

Chapter 10

10

THE SEAPORT, SOUTH BOSTON, AND EAST BOSTON

Updated by
Leigh Harrington



 Sights

★★★★☆☆

 Restaurants

★★★★★

 Hotels

★★★★☆☆

 Shopping

★★☆☆☆☆

 Nightlife

★★★★☆☆

NEIGHBORHOOD SNAPSHOT

TOP EXPERIENCES	PIER 4
<p>■ Explore Camelot: Visit the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum for a look into the life and legacy of Jack and Jackie.</p> <p>■ Appreciate an architectural marvel: The Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston leans over Boston Harbor in opposition to physics.</p> <p>■ Take in stunning views: The unparalleled, 360-degree views from Boston Harborwalk of the water and the city's other neighborhoods can't be beat.</p> <p>■ Eat out: The Seaport District is known for its abundant culinary offerings, from gourmet local bakeries to top national steak houses.</p>	<p>■ For an absolutely stunning perspective on Boston, pause along Boston Harborwalk at the very end of Pier 4. To the left around the curve of Fan Pier, you can see the shiny facades of Waterfront and Financial District buildings. Straight ahead, you see the East Boston coastline and planes taking off and landing at Logan Airport, all while yachts, tall ships, and harbor boats sail past.</p>
GETTING HERE	GOOD TO KNOW
<p>Accessing the Seaport District is relatively easy, but the neighborhood is large. From South Station, you can walk anywhere along the Fort Point Channel, but for farther afield take the Silver Line. If you're headed to South Boston, take a Red Line train and get off at Andrew or Broadway. By car, Seaport and South Boston have a moderate amount of parking on the street (free after 8 pm and all day Sunday) as well as in lots.</p> <p>East Boston poses more of a challenge. It's long, lean, and residential, so the best way to explore is by vehicle. Taking public transit is not impossible, however: ride the Blue Line to Maverick, Wood Island, Orient Heights, or Suffolk Downs and be sure to know where you want to exit. Blue Line and Silver Line trains service Logan Airport.</p>	<p>■ The Seaport District is a dining and nightlife hot spot, offering a mix of local eateries and outposts of upscale national chains. This doesn't mean the neighborhood is excessively noisy, though; there are hidden parts all over the Seaport that provide places for people to sit amidst the greenery or public artwork.</p>
PLANNING YOUR TIME	SAFETY
<p>You'll spend some time getting around the Seaport. Ambitious travelers can see two museums in a day, have a beer at Harpoon Brewery or Lord Hobo, and walk part of the Harborwalk. If you have only a few hours, plan an early dinner to enjoy tasty food and sunset water views.</p>	<p>■ Safety isn't a concern in the Seaport and South Boston. East Boston can be dicey after dark.</p>

While distinctly different, the Seaport, South Boston, and East Boston have one major commonality: Boston Harbor. Historically, the Seaport has supported the textile and commercial fishing industries with its working piers. South Boston and Fort Independence at Castle Island have safeguarded the city from attack by sea since 1643. And, in East Boston, Donald McKay built record-setting clipper ships.

Today, a lot has changed. Over the last 20 years, the Seaport has transformed from an industrial no-man's-land to a vibrant, bustling extension of downtown Boston. Luxury hotels and residences, manicured micro-parks, upscale restaurants both local and national in name, and cutting-edge cultural institutions have all found homes here. Development projects remain in the works, so the face of the Seaport will continue to adjust for years to come.

Heavily populated South Boston has experienced its own renaissance, more so in the form of putting polish on existing multifamily homes and old-timey Irish bars rather than making room for new construction. The neighborhood's residents, both Southie lifers and young professional transplants, walk and walk: they walk to meals, they walk to Boston's best stretch of beaches, and they walk to and around Castle Island for exercise year-round.

Across the harbor, East Boston is largely residential. It has been a haven for immigrants, first Italian and then Latino, and today's population reflects this heritage. Logan Airport is Eastie's crown jewel, but there are only a few other cultural sites to see unless you count the abundance of authentic Latin restaurants.

The Seaport

What's the appeal of the Seaport District? Bostonians have only been able to answer that question recently. As the neighborhood becomes developed, and its former life as a parking lot wasteland fades from peoples' minds, locals have realized its gorgeous potential, something the Moakley Courthouse and the Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston recognized more than a decade back.

Start your visit to the Seaport District at South Station, which is actually in Downtown. From there, it's an easy walk across Fort Point Channel to historical



Sights

- 1 Black Falcon Pier & Flynn Cruiseport Boston **H6**
- 2 Boston Children's Museum **A3**
- 3 Boston Harborwalk **D2**
- 4 Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum **A2**

- 5 Fort Point Channel Landmark District **B3**
- 6 Harpoon Brewery and Beer Hall **F5**
- 7 Institute of Contemporary Art/ Boston **D2**

- 8 John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse **B2**
- 9 The Lawn on D **C6**
- 10 Museum of Ice Cream **C3**

Restaurants

- 1 The Barking Crab **B2**
- 2 Chickadee **G6**
- 3 Committee **C2**
- 4 Coquette **D5**
- 5 Davio's Northern Italian Steakhouse **C1**

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Seaport

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KEY

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- 8 Limani Grille C2
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- 12 Woods Hill Pier 4..... D2

Quick Bites

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- 3 Bon Me A3
- 4 Yankee Lobster Co. F4
- 5 Yume Ga Arukara. C4

Hotels

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- 2 Omni Boston Hotel
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- 3 Renaissance Boston
Waterfront Hotel..... E4

- 4 Seaport Hotel D4
- 5 The Westin Boston
Seaport District D5

and cultural sites like the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum, Fan Pier, and the Boston Children's Museum. If your destination is farther afield, say the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, Harpoon Brewery, the Seaport World Trade Center, or the Boston Design Center, head to South Station's subway concourse to catch the Silver Line.

■ **TIP** → **The Silver Line operates four different branches (SL1, SL2, SL3, SLW) in the Seaport District and each has different destinations, so make sure you hop on the correct one.**

Shipping containers scattered around the area pay tribute to the neighborhood's industrial seafaring history, while fitting in with 21st-century high-rises. Of all of Boston's neighborhoods, the Seaport is the least "Bostonian" in appearance. It's new; it's fresh; it's young.

Sights

Black Falcon Pier & Flynn Cruiseport Boston

MARINA/PIER | Surrounded by water on three sides, Black Falcon Pier is a stop on Boston's Harborwalk that seekers of amazing views won't want to miss. There's not much to do out this way at the end of the Seaport District except gaze at the fishing vessels, barges, and cruise ships navigating the inner harbor. However, lots of visitors find themselves out this way as Black Falcon Pier is home to Flynn Cruiseport Boston, where major cruise ships dock daily with Boston as a port of call. ✉ *Black Falcon Pier, Seaport* 📍 *Dry Dock, Black Falcon.*

★ **Boston Children's Museum**

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM | **FAMILY** | You know you'll have found the country's second-oldest children's museum when you find the giant Hood milk bottle structure. This museum has always been ahead of the curve with creative hands-on exhibits, cultural diversity, and problem-solving. Some of the most popular stops are also the simplest, like the bubble-making

machinery and the two-story climbing maze. At the Japanese House, you're invited to take off your shoes and step inside a Kyoto silk merchant's home. Children can dig, climb, and build at the Construction Zone. In the toddler PlaySpace, children under three can run free in a safe environment. There's also a full schedule of special exhibits, festivals, and performances, and Children's Wharf out front is a beautiful place to walk or rest. ✉ *308 Congress St., Fort Point Channel* ☎ *617/426-6500* 🌐 *www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org* 🕒 *\$22 ☺ Closed Mon. and Tues.* 📍 *South Station.*

