

BOSTON

Planner's Guide

Prepared by the Massachusetts
Chapter of the American Planning
Association for the APA National
Planning Conference

Boston, Massachusetts
April 9–12, 2011



WELCOME TO BOSTON

On behalf of the Boston Local Host Committee we would like to welcome you to the 2011 American Planning Association National Planning Conference.

Boston's approach to planning & development is to preserve its historic character while embracing the future. From being the first city to require developments to follow LEED standards to the establishment of an Innovation District for creative jobs, Boston is building on both the strength of its history and its young and educated workforce. Over 80 area colleges and universities educate more than 330,000 students every year. Diversity enriches this city where minorities now make up half of the City's population.

Boston is one of America's great walking cities and you are located in an exemplary illustration of that – the Back Bay, named one of the Great Places in America by APA. Explore the many other neighborhoods in Boston where you will find a city enlivened by sidewalks bursting with shops, restaurants, theaters, museums, great architecture, and people. Discover the surrounding cities and towns connected by the oldest transit network in the country, including Cambridge and Brookline, each with their own distinct character and activity.

More than 300 sessions and mobile workshops afford you the opportunity to learn about planning lessons from New England and beyond. With mobile workshops from Boston to Maine, Cape Cod & Rhode Island, you have the opportunity to experience one of the most historic, yet progressive, areas in the country.

History and innovation, economic development and neighborhood preservation, sports and entertainment, food and shopping, Boston offers it all.

The Program Guide Committee created the Planner's Guide to help you explore this wonderful environment. It includes unique walking tours from a planner's perspective, restaurant suggestions and interesting planning information.

Enjoy the conference and enjoy our city and region. Learn. Discover. Have Fun.

Local Host Committee Chairs

Bob Mitchell FAICP

Peter Lowitt FAICP

Jennifer M. Raitt

Kairos Shen

Don't forget to check out all of the Boston 2011 products on sale at the Local Host Committee merchandise booth.

THE HOMETOWN OF PLANNING

Boston was founded in 1630 on the Shawmut Peninsula, jutting out into the Boston Harbor and connected to the mainland by today's Washington Street. Through planned filling and "wharfing-in", the peninsula evolved to its present shape. In 1878, the filling of marshes in the Back Bay began (today the Back Bay neighborhood). Under a plan by famed landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted, today's "Emerald Necklace" also was formed. These early actions set the stage for the modern public works that continue to shape Boston.

In the late 1800s, the first subway in the nation was built under Tremont and Boylston Streets (now part of the MBTA Green Line). Large highway projects also had impacts. In the 1950s, the elevated Central Artery was built by the Massachusetts Department of Public Works (MDPW). In the 1980s to early 2000s, MDPW's (now MassDOT) massive Central Artery/Tunnel Project (known as the Big Dig), had the most impact on the City and region in improving mobility and through its massive mitigation program.

Regarding modern city planning, in the mid-to-late 1960s, 1/4 of the land area of Boston was redeveloped or rehabilitated by the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA). This planning changed the face of the City forever and has stimulated private urban investment ever since.

What you see today is the cumulative effect of massive public and private real estate investment. Yet Boston remains a charming, walkable city that good planning has created and preserved. The result is a balance of the controlled scale of large real estate projects and the protection of Boston's famed historic character.



● Hynes Convention Center

HOW TO USE THE GUIDE

Cities are best visited on foot. Boston is one of the best places to do just that. “America’s Walking City” is compact, relatively flat and pedestrian in scale. In its oldest sections, the streets are laid out in an irregular pattern. There are many corners to turn, revealing new vistas. There are many windows and doors at street level. This variety at street level is what makes Boston so interesting to poke around. In the redeveloped sections, there are fewer of these “low grain” features, but they are still walkable and impressive.

The Boston Planner’s Guide is especially targeted to city planners and those who are interested in planning. It includes several do-it-yourself walking tours, each one-to-two hours long that reveal the planning story of Boston as well as interesting parts of Cambridge and Brookline. The tours emphasize built environments created by planning such as the new Greenway parks built above the new I-93 tunnel, the Harborwalk, and the “high spine” tall buildings in the Back Bay, a deliberate planning policy to focus new development in a corridor and to protect the historic residential sections of the adjacent South End and Back Bay. Other sections of Boston are also referenced and include Beacon Hill and historic Charlestown, for which there is ample information elsewhere.

The walking tours begin and end near subway stations. A small transit map is included in the Guide. The tour maps indicate the transit stations, a marked walking route and highlight interesting sights along the way. Several tours are contiguous; the end of one tour is near the beginning of the next. You can plan to spend an hour or a full day wandering the streets at your own pace. You will see and learn a lot about how planning in Boston and its neighbors influenced the way they look today.

In addition, The Boston Planner’s Guide includes a select restaurant guide at the end with short descriptions and a price guide

Allan Hodges, FAICP, Chair Planner’s Guide Committee

On our maps, you’ll find we’ve shown the T stations and their corresponding colored line or lines like this.

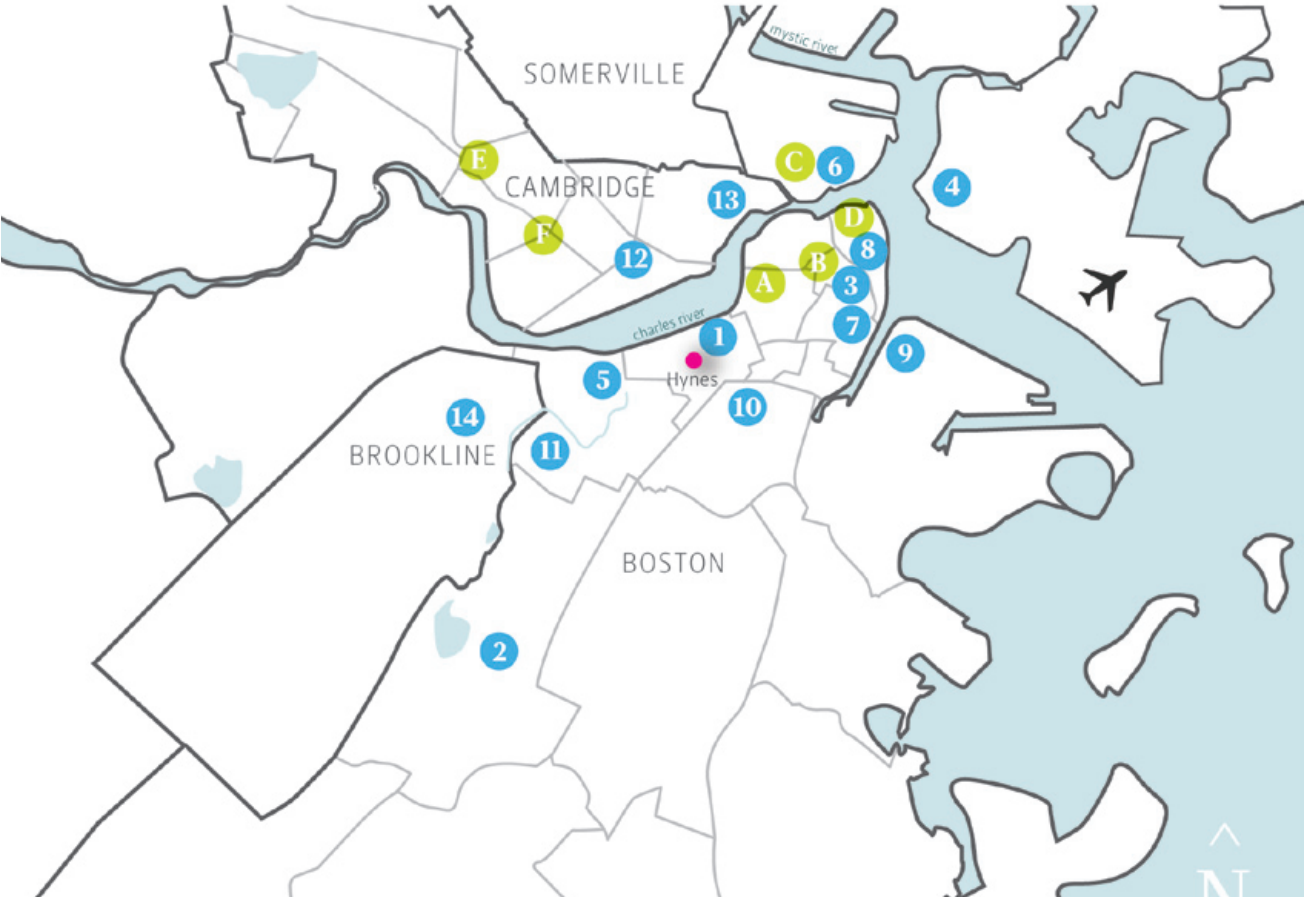


PUBLIC TRANSIT, THE “T”

The walking tours and the other neighborhoods of interest in the Boston Planner’s Guide are easily accessible by subway. The map below shows the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority rail system that serves these 20 areas in the Guide. A full “T” map is available at stations and online at www.mbtta.com. The Hynes Convention Center is served by two subway lines. The Hynes Convention Center Station on the Green Line is located on Massachusetts Avenue at Newbury Street, about two blocks from the Hynes. The Back Bay Station which serves the Orange Line, Commuter Rail and Amtrak, is located on Dartmouth Street between Stuart Street and Columbus Avenue, opposite Nieman Marcus in Copley Place.



THE TOURS



● Hynes Convention Center



The locations of the walking tours are indicated by Blue numbers and the other neighborhoods of interest are indicated by Green capital letters on the above map. The Hynes Convention Center location is indicated by a pink dot.

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NORTH-
EASTERN
UNIVERSITY



BACK BAY
TOUR
1



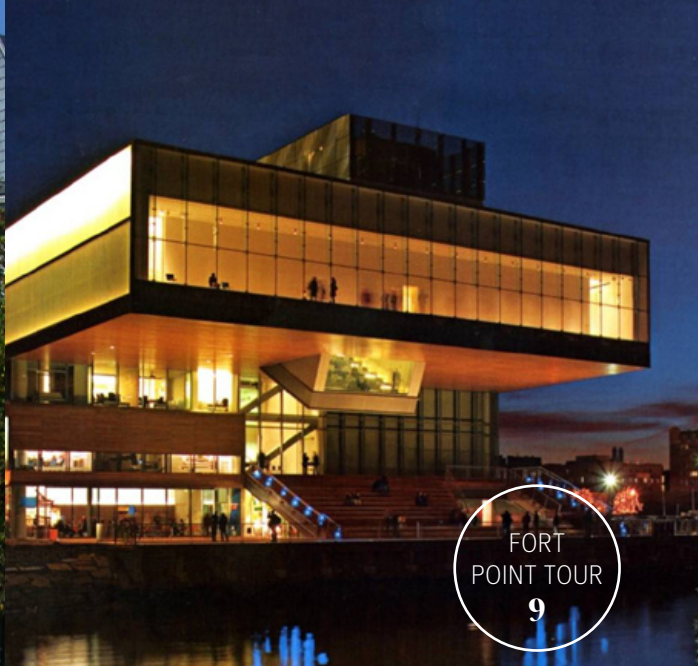
DOWNTOWN
TOUR
3



HUB ON
WHEELS



JAMAICA
PLAIN TOUR
2



FORT
POINT TOUR
9



BACK BAY
TOUR
1

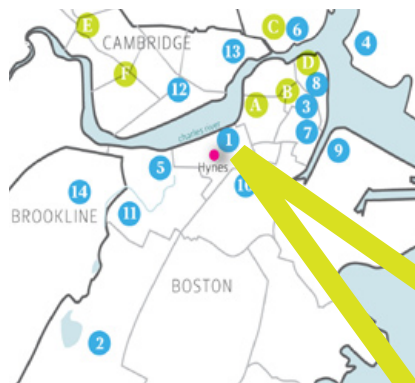
TOUR 1

NEAREST T STATION
Green Line: Hynes Convention Center
Station or Copley Station

TOUR DURATION 2 Hours
NEARBY TOURS South End, Fenway

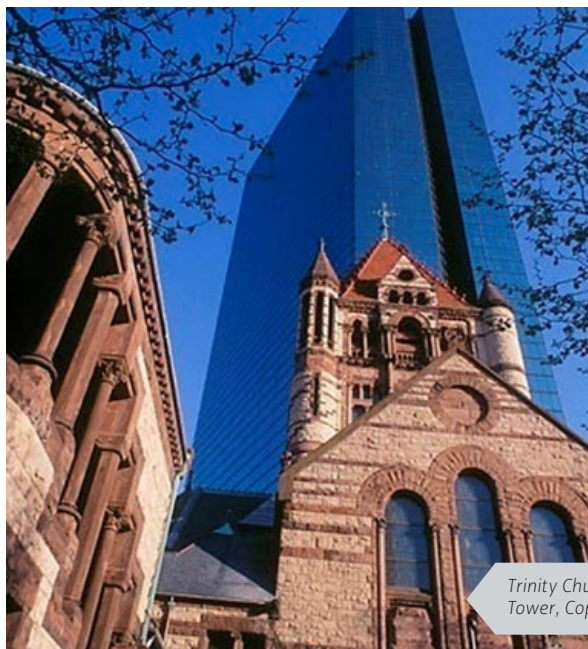
BACK BAY

Recognized by APA as one of the ten Great Neighborhoods in the Great Places in America program for 2010, the Back Bay offers more contrasts than any other neighborhood in Boston. With a street layout designed by Aurthur Gilman in the 1850s, it is an outdoor museum of 19th century city planning and Victorian architecture, a laboratory of 20th century planning and urban design, and a world class shopping destination.



HELPFUL LINKS

www.visitbostonbackbay.com
www.newbury-st.com
www.bostonbackbay.com

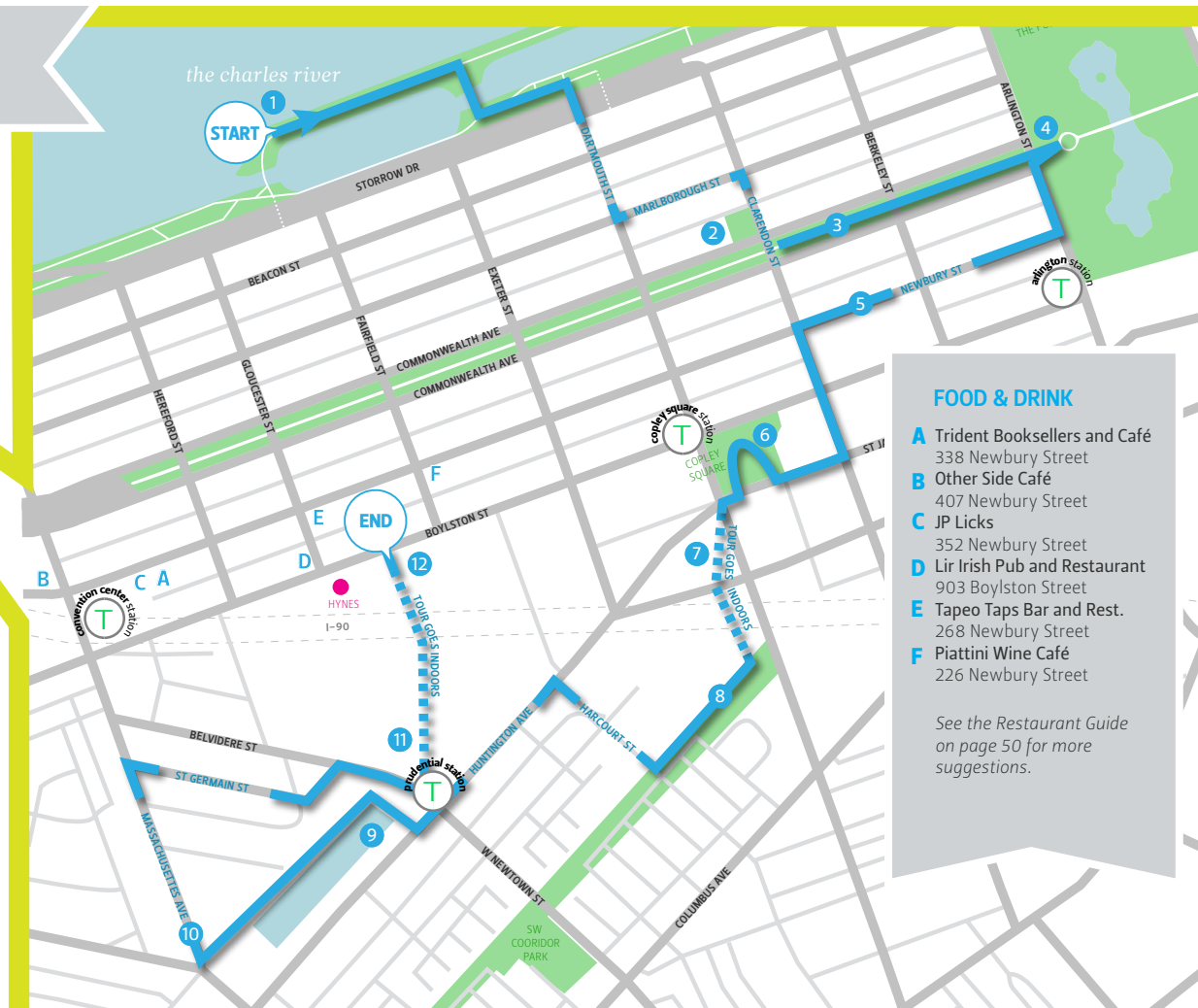


Trinity Church and John Hancock Tower, Copley Square.

