NOTES	
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GENERAL INFORMATION Boston, Massachusetts's capital, has earned a reputation as one of the nation's most attractive urban centers. The city of Boston or the "Hub" as Bostonians refer to their city, is the birthplace of American independence. It is also located next to Cambridge, home to Harvard University, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), making Boston well known as a University town and cultural center for both American and international students. The city has emerged as a leader of culture and learning and is the administrative and financial center of New England.

Boston is New England's largest city with a metropolitan population of 4.7 million people of diverse cultural backgrounds. Many of its neighborhoods reflect the local ethnic orientation and enhance the city's cosmopolitan atmosphere. While offering the advantages of a modern metropolis, Boston has succeeded in retaining a pleasant small town atmosphere which can be seen in the faces and smiles of many of its inhabitants. This is also clearly evident in its well maintained neighborhoods such as Beacon Hill, the Back Bay, and North End.

The city is filled with charming brick sidewalks enhanced with the light of old fashioned gas lamps illuminating the city's skyline. Gleaming skyscrapers are tastefully blended with historical buildings in which history still continues to flow.

You name it, it's here. The city has a thriving theater district comprised of some of the oldest and most beautiful theaters in the nation including the Shubert, Wang and Colonial. Boston is well known for its abundant shops and boutiques which offer the very best in international style and local crafts made by its many artisans. One of the finest shopping districts is located on Newbury Street also known as the







PORT EXPLORER

Boston

MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.A.

"5th Avenue" of Boston. Without doubt this is one of the most exciting cities in the United States without being overwhelming. Boston has the ability to offer the visitor the amenities of any large metropolitan city but at the same time provide that small town feeling.

HISTORY In 1630 a group of Puritans arrived led by John Winthrop. Initially these settlers made Salem and Charlestown their home, however, they soon became unhappy and moved further south to a peninsula named Shawmut. This area was governed by an English clergyman named William Blackstone who warmly welcomed the new settlers. Soon after, they invited Blackstone to join their church. Declining their offer, he sold them the 50 acres of land today known as Boston.

Throughout the 17th century several historical events occurred which brought about the Revolution and eventually the Declaration of Independence. These events caused disputes among the Bostonians and the English. The English introduced a Stamp Tax on all official documentation which enraged the local settlers, still considered British subjects. Public outcry and demonstrations were occurring along the streets of Boston, which led to the death of 5 men in what is now known as the Boston Massacre.

Another historical event of prominent significance took place three years later and became known as the Boston Tea Party. Boston had enjoyed a long period of maritime prosperity and was witness to a remarkable time in American history. This event was the single most important reason leading to the American Revolution. At the time Samuel Adams

continued over









History continued

declared that, "no more can be done to save this country". Shortly after this speech a group of Bostonians disguised as native Indians boarded three different ships waiting in port and threw the cargo of tea overboard. The English then closed the port of Boston which only further infuriated the Colonists, setting the stage for the American Revolution.

BOSTON POINTS OF INTEREST

1 The Freedom Trail is an introduction to Boston's history and allows the visitor to discover several different landmarks of the city. The Trail spans over an area of 21/2 miles and is marked by a red line which offers the visitor an insight to the historical highlights of the city. The starting point of this trail begins at the Boston Common Information Center, on the Tremont Street side of the park.

The Public Garden – beautiful downtown city park is surrounded by tree lined avenues on all sides. The park has lovely manicured lawns as well as a lake where paddled-powered Swan Boats are available for rides.

Beacon Hill is an exclusive residential area with an endless collection of art galleries, boutiques, and sidewalk cafes.

4 Old State House is Boston's oldest public building and was once the Headquarters of the British Government during the Revolution. It was here that the signing of the Declaration of Independence took place. Inside, the visitor will enjoy two floors of exhibits covering the city of the past and the present

5 Quincy Market is a delightful shopping arena with a great variety of shops, restaurants and cafes.

6 Park Street Church was the site of William Lloyd Garrison's first anti slavery-address. It was also here that the first recital of the hymn "America" was performed.

7 South End is Boston's answer to New York's East Village. With its many restaurants and cafes this area attracts artists and students who enhance the bohemian atmosphere of the neighborhood. The Boston Ballet and the Boston Center for the Arts is also located here.

