a tourist attraction, with a duplicate location in the Faneuil Hall Marketplace. For live music, go to **T.T. The Bear's Place** (punk rock and new wave) or **Ryles Jazz Club** in Cambridge, **Scullers Jazz Club** at the Doubletree Guest Suites, the **Top of the Hub** at the Prudential Center (jazz), or **Wally's Café** (jazz) on the South End.

Sports and Recreation

The **Boston Red Sox** are on the road during the convention, but will be home at Fenway Park for games against Cleveland, May 6-7, and Tampa Bay, May 8-10. The **Volvo Ocean Race**, one of the world's premier yachting events, visits Boston's Fan Pier from April 25 through May 16. Walkers can exercise for charity in the May 3 **Project Bread Walk for Hunger**, a 20-mile trek through Boston, Brookline, Newton, and Cambridge.

Weather permitting, the Boston area has some classic golf layouts worth exploring. Outstanding public tracks include the **Braintree Municipal Golf Course**, **Brookmeadow Country Club** in Canton, **George Wright Golf Course** in Hyde Park, **Newton Commonwealth Golf Course**, **Pinehills Golf Club** in Plymouth, **Shaker Hills Golf Course** in Harvard, and **William J. Devine Franklin Park Golf Course** near downtown Boston.



Shops, galleries, and restaurants line Newbury Street in the Back Bay. (Photo courtesy of Greater Boston CVB.)

Shopping

Premier shopping malls include **Copley Place** in the Back Bay, **Downtown Crossing**, and **The Shops at Prudential Center**. Book lovers will appreciate the historic **Brattle Book Shop** downtown and the **Harvard Book Store** in Cambridge.

The Back Bay's Newbury Street is the place to stroll for boutiques and galleries, including **Alpha Gallery** (contemporary), **Gallery NAGA** (contemporary), **Robert Klein Gallery** (photography), **Lanoue Fine Art**, **L'Attitude** (glass and other media), **Mercury Gallery** (fine art), **Pucker Gallery** (eclectic contemporary), and **Martha Richardson Fine Art**. Other artistic neighborhoods are Beacon Hill, featuring **Judith Dowling Asian Art** and **Gurari Collections** (antiquarian and contemporary), and the South End, with **Berenberg Gallery** (contemporary folk art), **Boston Sculptors Gallery**, **Hamill Gallery of Tribal Art** (African), and **Vessels Gallery** (pottery). The **Keiko Gallery** near Boston Common features contemporary Japanese arts and crafts.

DIRECTORY

Attractions

Address*

Phone**

Adams National Historic Park	135 Adams St., Quincy	(617) 770-1175
Arthur M. Sackler Museum	485 Broadway, Cambridge	(617) 495-9400
Boston Children's Museum	300 Congress St.	(617) 426-6500
Boston Duck Tours	3 Copley Place	(617) 267-DUCK
Boston Harbor Cruises	One Long Wharf	(617) 227-4321
Bunker Hill Monument	Monument Square, Charlestown	(617) 242-5641
Faneuil Hall	4 South Market Building	(617) 523-1300
First Church of Christ, Scientist	175 Huntington Ave.	(617) 450-2000
Hart Nautical Gallery	55 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge	(617) 253-5942
Harvard Museum of Natural History	26 Oxford St., Cambridge	(617) 495-3045
Hull Lifesaving Museum	1117 Nantasket Ave., Hull	(781) 925-5433
Institute of Contemporary Art	100 Northern Ave.	(617) 478-3100
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum	280 The Fenway	(617) 566-1401
John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum	Columbia Point	(617) 514-1600
MIT Museum	265 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge	(617) 253-5927
Museum of Fine Arts	465 Huntington Ave.	(617) 267-9300
Museum of Science	1 Science Park	(617) 723-2500
National Center of Afro-American Artists	300 Walnut Ave.	(617) 442-8614
New England Aquarium	1 Central Wharf	(617) 973-5200
Old North Church	192 Salem St.	(617) 523-6676
Paul Revere House	19 North Square	(617) 523-2338
Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology	11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge	(617) 496-1027
Plimoth Plantation	137 Warren Ave., Plymouth	(508) 746-1622
Rose Art Museum	415 South St., Waltham	(781) 736-3434
Skywalk Observatory at Prudential Center	800 Boylston St.	(617) 859-0648
Society of Arts and Crafts	175 Newbury St.	(617) 266-1810
Trinity Church	206 Clarendon St.	(617) 536-0944
U.S.S. Constitution	1 Constitution Road, Charlestown	(617) 242-5670

Performing Arts

Boston Ballet (Wang Theatre)	270 Tremont St.	(617) 695-6955
Boston Lyric Opera (Shubert Theatre)	265 Tremont St.	(866) 348-9738
Boston Opera House	539 Washington St.	(617) 259-3400
Boston Symphony Orchestra	301 Massachusetts Ave.	(617) 266-1492
Boston University College of Fine Arts	TheatreLab, 855 Commonwealth Ave.	(617) 933-8600
Boston University Theatre Mainstage	264 Huntington Ave.	(617) 933-8600
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center	41 Second St., Cambridge	(617) 577-1400
Charles Playhouse	74 Warrenton St.	(617) 426-5225
Improv Asylum	216 Hanover St.	(617) 263-6887
ImprovBoston	40 Prospect St., Cambridge	(617) 576-1253
Jordan Hall	30 Gainsborough St.	(617) 585-1260
Opera Boston (Cutler Majestic Theatre)	219 Tremont St.	(800) 233-3123

DIRECTORY (cont.)