THE TOUR

Part I – Historic

1 Begin on the Charles River Esplanade. You can see Cambridge and MIT across the river. Also, you will see the John Hancock Tower and the Prudential Center tower, dwarfing a number of church spires. The 1¼ mile Esplanade forms part of Frederick Law Olmsted's Emerald Necklace. The first portion was developed in 1910 and doubled in size in the 1930s. In the 1950s, Storrow Drive was constructed. Walk east 1,000 feet to the pedestrian footbridge; cross it and proceed east and across the pedestrian bridge over Storrow Drive to Dartmouth Street.



FOOD & DRINK

- A** Trident Booksellers and Café
338 Newbury Street
- B** Other Side Café
407 Newbury Street
- C** JP Licks
352 Newbury Street
- D** Lir Irish Pub and Restaurant
903 Boylston Street
- E** Tapeo Taps Bar and Rest.
268 Newbury Street
- F** Piattini Wine Café
226 Newbury Street

See the Restaurant Guide
on page 50 for more
suggestions.

2 Proceed south on Dartmouth to Marlborough Street, turn left and walk east. At the next block, Clarendon Street, turn right and walk south to Commonwealth Avenue. At the corner of Clarendon Street and Commonwealth Avenue is the Clarendon Street playground, originally built in the 1970s as a temporary park on the site of a burned down house.

3 Winston Churchill described Commonwealth Avenue as the “Princess of Streets”. The 240-foot-wide avenue with its landscaped mall forms the spine of the Back Bay, tying the Public Garden to the Back Bay Fens. Statues commemorating 19th and 20th century historical and literary figures grace each block of the Mall. The Magnolia trees are the happy

result of a community tree planting program in the 1960s. Today the Back Bay is vigorously protected by the Back Bay Architectural Historic District Commission.

4 Proceed east on Commonwealth to Arlington Street and enter the Public Garden, established in 1837 when philanthropist Horace Gray

tour continues on page 12

Back Bay Tour

BACK BAY

continued from page 11

petitioned for the use of land as the first public botanical garden in the U. S. The 24-acre landscape was designed by George F. Meacham. Declared a National Historic Landmark in 1987, the Garden is managed jointly between the City of Boston and the Friends of the Public Garden.

5 Proceed south one block to Newbury Street, Boston's premier promenade and window shopping avenue. With a mix of local neighborhood shops and specialty retail, it attracts locals and international tourists alike. The shops and abundant public transportation help make the Back Bay a walkable, transit-oriented, smart growth neighborhood. At Clarendon Street, turn left and proceed to Boylston Street. Filene's Basement, world famous for bargain shopping, has entrances off both Boylston and Newbury Streets between Berkeley and Clarendon Streets.

6 At Clarendon and Boylston Streets you will see the soaring John Hancock Tower. Cross Boylston to Saint James Avenue, turn right, and proceed straight ahead to Copley Square. Formed into a pedestrian zone in 1883, the Square was named for the American portraitist John Singleton Copley, who is commemorated in a bronze statue. Set at the eastern end of Copley Square, Trinity Church and parish house were designed by Henry Hobson Richardson. As the building that established Richardson's reputation, it is the birthplace and archetype of the Richardsonian Romanesque style, characterized by a clay tile roof, rough stone, heavy arches, and a massive tower. The

Church is reflected in the mirrored skin of the 62-story, 2 million sf John Hancock tower by Henry Cobb of I. M. Pei and Partners (1977). The tower's narrowest profile faces the square, minimizing its imposition into the space. Look near the fountain and see the bronze tortoise and the hare sculptures that honor the Boston Marathon, the nation's oldest and most prestigious race whose finish line is near here.

To the right of the John Hancock Tower is the original site of the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA). In 1909 the MFA moved to its current location approximately one mile west on Huntington Avenue. In its place, the Copley Plaza Hotel was built in 1912.

Across Dartmouth Street is the Boston Public Library (McKim, Mead and White, 1887; west wing by Philip Johnson, 1971). This is the first centralized, municipally funded library in the U.S. Go inside and up the grand staircase past the marble lions to the Main Reading Room on the 2nd floor, with its soaring ceiling and arched windows. Continue to the 3rd floor to take in a sequence of murals by John Singer Sargent. Return to the 1st floor and treat yourself to some pastry at the café.

Swan boats on the lagoon in the Public Garden.



Part II – Modern Back Bay

7 Diagonally across from Copley Square on the southwest corner of Dartmouth Street and Huntington Avenue Nearby is the Copley Place (1985) Mall. Ascend the escalators and proceed through the corridor and glazed pedestrian bridge over Stuart Street into the main mall. Stroll through the mall's two levels of designer shops, national retailers, restaurants and cafes. This 9.5-acre air-rights development over the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90) includes two hotels, 800,000 square feet (sf) of offices, 370,000 sf of retail space, and 100 apartments. Copley Place's design was controversial largely due to its scale and initial lack of affordable housing. In addition, Newbury Street merchants feared competition from the upscale retailers. To their surprise, Copley Place solidified Boston's preeminence as a major retail destination in New England. While the complex has flourished, its engagement with the street has been less successful.

8 Leave Copley Place's main floor between Nieman Marcus and Michael Kors ("Dartmouth Street Shops"); take the escalator down and proceed

outside. The plaza in front of you is part of the Southwest Corridor Park, which was built as part of the Southwest Corridor Project (1980s). The original Southwest Corridor Freeway Project was intended for the route of I-95 from Route 128. However, the State made a policy decision in the 1970s not to build any more expressways into the City. Highway funding was instead used to build the Orange Line (rail) in this corridor (under the park). Walk west down the Southwest Corridor Park one block. Turn right at Harcourt Street and walk to Huntington Avenue. Turn left and proceed southwest to the intersection of Huntington Avenue and Belvidere Street.

9 At the northwest corner is the First Church of Christ, Scientist. Built in the early 1970s, the Christian Science Plaza was designed by I.M. Pei & Partners and Cossutta and Ponte. The 14-acre formal, axial plaza includes a 700-foot-long reflecting pool and a circular fountain. The original Mother Church, a modest gray stone structure built in 1894, is dwarfed by the domed Mother Church Extension (1906). Inside the Publishing House Building is the Mapparium, with its world-famous, three-story, painted-glass globe of the world in 1935.

10 Head toward Massachusetts Avenue. At Huntington Avenue, the Avenue is flanked by Symphony Hall and Horticultural Hall. As you approach the northern edge of the Christian Science complex along Massachusetts Avenue, note the 2002 renovation to the Mary Baker Eddy Library. A few steps ahead, turn right onto St. Germain Street. This quiet street of town homes and mature trees provides a respite from the urban cacophony. From St. Germain Street, proceed over Clearway Street and enter the



Flowering tulip tree on Commonwealth Avenue.

Prudential Center from the corner of Huntington Avenue and Belvidere Street.

11 Within the Prudential Center, go up the escalators and stroll along the glazed corridor to the central atrium where multiple corridors intersect. The interior atrium and adjacent South Garden extend the pedestrian environment indoors. Pedestrians can move from the South End to Back Bay via the Huntington and Boylston arcades 24 hours a day. The original 52-story Prudential Center on the left, which opened in 1965 (Charles Luckman & Associates, architects), was the first large office building in Boston in three decades and was built in response to real estate tax abatement incentives. Visit the Skywalk Observatory. Like Copley Place, the Prudential Center was constructed over I-90 air rights and in a former railroad yard. The Prudential Center was substantially remodeled and expanded in the 1990s. The Huntington Office Building (111 Huntington Avenue), glazed pedestrian walkways and an expanded and improved 500,000 sf shopping complex came with the

renovation. When the real estate market emerged from the doldrums in the late 1990s, the Belvidere Building (facing Belvidere Street), the South Garden, and the indoor MBTA Station head house were added. The 1990s expansions were coordinated with a citizens advisory committee set up by the BRA.

12 From the central atrium, walk between Ann Taylor and the Body Shop along the corridor all the way to Boylston Street. Across Boylston is the Apple Store, with its glass façade and stories of sampling stations. A hundred feet down on the right on Boylston is the Mandarin Oriental Hotel complex, constructed on the site of a formerly lifeless plaza. Completed in 2009, the complex includes the five star hotel, ground floor retail, condominiums, and apartments. Public benefits included completion of the pedestrian arcade network within the Prudential Center, enhancing the ground level streetscape with active retail, and a plaza level park and tot lot. ■

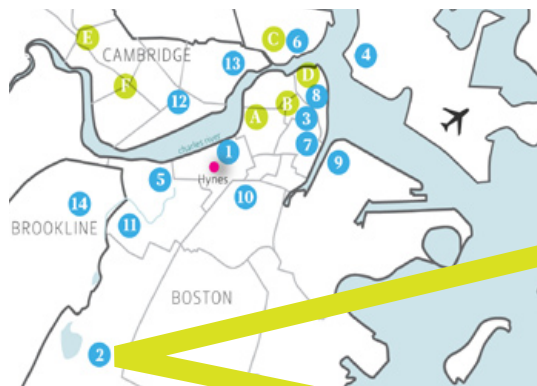
TOUR 2

NEAREST T STATION
Orange Line: Jackson Square Station

TOUR DURATION 70 Minutes

JAMAICA PLAIN

In the late 18th Century, Jamaica Plain was a summertime destination for wealthy Bostonians who built resort homes around Jamaica Pond. Today, “JP” is a diverse neighborhood, economically, ethnically, and racially. Centre Street is the commercial center for much of the neighborhood.



THE TOUR

- 1 In front of the Jackson Square station is the site of the future Jackson Square TOD Development.
- 2 270 Centre Street is a 4-story development that includes 30 rental housing units, 6,300 sf of retail space, 1,600 sf of office/community meeting space, and 13 parking spaces. Nearby is Bromley-Heath Public Housing.
- 3 319–329 Centre Street is a 4-story development that includes retail and office uses with residential condominiums upstairs.
- 4 Blessed Sacrament (355 Centre Street) has 118 units of mixed-income housing, 150 parking spaces, 11,000 sf of retail space, 2,000 sf of community space and open space. Nearby are 363 Centre Street, a new mixed-use development and the large MSPCA's Angell Memorial Hospital for animals. (If you have time, walk

westerly along Perkins Street to see Jamaica Pond and the Jamaica Way, which are part of Olmsted's Emerald Necklace parkway system.)

- 5 The Connolly Branch of the Boston Public Library, located at 433 Centre Street, is a beautiful Jacobean-style building, which offers popular books and other materials in Spanish.
- 6 493 Centre Street is the Curley School (K–8), designed in 1931 by McLaughlin and Burr architects.
- 7 Centre Street is the main commercial district. Independently-owned restaurants, bakeries and shops abound.
- 8 Turn left onto Seaverns Avenue and pause at Alveston Street. Sumner Hill is a well-preserved, wood frame, residential area developed in the late 19th century. The structures encompass

architectural styles such as Italianate, Second Empire, Victorian Gothic, Stick, Queen Anne, Shingle, and Colonial Revival. Turn left onto Revere Street, then left onto Elm Street. At Green Street, bear right.

- 9 This linear park is a segment of the Southwest Corridor project, which includes the relocated Orange Line constructed in the 1980s. The residential development at the corner of Green and Elm is City Green and was completed in 2006. Proceed down Green Street, past the MBTA station and Axiom Gallery, a nonprofit art gallery.
- 10 Turn left on Amory Street. The Amory Foundry Studios (364 Amory Street) was developed in 2002. The four-story buildings house artists' live-work spaces. At Cornwall Street is JP's first Co-housing development, which opened in 2006.



- 11 Continue walking along Amory until you reach The Brewery Complex, which is a successful redevelopment of an empty brewery by the JP Neighborhood Development Corporation. It includes retail, restaurants, a gym, architects' offices, artists' studios, nonprofits, and the Boston Beer Company, the brewers of Sam Adams Beer. ■



FOOD & DRINK

- A Estrella Bakery
333 Centre Street
- B Miami Restaurant
381 Centre Street
- C Sorella's
386 Centre St
- D El Oriental De Cuba
416 Centre Street
- E Ten Tables
597 Centre Street
- F JP Licks
659 Centre Street

See the Restaurant Guide on page 50 for more suggestions.

Centre Street storefronts.

TOUR 3

NEAREST T STATION
Orange & Blue Lines: State Street Station

TOUR DURATION 70 Minutes
NEARBY TOURS Chinatown, Greenway

DOWNTOWN

Downtown Crossing (name given to Boston's traditional downtown) overlaps with several districts: Financial, Chinatown, and Theatre. Downtown Crossing serves the 645,000 residents of Boston (2009 est.) as well as 240,000 workers a day who travel through the district. Boston is the 20th largest city in the U.S.



HELPFUL LINKS
www.downtowncrossing.org

THE TOUR

1 The Old State House (1713) is the oldest public building in Boston. The Declaration of Independence was proclaimed from the balcony in 1776. **2** The large arch-windowed building is the Ames Building (1892) which underwent a \$58 million restoration (2008) to transform it into a 125-room hotel.

3 Continue southerly along Washington, turn left on to Milk Street. At the corner is the Old South Meeting House (1729) built as a Puritan house of worship.

4 Continue on Milk Street until Congress Street. Post Office Square has a park and garage, both developed in the late 1980s by an association of private abutters.

5 Walk diagonally through the park to Franklin Street. Continue along Franklin until you arrive at the large excavated hole, the former home of Filene's Department Store

and famous Filene's Basement.

6 Cross Washington Street and continue on Bromfield Street. The tall building north of Bromfield Street at 45 Province Street (2009) contains 150 residential condominiums. **7** Continue along Bromfield Street until Tremont Street. Directly in front of you is the Granary Burying Ground (1660).

8 Turn left onto Tremont Street, and proceed toward Boston Common. Turn left onto Winter Street, a narrow brick-paved pedestrian street. The intersection of Washington Street, where Winter Street becomes Summer Street, is the heart of Downtown Crossing.

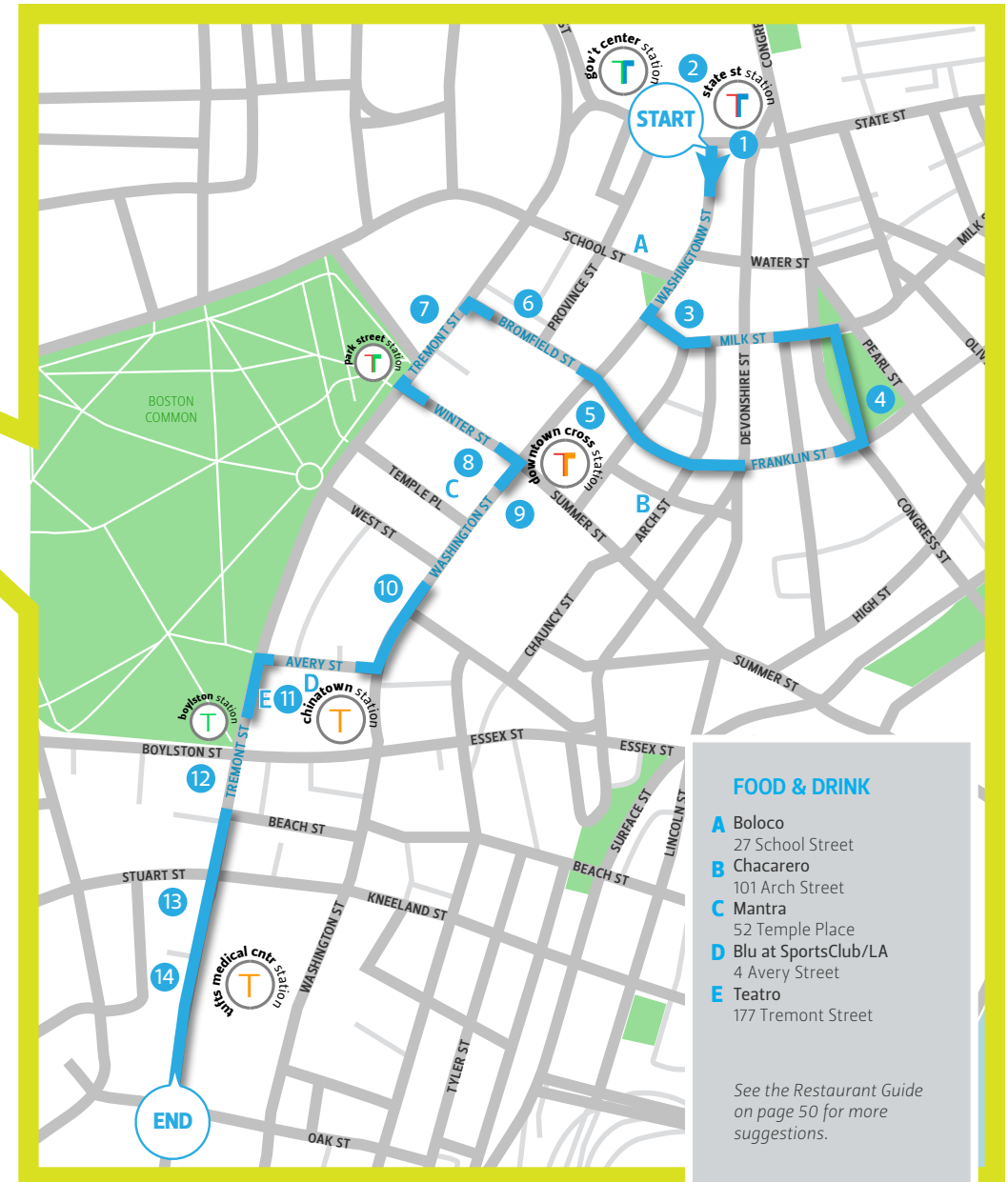
9 Turn right onto Washington Street to the edge of the Theater District. Continue southerly along Washington Street into a revived part of the Theatre District. The 2,500 seat Opera House **10** reopened in 2004. The Paramount

Center, completed in 2009, was developed by Emerson College. The Modern Theater, completed in 2010, features a 200-bed dormitory, ground floor studio, theater and gallery space for Suffolk University.