8 The North End is one of the oldest intact neighborhoods in Boston, it is also the Italian district and is famous for its laid back atmosphere as well as its garlic flavored food. Some

Cambridge Street East Boston Museum of Fleet Mass General Hospital Faneuil Boston 3 Harbor New England River 5 Boston Common Computer Museum Children's 2 Museum Public John Hancock World Trade

of the best dining is available in this district and is very popular with both residents and visitors. Many historic landmarks, port of the Freedom Trial, Revolutionary history, and the history of U.S. Immigration, are located in the North End.

9 The Fenway is an area of the city very popular with residents searching for quiet walks in beautiful parks. You will find some of the best rose gardens located in Fenway Park along with a collection of domestic ducks gliding through its muddy river.

10 Granary Burying Ground is the final resting place of three signers of the Declaration of Independence. The victims of the Boston Massacre are also buried here along with Samuel Adams, Paul Revere and Mother Goose. Another very interesting historical figure is buried at the nearby King's Chapel, that of Elizabeth Pain the heroine that inspired Hawthorne's Scarlett Letter.

Beyond Boston

Salem, which is located 30 minutes north of Boston, owes its popularity to the occult. Famous for the sensational Witch Trails of 1692, the town has a rich and varied history. Salem boasts some of the finest historical homes in the country and has a rich literary past as well as a strong maritime heritage. There are several museums in the town that deserve exploration. The Witch Museum, located on 19 Washington Square, explains in great detail the Trails of 1692.

SHORE EXCURSIONS To make the most of your visit to Boston and surrounding areas we suggest you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For information concerning tour content and pricing consult your Shore Excursion Brochure or contact the Shore Excursion Desk. When going ashore, please be advised to take only necessary items and to secure any valuables onboard.

LOCAL CUSTOMS Local Cuisine: Boston isn't called Beantown for nothing. Its many restaurants serve such delights as Indian pudding and Yankee Pot Roast. Local seafood is plentiful and can be sampled in the city's celebrated seafood restaurants lining Boston's Harbor by the wharf. If you like Italian food you will want to visit the North End which is where the Italian community live and where the smell of garlic is forever present. Chinatown is also a very popular place to eat with every type of dish served. Quincy Market has a cornucopia of different food available in an informal atmosphere.

Drink Specialties: The area is home to a number of local breweries and micro breweries. Beer is plentiful and a selection of domestic and international beers and ales are available.

Weather: Boston's coastal location makes for an ever-changing weather pattern. High temperatures in September and October are usually in the 50's and 60's, but it can be cooler at night. It is advisable to dress in layers and bring rainwear with you on

your travels.

Flora and Fauna: Boston's climate is ideal for several varieties of trees which are visible throughout the city streets and parks. The city is scattered with Red and White Spruce, Balsam Fir, White Pine, Paper Birch, Sugar Maple, and Quaking Aspen. As summer turns to winter the true colors of the magnificent fall foliage come alive with the golden yellow leaves of the Birch and the sparkling red and orange of the Maple. Intensified by the backdrop of the dark evergreens, the vibrant colors will leave an everlasting impression.

SHOPPING FACILITIES Most of Boston's shops are located in Back Bay and downtown along Newbury Street and at Copley Plaza. You will find a wide selection of shops ranging from the usual main street stores to the more specialized, offering a tremendous selection of design and crafts.

Items of interest include unique crafts, paintings, jewelry, pottery, clothing, and souvenirs.

LOCAL CURRENCY The unit of currency is the U.S. Dollar. Bills are available in denominations of \$1, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100. Coins are available in denominations of 1 cent, 5 cents, 10 cents, and 25 cents. Most stores accept major credit cards and debit cards. ATM's are available. At smaller establishments cash may be required. Traveler's Checks are widely accepted.

Local banks are the best location to convert any foreign currency to dollars.

POST OFFICE AND TELEPHONE FACILITIES The main Post Office is located at 25 Dorchester Ave.

There are a few public telephones available on the pier. American coins and calling cards are accepted in pay phones.

TOURIST INFORMATION The Tourist Information Offices are located at two locations, one at 147 Tremont Street, and the other at Prudential Center.

Visitors Information Bureau: This is located downtown in one of the city's best shopping malls, The Prudential Center. Located on the ground floor the office is open daily for information on festivals, theater, sports and special events going on during your visit to Boston.

TRANSPORTATION Local taxis will be available on the pier. It is recommended that a price is agreed upon with the taxi driver before leaving the pier.