★ **Boston Harborwalk**

TRAIL | **FAMILY** | Stretching for 43 continuous miles, Boston Harborwalk is a walking trail that skirts the twists and turns of the coast from Charlestown down to the city of Quincy. In the Seaport District specifically, the Harborwalk journeys along Fort Point Channel, around Fan Pier, up Seaport Boulevard, and out and around the Black Falcon Cruise Terminal. Along the way, pedestrians can see art exhibits, stationary viewfinders, open green spaces, and incredible Boston Harbor views. Marked signs point the way, and maps can be found online. ✉ *Congress St. Bridge, Seaport* ➔ *By Children's Museum* 🌐 *www.bostonharborwalk.org* 📍 *South Station.*

★ **Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum**

OTHER ATTRACTION | **FAMILY** | Situated at the Congress Street Bridge near the site of Griffin's Wharf, this lively museum offers an interactive look at the past in a place as close as possible to the actual spot where the Boston Tea Party took place on December 16, 1773. Actors in period costumes greet patrons, assign them real-life Colonial personas, and then ask a few people to heave boxes of tea into the water from aboard historical reproductions of the ships forcibly boarded and unloaded the night Boston Harbor became a teapot. There are 3D



The New Balance Foundation Climb at the Boston Children's Museum is a three-story climbing structure for children ages 6-8.

holograms, talking portraits, and even the Robinson Half Tea Chest, one of two original tea chests known to exist.

■ **TIP→ Abigail's Tea Room (you don't need a museum ticket for entry) features a tea tasting of five tea blends that would have been aboard the ships.** ✉ Congress St. Bridge, Fort Point Channel 🌐 www.bostonteapartyship.com ☎ \$34 🚏 South Station.

Fort Point Channel Landmark District

HISTORIC DISTRICT | This historic district, which was designated by the City of Boston in 2009, features the city's largest, most cohesive grouping of late-19th- and early-20th-century industrial loft buildings. The Boston Wharf Company owned and developed the area from 1836 to 1882. Today, the small, walkable, revitalized area sits between the Fort Point Channel and the Seaport District and is home to working artist studios, bars and restaurants, and some small businesses. ✉ Bounded by Seaport Blvd., Summer St., Boston Wharf Rd., and

Fort Point Channel, Fort Point Channel
🚏 South Station.

★ Harpoon Brewery and Beer Hall

BREWERY | Harpoon Brewery holds Massachusetts's first-ever brewing permit, obtained in 1986 by three college friends who wanted to create a fresh beer culture in their hometown. Today, Harpoon's Boston brewery features 25-minute guided tours and tastings for beer lovers from around the globe. Harpoon's on-site beer hall pours a rotating lineup of limited-edition and pilot beers, non-brand beers, and ciders—try a flight of UFOs or Clown Shoes. It also serves handmade pretzels and pizza. ✉ 306 Northern Ave., Seaport 📞 617/456-2322 🌐 www.harpoonbrewery.com ☎ \$5 tasting and 25-minute brewery tour 🚏 Silver Line Way, Harbor Street.

★ Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston

ART MUSEUM | It's hard to say what's more cutting-edge: the Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston's cantilevered building or the works that reside within. The events calendar is studded with changing,

thematic exhibitions by the contemporary art world's brightest talents. Visitors will also see some curated pieces from the ICA's permanent collection, including some by Robert Mapplethorpe, Yayoi Kusama, and Louise Bourgeois. Live programming, from film festivals to talks to outdoor concerts, take place regularly. Don't miss the ICA Store on the ground level, where you can pick up an inventive trinket of your own. 📍 *25 Harbor Shore Dr., Seaport* ☎ *617/478-3100* 🌐 *www.icaboston.org* 💰 *\$20* 🗓 *Closed Mon.* 🏢 *Courthouse.*

John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse

NOTABLE BUILDING | Believe it or not, the public is welcomed in for a visit to this architectural wonder and federal house of justice. Galleries across the courthouse feature rotating exhibitions on a variety of themes, from maritime history to the judicial system. Don't miss Ellsworth Kelly's permanent installation *The Boston Panels* in the courthouse's rotunda. It's not uncommon to see a tall ship or a charter vessel docked outside, in season. Book a free tour through the website. 📍 *Fan Pier, 1 Courthouse Way, Seaport* ☎ *617/748-9152* 🌐 *discoveringjustice.org/programs/moakley-courthouse-tours* 🗓 *Closed weekends* 🏢 *Courthouse.*

★ The Lawn on D

CITY PARK | FAMILY | Stop, rest awhile, and have some fun. That's the purpose of The Lawn on D, a free-to-all open green space that features a plethora of games like bocce, corn hole, Ping-Pong, and pickleball, and chairs for lounging. In warmer weather, you can often catch a live concert or film screening here, or a public art installation. A concession stand makes sure visitors are well fed. The only catch? You can't bring Fido. 📍 *420 D St., Seaport* 🌐 *www.signatureboston.com/lawn-on-d* 🗓 *Closed Nov.–Apr., and during private events* 🏢 *World Trade Center.*

Museum of Ice Cream

SPECIALTY MUSEUM | FAMILY | Opened in late 2024, this whimsical entrée into the Seaport District has locals and visitors alike licking their lips. Check out 14 immersive, interactive exhibitions across two floors inspired by the eponymous dessert, including a sprinkle pool, a carnival, and the Hall of Freezers. It should go without saying that there are samples of the real thing—as many as you can eat, in fact. 📍 *121 Seaport Blvd., Seaport* 🌐 *www.museumoficecream.com* 🗓 *Reservations required* 🏢 *Courthouse.*

Restaurants

As the Seaport District has grown over the last 20 years, so, too, has the quality of its dining options. A few humble “fish shacks” remain in operation as testament to the area's lucrative industry, but accompanying them today are many large-scale and upscale restaurants focused on seafood and steaks.

The Barking Crab

\$\$\$ | SEAFOOD | FAMILY | Decked out in cheery colors of yellow, red, and green, this touristy spot has the feel of a seaside clam shack located smack-dab in the middle of Boston. An outdoor patio and lobster tent in summer feature stunning views of the Financial District; in winter, dining retreats indoors to a warmhearted version of a waterfront dive, where you'll encounter a classic New England clam-bake or oysters and littlenecks from the raw bar, followed by meaty, golden crab cakes. **Known for:** lobster rolls; crowds in summer; water views. 📍 *Average main: \$35* 📍 *88 Sleeper St., Fort Point Channel* ☎ *617/426-2722* 🌐 *www.barkingcrab.com* 🏢 *Courthouse, South Station.*

★ Chickadee

\$\$\$\$ | MEDITERRANEAN | At the far eastern end of the city, Chickadee is a restaurant you'd wish to stumble over. Make the trek on the Silver Line or simply walk to sample the curated seasonal menus that

have been James Beard award nominated multiple times. **Known for:** small, shareable dishes made with local ingredients; original, unique cocktails; free parking after 6 pm. [5] *Average main: \$46* ☒ 21 Drydock Ave., Seaport ☎ 617/531-5591 🌐 www.chickadeerrestaurant.com ☼ Closed Sun. [M] Drydock Avenue.

Committee

\$\$\$\$ | **MODERN GREEK** | We'd call the atmosphere here casual yet lively, convivial in a way that only a modern Greek restaurant can be. Share vegetable, seafood, and meat meze plates with your dining companions, or, if you've really got a big appetite, dig into one of the "feasts," which may include a selection of grilled meats or a whole fish. **Known for:** brunch champagne tray and large-format drinks; anything with feta; lively scene. [5] *Average main: \$42* ☒ 50 Northern Ave., Seaport ☎ 617/737-5051 🌐 committee-boston.com [M] Courthouse.

★ Coquette

\$\$\$\$ | **FRENCH** | This elegant dining room has personality in spades, with pastel purple and bright red chandeliers, plumes of feathers in floral arrangements, and pink napkins on the table. The menu, too, is inspired, featuring French cuisine informed by global flavors meant to be ordered in abundance—two to three plates per diner. **Known for:** afternoon cocktails 3–5 pm; excellent raw bar; sumptuous atmosphere. [5] *Average main: \$55* ☒ 450 Summer St., Seaport ☎ 617/419-8140 🌐 www.coquetteboston.com [M] World Trade Center.