11 Continuing past the theaters, between Washington and Tremont Streets along Avery Street is Millennium Place, a major mixed-use development. Proceed westerly along Avery Street. Turn left onto Tremont Street. Proceed southerly and cross Boylston Street; on your right side is the 900-seat Cutler Majestic Theater. **12**

13 Continue on Tremont Street to Stuart Street and see the W Hotel and Residences (2008.)

14 Continue on Tremont Street; on the left is the Wilbur Theater and the Citi Performing Arts Center/ Wang Theater and on the right, the Shubert Theatre. ■



FOOD & DRINK

- A** Boloco
27 School Street
- B** Chacarero
101 Arch Street
- C** Mantra
52 Temple Place
- D** Blu at SportsClub/LA
4 Avery Street
- E** Teatro
177 Tremont Street

See the Restaurant Guide on page 50 for more suggestions.

TOUR 4

NEAREST T STATION
Blue Line: Airport Station

TOUR DURATION 90 Minutes

EAST BOSTON

East Boston was a shipbuilding center; now it is largely Italian-American with Latin American and Southeast Asian immigrants. The area has restored triple-deckers, new housing and planned development sites. Logan International Airport makes East Boston a gateway to people from around the world.



THE TOUR

- 1 Bremen Street Park is a three-mile long open space built as part of the Central Artery/Tunnel Project.
- 2 The East Boston Greenway is a City-owned linear park linking the neighborhood and the waterfront; it was built within an abandoned railroad right-of-way.
- 3 Portside at Pier 1 Marina is the site of a future 500-unit mixed-income residential project with a restaurant, health club, community space, and 700 parking spaces.
- 4 Piers Park Phases 1 & 2 were built by the Massachusetts Port Authority as mitigation for Logan Airport impacts and provides a spectacular view of Boston.
- 5 Brophy Park is in an area that was originally an island that was subsequently connected with fill to other islands to build Logan Airport.
- 6 Maverick Square is the local business district. Recently the MBTA station was renovated. The empty parking lot is the future home of the 50,000 sf East Boston Neighborhood Health Center.
- 7 Clippership Wharf is the site of a proposed mixed-use waterfront development including 400 residential units, restaurants, retail, health club, community and educational facilities, docks, and maritime support facilities.
- 8 Carlton Wharf is an 80-unit mixed-income rental development with 25 percent at market rate. See the newest segment of the Harborwalk.
- 9 Hodge Boiler Works is the site of a proposed 110-unit condominium project with 8 bed-and-breakfast units and a marina.
- 10 LoPresti Park, a 4-acre open space, affords Harbor and downtown views. 11 New Street is a proposed 230-unit development that includes a hotel, a marina and space allocated for Designated Port Area.
- 12 Maverick Landing is a 400-unit HOPE VI public housing revitalization project featuring photovoltaic roof panels and a community center.
- 13 Atlantic Works Artists Studios & Gallery is a rehabilitated warehouse with a 30-member artist work studio and gallery.
- 14 Boston East is a proposed 196 condominium project, a maritime park, a community gallery, an extension of the Harborwalk, and a marine facility. 15 Central Square is a park and neighborhood node that connects to Maverick Square. ■



FOOD & DRINK

- A Santarpio's
111 Chelsea Street
- B Punto Rojo
16 Bennington Street

See the Restaurant Guide on page 50 for more suggestions.

Maverick Landing
Redevelopment. ▶



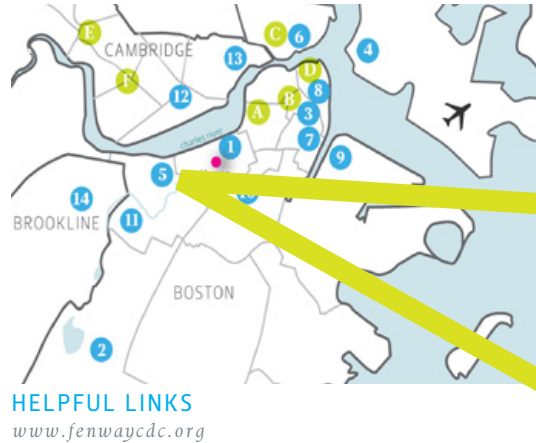
TOUR 5

NEAREST T STATION
Green Line: Hynes Convention
Center Station

TOUR DURATION 60 Minutes
NEARBY TOURS Back Bay, Longwood
Medical Area

FENWAY

The Fenway and Kenmore neighborhoods conjure up an image of Fenway Park, the “summer cathedral” for Boston Red Sox fans since 1912. After several comprehensive planning efforts, the Fenway beyond the baseball stadium has emerged as a thriving neighborhood with new commercial and housing uses.



HELPFUL LINKS
www.fenwaycdc.org

THE TOUR

1 Walk along the Back Bay Fens, Emerald Necklace and Fenway Victory Gardens. The Emerald Necklace is a series of parks along the Muddy River laid out in the 1890s by landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted. The Back Bay Fens were former mudflats. The Victory Gardens were developed during World War II to augment war-time food rationing programs. Today, they offer the same opportunity for Boston residents to grow produce. The Boston Museum of Fine Arts, other institutions and elegant apartment buildings from the early 1900s line the Fenway.

Two examples of the new Fenway, **2** 1330 Boylston Street and **3** Trilogy are successful mixed-use and rental housing developments. Both projects were the result of a 2004 community-led rezoning effort that also contributed new restaurants and retailers that enliven the street. By partnering

with neighborhood groups, property and business owners, the BRA and other City agencies have been able to manage development goals while also working to make certain that the Fenway becomes a more sustainable and transit-oriented community.

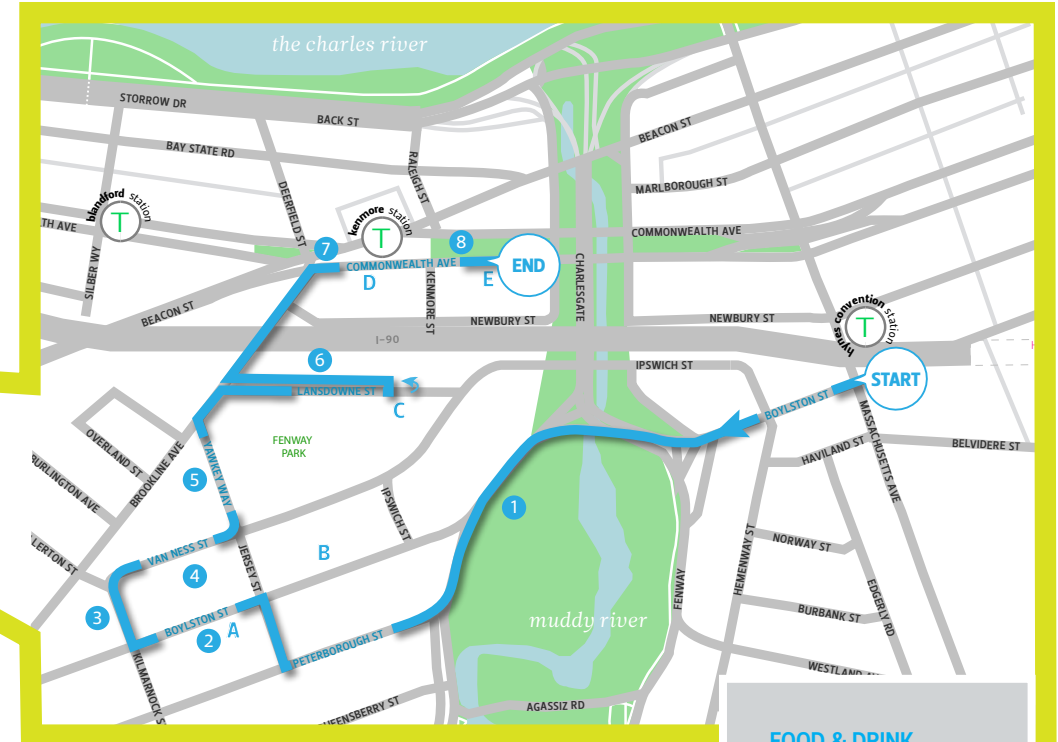
4 Puma City, a unique collection of 24 shipping containers have been arranged into a multi-level retail, event and restaurant space. This installation will call the Fenway home for the next two years.

5 While the Fenway has become much more than just a home for baseball, Yawkey Way and Fenway Park still are a must-see. After 10 years of renovations and additions, Fenway Park remains an iconic place to catch a game or for a tour. Long known as one of the city's club and entertainment hubs,

6 Lansdowne Street has grown up in the last decade. Make sure to check out a show at the new House of Blues or grab a beer while staring into Fenway Park at the Bleacher Bar.

7 As the gateway to Boston University, Kenmore Square is home to a reconstituted, multi-modal transit hub (new bus station above the renovated subway station was opened in 2009) for the MBTA, as well as numerous restaurants and bars.

8 Dating back to the mid-19th century, the Commonwealth Avenue Mall is a beautiful tree-lined promenade in the median of Commonwealth Avenue between Kenmore Square and the Public Garden. The Public Garden, Commonwealth Mall, the Fenway parkland, the Jamaica Way and Franklin Park are part of the Emerald Necklace. ■



FOOD & DRINK

- A** Basho
1338 Boylston Street
- B** Jerry Remy's Sports Bar & Grill
1265 Boylston Street
- C** Bleacher Bar
82A Lansdowne Street
- D** Eastern Standard
528 Commonwealth Avenue
- E** Petit Robert Bistro
468 Commonwealth Avenue

See the Restaurant Guide on page 50 for more suggestions.

◀ A game at Fenway Park, looking east to Back Bay.

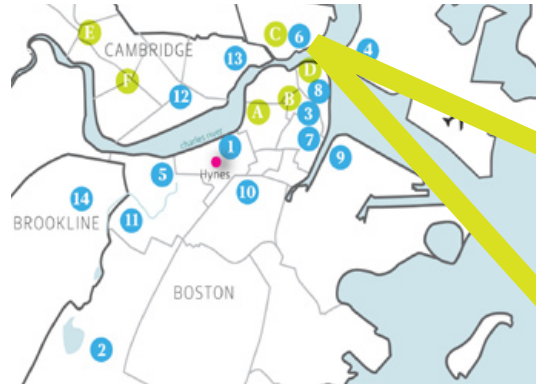
TOUR 6

NEAREST T STATION
Green Line: North Station

TOUR DURATION 80 Minutes

NAVY YARD

The 105-acre Charlestown Navy Yard was acquired by the City of Boston, the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA) and the National Park Service in 1978. A 31-acre area is the Historic Monument Transfer Area and includes historic structures, which are being refitted for mixed uses.



HELPFUL LINKS

www.nps.gov/bost/historyculture/cny.htm

THE TOUR

1 Walk east on Causeway Street. Turn north into the parking lot after the Leonard P. Zakim/Bunker Hill Bridge. **2** Cross the Charles River Dam Locks pedestrian way into Paul Revere Landing Park.

3 Paul Revere Landing Park was built as part of the Central Artery North Area Project. **4** Cross under the North Washington Street Bridge to Tudor Wharf that includes marinas and a hotel. You are about to enter the Charlestown Navy Yard.

5 Visit the U.S.S Constitution, "Old Ironsides", the oldest floating commissioned U.S. Naval vessel and the Museum. **6** Visit the nearby U.S.S Cassin Young, a decommissioned World War II ship that survived multiple kamikaze attacks.

7 When it was built, the Dry Dock represented a major technological innovation for making ship repairs.

8 The Flagship Wharf condominiums were developed by converting a former U.S. Navy research facility.

9 The Shipways condominium (1980s) has 48 units built on top of a former ship-launching ramp. In front of The Shipways is a marina on Pier 8.

10 The Harborview (2008) has 224 rental apartment units.

11 This is the future site of the 221,100 sf Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital. **12** The Basilica, a 1903 vintage metal-working shop, was redeveloped as unique residential condominiums.

13 Building 149 now houses the Lawrence E. Martin Laboratories of Massachusetts General Hospital.

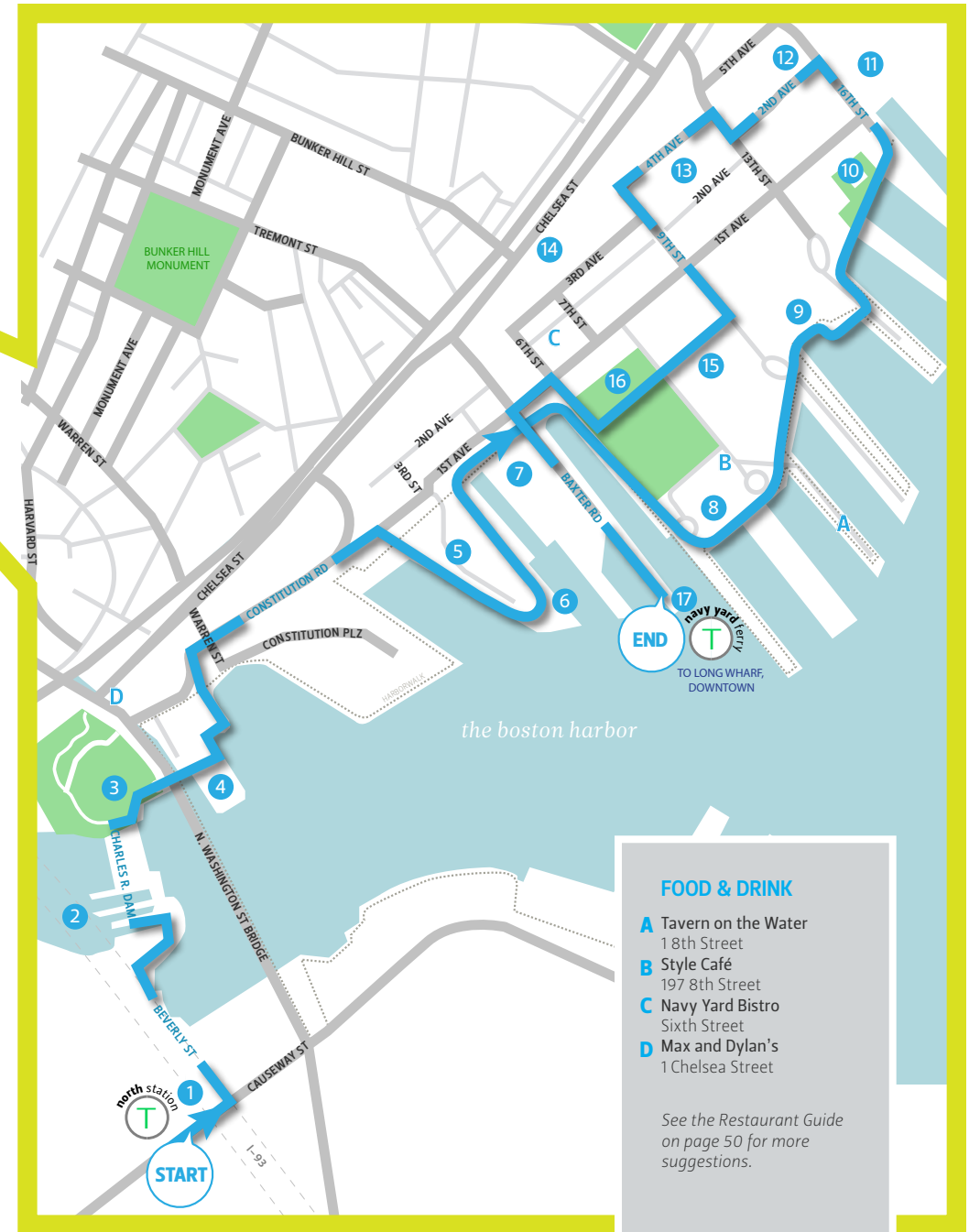
14 The quarter-mile-long Ropewalk Building, built in 1834-37,

was where most of the rope for the U.S. Navy was made until the 1960s. It is the only surviving granite ropewalk in the country.

15 The Parris Building was designed by Alexander Parris. It and adjacent buildings were converted to residential condominiums. A public walkway connects 8th and 9th Streets and provides good views.

16 The 16-acre Shipyard Park was built in 1983. This park changed the Navy Yard from an industrial site to a mixed-use campus.

17 Walk around the permanently flooded Drydock 2 and continue to the end of Pier 3 to board the MBTA ferry, which drops off at Long Wharf near the MBTA Blue Line Aquarium station. ■



FOOD & DRINK

- A** Tavern on the Water
18th Street
- B** Style Café
197 8th Street
- C** Navy Yard Bistro
Sixth Street
- D** Max and Dylan's
1 Chelsea Street

See the Restaurant Guide
on page 50 for more
suggestions.