Restaurants and Nightlife

Restaurants and Nightlife	Address*	Phone**
Aujourd'hui	200 Boylston St.	(617) 351-2037
Café Fleuri	250 Franklin St.	(617) 451-1900
Cheers, The Original	84 Beacon St.	(617) 227-9605
Cheers, The Replica	Faneuil Hall Marketplace	(617) 227-0150
Clio	370 Commonwealth Ave.	(617) 536-7200
Hamersley's Bistro	553 Tremont St.	(617) 423-2700
L'Espalier	774 Boylston St.	(617) 262-3023
Legal Sea Foods, Copley Place	100 Huntington Ave.	(617) 266-7775
Legal Sea Foods, Long Wharf	225 State St.	(617) 742-5300
Legal Sea Foods, Park Square	26 Park Plaza	(617) 426-4444
Legal Sea Foods, Prudential Center	800 Boylston St.	(617) 266-6800
Locke-Ober	3 Winter Place	(617) 542-1340
Meritage	70 Rowes Wharf	(617) 439-3995
Mistral	223 Columbus Ave.	(617) 867-9300
No. 9 Park	9 Park St.	(617) 742-9991
Radius	8 High St.	(617) 426-1234
Ryles Jazz Club	212 Hampshire St., Cambridge	(617) 876-9330
Scullers Jazz Club	400 Soldiers Field Road	(617) 562-4111
T.T. The Bear's Place	10 Brookline St., Cambridge	(617) 492-BEAR
Top of the Hub	800 Boylston St.	(617) 536-1775
Troquet	140 Boylston St.	(617) 695-9463
Uni	370 Commonwealth Ave.	(617) 536-7200
Wally's Café	427 Massachusetts Ave.	(617) 424-1408

Sports and Recreation

Boston Red Sox	Fenway Park, 4 Yawkey Way	(877) REDSOX9
Braintree Municipal Golf Course	101 Jefferson St., Braintree	(781) 843-6513
Brookmeadow Country Club	100 Everendon Road, Canton	(781) 828-4444
George Wright Golf Course	420 West St., Hyde Park	(617) 364-2300
Newton Commonwealth Golf Course	212 Kenrick St., Newton	(617) 630-1971
Pinehills Golf Club	54 Clubhouse Drive, Plymouth	(508) 209-3000
Project Bread Walk for Hunger	145 Border St., East Boston	(617) 723-5000
Shaker Hills Golf Course	146 Shaker Road, Harvard	(978) 772-2227
Volvo Ocean Race	Fan Pier, 28 Northern Ave.	(617) 443-9200
William J. Devine Franklin Park Golf Course	One Circuit Drive, Dorchester	(617) 265-4084

*Boston unless otherwise specified.

**10-digit dialing required.

DIRECTORY (cont.)**Shopping and Galleries****Address*****Phone****

Alpha Gallery	38 Newbury St.	(617) 536-4465
Berenberg Gallery	4 Clarendon St.	(617) 536-0800
Boston Sculptors Gallery	486 Harrison Ave.	(617) 482-7781
Brattle Book Shop	9 West St.	(617) 542-0210
Copley Place	2 Copley Place	(617) 369-5000
Downtown Crossing	59 Temple Place	(617) 482-2139
Gallery NAGA	67 Newbury St.	(617) 267-9060
Gurari Collections	91 Charles St.	(617) 367-9800
Hamill Gallery of Tribal Art	2164 Washington St., Roxbury	(617) 442-8204
Harvard Book Store	1256 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge	(617) 661-1515
Judith Dowling Asian Art	133 Charles St.	(617) 523-5211
Keiko Gallery	121 Charles St.	(617) 725-2888
L'Attitude	218 Newbury St.	(617) 927-4400
Lanoue Fine Art	160 Newbury St.	(617) 262-4400
Martha Richardson Fine Art	38 Newbury St.	(617) 266-3321
Mercury Gallery	8 Newbury St.	(617) 859-0054
Pucker Gallery	171 Newbury St.	(617) 267-9473
Robert Klein Gallery	38 Newbury St.	(617) 267-7997
The Shops at Prudential Center	800 Boylston St.	(617) 236-3100
Vessels Gallery	8 Union Park St.	(617) 424-6700

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