Davio's Northern Italian Steakhouse

\$\$\$\$ | **STEAK HOUSE** | This popular Boston-born restaurant splits its focus between grilled all-natural steaks and chops and hearty, Italian-inspired dishes. Diners can't get enough of Davio's signature spring rolls, stuffed with Philly cheesesteak or chicken parm. **Known for:** pasta is made in-house; à la carte steaks and decadent side dishes; excellent wine list. [5] *Average main:*

\$60 ☒ 26 Fan Pier, Fort Point Channel ☎ 617/261-4810 🌐 www.davios.com/seaport [M] Courthouse.

Hook & Line

\$\$\$\$ | **SEAFOOD** | From "feast"-sized portions to classic New England fried plates to wood-fired seafood dishes, the kitchen's focus is on local waters at this contemporary Seaport spot near the harbor. The menu is curated and relatively pricy, but quality shows in the food, and there are lots of beers, ciders, and wines by the glass. **Known for:** chef-driven menu; all-seafood focus; dessert spirits and wines. [5] *Average main: \$42* ☒ 10 Fan Pier, Fort Point Channel ☎ 617/860-6003 🌐 www.hookandlinebos.com [M] Courthouse.

Legal Sea Foods—Harborside

\$\$\$ | **SEAFOOD** | With a roof deck, patio, balcony, and floor-to-ceiling windows, Legal Sea Foods' flagship restaurant features abundant space for diners to take in panoramic views of Boston Harbor no matter the season or the weather. The menu is classic seafood: from raw bar and sushi offerings to grilled fish, fried fish, and sandwiches, there is plenty to eat here—unless you're a landlubber. **Known for:** prime waterfront location with views that draw a crowd; iconic local seafood preparations; Legal Sea Foods' flagship restaurant. [5] *Average main: \$34* ☒ 270 Northern Ave., Seaport ☎ 617/477-2900 🌐 www.legalseafoods.com/restaurants/boston-legal-harborside [M] World Trade Center.

Limani Grille

\$\$\$\$ | **MODERN GREEK** | Ingredients from the Mediterranean region and local waters mix on the menu at this upscale Greek restaurant. Dig into a whole grilled fish (six options!), zucchini chips, and craft cocktails. **Known for:** so many delicious Greek specialties; \$30 prix-fixe lunch on weekdays; Greek, French, and Californian wines. [5] *Average main: \$50* ☒ 100 Northern Ave., Seaport ☎ 617/544-0000 🌐 limanigrille.com [M] Courthouse.

Lola Burger

\$\$ | BURGER | FAMILY | Stop by this place for a casual sit-down lunch after a visit to the ICA, right across the way. You can design your own grass-fed beef burger and load it with toppings, or try a specialty burger or other type of sandwich, and pair it with an ice cream shake. **Known for:** solid food; casual vibe that's great for families; adjacent to waterfront and ICA. **\$ Average main: \$17** ☒ 11 Fan Pier Blvd., Seaport ☎ 617/936-3170 🌐 www.lolaburger.com ☺ Closed Mon. and Tues. 📌 Courthouse.

Pastoral

\$\$ | ITALIAN | FAMILY | Satisfy your pizza craving with a crispy, wood-fired, thin-crust pie from this Fort Point neighborhood joint. A dozen-and-a-half options run from the traditional margherita to more inventive options; note that the pies are smaller in size, so order a few. **Known for:** wood-fired, Neapolitan-style pizza; family-friendly, casual vibe; extensive amaro selection. **\$ Average main: \$22** ☒ 345 Congress St., Fort Point Channel ☎ 617/345-0005 🌐 www.pastoralfortpoint.com ☺ Closed Sun. and Mon. 📌 South Station.

★ Row 34

\$\$\$ | SEAFOOD | Emphasizing oysters and local craft beers, this contemporary seafood restaurant has a boisterous energy contained only by its soaring ceilings. A neighborhood crowd comes for the excellent menu devoted to raw things, fried seafood, a variety of "rolls," and fish-based entrées. **Known for:** local oysters fresh from restaurant's own oyster farm; seafood—carnivores and vegetarians should head elsewhere; excellent selection of American craft beer. **\$ Average main: \$38** ☒ 383 Congress St., Fort Point Channel ☎ 617/553-5900 🌐 www.row34.com 📌 World Trade Center.

★ Woods Hill Pier 4

\$\$\$\$ | MODERN AMERICAN | Featuring floor-to-ceiling windows and sweeping 270-degree views of the Boston Harbor

waterfront, this sophisticated and lively restaurant serves up midsized plates that are meant to be shared—two to three per person. The well-curated menu features meat and produce from the owner's 360-acre New Hampshire farm, as well as handmade pasta and sustainably sourced seafood. **Known for:** panoramic views of Boston Harbor; pasture-raised, sustainable, and organic farm-to-table ingredients; a killer Sunday brunch. **\$ Average main: \$55** ☒ 300 Pier 4 Blvd., Seaport ☎ 617/981-4577 🌐 www.woodshillpier4.com 📌 Courthouse.

Coffee and Quick Bites

Abigail's Tea Room

\$\$ | AMERICAN | Looking to drink the five teas that were dumped into Boston Harbor more than 250 years ago? Try a tea tasting or scone platter; other menu options include sandwiches and salads, sweets and pastries, and Colonial-inspired cocktails. **Known for:** Colonial teas; historical atmosphere; water views. **\$ Average main: \$15** ☒ Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum, Congress St. Bridge, Fort Point Channel ☎ 617/299-8781 🌐 www.bostonteatapartyship.com ☺ No dinner 📌 South Station.

Better Bagels

\$ | BAKERY | FAMILY | This teeny-tiny space on Seaport Boulevard has zero places to sit but absolutely tasty New York-style bagels. It's also a good spot for breakfast and lunch bagel sandwiches. **Known for:** build-your-own bagel sandwich; no seating; quick service. **\$ Average main: \$6** ☒ 83A Seaport Blvd., Seaport ☎ 857/317-4147 🌐 www.betterbagelsboston.com 📌 Courthouse.

Bon Me

\$\$ | VIETNAMESE | FAMILY | Bon Me's moniker is a whimsical take on Vietnam's signature sandwich, the banh mi, and the versions that this local fast-casual restaurant serves are authentic to its spirit, if not with traditional ingredients.

Diners can create their own bowls (salad, noodle, or rice), selecting from a variety of proteins, veggies, and sauces. **Known for:** tasty proteins; spicy ginger lemonade that will flare your nostrils; customized bowls. **\$** *Average main: \$15* **✉** 313 Congress St., Fort Point Channel **☎** 857/350-4035 **🌐** www.bonmetruck.com **🏠** South Station, Courthouse.

★ Yankee Lobster Co.

\$\$ | SEAFOOD | FAMILY | There's nothing fresher than eating fish the same day it's caught, and that's what you get at this family-owned seafood shack. Open since 1950, the local favorite serves fresh oysters, crab cakes, fried oysters and clams, steamers, and lobster. **Known for:** lobster, lobster, lobster; being simple and authentic; limited seating options. **\$** *Average main: \$22* **✉** 300 Northern Ave., Seaport **☎** 617/345-9799 **🌐** www.yankeelobster.co **🏠** Silver Line Way.

★ Yume Ga Arukara

\$\$ | JAPANESE | Let your nose lead you here on a Saturday night, but expect to wait in a massive line of foodies looking to get their hands on one of four award-winning *niku* udon noodle dishes (cold or hot, and spicy versions of each) topped with sweet and savory beef. The restaurant itself is absolutely tiny, but its local reputation is huge. **Known for:** long lines; incredible noodles; no vegetarian or gluten-free options. **\$** *Average main: \$15* **✉** 70 Pier 4 Blvd., Seaport **🌐** www.yumegaarukara.com **🏠** Courthouse.