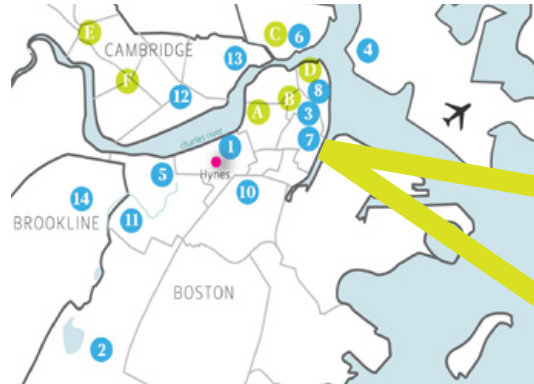
TOUR 7

NEAREST T STATION
Green Line: Boylston Station
Orange Line: Chinatown Station

TOUR DURATION 60 Minutes
NEARBY TOURS Greenway, Downtown,
Fort Point

CHINATOWN

Chinatown and the Leather District were both founded and originally developed in the late 1800s. Chinatown continues to thrive as a residential neighborhood and a commercial and cultural hub for Asians. The Leather District has transformed from an industrial/manufacturing district to an urban mixed-use neighborhood.



THE TOUR

- 1** From Boylston Station, walk east on Boylston Street to Washington Street. The China Trade Center fronts on the Liberty Tree Park, the former site of the Liberty Tree, which was used as a rallying point during the American Revolution. Looking north, Millennium Place was completed in 2001 and includes a hotel and over 300 condominium apartments, cinemas, a sports club, restaurants, and retail. Boylston Street becomes Essex Street at Washington.
- 2** Walking south on Washington, the Archstone Boston Common 420-unit rental development opened in 2007. Across the street is the future site of the approved Kensington Residences (a mid-rise). To the left is Beach Street, the main street in Chinatown and the focus of the Chinatown Main Street District.
- 3** Continuing south on Washington are Tufts University's

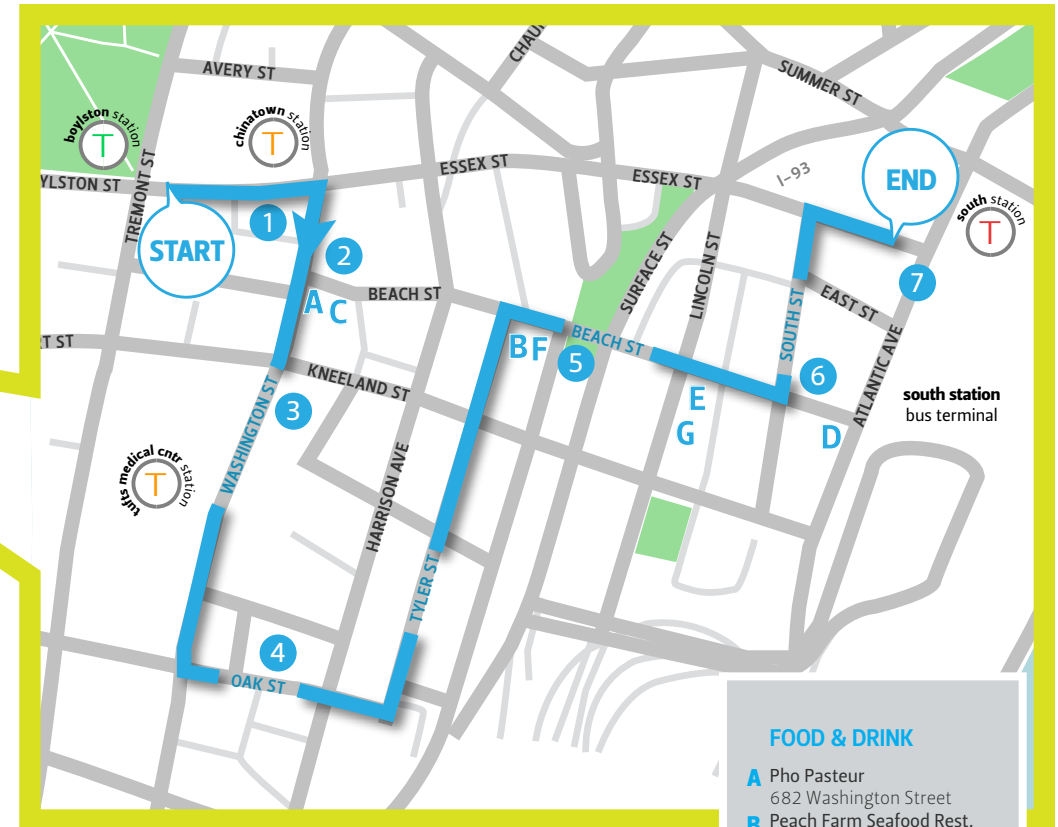
Dental and Medical Schools and the Tufts Medical Center. The expansion of both institutions during the late 1980s and early 1990s was the cause of much tension with the community. Since then, the relationship between the institutions and the community has improved.

- 4** Farther south on Washington, turn left at Oak Street, past Tufts Medical Center, to see the Metropolitan on the left. This 23-story mixed-use development was completed in 2004. It includes 251 mixed-income residential units, condominium spaces for three nonprofit organizations and a separate building for the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center. Opposite the new development are traditional brick row houses.

- 5** Turn left onto Tyler Street, to the original Josiah Quincy School on the right, and the new Chinatown

Community Education Center (2007) on the left. Continue several blocks to Beach Street and turn right to see the Chinatown Gate (1976), which is now surrounded by new parks. To the right is the newly designed and construction-ready Mary Soo Hoo Park, and to the left is the Chinatown Park – a part of the Rose Kennedy Greenway, built as part of the Central Artery/Tunnel Project.

- 6** Continue on Beach Street crossing the Surface Artery into the Leather District. Looking south, see the Trigen Boston Power Plant that is the major provider of steam power to downtown. Continue on Beach Street until South Street and walk the most active street in the neighborhood with restaurants, businesses and upper-floor residential. Walk north to Essex Street and turn right to South Station.



- 7** South Station opened in 1899 in order to consolidate the terminus of many railroads that ended in Boston. Today the station is the largest transit hub in New England, serving Amtrak, subway, commuter rail, the Inter-City Bus Terminal, and taxis. ■



FOOD & DRINK

- A** Pho Pasteur
682 Washington Street
- B** Peach Farm Seafood Rest.
4 Tyler Street #1
- C** Xinh Xinh
7 Beach Street
- D** Café Le Anna
745 Atlantic Avenue
- E** Figaro's Deli
105 Beach Street #1
- F** Great Taste Bakery & Rest.
63 Beach Street
- G** District Restaurant & Lounge
180 Lincoln Street

See the Restaurant Guide on page 50 for more suggestions.

Flags from a festival in Chinatown.

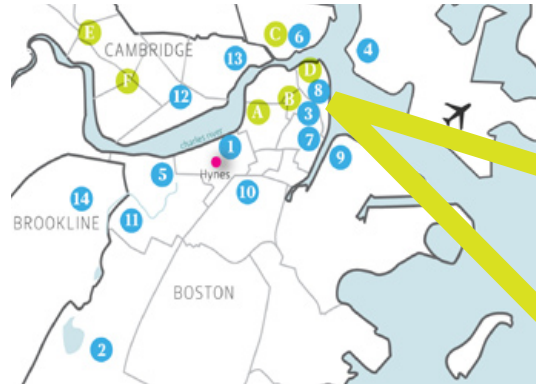
TOUR 8

NEAREST T STATION
Red & Silver Lines: South Station

TOUR DURATION 60 Minutes
NEARBY TOURS Downtown, Fort Point, Chinatown

GREENWAY

The Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway, the 27 acres of parkland enabled by the removal of the elevated Central Artery, is the result of decades of planning for the Central Artery/Tunnel Project. Over one mile long and above the I-93 tunnel, the Greenway is maintained by a nonprofit Conservancy.



HELPFUL LINKS
www.rosekennedygreenway.org
www.tinyurl.com/GreenwayStudy

THE TOUR

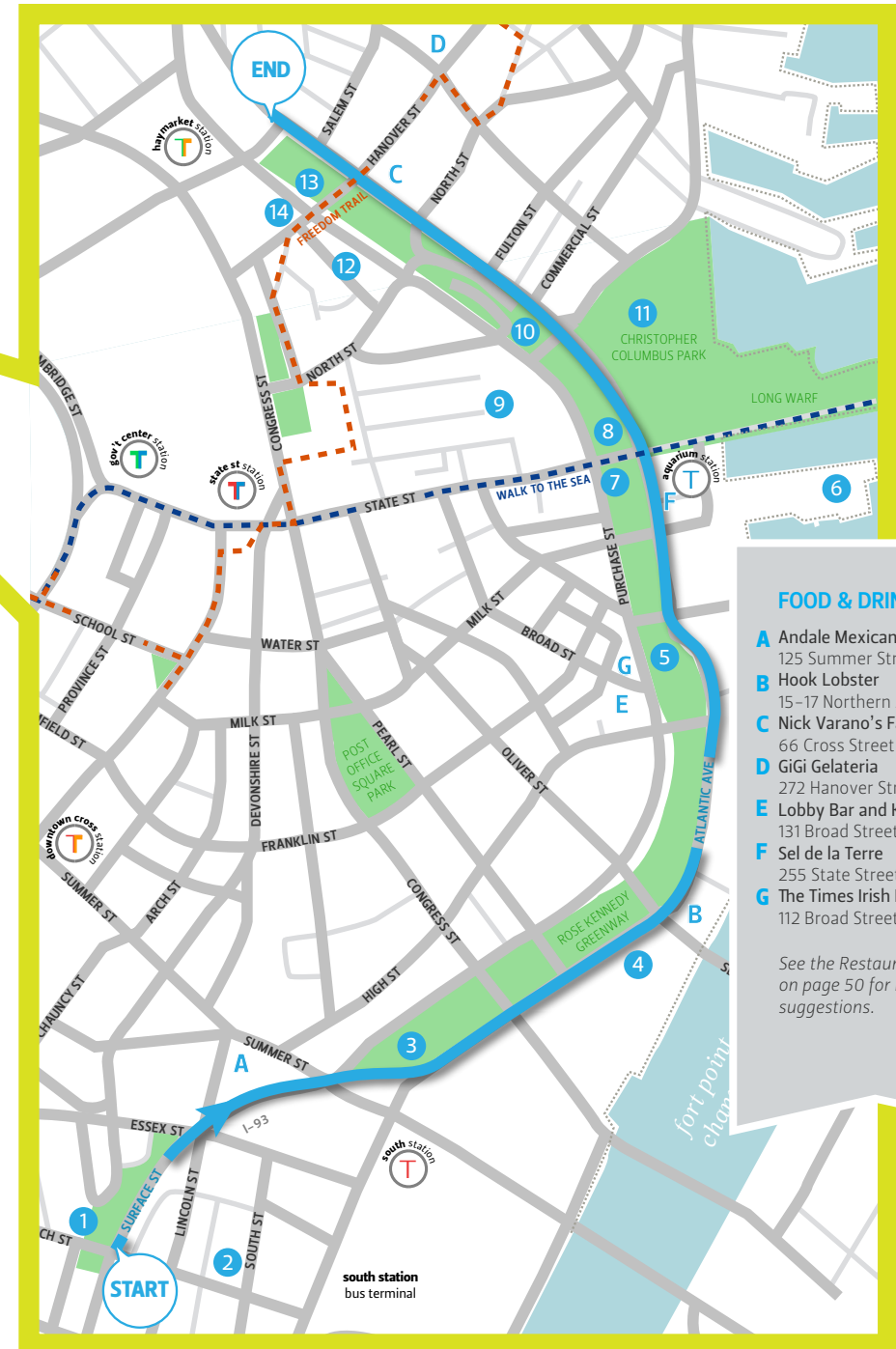
- 1** From South Station, walk to the start of tour. Chinatown Park features a plaza that serves as a gateway and community space. A serpentine walkway meanders through Asian plantings, past a fountain to a new gate.
- 2** The Leather District is a nine-block neighborhood. It has become a mixed-use area, with a variety of commercial and residential uses.
- 3** Dewey Square Parks join South Station, one of the City's major transportation hubs. A popular Farmers Market is held there seasonally. The plantings were donated by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, and the Conservancy intends to pursue a more in-depth planning process for these parcels.
- 4** Independence Wharf has a 14th Floor Observation Deck that provides views of the Greenway,

Fort Point Channel, and Boston Harbor. Enter through the lobby. Adjacent is the Intercontinental Hotel and Residences, a new structure wrapped around two tall ventilation stacks for the I-93 tunnel below the Greenway.

- 5** Wharf District Parks feature outdoor spaces, including a promenade connecting each of the four parcels together, along with fountains, green space, and lighting. The fountains operate from mid-May to mid-October. The larger civic space, known as the "Great Room," is used for large gatherings.
- 6** New England Aquarium is directly east of Greenway. **7** "Walk to the Sea" is a pedestrian route from City Hall to the Harbor.
- 8** Harbor Islands Pavilion (at State Street) is being constructed by the Boston Harbor Islands Alliance and the National Park Service and will be completed by spring 2011. It will

serve as a gateway to the Boston Harbor Islands, with the ferries to the islands departing from Long Wharf.

- 9** The famous Faneuil Hall and Quincy Market complex is located west of the Greenway.
- 10** Armenian Heritage Park is currently under construction. This half-acre park was donated by the Armenian Heritage Foundation.
- 11** Christopher Columbus Waterfront Park is east of the Greenway. **12** Haymarket Outdoor Pushcart Market is west of Greenway and is open on Fridays and Saturdays year-round.
- 13** North End Parks include lawns and planting beds, shallow fountains of moving water, and pergolas with moveable chairs and tables. **14** Freedom Trail is Boston's most famous walking tour of 16 historic sites. ■



FOOD & DRINK

- A** Andale Mexican Grill
125 Summer Street
- B** Hook Lobster
15-17 Northern Avenue
- C** Nick Varano's Famous Deli
66 Cross Street
- D** GiGi Gelateria
272 Hanover Street
- E** Lobby Bar and Kitchen
131 Broad Street
- F** Sel de la Terre
255 State Street
- G** The Times Irish Pub
112 Broad Street

See the Restaurant Guide on page 50 for more suggestions.

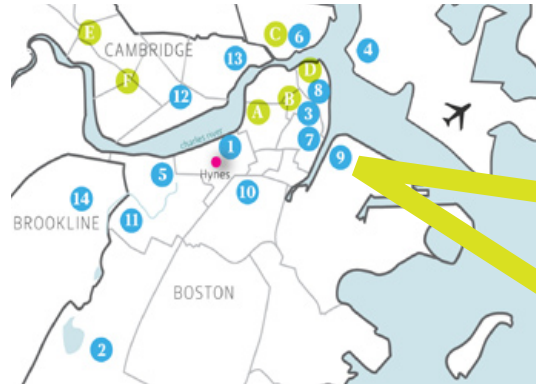
TOUR 9

GETTING THERE
Red & Silver Lines: South Station

TOUR DURATION 60 Minutes
NEARBY TOURS Greenway, Downtown

FORT POINT

The Fort Point Neighborhood is a Landmark District home to the historic brick loft buildings built by the Boston Wharf Company between 1880 and 1920 for manufacturing and warehousing. Today, the Neighborhood is home to the Fort Point Artists Community and part of the larger South Boston Waterfront Innovation District.



HELPFUL LINKS

www.bostonharborwalk.com/audio_tour

THE TOUR

From South Station, walk north along the Greenway to the Intercontinental Hotel **1**. Enter and walk through the long hotel lobby to the doors that lead to the Harborwalk for an expansive view of the Fort Point Neighborhood from across the Fort Point Channel. Once a hotbed for industrial activity, the Channel is now planned to be a public open space with floating art, cultural uses and small boat programs described in the City's Fort Point Channel Watersheet Activation Plan. Walk along the Harborwalk to cross the Channel at Seaport Boulevard on the Evelyn Moakley Bridge **2**. The adjacent old Northern Avenue Bridge, slated for restoration, is on the left, as well as the Federal Courthouse **3**, Fan Pier **4** and the Institute of Contemporary Art **5**.

On the other side of the bridge, turn right along the Harborwalk past the Boston Children's Museum **6**.

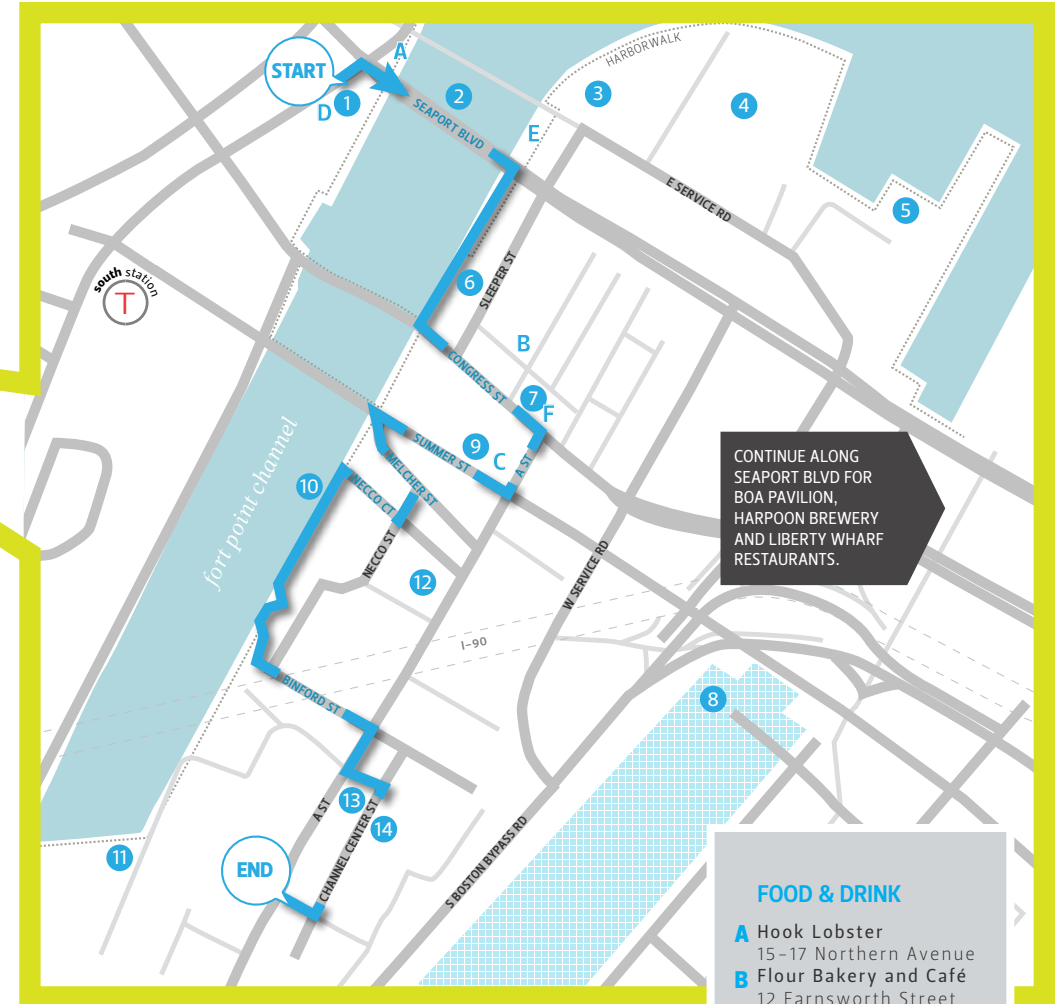
Note the views of the City's financial district from the Harborwalk. Turn left at Congress Street, where you will find the FP3 residential project at 346 Congress Street **7**. Chef Barbara Lynch opened three critically acclaimed dining concepts here. From Congress, turn right on A Street. Climb the stairs up to Summer Street. From Summer Street, you can see the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center **8** to the East. A walk toward the Channel will introduce you to the long-standing Fort Point Arts Community with the Artists' Building at 300 Summer Street **9** and the Channel Café. Every fall, over 150 neighborhood artists open their studios to the public.

Walk west on Summer and turn left on Melcher Street, right on Necco Street, and right again on Necco Court to walk toward the Channel. From this southern segment of the Harborwalk **10**, you will see

the P&G/Gillette's World Shaving Headquarters **11** where razors are manufactured with the help of the Channel's cooling water. Take a left on Binford Street into the 100 Acres Master Plan area **12**, a planned mixed-use district. A walk down A Street will bring you to the Channel Center **13** and Midway Studios **14**, a live/work artist's community.

Looking down A Street you can see Artists for Humanity, an innovative youth program housed in a LEED-Certified Platinum building. From here, you could turn back to Summer Street or retrace your steps along the Harborwalk to cross the Channel and return to South Station.

The Fort Point Neighborhood is a part of the larger South Boston Waterfront Innovation District. Explore the Innovation District and check out the restaurants at Liberty Wharf. ■



CONTINUE ALONG SEAPORT BLVD FOR BOA PAVILION, HARPOON BREWERY AND LIBERTY WHARF RESTAURANTS.

FOOD & DRINK

- A** Hook Lobster
15-17 Northern Avenue
- B** Flour Bakery and Café
12 Farnsworth Street
- C** Channel Café
300 Summer Street
- D** Miel
510 Atlantic Avenue
- E** Barking Crab
88 Sleeper Street
- F** Sportello and Drink
348 Congress Street

See the Restaurant Guide on page 50 for more suggestions.



Old Northern Avenue Bridge, Fort Point.

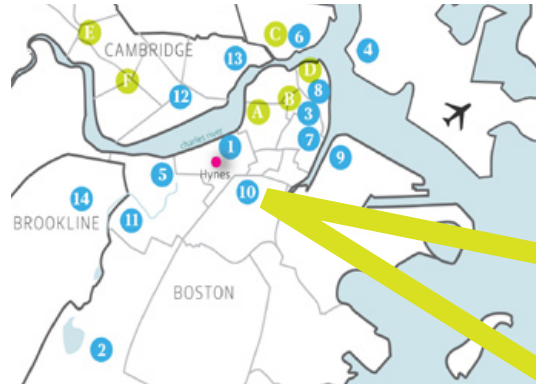
TOUR 10

NEAREST T STATION
Orange Line: Back Bay Station

TOUR DURATION 70 Minutes
NEARBY TOURS Back Bay

SOUTH END

The South End is the largest historic landmark district in the U.S. It is a popular residential area for professionals. It has a high energy art scene in the South of Washington area (SOWA). The Silver Line BRT has helped revitalize Washington Street. The South End is a mecca for small interesting restaurants.



HELPFUL LINKS
www.gatewaymainstreet.org
www.southendbusiness.com



South End row houses on Worcester Square.

THE TOUR

1 The tour begins at Dartmouth Street, in front of the Back Bay / South End / MBTA Station. Head South on Dartmouth Street. Cross Columbus Avenue and continue on Dartmouth Street to Tremont Street. Along the way, you will see historic row houses. The housing stock of the South End resembles Back Bay and Beacon Hill in architectural character, although there are more bow fronts with high stoops in the South End. The neighborhood has been largely preserved through extensive rehabilitation since the middle 1970s. Much of it was publicly induced during the 1960s via urban renewal funds. Today

such rehabilitation is privately financed. This part of the South End is eagerly sought out by professionals and young families.

2 Turn left onto Tremont Street and you will find a mixed-use commercial district. Walking north on Tremont Street, on your right is Union Park. Walk through Union Park, noting the English-styled park and the magnificent rowhouses. In the 1970s, Union Park was the first area where row houses were converted into condominiums and today has some of the highest real estate values in the South End. Return to Tremont Street. Across

the street, you will see the Boston Center of the Arts / Cyclorama and the new Calderwood Theater, part of Atelier 505, a high-end residential condominium complex with ground floor retail and restaurants. Continue to East Berkley Street and see Castle Square, a moderate-income housing/retail project built in the 1960s as part of an urban renewal project. Castle Square is now a mixed income cooperative owned by the former tenants.

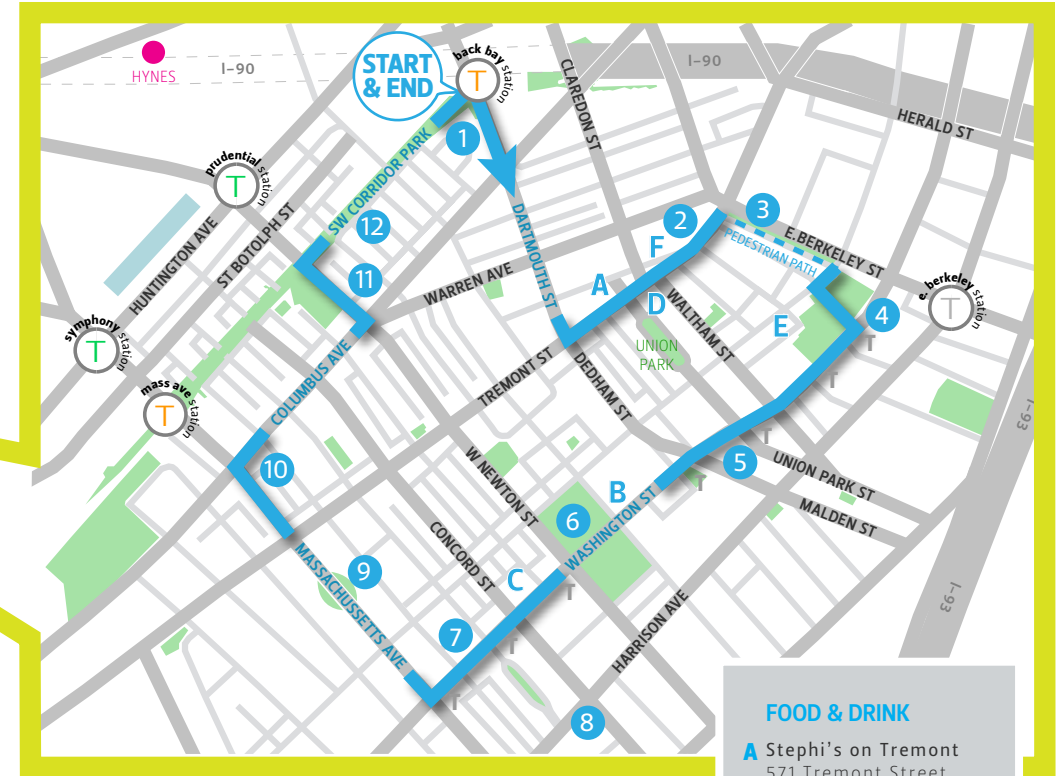
3 On the south side of East Berkley Street, the Berkeley Community Gardens includes an inviting pedestrian path. Planting began in the mid 1970s, and today, the Garden is one of the largest in the city with over 150 plots, gardened by many Asian families

among others in the area. The Garden is held in a Land Trust by a volunteer-run nonprofit organization, which oversees fundraising and renovation.

4 Continue south on the Garden path to Shawmut Avenue and turn right. Across the street is Peters Park. Walk through the park on a pedestrian path between the playfields to the popular Dog Park.

5 Turn right at Washington Street. Along the street, at each Silver Line Stop, you will notice a kiosk with history about the neighborhood called the "Urban Trail". Heading south, walk by three recently built

tour continues on page 32



FOOD & DRINK

- A** Stephi's on Tremont
571 Tremont Street
- B** Stella Café
1525 Washington Street
- C** Flour Bakery and Café
1595 Washington Street
- D** The Butcher Shop
552 Tremont Street
- E** Coppa
253 Shawmut Avenue
- F** The Beehive
541 Tremont Street

See the Restaurant Guide on page 50 for more suggestions.

SOUTH END

continued from page 31

mixed-use developments: Wilkes Passage Lofts, Rollins Square, and the Savoy. At the corner of Union Park on your left is the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, which is as large as Westminster Abbey, the central church for the Archdiocese of Boston.

Washington Street has been the subject of considerable transportation planning since 1997, the purpose of which was to determine the best type of transit service to replace the elevated Orange Line (rapid transit) that used to operate above Washington Street. In 2002, \$52 million was invested in new sidewalks, new acorn street lights, street furniture, elm trees, and most importantly, a new Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system called the Silver Line, which provides service from Downtown Crossing through the South End to Dudley Square in Roxbury. This BRT service operates mostly in a reserved lane along Washington Street. The Washington Street line serves over 14,000 daily riders.

Since 1997, over \$600 million in public/private investment has been made along Washington Street; with 1,950 new /renovated housing units, 150,000 sf of new retail, and 1,500 underground parking spaces. Moreover, 65 new businesses have opened in the area. Washington Street was selected by APA as one of the Great Streets in the America in 2008, and also was selected as one of the best Main Streets in the U.S. by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

6 Continue southwest and pass two historic urban parks designed in the 1850s by the well-known architect of the Massachusetts State House, Charles Bulfinch. Named Blackstone and Franklin Squares, note the original elm trees with original cast iron fountains. Also note the block of row houses facing Blackstone Square. On the left-hand side (behind a wall) you will pass by the South End Burying Grounds, a restored historic City cemetery and a final resting place for over 15,000 people. On the north side of the street are two community gardens (Washington and Rutland Gardens) adjacent to a wood-framed federal house on Haven Street. This house is only one of two remaining wood frame houses in the South End. On the right at 1601 Washington is the

▲ *Calderwood Pavilion, Tremont Street.*



new South End Community Health Center, with ground floor retail and market rate condominiums above. On the street immediately behind, 17 new townhouses were built, recreating Cumpston Street. On the corner of East Concord Street and Washington Street is a former bread factory, now housing for formerly homeless seniors. Continue about two blocks to Worcester Square at Washington Street. On the southwest corner is the Allen House, once a single family house which has been converted to condominiums. Turn left to Worcester Square, another English-style park with a contemporary fountain.

7 Return to Washington Street. At the corner of East Springfield you will find the oldest building in the South End, the Porter House, built as a single family house and functions today as market rate condominiums. Across the street is Minot Hall, renovated for condominiums and

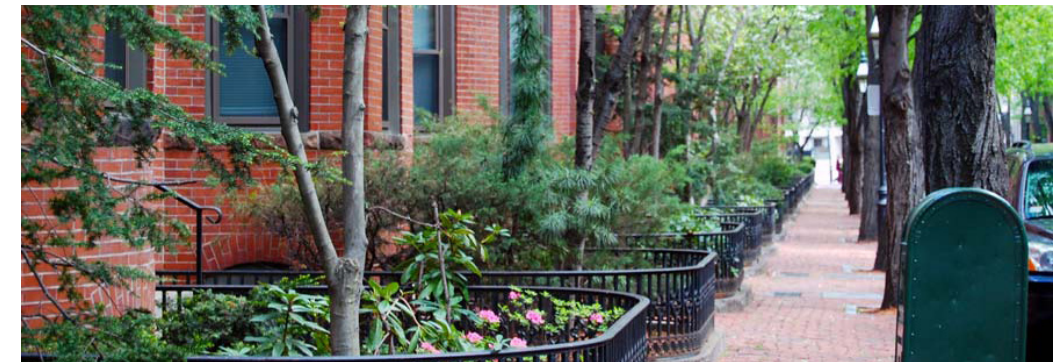
retail.

8 Continue south to Massachusetts Avenue to the southeast is the Boston Medical Center (BMC) campus. BMC provides free care to many in need and has what is considered one of the best triage centers in the City. Turn right (north) on Massachusetts Avenue and continue to Chester Square between Shawmut Avenue and Tremont Street.

9 In the 1950s, Chester Square was split in half when the six-lane-wide Massachusetts Avenue was constructed through the park. Chester Square retains its entire 19th-century architectural framework and residential character. Recently the City of Boston Parks Department renovated Chester Square with new pathways, fencing, landscaping, acorn street lighting, and fountains.

10 Continue north on Massachusetts Avenue until Columbus Avenue. Turn right onto Columbus Avenue (at Dunkin Donuts), and on your right you will find the Harriet Tubman House. Walk five blocks to the intersection of West Newton Street. Walk a bit farther to Warren Street, which intersects at an angle. There is

▼ *South End row houses.*



▲ *Penny Savings Bank Building, Washington Street, adaptive re-use.*

a painting of this scene from the 19th Century by Childe Hassam, which belongs to the Toledo (OH) Museum of Art. It looks much the same today, except for the streetlights and cars. Have a look down Pembroke Street to the right. Note the uniform steep stairs up to the first floor of these Victorian era town houses.

11 Proceed up West Newton Street and head north across the Southwest Corridor Park (See Tour 1, Back Bay) to St. Botolph Street. The uniform bow fronts lend strong character to this residential street, a block away from the “high rise spine” of the Back Bay. Walk back via the Southwest Corridor Park **12** (built above railroad tracks) to reach Dartmouth Street. The tour ends here. ■

TOUR 11

NEAREST T STATION
Green Line: Longwood Medical Station

TOUR DURATION 60 Minutes
NEARBY TOURS Fenway, Brookline

LONGWOOD MEDICAL AREA

The Longwood Medical and Academic Area (LMA) is one of the most prestigious medical, research and education centers in the world. With 213 acres, the LMA is home to a unique concentration of institutions. Over 81,000 people provide medical care, research, teach, learn, or volunteer in the LMA daily.



THE TOUR

- 1** Walking west on Longwood Avenue, the Harvard Medical School (HMS) is on the left. Founded in 1782, HMS is the third oldest medical school in the country. HMS moved to its current location in 1906, where the "Great White Quadrangle" with its white marble buildings was established. Its development served as a catalyst for the LMA's other key institutions. More than 2 million patients visit the LMA annually. The LMA has over 16.9 million sf of building space.
- 2** Farther down on the left is Children's Hospital Boston, founded in 1869, which has grown from a 20-bed hospital to over 2.3 million sf and 386 beds, and serves over 500,000 children annually. The primary pediatric teaching hospital of HMS, Children's houses the world's largest research enterprise based at a pediatric medical center.

- 3** The Center for Life Sciences, completed in 2005, is one of the LMA's largest life sciences research buildings. The 700,000 sf building houses several research institutions, a biotech company and job training space for neighborhood residents.
- 4** Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, a major patient care, teaching and research affiliate of HMS, was created in 1996 through a merger and consists of an East and West campus.
- 5** Joslin Diabetes Center, founded in 1898, is today the world's largest diabetes research center and clinic. It cares for over 23,000 patients annually. A new 350,000 sf research and clinical addition is under construction.