Hotels

★ The Envoy Hotel

\$\$\$ | HOTEL | Visitors and locals like to hang out at The Envoy, where a design-forward aesthetic provides a comfortable yet stylish vibe. **Pros:** rooms boast floor-to-ceiling windows; really cool rooftop bar for hanging out with a view; excellent on-site restaurant, Para Maria. **Cons:** bar crowds can be loud; pet-friendly, but comparably high fee; a

bit fancy for kids. **\$** *Rooms from: \$525* **✉** 70 Sleeper St., Fort Point Channel **☎** 617/338-3030 **🌐** www.theenvoy-hotel.com **🏠** 136 rooms **🚫** No Meals **🏠** Courthouse.

★ Omni Boston Hotel at the Seaport

\$\$\$ | HOTEL | Opened in 2021, this Omni hotel is a chic, modern counterpoint to its grande dame Downtown property with a dual-towered complex focused heavily on hospitality, offering a little something for every kind of traveler. **Pros:** year-round, outdoor, heated pool with bar area; seven on-site dining options; free access to fitness center with Peloton, TRX, and CYBEX machines. **Cons:** far from Back Bay and Beacon Hill shopping; awkward access to Silver Line; tight restrictions on pets policy. **\$** *Rooms from: \$500* **✉** 450 Summer St., Seaport **☎** 617/476-6664 **🌐** www.omnihotels.com **🏠** 1,054 rooms **🚫** No Meals **🏠** World Trade Center, Silver Line Way.

Renaissance Boston Waterfront Hotel

\$\$ | HOTEL | Located near Boston's working fish piers and very close to the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, this property caters largely to a business clientele. **Pros:** sleek lobby bar, Capiz Lounge; close to airport transportation and convention center; indoor lap pool and 24-hour fitness center. **Cons:** no on-site restaurant; hordes of convention-goers; far from Boston's historical sights. **\$** *Rooms from: \$360* **✉** 606 Congress St., Seaport **☎** 617/338-4111 **🌐** www.marriott.com **🏠** 471 rooms **🚫** No Meals **🏠** World Trade Center.

Seaport Hotel

\$\$ | HOTEL | Near two convention centers, the Seaport Hotel can sometimes be awash with badge-wearing, convention-going suits. **Pros:** beautiful 24-hour gym and fitness center; heated indoor pool; select your own pillows and weighted blanket program. **Cons:** far from Boston's historic sites; far from the Back Bay and South End; swamped during conventions. **\$** *Rooms from: \$400* **✉** 1 Seaport

La., Seaport ☎ 617/385-4000 🌐 www.seaportboston.com ➡ 428 rooms 🍷 No Meals 📍 World Trade Center.

The Westin Boston Seaport District

\$\$ | HOTEL | FAMILY | The Westin is connected to the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center and provides comfortable accommodations, if a little dated, and great service. **Pros:** close to a few museums; two casual restaurants on-site; 24-hour fitness center with a pool. **Cons:** slightly dated; not close to Boston's historical sites; not within walking distance of the Back Bay and South End. [📍] *Rooms from: \$285* ☎ 617/532-4600 🌐 www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/bosow-the-westin-boston-seaport-district ➡ 793 rooms 🍷 No Meals 📍 World Trade Center.

Nightlife

BARS

Grace by Nia

LIVE MUSIC | Vibes abound at this supper club and live music venue that boasts a Southern-inspired menu, live jazz and R&B music, and an opulent atmosphere. Wednesday jam sessions and Sunday brunch are worth a visit. Fashionable dress is required—no caps, sweats, or sneakers—and there's a per-person entertainment fee added to each check as well as a two-hour maximum seating limit. ☎ 60 Seaport Blvd., Seaport ☎ 617/927-9411 🌐 www.gracebynia.com ⌚ Closed Mon. and Tues. ➡ Reservations recommended 📍 Courthouse.

Lord Hobo Boston Taproom

BREW PUBS | One of the Boston area's favorite homegrown beer makers recently opened this large restaurant and taproom in the Seaport, and beer fans can now quaff exclusive Lord Hobo beers and core faves from the last decade from the 16 rotating drafts. The menu includes sandwiches, tacos, and flatbreads, and there's a massive patio that's open in nice weather. Incidentally, this place

is just steps from Harpoon Brewery, making it easy to have a hoppy pit-stop twofer. ☎ 2 Drydock Ave., Seaport ☎ 617/872-6224 🌐 lordhobo.com/boston 📍 Drydock Ave.

Lucky's Lounge

LOUNGES | Going on two-and-a-half decades, this subterranean hangout called the Fort Point neighborhood home well before any other bar, restaurant, or venue. And like Gloria Gaynor, it has survived, although it gives off decidedly more Rat Pack-era vibes than disco. Lucky's is known for its live music and fantastic food without any of the splash. It's a solid bet for an evening out. ☎ 355 Congress St., Fort Point Channel ☎ 617/357-5825 🌐 www.luckyslounge.com ⌚ Closed Sun. 📍 South Station.

Rooftop at The Envoy

BARS | You don't have to be a hotel guest to enjoy skyline and harbor views at this seventh-story rooftop bar. The vibe is lively during warmer months, as you might expect, with people crowded on cabana-style bench seating and the occasional fire pit. Premium classic cocktails and seasonal sips (think a frozen lychee "frosee"), and really tasty food mean that you'll go home satisfied. Stop by in the winter for a "snow globe" experience inside heated, transparent geodesic domes. ☎ 70 Sleeper St., Seaport ☎ 617/530-1538 🌐 www.envoyrooftop.com 📍 Courthouse.

★ The Sporting Club

SPORTS BARS | This place is not what you'd expect from a typical sports bar—there are no grungy booths or sticky floors. Instead, you'll find an upscale setting that's very much entrenched in the heritage of local sports, from its design and its Trophy Room (yes, with lots of trophies) to high-def TVs that encircle the main bar. It can be quiet in the afternoons, but once the evenings or weekends roll around, this place gets packed. Chilled oysters, 2 whole pounds of pork belly carnitas, and a lobster roll are just

a few of the offerings. If you're a liquor lover, try the select bourbon, whiskey, or tequila on the rocks. ☒ *Omni Boston at the Seaport*, 450 Summer St., Seaport ☎ 617/476-6664 🌐 www.omnihotels.com 📍 World Trade Center.

Trillium Brewing Company

BREW PUBS | FAMILY | When it comes to craft beer, a lot of Bostonians get excited about Trillium. Do as the locals do and quench your thirst in the ever-crowded ground-level taproom or sit for a quieter meal upstairs to enjoy a small menu of American fare that's meant to keep you reaching for more. Taps rotate with seasonal and standard Trillium beers, including ciders, sours, and IPAs. It's family friendly during the day, with live music and trivia at night during the week. There's a fantastic roof deck, which is open seasonally. ☒ 50 Thomson Pl., Fort Point Channel ☎ 857/449-0083 🌐 www.trilliumbrewing.com 📍 Courthouse.

COMEDY CLUBS

Laugh Boston

COMEDY CLUBS | More than 300 people per show can share a laugh with the local comics and national headliners who take the stage at one of Boston's favorite comedy clubs. Doors are open to anyone ages 16 and older because comedic material is typically R-rated. There's no food or drink minimum, and the bar opens one hour before showtime. ☒ 425 Summer St., Seaport ☎ 617/725-2844 🌐 www.laughboston.com 📍 World Trade Center.

THEMED ENTERTAINMENT

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema

THEMED ENTERTAINMENT | Dinner and a movie has never been easier at this one-stop shop for flicks, food, and fun. Purchase tickets online and select your own, specific, comfy seat, which, incidentally, reclines and has a back warmer in it. Settle in and order a soda, milk shake, or cocktail, a bottomless bowl of real buttered popcorn, and myriad other snacks and meals. The roster of films changes

by the day but includes new releases, classics and cult classics, animated films, and some obscure selections only playing at the Alamo. ☒ 60 Seaport Blvd., Seaport ☎ 617/927-9560 🌐 drafthouse.com/boston ☞ Online ticket purchase recommended 📍 Courthouse.