- 6** Dana Farber Cancer Institute, founded in 1947, is a Harvard-affiliated nonprofit research, healthcare and teaching institute for cancer patients. Dana Farber attracts over \$200 million of research grant funding every year.
- 7** The Yawkey Center for Cancer Care, a new 275,000 sf building, opened in January 2011.
- 8** Brigham and Women's Hospital is the largest Harvard-affiliated, nonprofit teaching hospital.
- 9** The new 420,000 sf Shapiro Cardiovascular Center is a Silver-LEED-certified building. Entering the hospital's main lobby at 75 Francis, you can join the "Pike", an indoor pedestrian corridor that interconnects multiple buildings. ■

FOOD & DRINK

- A** Longwood Galleria
340-350 Longwood Ave
- B** The Squealing Pig
134 Smith Street
- C** Cafe at the MFA
465 Huntington Avenue

See the Restaurant Guide on page 50 for more suggestions.



Blackfan Research Center. Photo: Edward Wonesek.

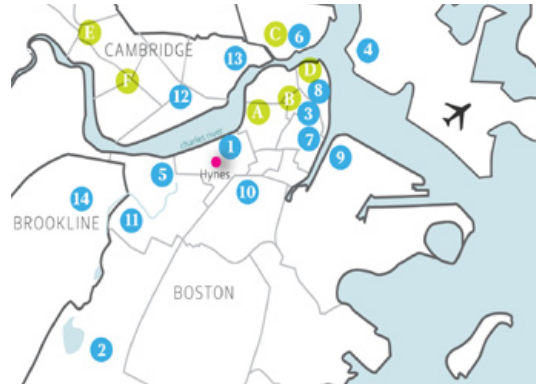
TOUR 12

NEAREST T STATION
Red Line: Kendall/MIT Station

TOUR DURATION 70 Minutes

KENDALL / MIT

Home to Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Kendall Square is one of the major centers of high technology and life sciences research in the U.S. The area has also attracted other businesses and restaurants. It benefits from good planning measures as it transforms from an urban renewal area to a mixed-use district of Cambridge.



HELPFUL LINKS

www2.cambridgema.gov/cdd/ed/commdist/ed_district_kendall.html
www.kendallsquare.org

THE TOUR

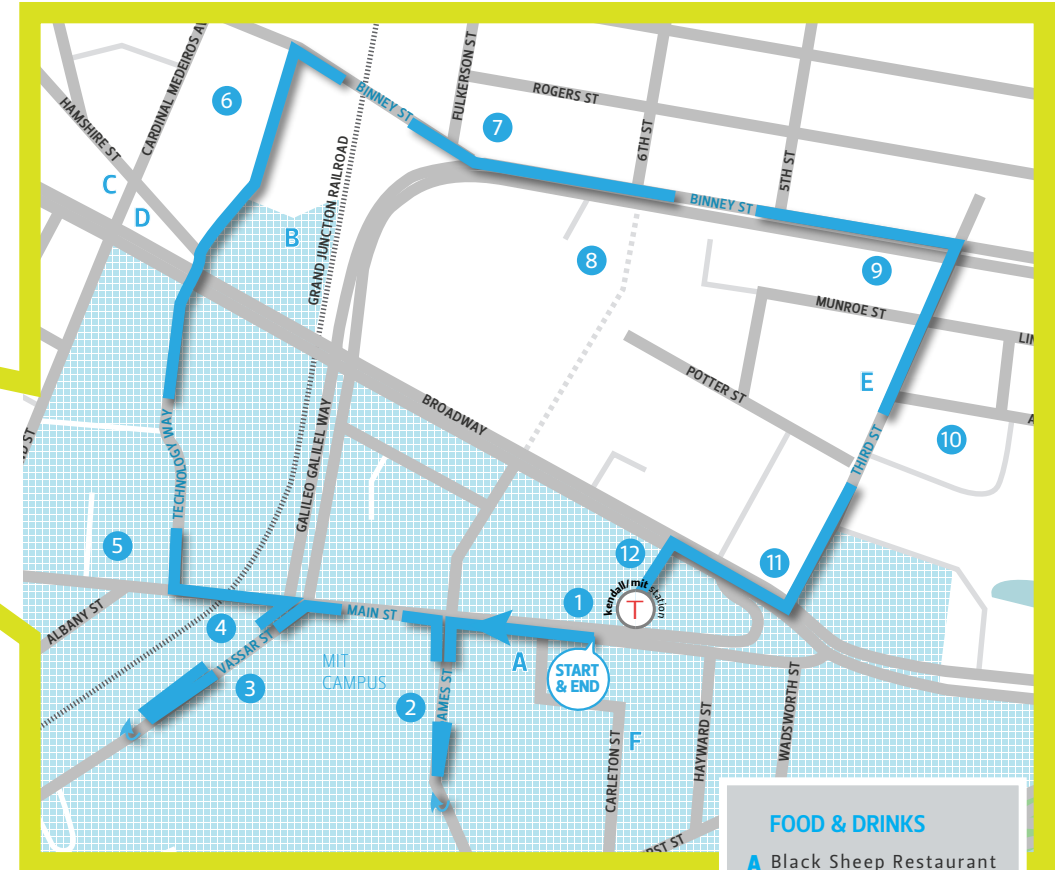
1 Along Main Street is the Marriott Hotel, many chain lunch restaurants and Boston-based Legal Seafood. Walk west on Main past the MIT Coop. Enter the parking garage elevator of One Cambridge Center, a 1987 mixed-use project with hotel facilities, office space, R&D, and retail space. Take the elevator to the top, where you will emerge at the rooftop garden. This lunchtime getaway was part of the public open space requirements by the City of Cambridge. Also on Main is the Kendall Hotel, a conversion of the historic Engine 7 firehouse into a boutique hotel and restaurant.

2 Cross Main at the traffic light and walk south along Ames Street. You are now on the MIT campus. Farther up on your left, is Fumihiko Maki's 2010 addition to the MIT Media Lab, described by the architecture critic for the Boston Globe, as the "world's most exquisite building."



Cycletrack along Vassar Street.

Ray and Maria Stata Center.
Frank Gehry, Architect.



FOOD & DRINKS

- A** Black Sheep Restaurant
350 Main Street
- B** Friendly Toast, Blue Room, Cambridge Brewing Co.
1 Kendall Square
- C** Emma's Pizza
40 Hampshire Street
- D** Atasca
50 Hampshire Street
- E** Evoo & Za
350 Third Street
- F** MIT Food Trucks (M-F)
Carleton Street

See the Restaurant Guide on page 50 for more suggestions.

3 Double back to Main, cross, turn left and continue west. On your right is the Broad Institute, a joint project of Harvard and MIT to study biology and medicine across disciplines. Interactive displays in the lobby, including some components accessible from the sidewalk, provide information on the research conducted within. Next door is the Broad Institute's sister organization, the Whitehead Institute of Biomedical Research, home of the Human Genome Project. On your left is the David H. Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research at MIT (2010),

an 180,000 sf state-of-the-art lab and workspace designed to foster interaction and collaboration among biologists and engineers. Adjacent to the Koch Institute, on Vassar Street, is Frank Gehry's 2004 Stata Center, an MIT academic building used for classes and to house departments including the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory. After crossing Main, you can enter the Stata Center lobby, which flows into the winding staircases to the upper levels, most of which have restricted access. The building's

tour continues on page 38

KENDALL / MIT

continued from page 37

circulation mimics a city street, with the various academic activities located along it, interspersed with internal 'plazas' to foster interaction. From the second level of the building you can access the outdoor decks and amphitheater and see the stormwater wetland. Its green roof captures greywater for irrigation and flushing the toilets.

4 Back on Vassar Street is Cambridge's first cycle track, a bike facility physically separated from the roadway, installed in 2004. Cambridge has recently started work on additional cycle tracks.

5 Cross Vassar and Main to the opposite corner from the Stata Center. Continue west on Main. You will cross the surface Grand Junction Railroad tracks, an infrequently used freight connection between North and South Stations that some hope may carry passenger rail one day as well as share the right-of-way with a multi-use path. On your left, across the street, is Charles Correa's 2008 LEED-Silver MIT Brain and Cognitive Sciences Center. On your right is Technology Square, one of the large developments that began during the urban renewal era. The first street on your right, Technology Way, was created to break up this large block and make it feel more similar to the city fabric.

6 Turn right on Technology Way and walk past the various corporate buildings, including Draper Laboratories, to emerge on Broadway. Cross the street to reach Hampshire Street. On your right is One Kendall Square, an 11-building complex (1914) that was not demolished by urban renewal and is

now a business and entertainment area, including the headquarters for Amgen and several restaurants. Follow the pedestrian path through the area and emerge at Binney Street, across from the Kendall Cinema, an art-house theater.

7 Turn right and continue along Binney Street. On your left are research and development buildings, interspersed with residential and two telecom buildings. Two blocks to the north of Binney Street is the residential neighborhood of East Cambridge, originally built to house the workers in the nearby industrial enterprises. Over the years this area has housed waves of immigrants and now is becoming a preferred location for workers in the area.

8 Across from the intersection of Binney Street with Sixth Street, there is a pedestrian connection

south to Broadway. It was required to better connect the neighborhood to Kendall Square Station; it cuts between Biogen, Inc. and a large Federal property. During the early 1960s, Kendall Square was slated to be the headquarters for NASA. With the assassination of JFK and the ascension of Lyndon Johnson to the presidency, NASA moved to Houston. Much of the block between the pedestrian pathway and Third Street is still owned by the Federal government and houses the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

9 Continuing along Binney Street, many of the surface parking lots and single-story industrial buildings occupied by offices and research laboratories are in the early stages of redevelopment. In 2010, the Cambridge Planning Board approved Alexandria Real Estate's Binney Street proposal to build 1.5 million sf of R&D space, 220,000 sf of residential, 40,000 sf of retail, two acres of public parks, and parking located below-grade. Construction

is expected in 2011.

10 Turn right on to Third Street. On your left is the 10-acre, 1.4 million sf Cambridge Research Park/Kendall Square mixed use development, built as a brownfield redevelopment project on a site formerly owned by Commonwealth Energy. The development permit included requirements for ground floor retail, public open space, and a walkway along the Broad Canal, which provided water access between the Charles River and many industries in the area. Of note in this development are Behnisch Architekten's 2003 Genzyme Center, the State's first LEED-Platinum green building, Steven Ehrlich's 2004 Vertex Pharmaceuticals headquarters, CBT's Watermark apartments, and the open space designed by and Michael van Valkenburgh and Sasaki Associates.

The space accommodates a skating rink in the winter and outdoor dining and lunchtime concerts in the summer. Also in the summer, there is a farmer's market in front of the Genzyme Center and canoe and kayak rentals available at the Broad Canal boat dock. A 300-room hotel and performing arts and film theater are planned for the two remaining parcels. Across from the development, at 303 Third Street, are the Third Square Apartments. Several restaurants have opened along Third Street and within the Cambridge Research Park in response to the development.

11 Continue along Third Street. At the corner of Broadway is One Broadway, which now houses the Cambridge Innovation Center (CIC), the largest flexible office facility for start-up and emerging technology and life sciences companies in the area. Over 250 companies are located at CIC.



▲ Kendall Square Farmer's Market.

12 Turn right at Broadway and walk to the crosswalk in front of the Volpe Center. Cross the street and enter the Marriott Hotel, part of One Cambridge Center. The permit for this project requires that the hotel provide the public through access between the Kendall MBTA station and the rest of Kendall Square and the residential neighborhoods beyond.

Upon emerging from the Marriott, you will be back where you began. Enter the Kendall Square Station on the hotel side Outbound platform if you are continuing on to Harvard Square, or cross the street to the Inbound side if returning to Boston and the Hynes. ■



▼ MIT's Media Lab.

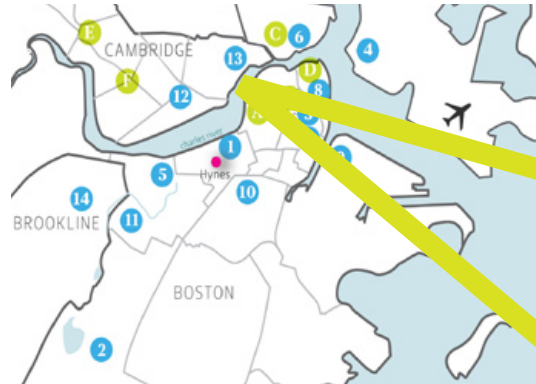
TOUR 13

NEAREST T STATION
Green Line: Lechmere Station

TOUR DURATION 60 Minutes

TWO CITIES

This tour starts in Cambridge and cuts through part of Boston's West End, demolished and re-built in the era of urban renewal. This tour includes a jail built in 1990, replacing an overcrowded jail that is now a luxury hotel, and North Station, a commuter rail and subway station, with the sports arena and concert venue TD Garden housed above it.



THE TOUR

1 As part of MBTA's Green Line Northwest Extension project, Lechmere Station is proposed to be relocated across Monsignor O'Brien Highway. On the left, notice an eight-story building, formerly a glass factory and now a residential condominium building.

2 The groundbreaking for NorthPoint, a major mixed use transit-oriented development project, took place in 2005 and includes several new buildings and green space on a formerly industrial 45-acre site. NorthPoint is still under construction.

3 The North Point Park opened in December 2007, a mitigation measure of the Central Artery/Tunnel Project (i.e., the "Big Dig") project. View the iconic Leonard P. Zakim Bunker Hill Memorial Bridge (cable-stayed), built as part of the Big Dig. Regatta Riverview (in Cambridge) was built as residential rentals in 1998 and converted to condominiums in 2005. Continue to the intersection of Museum Way and Monsignor O'Brien Highway.

tour continues on page 42

FOOD & DRINK

- A** Cambridgeside Galleria
100 Cambridgeside Pl.
- B** North Station
Causeway St.
- C** J. Pace & Son
75 Blossom Court
- D** The Liberty Hotel
215 Charles Street
- E** Villa Mexico Café
296 Cambridge Street
- F** Whole Foods and boYO
175-181 Cambridge Street

See the Restaurant Guide
on page 50 for more
suggestions.



The Bulfinch Hotel in Boston's West End.

TWO CITIES

continued from page 41

4 As you cross the Charles River, you will be entering Boston from Cambridge. The Museum of Science will be on your right. You will cross over the Craigie Drawbridge, currently under renovation as part of the State's Accelerated Bridge Program. Also, notice the elevated Science Park MBTA Station and the tunnel entrance to I-93 South to the right. Just after the drawbridge, and before Science Park MBTA Station, turn left to Nashua Street.

5 Walk on the pedestrian path in Nashua Street Park. The Nashua Street Park is part of the Big Dig mitigation. Adjacent is the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital. Across the street is the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department, home to the Nashua Street Jail. This jail was opened in 1990 and replaced

the Charles Street Jail, which is now a luxury hotel you will see near the end of this tour. After the curve in the road, note on your right underneath the highway ramps is part of the Artery Arts Program, a depiction of doorways and windows reminiscent of the West End housing prior to 1959. Houses like these were demolished in favor of "towers in the park" during the urban renewal era.

6 Explore North Station/TD Garden, a multiuse facility and exit at the West Entrance, which is the second entrance on the same side of the building. The ground level of North Station is a commuter rail station. The MBTA Green Line and Orange Line subways connect under North Station. Above North Station is the TD Garden sports arena and

concert venue with 19,600 seats, home to Boston Celtics basketball, Boston Bruins hockey, and Boston Blazers lacrosse.

7 Once outside, walk toward the greenery under the highway ramps. Walk up a two-step pedestrian ramp to see a plaque depicting the West End before 1959 and its replacement, Charles River Park, after 1959. Also note the phrase under the highway ramp, "The Greatest Neighborhood This Side of Heaven," the motto of West Enders. Notice a lone building nearby at 42 Lomasney Way, known as "The Last Tenement House."

8 As you walk along Martha Road, notice street names inlaid into the sidewalk depicting the West End street pattern prior to urban renewal; this is another part of the Artery Arts Program under the highway ramps across the street. The Whittier Place condominiums are part of a larger development called Charles River Park. The West End and Charles River

Park endure a bit of notoriety in planning history.

The West End is located on the northwest portion of the original Shawmut Peninsula and parts of the neighborhood are filled land. The neighborhood was developed in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The peak population was 23,000, and by the mid-twentieth century the population declined to about 7,500. Before the neighborhood was razed in 1959, it was a multi-ethnic working class neighborhood known for a strong neighborhood identity.

9 As you walk past Six Whittier Place on your left and Eight Whittier Place on your right, you will reach a pedestrian path leading to neighborhood amenities, known as Thoreau Path. You will see small shops. Turn left at this path, continuing past the Boston Synagogue and the tennis courts where the path curves to the right. You will pass next to a basketball court. The tree canopy along Thoreau Path can provide respite from the bustling urban environment nearby.

10 Turn left immediately after the basketball court and walk just until the beginning of the stairs. Stop here to get a view of the 33-story West End Apartments towers. Return to Thoreau Path and walk along this path behind the West End Apartments. At the end of the path turn right. St. Joseph's Catholic Church will be across the street. Continue along William Cardinal O'Connell Way past Hawthorne Place. At the end of this street, the Shriner's Hospital will be on your left. Turn left onto Blossom Street.

11 Turn right at Parkman Street. Walk to the end of Parkman Street and turn right on North Grove Street. To the left of the



▲ North Point Park, Cambridge.

Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) Main and Emergency Entrances for MGH, you will see a 53,000 sf state-of-the-art facility under construction on your left. Continuing the tour, North Grove Street becomes Fruit Street. You will pass the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary. Founded in 1824, this complex includes buildings from the nineteenth century as well as towers built in the 1970s; both generations of architecture are visible on Fruit Street.