The Flight Club

THEMED ENTERTAINMENT | One of a few locations around the globe, this popular bar that is focused on playing darts was one of the first in town to offer organized socializing with cocktails on the side. The Flight Club's proprietary Social Darts is a technology-based multiplayer game that simulates the well-known dive bar pastime. Playing groups get their own seating area for 90 minutes (\$15 per person) and can order drinks and food (sharing plates and flatbread). ☒ 60 Seaport Blvd., Seaport ☎ 617/855-9888 🌐 flightclubdartsusa.com/boston/seaport ☞ Reservations strongly recommended, but there is also a dedicated area for walk-ins. Ages 18-plus after 4 pm, 21-plus after 6 pm and all day Sat. 📍 Courthouse.

F1 Arcade

THEMED ENTERTAINMENT | Not a driver? That's OK, you can still go head-to-head with your friends on a simulated Formula One video game experience; participants must be seven years old to race. Play as a team or as single opponents during 30-minute racing sessions, then recover from all the excitement with some tasty food and a champagne cocktail or craft beer; it's 21 and over after 7 pm. Check the website for frequent F1 Grand Prix watch parties with live commentary. ☒ 87 Pier 4 Blvd., Seaport 🌐 f1arcade.com/us/boston ☞ Reservations required 📍 Courthouse.

Kings

THEMED ENTERTAINMENT | FAMILY | This massive bar and restaurant entertains with upscale-style bowling, billiards, air hockey, shuffleboard, foosball, and more. '80s kids can wax nostalgic while playing the retro arcade games from childhood,

including *Pac-Man*, *Super Mario Bros.*, and *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*. The kitchen makes burgers, wings, tacos, and more. ☎ 60 Seaport Blvd., Seaport ☎ 617/401-0025 🌐 playatkings.com ☞ 21-plus after 9 pm on Fri. and Sat. Cash not accepted 🏠 Courthouse.

Puttshack

THEMED ENTERTAINMENT | FAMILY | What's better than minigolf, snacks, and drinks? That combination at any time of the year! This bar features tech-forward 9-hole courses (and you don't need a pencil to keep score) complete with hazard traps. Before or after your (approximately) 30 minutes of play, nosh on some shareable apps, flatbreads, or sandwiches. Keep in mind that Puttshack is 21 and over after 8 pm. ☎ 58 Pier 4 Blvd., Seaport 🌐 www.puttshack.com/locations/boston ☞ Reservations recommended 🏠 Courthouse.

★ Spin

GATHERING PLACE | Tucked away on a quiet street in Fort Point, Spin offers a lively afternoon or evening filled with Ping-Pong, excellent scratch cooking (shared apps to sliders), and great cocktails (lots of nonalcoholic options available); it's 21 and over after 9 pm. Although walk-ins are welcome, reservations are highly recommended if you want to play Ping-Pong (tables are for 2–10 guests). Expect a little bit of neon signage, a little bit of graffiti, and a whole lot of people. ☎ 30 Melcher St., Seaport ☎ 617/404-2272 🌐 wearespin.com ☞ Closed Sun. 🏠 South Station.

Shopping

Shopping in the Seaport is a mix of niche small chains tucked away in clusters, international brands along Seaport Boulevard, and local makers that spread out in shipping containers turned shops or, season permitting, market stalls.

BOOKS & GIFTS

★ East End Books

BOOKS | This beautiful little space at the end of historic Pier 4 features a highly curated selection of fiction, poetry, biography, art, and local interest books, as well as vinyl records. It's an outpost of the OG bookstore in the East End of Provincetown, Massachusetts. ☎ 300 Pier 4 Blvd., Seaport 🌐 www.eastend-booksptown.com 🏠 Courthouse.

★ ICA Store

MUSEUM SHOP | Located in the lobby level of the Institute of Contemporary Art, this gift shop is a must for lovers of books, sketchbooks, pottery, jewelry, fun and formal artwork, and things you'd otherwise never think about but totally need to have. ☎ 25 Harbor Shore Dr., Seaport 🌐 icastore.org ☞ Closed Mon. 🏠 Courthouse.

CLOTHING

Injeanious

CLOTHING | Started in the North End in the early aughts, this curated selection of denim pants also includes dresses, activewear, rompers, and more from designers like Gray State, Lucy Paris, and Shu Shop. ☎ 70 Pier 4, Seaport ☎ 617/523-5326 🌐 injeanious.com 🏠 Courthouse.

FOOD

★ Cardullo's Gourmet Shoppe

FOOD & DRINK | This awesome little gourmet shop has been around for 75 years, and you'll be hard-pressed to keep your sweet tooth in check when you step inside. A major feature is the wall of international chocolate products, but there are also house-made foods, a deli counter, and specialty foodstuffs like teas, salami, jams, and crackers. It's a great place to shop for picnic supplies, hotel room snacks, or gifts to bring home. ☎ 99 Seaport Blvd., Seaport ☎ 857/350-4579 🌐 www.cardullos.com 🏠 Courthouse.

Frank Anthony's Market

FOOD & DRINK | From hot sandwiches and French toast to snacks, groceries, and wine, this market and deli is a great place to grab a quick breakfast or lunch in the Seaport District. You can expect top-quality ingredients cooked to order. ☎ 9 Fan Pier Blvd., Seaport ☎ 857/991-1278 🌐 www.frankanthonysmarket.com 📍 Courthouse.

JEWELRY

★ Brave Daughters

JEWELRY & WATCHES | Born in Boston, Brave Daughters designs stacking rings and layering necklaces made of precious metals, which are sold alongside jewelry offerings from female artisans and brands. Check out—read, make an appointment for—the forever jewelry: bracelets, anklets, and chains that are permanently welded on your person. ☎ 70 Pier 4 Blvd., Seaport 🌐 bravedaughters.com 📍 Courthouse.

Little Words Project

JEWELRY & WATCHES | **FAMILY** | Looking for a souvenir to take home? Maybe something you've made? Book an appointment at Little Words Project at the beading table to make your own bracelet, or browse the already made pieces. Each beaded bracelet includes a short message—it's the project's mission to empower people with words of affirmation—and a portion of the proceeds goes to different nonprofit organizations. ☎ 68 Seaport Blvd., Seaport ☎ 857/233-4639 🌐 www.littlewordsproject.com 📍 Courthouse.

MARKETS

The Holiday Market at Snowport

MARKET | **FAMILY** | More than 100 makers and artisans come together during the winter holidays for this open-air market. Visitors can sample foods from local food trucks and dessert vendors, or get a warm or alcoholic beverage at four bars. Stop for a selfie, have a hot chocolate, and enjoy the twinkling string lights. ☎ 100 Seaport Blvd., Seaport

🌐 www.bostonseaport.xyz/holidaymarket
🕒 Closed Jan.–Oct. 📍 Courthouse.

Seaport Summer Market

MARKET | **FAMILY** | Local businesses, including those owned by women and minorities, make up the vendors at this annual outdoor vendor market. Housewares and pottery, jewelry and clothing, artwork, cosmetics, and pet goods are among the unique wares to browse. Bring the kids because this market is quite family friendly with a DJ and games, Children's Museum programming, and lots of food. ☎ 88 Seaport Blvd., Seaport 🌐 www.bostonseaport.xyz/venue/seaport-summer-market-2 🕒 Closed Oct.–Apr. and July–late Aug. 📍 Courthouse.

SHOPPING CENTERS

Boston Innovation and Design Building

MALL | Once an Army storehouse, this building is now a hub of innovation and entrepreneurship that's home to the Boston Design Center, the award-winning Chickadee restaurant, numerous other dining spots, home furnishing and decor shops, and the Reebok headquarters store. It's at the far reaches of the Seaport District, but it's easy to get to on the Silver Line. ☎ 1 Design Center Pl., Seaport ☎ 617/449-5501 🌐 www.idbldg.com 📍 Drydock Ave.

The Current

LOCAL GOODS | **FAMILY** | Shipping-container-like buildings line a busy stretch of Seaport Boulevard, each housing pop-up shops by local entrepreneurs looking to get their retail ventures off the ground. Container residents change with the season, but may include sweets shops, consignment, jewelry, men's fashions, parfumeurs, and more. ☎ 100 Seaport Blvd., Seaport 🌐 www.bostonseaport.xyz 📍 Courthouse.

★ The Superette

MALL | While not completely hidden away, it's not terribly easy to stumble upon The Superette, a collection of high-end, niche

retailers all centered around an open-air courtyard. Options include jewelry at Brave Daughters, yoga-inspired sportswear at Alo, personalized fragrances at Le Labo, and jeans at Injeanious. There are a few fast-casual places to eat, too, so you can spend a few hours shopping and snacking. ☒ *131 Seaport Blvd., Seaport* 🌐 *www.bostonseaport.xyz/superette* 📍 *World Trade Center.*

South Boston

Never to be confused with the city's South End neighborhood, South Boston (Southie, as locals know it) still feels largely Irish and working class, even though the area has fully gentrified over the last two decades. In doing so, young professionals—drawn to Southie's waterfront, beaches, and green walking spaces—have bought condos in converted triple-deckers along Day Boulevard or up and down streets named for alphabet letters from A to P. The farther down the alphabet, the closer you are to historic Castle Island and Pleasure Bay.

Irish-Americans still hold sway here, as the city's raucous annual St. Patrick's Day parade and numerous Irish bars attest. Long-standing residents are hearty folk; every January 1 they follow tradition and run into the frigid waters off L Street Beach for a quick dip. Southie is also famously where Whitey Bulger held court over the Irish mob during the 1980s and early 1990s.



★ Castle Island

HISTORIC SIGHT | FAMILY | Although it once was, Castle Island is no longer, well, an island. Capping the South Boston neighborhood, Castle Island is accessible by car and by foot from Day Boulevard. Its centerpiece is Fort Independence, built in 1801 (although there have been battlements on-site since 1644), open

for free tours on summer weekend afternoons. Castle Island is a popular spot to walk dogs, jog, or cycle, whether just around the island itself or along the water-set Pleasure Bay Loop. There's also a nice playground for kids. Stop by Castle Island institution Sullivan's for a hot dog, fried seafood dinner, or ice cream. Views of the harbor and its outlying islands are expansive. ☒ *2010 Day Blvd., South Boston* ☎ *617/727-5290* 📍 *Broadway (then catch Bus 9 or 11 going east).*

Castle Island Brewing Company

BREWERY | FAMILY | Occupying an entire corner of the Cole Hersee Building, this taproom has signature brews, from IPAs to lagers, as well as some limited releases, on draft. In nice weather, the front garage doors open to reveal a contemporary rendezvous spot for craft beer lovers. Children are welcome if they're accompanied by adults, but it's 21 and over after 8 pm. Check the website for frequent public events, including weekly trivia on Tuesday. ☒ *10 Old Colony Ave., South Boston* ☎ *781/951-2029* 🌐 *castleislandbeer.com* 📍 *Broadway.*

★ John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum

HISTORY MUSEUM | FAMILY | Sitting at the edge of Dorchester Bay, this stark, white building (a modernist monument designed by I. M. Pei) pays homage to the life and presidency of John F. Kennedy, as well as to members of his family, including his wife, Jacqueline, and brother Robert. The library-museum is both a center for serious scholarship and a focus for Boston's nostalgia for her native son.

The library is the official repository of JFK's presidential papers and displays re-creations of his desk in the Oval Office and of the television studio in which he debated Richard Nixon in the 1960 election. Permanent exhibits focus on his life before politics, the 1960 presidential election, the Peace Corps, and the U.S. space program. There's also a permanent



Built in 1801, Fort Independence is the centerpiece of Castle Island. It's open for free tours on summer weekends.

display on the late Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis. The facility also includes a store and a small café. ✉ *Columbia Point, South Boston* ☎ 617/514-1600 🌐 www.jfklibrary.org 💵 \$18 📍 JFK/UMass, then free shuttle bus every 20 mins.



Restaurants

The Broadway South Boston

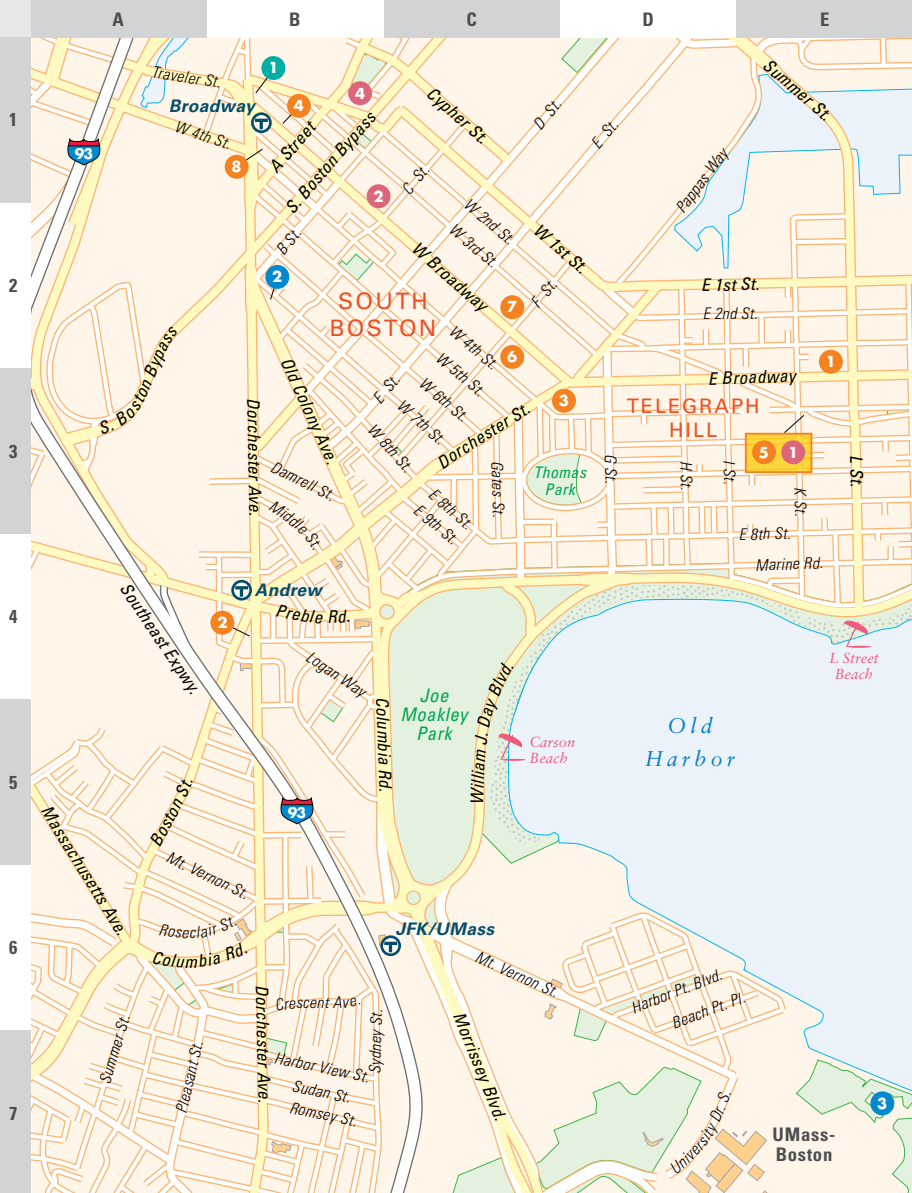
\$\$ | **AMERICAN** | Smack-dab in the middle of Southie, this is a popular hangout for the area's young professionals, and there's often a sports game on behind the bar. Frequent food and cocktail specials entice people to come and stay awhile, but the wood-fired pizza is a star of the menu, and the weekend brunch menu is always a great option. **Known for:** wood-fired pizza; lively local crowd; shareable cocktails. 💵 *Average main:* \$25 ✉ 726 E. Broadway, South Boston ☎ 617/307-6480 🌐 www.thebroadway-southboston.com 📍 Broadway.