12 At the end of Fruit Street, turn left onto Charles Street. You will soon pass the Liberty Hotel at 215 Charles Street, a luxury hotel in the former Charles Street Jail. The Charles Street Jail was built in the Boston Granite Style in 1851. Due to overcrowding, the jail was ordered to be closed in 1973 by the U.S. District Court and eventually was replaced with the Nashua Street Jail in 1990. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places,

the stunning adaptive reuse of this facility has won numerous preservation and architecture awards. Information panels to the left of the lobby explain the history and redevelopment of the facility. Cross the street to Charles/MGH Station (Red Line). Take the inbound train to Park Street Station and transfer to the Green Line outbound to Hynes Convention Center. ■

▼ View of Charles River and Boston's West End from Cambridge.



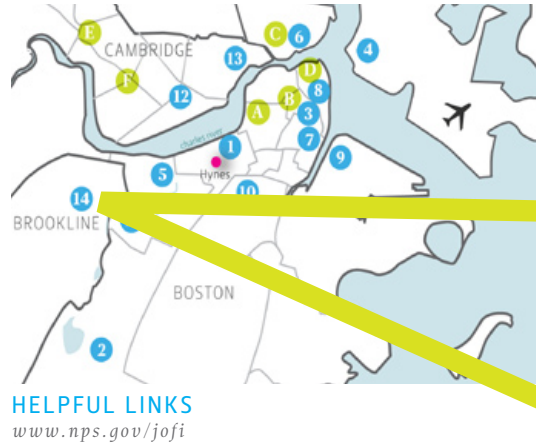
TOUR 14

NEAREST T STATION
Green Line: Coolidge Corner Station

TOUR DURATION 50 Minutes
NEARBY TOURS Longwood Medical Area

BROOKLINE

The Town of Brookline's Coolidge Corner is an original "streetcar suburb" of Boston. Mostly farms and summer estates in the late 1700s, it became a dense residential neighborhood in the late 1800's. This change was spurred by the new electric trolley along Beacon Street. By 1900, Coolidge Corner was also a thriving retail core.



HELPFUL LINKS
www.nps.gov/jofi

THE TOUR

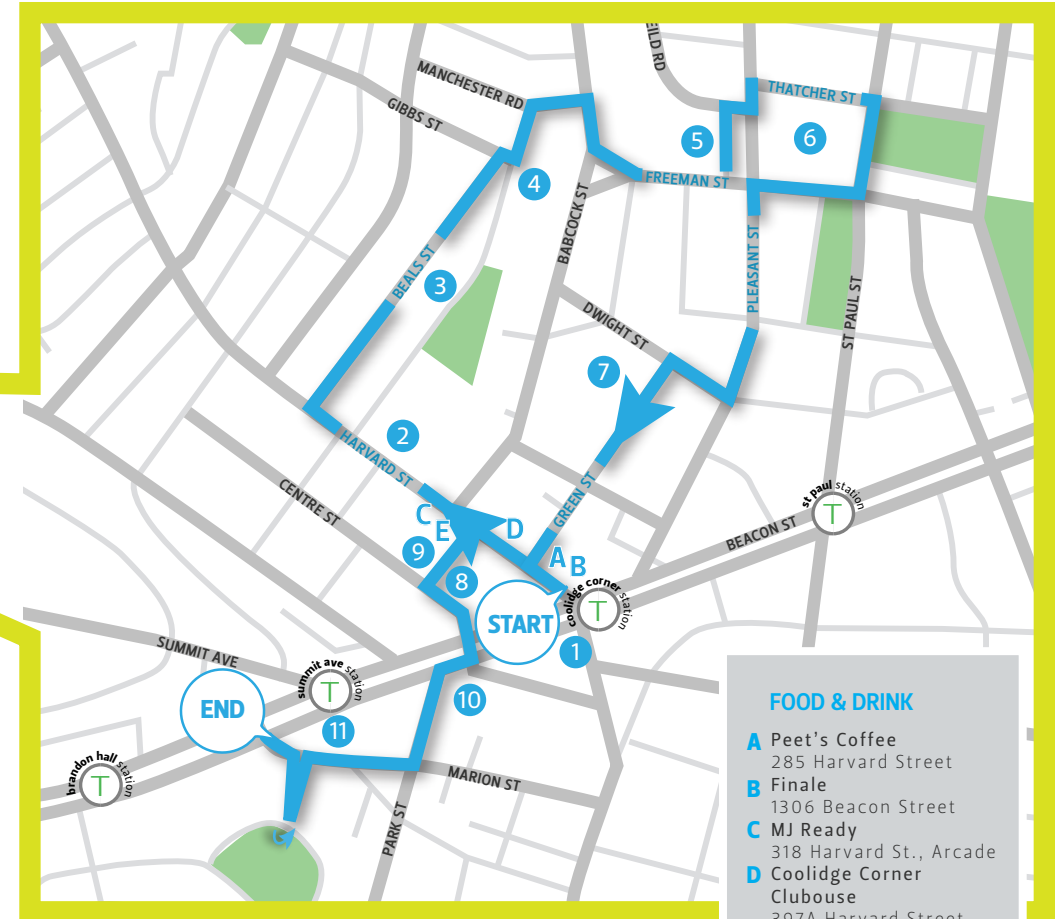
- 1 Along this segment of Beacon Street is the oldest running electric trolley line in the nation. Initially laid out in the mid-1800s, Beacon Street was widened in the 1880s. The iconic SS Pierce Building was built in 1898-99. The Coolidge Corner Theatre was converted from a church, and was saved from closure in the 1980s.
- 2 The Edward Devotion House was built in 1740. Temple Kehillath Israel is one of many Jewish places of worship in Brookline.
- 3 At 83 Beals Street is the JFK Birthplace. Operated by the National Park Service, this house is preserved as it was when John F. Kennedy lived there.
- 4 At the end of Beals Street, turn right on Gibbs Street, left on Stedman Street, and right on Manchester Road. At the end of Manchester, turn right on Babcock

Street, then left onto Freeman St.

- 5 The Saint Aidan Project was converted from a church into a mixed-income housing development.
- 6 Follow the pedestrian path to Crowninshield Road. Turn right. Dexter Park was developed in the 1970s and is considered out-of-scale. Walk around Dexter Park to Pleasant Street, turn right on Thatcher Street, and right on Saint Paul Street. On your left is Knyvet Park. Turn right on Freeman Street and left on Pleasant.
- 7 Turn right onto Dwight Street and turn left at Green Street. On the right is 74-76 Green Street, an example of a more contextual redevelopment.
- 8 Cross Harvard Street and turn right. Note the many pedestrian connections to the parking lot

behind the shops.

- 9 The Coolidge Corner Arcade (1926) has two levels of retail with Gothic decorations in an Art Deco style. Enter the Arcade and walk to the rear exit. Cross the parking lot and turn left at Centre St.
- 10 Cross Beacon Street. The Marriott Courtyard Hotel Coolidge Corner is one of the first efforts of the Town to increase the commercial base and provide more foot traffic. Turn right on Beacon Street. Turn left on Park Street and right on Marion Street. On the left is Marion Square. Farther up Marion is Marion Path, a pedestrian pathway, one of 17 laid out in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
- 11 Continue on Marion Street back to Beacon Street, and turn right on Beacon Street to the Summit Avenue MBTA Green Line station. Take the Green Line inbound to return. ■



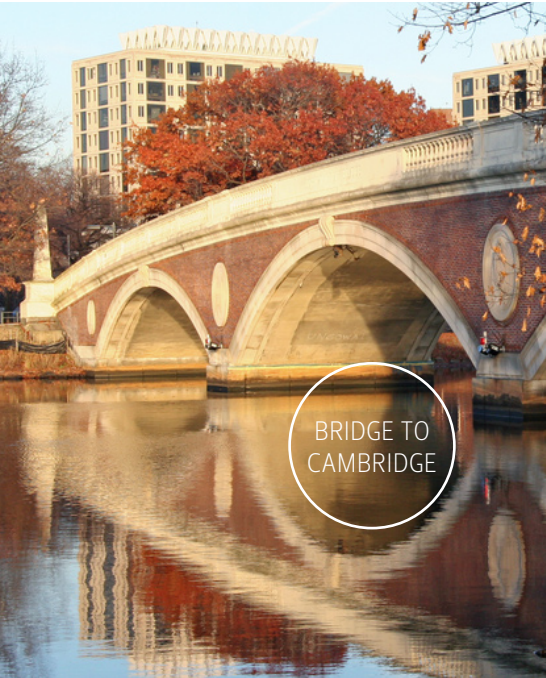
FOOD & DRINK

- A Peet's Coffee
285 Harvard Street
- B Finale
1306 Beacon Street
- C MJ Ready
318 Harvard St., Arcade
- D Coolidge Corner Clubhouse
397A Harvard Street
- E The Regal Beagle
308 Harvard Street

See the Restaurant Guide on page 50 for more suggestions.



▲ S.S. Pierce Building and Coolidge Corner Theater.



OTHER NEIGHBORHOODS

BEACON HILL & BOSTON COMMON, BOSTON Red Line: Charles/MGH Station



Beacon Hill was settled in 1630 by the Massachusetts Bay Colony. The Beacon Hill Historic District was designated a Registered National Historic Landmark by the U.S. Department of Interior in 1963. The Hill's architecture is well preserved and the neighborhood is actively sought. Beacon Street is the southern boundary and a prominent setting for handsome townhouses and apartment buildings. The splendid Massachusetts State House was built in 1795–98. Mt. Vernon Street is Beacon Hill's widest and most stately. Louisburg Square (plan by S. P. Fuller, 1826; constructed 1834–37) is a residential enclave developed on an English model. Acorn Street is the Hill's most picturesque. Charles Street is Beacon Hill's main street lined with small shops and few national chain stores. Pinckney Street is reminiscent of an English street because of its scale and consistent red brick color and architecture. Cambridge Street and the Charles/MGH Station have been recently reconstructed.

GOVERNMENT CENTER, FANEUIL HALL, BOSTON Green Line: Gov't Center Station



Government Center, a product of 1960s urban renewal, includes public offices centered on City Hall. The MBTA Haymarket subway station is topped by ventilation stacks for the Central Artery (I-93) tunnel and a mixed-use development. The two stacks frame the view of the Old North Church. The historic Blackstone Block contains Boston's most intact remaining network of 17th century streets. Alongside is Haymarket, the oldest outdoor food market in Boston. The Freedom Trail winds its way through this area to the new North End parks, part of the Rose Kennedy Greenway. Faneuil Hall (1740–42, reconstructed 1762–63, enlarged by Bulfinch in 1805–06) is the site of Patrick Henry's famous "Give me liberty or give me death" speech. Quincy Market and the flanking North and South Market buildings (1824–26, Alexander Parris) served for years as Boston's wholesale food market. In the mid 1970s they were reconstructed and converted into Faneuil Hall Marketplace.

CHARLESTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT, BOSTON Orange & Green Lines: North Station



Near Town Hill and City Square is the Warren Tavern (1780). Look around this intersection of five streets; this whole area was planned in the 1630s, and is known as Town Hill. City Square was originally called Market Square, and its appearance has changed drastically over the years. The 1892 Roughan Hall (with Olives restaurant) at the corner of Park Street is the only 19th century building still standing. In the late 1970s as part of the Central Artery/Tunnel Project, highway structures were razed and tunnels were created under the square. The Bunker Hill Monument commemorates the Battle of Bunker Hill (June 17, 1775) two months after the battles of Lexington and Concord. Walk up the monument, but remember it has 294 stairs and no elevator. As you reach Monument Square, pass Tremont Street and see more beautiful historic homes. The historic Charlestown Navy Yard is adjacent beyond City Square.

OF INTEREST

NORTH END, BOSTON Orange & Green Lines: Haymarket Station



The North End is one of the oldest neighborhoods in Boston, and served as a home to thousands of immigrants in the early 20th century. Of interest to planners is that Boston's economic success has put enormous pressure on the North End to stay affordable for existing residents. While the neighborhood is changing socioeconomically, the ethnic character is not. You will still hear a lot of Italian spoken on the streets and in the cafes. Hanover Street, the main street, and nearby Salem Street are lined with cafes, restaurants and shops offering Italy's flavorful bounty. North Square is the site of Paul Revere's House. Paul Revere Mall (an urban plaza), with the equestrian statue of Paul Revere, is the entrance to the historic Old North Church. Nearby are Copps Hill Burying Ground and Copps Hill Terrace for views of the Inner Harbor, Old Ironsides (i.e., the U.S.S. Constitution) and the Charlestown waterfront.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY & SQUARE, CAMBRIDGE Red Line: Harvard Square Station



Celebrating its 375th birthday in 2011, Harvard University is the nation's oldest and one of the world's most prestigious. Its 21,000 students attend classes in historic and contemporary structures. The Harvard Yard, where it began, is surrounded by an ivy-clad red brick wall, separating its peaceful academic environment from the hectic pace of commercial Harvard Square. Only 210 acres constitute the main campus in Cambridge, with another 381 acres across the Charles River in Boston. Over 24 million sf of building space accommodates students, faculty and employees in Cambridge and Boston. Harvard Square is the collective name of the mixed-use area surrounding the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue, JFK Avenue and Brattle Street. It is full of bookstores, including the Harvard Coop, clothing shops, ethnic and upscale restaurants, bars, pubs, and bakeries. This is one of the Boston area's most intriguing and vital places.

CENTRAL SQUARE & UNIVERSITY PARK, CAMBRIDGE Red Line: Central Square Station



Central Square is sometimes referred to as Cambridge's downtown, but it has a completely different feel from its more famous neighbor, Harvard Square. It is home to Cambridge's City Hall but also a center of funky blues and country music clubs, a large concentration of ethnic and diverse restaurants and the center of one of Cambridge's oldest and most cosmopolitan neighborhoods. Nearby is a large real estate mixed-use development called University Park, with offices, residential apartments and public open spaces. It was developed by Forest City Enterprises on land owned by MIT and constitutes a huge infill project and joint venture. University Park has become a magnet for biotech companies and high tech businesses seeking proximity to MIT research and educational facilities. Its innovative design is focused on a landscaped sequence of parks and public art works, surrounded by dense mid-rise buildings and attractively clad parking garages.

THE RESTAURANT GUIDE

Boston has become a great restaurant town. Small plates, sushi, Latin, and American comfort food are the latest trends. And French cuisine has made a comeback. Back Bay, Downtown and the South End sizzle with enticing and moderate to expensive choices. The East Boston, Jamaica Plain and Chinatown neighborhoods have inexpensive and more ethnic restaurants. Reserve ahead, especially on the weekend. The recommended restaurants are listed by Boston neighborhood followed by Brookline and Cambridge. Entrée Price Guide: \$–low to mid teens, \$\$–high teens to mid \$20s, and \$\$\$–high \$20s and more.

Bon appétit!
Allan Hodges, FAICP

BACK BAY (APA Conference location)

BANGKOK BLUE \$: Inexpensive, good spicy and mild noodles and great crispy Pad Thai and Green Mango salad. Try the Thai Iced Coffee. Pleasant and efficient staff. *651 Boylston Street, 617 266 1010, bkkblueboston.com*

BISTRO DU MIDI \$\$\$: Typical French Provencal menu presented with flair. Stunning interior décor. Dining room upstairs has great views of the Public Garden. Bar on main floor has appetizers and small plates. *272 Boylston Street, 617 426-7878, bistrodumidi.com*

CLIO \$\$\$: French–Oriental fusion cuisine of chef–owner Ken Oringer. Innovative, delicious and expensive. *370A Commonwealth Avenue, at Massachusetts Avenue in Eliot Hotel, 617 536-7200, cliorestaurant.com*

DAVIO'S \$\$: This Northern Italian steak house has soaring columns, high ceilings and an open kitchen. They set the tone for good chops, steaks and pastas. Handsome bar, comfortable lounge and kitchen front counter. *75 Arlington Street, 617 357 4810, davios.com*

DOUZO \$\$: Beautifully prepared sushi, sashimi and katsu don in this hip, modern Japanese restaurant with efficient staff. Watch the chefs prepare the sushi at a counter. *131 Dartmouth Street (near Back Bay Station), 617 859 8886, douzosushi.com*

GRILL 23 & BAR \$\$\$: Boston's most elaborate and clubby venue known for its excellent beef steaks. The Grill excels in seafood and poultry, too. *161 Berkeley Street, 617 542-2255, grill23.com*

LEGAL SEAFOOD \$\$: "If it isn't fresh it isn't Legal". This is the slogan of Boston's original fish house chain. Simple preparations show off the kitchen's knowledge of how to handle fish. Wine Cellar below. *26 Park Plaza, 617 426 4444, legalseafoods.com (many other locations).*

L'ESPALIER \$\$\$: Elegant French cuisine served by professional staff in a contemporary setting. Chef–owner Frank McClelland offers degustation of seasonal vegetables, braised greens and gnocchi tossed with sage and more. *774 Boylston Street (near Mandarin Oriental Hotel), 617 262 3023, lespalier.com*

MISTRAL \$\$\$: French–Mediterranean cuisine in a lively setting. Try delicious Dover Sole, beet mosaic salads, roasted duck, and wonderful pizzas. Dine comfortably at the bar with attentive service. *223 Columbus Avenue, 617 867 9300, mistralbistro.com*

PARISH CAFÉ \$: Amazing sandwich and salad combinations from Boston area chefs. Lunch is better. Same owners have different menu featuring Mexican–inspired food at RATTLESNAKE across the street. *361 Boylston Street 617 247-4777, parishcafe.com*