★ Cafe Polonia

\$\$ | **POLISH** | **FAMILY** | People come to Boston for certain things—colleges, Irish pubs, Fenway Park—and Polish food isn't usually one of them. But, if you do land here, this authentic Polish restaurant in Southie is a must-stop. **Known for:** pierogi, beet soup, stuffed cabbage, and kielbasa; Polish beer; food worth traveling for. 💵 *Average main:* \$21 ✉ 611 Dorchester Ave., South Boston ☎ 617/269-0110 🌐 www.cafepolonia.com 📍 Andrew.

Fat Baby

\$\$ | **SUSHI** | A tropical paradise meets an urban aesthetic on the face of this South Boston food stop. Everything about it is fun, contemporary, and whimsical, including the food, like dumplings and bao buns, noodle and rice bowls, sushi and sashimi, and poke. **Known for:** creative cocktails; late-night menu Thursday though Saturday; colorful albeit loud vibe. 💵 *Average main:* \$21 ✉ 188 Dorchester St., South Boston ☎ 617/766-3450 🌐 www.fatbabysouthboston.com 📍 Andrew.



Sights ▼

- 1 Castle Island I2
- 2 Castle Island Brewing Company B2
- 3 John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum ... E7

Restaurants ▼

- 1 The Broadway South Boston E2
- 2 Cafe Polonia B4
- 3 Fat Baby D3
- 4 Fox & the Knife Enoteca B1
- 5 Gray's Hall E3

- 6 Lincoln Tavern & Restaurant C2
- 7 Loco Taqueria & Oyster Bar C2
- 8 Moonshine 152 B1

Quick Bites ▼

- 1 American Provisions E3
- 2 Olga's Kafe B1
- 3 Sullivan's Castle Island I2
- 4 Vester Cafe B1

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Reserved Channel

South Boston

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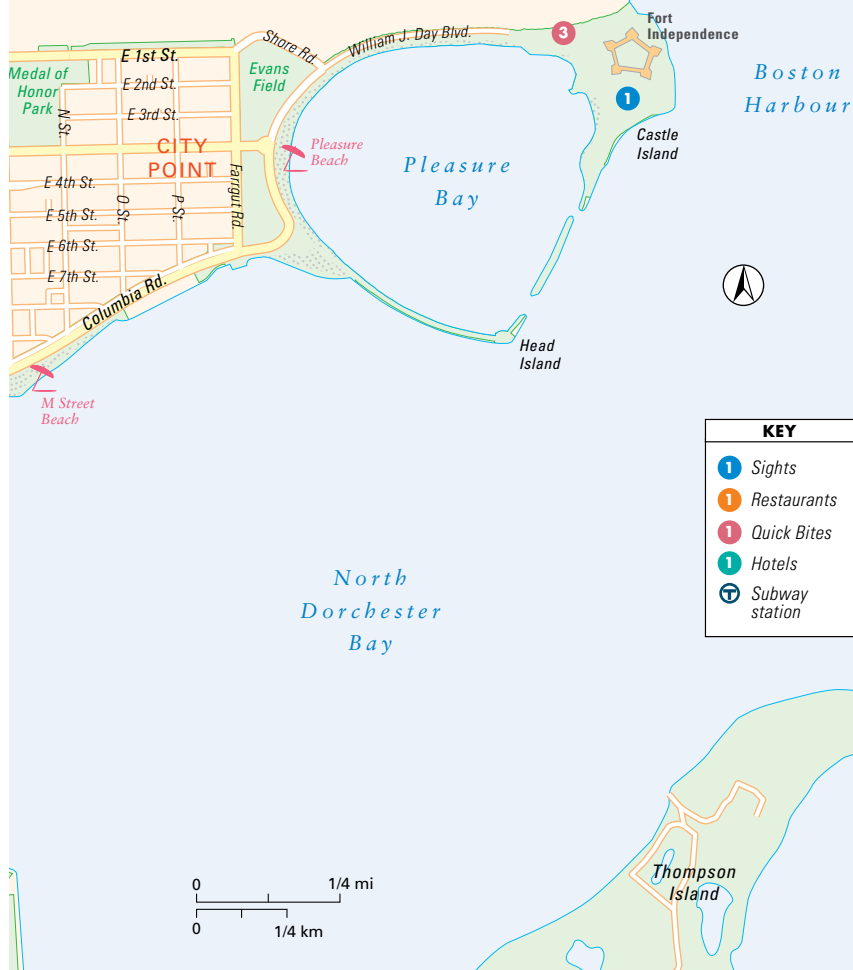
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Hotels

1 Cambria Hotel..... B1

★ Fox & the Knife Enoteca

\$\$ | **MODERN ITALIAN** | Chef-owner Karen Akunowicz steps up with hearty, traditional Italian food inspired by her time as a chef and pasta maker in Italy. Locals love it so much that in order to score a table, especially on the weekends, you have to book a reservation about a month or so out. **Known for:** James Beard award-winning chef; focaccia; excellent service. ☎ *Average main: \$30* ☎ 28 W. Broadway, South Boston ☎ 617/766-8630 ☎ www.foxandtheknife.com ☺ No lunch ☎ Broadway.

★ Gray's Hall

\$\$ | **AMERICAN** | The ambience at this cozy Southie wine bar is artful and welcoming. Small-producer and unique natural wines are available by the glass or bottle and are meant to be paired with a well-edited menu of small plates and snacks that highlight ingredients from the New England region. **Known for:** natural wine list; cool patio; friendly service. ☎ *Average main: \$30* ☎ 615 E. Broadway, South Boston ☎ 617/269-1001 ☎ www.grayshall.com ☺ Closed Mon. No lunch ☎ Broadway.

Lincoln Tavern & Restaurant

\$\$ | **AMERICAN** | **FAMILY** | If you're looking for a quiet evening out, don't bring your date to this South Boston institution. Packed every evening, whether it's the weekend when singles are mingling or on Tuesday when crowds come for the \$1 oysters, the food is always tasty, especially the wood-fired pizza. **Known for:** wood-fired pizza; daily brunch; long lines to get in. ☎ *Average main: \$25* ☎ 425 W. Broadway, South Boston ☎ 617/765-8636 ☎ www.lincolnsouth-boston.com ☎ Broadway.

Loco Taqueria & Oyster Bar

\$\$ | **MEXICAN** | Make a reservation in advance to secure a table at this popular yet small corner taqueria. The menu features trendy takes on Mexican cuisine, tacos in particular, as well as fun cocktails and tequila flights. **Known for:**

more than a dozen types of taco; loud atmosphere; long wait to get in. ☎ *Average main: \$20* ☎ 412 W. Broadway, South Boston ☎ 617/917-5626 ☎ www.locotacosshops.com ☎ Broadway.

Moonshine 152

\$\$ | **FUSION** | Diners who appreciate flavor and spice will adore chef-owner Asia Mei's creative kitchen endeavors, which often mix up elements of American, Chinese, Mexican, Vietnamese, Thai, and Spanish cuisines. A lively local crowd comes for dinner and to get their hands on crave-worthy dishes (the menu does change frequently). **Known for:** friendly service; unpretentious atmosphere; interesting, flavorful dishes. ☎ *Average main: \$28* ☎ 152 Dorchester Ave., South Boston ☎ 617/752-4191 ☎ www.moonshine152.com ☺ Closed Mon. ☎ Broadway.