POST 390 \$\$: American comfort food served within a lively bar scene. Some unusual entrees dot the familiar menu in a brassy modern setting with see–through fireplaces; admire magnificent Trinity Church from second floor. *Clarendon at Stuart Street, 617 399 0015, post390restaurant.com*

SONSIE \$\$: Interesting International menu and great café/bar scene. Many seats face Newbury Street action. The surprise is that the food is as good as the scene. *327 Newbury Street, 617 351-2500, sonsieboston.com*

TOWNE STOVE AND SPIRITS \$\$: Large bi–level restaurant and bar in the Hynes Convention Center. Jasper White and Lydia Shire (chef–owners) offer specialties from New England, Russia, Turkey, and elsewhere. *900 Boylston Street, 617 247 0400, towneboston.com*

VIA MATTÀ \$\$\$: The contemporary interior design sets the stage for an equally interesting Italian menu including antipastos and crispy eggplant. Veal and fish dishes are the best. Service very good. Great Italian wine list. *79 Park Plaza, 617 422 0008, viamattarestaurant.com.*

BEACON HILL

BEACON HILL HOTEL AND BISTRO \$\$: Well made familiar French cuisine (pate, duck confit, steak frites). Also try tea–cured duck with salsify and striped bass with bergamot. Save room for tasty and authentic fruit tarts. *25 Charles Street, 617 723 7575, beaconhillhotel.com*

LALA ROKH \$\$: Parsley and other herbs combined into a "cake" make for a delicious start. Kebabs of farm–raised sturgeon, Iran's national fish, and lamb entrees are good choices. Quiet, sophisticated ambiance. *97 Mt. Vernon Street, 720-5511, lalarokh.com*

NO. 9 PARK \$\$\$: Barbara Lynch's personalized upscale cuisine in the chef–owner's flagship Italian inspired restaurant near the State House. Low ceilings make the rooms noisy. Try the prune–stuffed gnocchi. *9 Park Street, 617 742 9991, no9park.com.*

SCAMPO \$\$\$: Chef Lydia Shire's expansive classy space on the first floor of this incredibly interesting renovation of a former jail. Well crafted, simple and delicious Italian entrees, grilled pizzas, and salads. *215 Charles Street in Liberty Hotel at Charles/MBTA Station, 617 536 2100, scampoboston.com*

TOSCANO \$\$: One of Boston's elegant Italian restaurants. The antipasto and pasta selections are delicious and reasonably priced. The veal and seafood specials are worth the tab. Small bar with limited menu. *47 Charles Street, 617 723-4090, toscanoboston.com*

JAMAICA PLAIN

BON SAVOR \$: French/South American cuisine including crepes, Peruvian–spiced tuna and rice with mushrooms tempt diners in a small quick turnover bistro. *605 Centre Street, Jamaica Plain, 617 971 0000, bonsavor.com*

TEN TABLES \$\$: Sea bass, pork chops, Rhode Island bluefish, hanger steak, pasta with fresh vegetables and herbs dominate the menu at this tiny and popular JP restaurant with an open kitchen. Interesting appetizers and desserts. *597 Centre Street, 617 524 8810, tentables.net*

CHARLESTOWN

NAVY YARD BISTRO and WINE BAR \$: Squid antipasto and French sausages and more with a big selection of wines by the glass and interesting ales. *Sixth Street in the Navy Yard, 617 242 0036, navyyardbistro.com*

OLIVES \$\$\$: Mediterranean bistro best describes this lively place run by globe trotter chef–owner Todd English. Because of its popularity there is usually a very long wait. *10 City Square, 617 242-1999, toddenglish.com*

TANGIERINO \$\$: This Moroccan chop house has a romantic atmosphere and serves up exotic tagines, fish stews, lamb, and beef with spices and many delicious couscous dishes popular in the Maghreb region of North Africa. *88 Main Street, 617 242 6009, tangierino.com*

WARREN TAVERN \$\$: Traditional American food served in an historic 1780's restored colonial house. The menu includes soups, appetizers, salads, burgers, sandwiches, and entrees such as Poached Salmon and Scrod. *2 Pleasant Street, 617 241-8142, warrentavern.com*

CHINATOWN/LEATHER DISTRICT

GINZA \$\$: Beautiful Japanese sushi, tempura and more served in a smallish room. Crowded at lunch. Late hours. Popular with hip crowd. *16 Hudson Street, 617 338 2261*

JUMBO SEAFOOD \$\$: Fresh fish straight from the tank includes crispy fried spicy shrimp, oysters with black bean sauce and whole fish with Hunan Sauce. Large Chinese menu. *5-7-9 Hudson Street, 617 542 2823, newjumbouseafoodrestaurant.com*

LES ZYGOMATES \$\$\$: A taste of Paris in the Leather District will test your smile muscles. Delicious authentic bistro fare, such as steak au poivre, inspired by its original in the City of Light. Large wine list. *129 South Street, 617 542 5108, winebar.com*

NEW SHANGHAI \$: The scallops in black pepper sauce are a highlight in this popular Chinese upstairs restaurant. The regular menu items are much better than the lunch specials. Crowded at lunch. *21 Hudson Street, 617 338 6688, newshanghairestaurant.com*

O YA \$\$\$: Currently the hottest Japanese sushi restaurant in Boston. \$500 for 20 selections! Sea urchin, specialty sirloin and caviar, and sea scallops dot this interesting menu. Try warm braised shitake mushroom nigiri (\$8) *9 East Street, near South Station, 617 654 9900, oyarestaurantboston.com*

PENANG \$: Wonderful authentic dishes combining Chinese, Indian, Singaporean, and Malay Peninsula influences. Try Roti Canai (Indian pan cake), Prawm Mee (noodles in soup), Seafood Tomyom Soup and Pampano Fish. *685-691 Washington Street, at Beach Street, 617 451-6372/3, penangusa.com*

DOWNTOWN/THEATRE DISTRICT

RADIUS \$\$\$: Chef–owner Michael Schlow's flagship restaurant serving American food haute cuisine style. Try the uptown burger and fries for a casual twist from the intriguing changing selections. Financial types crowd the bar. *8 High Street, 617 426 1234, radiusrestaurant.com*

LOCKE-ÖBER \$\$\$: Traditionalists still love the martinis, classic French cuisine and Lobster Savannah. Sit in the beautiful main floor with a direct view of the silver–laden, heavily wooded bar. *3 Winter Place (an alley between Winter Street and Temple Place), 617 542-1340, lockeober.com*

MANTRA \$\$: Step inside this exotically decorated room for some unusual choices blending two of the world's best cuisines, Indian and French. Hookah Bar. *52 Temple Place, 617 542 8111, mantrarestaurant.com*

MARKET \$\$\$: Jean George Vongerichten's newest branch of the chic Paris bistro features fresh local ingredients turned into French/Asian and stunning preparations by Chef Chris Damskey. Lobster with Butter–Fried Garlic! *W Hotel, 100 Stuart Street, 617 310 6700, marketbyjgboston.com*

STODDARDS \$\$: American Comfort Food served at an ancient English bar reassembled on site. Great for hamburgers and lobster–scallion hush puppies. Try the aged gouda and ale fondue. *48 Temple Place, 617 426 0048, stoddardsfoodandale.com*

TEATRO \$\$: Lively, noisy but excellent Italian food served by well trained staff by one of Boston’s top chefs. Arugula salad and Fried Squid for the table and Mussels are excellent choices. Great pizzas! Must call ahead. *177 Tremont Street, 617 778 6841, TeatroBoston.com*

WOODWARD \$\$: American Comfort food served in a “modern urban tavern” style, two–level, interestingly designed space: lower level is the bar and informal; upstairs is more comfortable with a fireplace. *Ames Hotel, 1 Court Street (opposite Old State House), 617 979 8200, woodwardatames.com*

EAST BOSTON

EL PAISANO \$: Mondongo (tripe) soup, grilled steak, fried pork rind, eggs and sweet plantains, corn flan, and tequila lime chicken bring raves about the tangy Colombian cocina. *1012 Bennington Street, 617 569 5267, elpaisanorestaurante.com*

EL RINCON LIMENO \$: Peruvian cocina blends flavors from the Incas and Africa into dishes such as pork/chicken with dry potato sauce, beef heart with potatoes, and empanadas. *409 Chelsea Street, Day Square, 617 569 4942, rinconlimenorestaurant.com*

SANTARPIO'S \$: Referred by many as Boston’s best pizza place, that also serves barbeque sausages and meats, in a bar room with Frank Sinatra’s music blaring. *111 Chelsea Street, 617 567 9871, santarpiospizza.com*

FANEUIL HALL AREA

DURGIN PARK \$\$: Chowders, the bean and the cod, Indian Pudding with a dollop of vanilla ice cream and oversized servings of prime ribs have kept patrons coming to be “insulted” by rude wait staff since 1824. All part of the fun. *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 30 North Market Street, 617 227 2038, arkrestaurants.com*

YE OLDE UNION OYSTER HOUSE \$\$: Great fun sitting at the small historic raw bar and watching the shucking of oysters. Down them with a cold brew. Oldest continuing restaurant in the U.S. *41 Union Street, 617 227 2750, unionoysterhouse.com*

FENWAY/KENMORE SQUARE

BASHO \$\$: Palatial Japanese brasserie offers tons of raw and beautiful sushi, shasimi and sake. Try lobster service with tangy spices. Near Fenway Park. *1338 Boylston Street, 617 262 1338, bashosushi.com*

EASTERN STANDARD \$\$: Extensive bar menu in this Parisian style café/bistro. Menu includes European and American

classics with good reviews. *528 Commonwealth Avenue (in Hotel Commonwealth), 617 532 9100, easternstandard.com*

LA VERDAD \$: The truth is that this taqueria serves authentic Mexican cocina like fish tacos, carne asada and tortas, not Tex Mex. Ken Oringer also excites with premium agave tequilas. *1 Landsdowne Street, across from Fenway Park stadium, 617 421 9595, laverdadtaqueria.com*

L’PETIT ROBERT \$\$: Classic French food served with flair in a cozy small room. Very popular and well recommended. *468 Commonwealth Avenue, 617 375 0699, petitbistro.com*

NORTH END

CAFFE PARADISO \$: Calzones, pastries and cappuccinos served, but Italian ice cream and gelatos are molte bene. *255 Hanover Street, 617 742 1768, caffeparadiso.com*

IL MARE \$\$: Coastal Italian seafood in cramped quarters. Try the Scottish Gigha Halibut in a sea urchin sauce. Food emphasis is on sustainability and organic wines. Good reviews. *135 Richmond Street, 617 723 6273, marenatural.com*

LUCCA \$\$: Upscale Italian restaurant with interesting gourmet twists to familiar dishes. *226 Hanover Street, 617 742 9200, luccaboston.com*

NEPTUNE OYSTER \$\$: Small raw bar and interesting combos like the Neptuneburger (fried oysters on a cheeseburger). The clam chowder is made to order. *63 Salem Street, 617 742 3474, neptuneoyster.com*

PICCOLA VENEZIA \$: Classic Italian cooking will please the value–conscious. Wine served in tumblers. *263 Hanover Street, 617 523–3888, piccolaveneziaboston.com*

TARANTO \$\$: Unusual combination of Peruvian and Southern Italian cooking. *210 Hanover Street, 617 720 0052, tarantarist.com*

SOUTH END

B & G OYSTERS \$\$: Another Barbara Lynch specialty in a tiny spot emphasizing the freshest seafood. Try the delicious flavor full clam chowder. *550 Tremont Street, 617 423 0550, bandgoysters.com*

BUTCHER SHOP \$\$: Petit charcuterie with a few seats by chef owner Barbara Lynch. Great cuts served with select wines by popular sommelier Cat Silirie. *552 Tremont Street, 617 423 4800, thebutchershopboston.com*

COPPA \$\$: Ken Oringer’s and Jamie Bissonnette’s enoteca is very popular. Try wood–roasted meat balls draped in lardo, knuckles of pasta with broccoli and white pizza with squash and spinach and bacalao. *253 Shawmut Avenue, 617 391 0902, coppaboston.com*

GASLIGHT BRASSERIE DU COIN \$\$: A classic neighborhood Parisian brasserie. Gaslight offers its guests French brasserie cuisine of impeccable quality and improbable value in an informal, old world, new age setting. *560 Harrison Avenue, 617 422 0224, gaslight560.com*

HAMERSLEY’S BISTRO \$\$\$: One of Boston’s continually best French Provencal restaurants for excellent food and service. Try Roast chicken, halibut with mussels in a garlicky bourride, rabbit with eggplant. Expensive. *535 Tremont Street, 617 423–2700, hamersleysbistro.com*

ORINOCO \$: Oxtails “on ‘fire”, plaintain–crusted mahi mahi and tomato escabache provide tangy, spicy and wonderful flavors, textures and temperatures at this Venezuelan and Nuevo Latino cafe; also in Brookline Village. *47 Shawmut Avenue, 617 369 7075, discovervenezuela.com*

SIBLING RIVALRY \$\$\$: Two brother–chefs dual it out using the same ingredient in different dishes on both sides of the menu. Despite this unique twist, the food is delicious. Very good wine list. *525 Tremont Street, 617 338 5338, siblingrivalryboston.com*

SOUTH BOSTON WATERFRONT

BARKING CRAB \$: Lobster, crab, salmon, steamers, and mussels as well as fried seafood platters served in a real clam shack environment alongside the Fort Point Channel. *88 Sleeper Street, near the Federal Courthouse between the bridges, 617 426 CRAB, barkingcrab.com*

DAILY CATCH \$\$: Sicilian style seafood and pasta dishes including Calamari are the specialties in this expansive spot along the Fort Point Channel at the base of the U.S. Courthouse on Fan Pier. *2 Northern Avenue, 617 772 4400, the daily catch.com (other locations in the North End and Harvard Square).*

LEGAL’S HARBORSIDE \$\$: The seafood chain’s new dramatic flagship boasts expansive views of Boston Harbor. Call before you go as it was still under construction in February 2011. *242 Northern Avenue, 617 423 1000, legalseafoods.com*

NO NAME \$: Fried, boiled and sautéed fish dominate the menu at this hidden Boston tradition. No frills. Great harbor views. Casual! *15 Pier Street East (off Northern Avenue), 617 423 2705, nonamerestaurant.com*

SPORTELLLO \$\$: Barbara Lynch’s experiment with an expensive gourmet lunch counter has worked. Try the strozzapreti with braised rabbit and olives and potato gnocchi. Have drinks at DRINK downstairs. *348 Congress Street (in the Fort Point Channel area), 617 737 1234, sportelloboston.com*

BROOKLINE

FUGAKYU \$\$: Traditional and nouveau Japanese specialties including sushi, sashimi, tempura and saki in an elegant two–level setting. Highly regarded by locals. *1280 Beacon Street*

(Coolidge Corner), 617 734 1268, fugakyu.net

KHAYYAM \$: Shirin Polo Morgh, a succulent Persian chicken kebab with basmati rice with orange rind, pistachios, carrots and barberries sets the stage for more exotic choices at this small eatery. *404 Harvard Street, 617 383 6268, khyyamrestaurant.com*

LINEAGE \$\$: Lobster bisque, tacos, brioche rolls give you an idea of the mixed offerings at this relatively new and popular venture. *242 Harvard Street (Coolidge Corner), 617 232 0065, lineagerestaurant.com*

CAMBRIDGE

CRAGIE ON MAIN \$\$\$: French cuisine using sustainable organic food. Try Chorizo Oil–Poached Day boat Sea Scallops barley cous cous, preserved lemon, dried black olives, chorizo sauce. Unusual and delicious desserts. *853 Main Street (near Central Square), 617 497 5511, craigieonmain.com*

HARVEST \$\$\$: New England cuisine and many other gourmet selections in a refined “designer” setting, off a picturesque small alley. Popular with academic crowd despite the high prices. *44 Brattle Street, (Harvard Square) 617 868 2255, harvestcambridge.com*

HELMAND \$\$: An Afghani specialty such as pumpkin appetizer is a unique taste treat. Great vegetable entrees, lamb and breads made in the ovens visible from the attractive dining room. Thick strong coffee service is excellent. *143 First Street, (in Lechmere area), 617 492–4646, helmandrestaurant.com*

OLEANA \$\$: Mediterranean is the specialty of Chef Ana Sortun’s spice–laden cooking and attracts many looking for her mezze and small plates; fried mussels with Turkish garlic sauce, spinach falafel and trout spanakopita. *134 Hampshire Street, 617 661 0505, oleanarestaurant.com*

RENDEZVOUS \$\$: Vegetable Antipasto with Roasted Eggplant Puree and Muhammara (red pepper walnut dip), curry dusted florlets, Turkish cucumber salad with yogurt, roasted red beets. *502 Massachusetts Avenue, 617 576 1900, rendezvouscentralsquare.com*

SANDRINE \$\$: French Alsatian cuisine with robust flavors. Try the tarte flambé (flammekueche), flat bread with nutmeg cheese and choice of toppings, and leave room for chocolate kougelhopf. Tempting menu. *8 Holyoke Street (Harvard Square), 617 497 5300, sandrines.com*

UPSTAIRS AT THE SQUARE \$\$\$: Colorful and glamorous interior sets the stage for serious American cuisine by Steve Brand and Susan Regis. Vegetarian and other tasting menus available. Try the elegant lobster roll. *91 Winthrop Street, Harvard Square, 617 864 1933, upstairs at the square.com*

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