☎ Coffee and Quick Bites

★ American Provisions

\$ | **AMERICAN** | Stop at this artisanal grocer for cured meats and cheeses, croissants and scones, pasta salad sides, packaged crackers and jams, even a bottle of wine. You can also order gourmet sandwiches—there are a few egg options during the breakfast hours, before the menu moves on to absolutely stunning meaty delights. **Known for:** artisanal cheeses and meats; gourmet grocery items; excellent sandwiches. ☎ *Average main: \$12* ☎ 613 E. Broadway, South Boston ☎ 617/269-6100 ☎ www.americanprovisions.com ☺ No dinner ☎ Broadway.

Olga's Kafe

\$ | **COFFEE** | **FAMILY** | From lattes to rickies, the sheer variety of beverage selections at this casual local spot will have your mouth watering, whether you like coffee or not—try the Greek frappe, it's the owner's specialty. Nosh on egg sandwiches, bagels, and muffins in the morning, or move on to grilled cheese and deli sandwiches at lunchtime.

Known for: made-to-order breakfast sandwiches; specialty Greek frappe; loads of unique latte flavors. **☎ Average main:** \$9 **📍** 206 W. Broadway, South Boston **☎** 617/752-4163 **🌐** olgaskafe.com **☺** No dinner **📍** Broadway.

Sullivan's Castle Island

\$ | FAST FOOD | FAMILY | Family owned and established in 1951, this beach-style dairy bar—affectionately nicknamed Sully's—serves fried seafood, hot dogs, hamburgers, and ice cream at Castle Island. Don't expect frills or indoor seating—there is no need since its surroundings provide sloping lawns, picnic tables, benches, and beach vistas for lunching. **Known for:** long lines but quick service; fried seafood, burgers, and hot dogs; great views. **☎ Average main:** \$12 **📍** 2080 Day Blvd., South Boston **☎** 617/268-5685 **🌐** www.sullivanycastleisleland.com **☺** Closed Jan.–Mar. **📍** Broadway.

Vester Cafe

\$ | COFFEE | Inspired by Copenhagen's Vesterbro meatpacking district, this edgy café caters to South Boston's residents on weekdays. Everything is made to order, whether you are looking at a selection of toasts, breakfast sandwiches, salads, or wraps, and there's a selection of fresh pastries to go with tea, coffee, and espresso drinks. **Known for:** made-to-order toasts; great place for informal business coffees; Scandinavian vibe. **☎ Average main:** \$13 **📍** 105 W. 1st St., South Boston **☎** 857/772-3765 **🌐** vestercafe.com **☺** Closed weekends. No dinner **📍** Broadway.

Hotels

Cambria Hotel

\$\$ | HOTEL | One of very few lodgings in South Boston outside of the Seaport District, this hotel attracts a younger, trendy traveler with simple but well-appointed guest rooms, contemporary art, and snazzy dining and drinking options on-site, including a seasonal rooftop

lounge. **Pros:** 24-hour fitness center; seasonal rooftop bar with spectacular views; easy walk to the South End, Back Bay, and Seaport District. **Cons:** no pets; no cribs, no extra beds available; far from most of Boston's universities. **\$ Rooms from:** \$300 **📍** 6 W. Broadway, South Boston **☎** 617/463-9147 **🌐** www.choicehotels.com/massachusetts/boston/cambria-hotels/ma229 **↔** 159 rooms **🍷** No Meals **📍** Broadway.

East Boston

A drive into East Boston shows off street after street of multifamily homes and commercial squares laden with restaurants and markets catering to its varied ethnic communities, primarily Italian, Asian, and Latino. In the last few years, this waterfront neighborhood—"Eastie" as it's called by longtime locals—has begun to undergo a renaissance as modern, luxury apartments pop up on Jeffries Point. Any visitor to Boston who arrives by plane has been to this neighborhood—it's home to Logan International Airport. We'll let you in on a secret: East Boston features absolutely amazing views of Boston Harbor and the downtown skyline.

Sights

Belle Isle Marsh Reservation

TRAIL | FAMILY | This 300-acre patch of remaining wetland environment is indicative of the salt marsh landscape that covered Boston when early settlers arrived and which today has been filled in. As you walk or run Belle Isle's gravel paths, listen to the sound of the marsh's diverse bird community, which includes the American kestrel, belted kingfisher, great blue heron, northern harrier, and salt marsh sparrow. Boardwalks venture into the marsh for great viewing and photo ops. **📍** 1399 Bennington St., East Boston **☎** 617/727-5350 **🌐** www.mass.gov



The 300-acre Belle Isle Marsh Reservation is all that remains of the salt marsh landscape that once covered Boston when the early settlers arrived.

gov/locations/belle-isle-marsh-reservation
[M] Suffolk Downs.

Downeast Cider House Taproom

BREWERY | You've got to really look for the garage doors that mark the entrance to this zero-frills local taproom. Once you make it inside the industrial space, you can sample flights of Downeast's fresh, unfiltered cider varieties—many of which are only available at the cider house. While many breweries these days welcome the whole family, this isn't one of those places. Of course kids are allowed, but they must remain seated and Downeast does not serve any food.

■ **TIP→ There's limited seating and no standing room so you may have to wait for a table.** [M] 256 Marginal St., East Boston [P] 857/301-8881 [G] www.downeastcider.com ☺ Closed Mon.–Wed. [M] Maverick.

HarborArts & the Shipyard Gallery

MARINA/PIER | **FAMILY** | Whimsical murals on cement barriers, colorful wooden chairs mounted on the outside wall of a commercial building, large-scale sculpture—together around 30 pieces generate

an artistic ambience in the industrial setting of East Boston's working marina and shipyard. HarborArts curates a rotating collection of works by local and international artists across 14 acres, completely open to the public for perusal. [M] 256 Marginal St., East Boston [P] 617/561-1400 [G] www.harborartsboston.com/the-shipyard-gallery-1 [M] Maverick.

ICA Watershed

ART MUSEUM | **FAMILY** | The Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston's seasonal outpost first opened in 2018 after renovations to a dilapidated former copper-pipe facility in East Boston's working shipyard and marina. Every summer, a single large-scale, immersive art installation makes the 15,000-square-foot space its own. A smaller gallery delves into the shipyard's history. [M] 256 Marginal St., East Boston [G] www.icaboston.org/ica-watershed ☺ Closed Mon. and Sept.–Apr. ☞ Water shuttle transportation from the Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston in the Seaport to the Watershed is included with general museum admission [M] Maverick.

Madonna Queen of the Universe National Shrine

RELIGIOUS BUILDING | A 35-foot golden and green statue of the Virgin Mary standing atop a globe dominates the Pope Paul VI Pilgrim Plaza that welcomes curious visitors and religious pilgrims to this Roman Catholic shrine. From its perch in Orient Heights, the shrine also boasts some pretty spectacular views of Logan Airport and the downtown skyline. Beneath the plaza, a sprawling sanctuary offers a quiet retreat, and some holy relics are on display. Masses are offered weekly in English, Spanish, and Portuguese. ☎ 142 Orient Ave., East Boston ☎ 617/569-8792 🌐 madonnaqueen.com ☺ Closed Mon. 📍 Orient Heights.

Piers Park

CITY PARK | FAMILY | Sandwiched between Marginal Street and Boston Harbor, the gorgeous, 6½-acre waterfront Piers Park features a grassy, green retreat from urban life and sweeping views of downtown Boston to the southwest. It is so named because of its many long piers that jut into the inner harbor. For a bit of historical knowledge: it's also in close proximity to the site where naval architect Donald McKay built his reputedly fast clipper ships. Take a stroll down the promenade and let the kiddos enjoy the large playground. ☎ 95 Marginal St., East Boston 🌐 www.piersparksailing.org 📍 Maverick.

Restaurants

Mirroring the makeup of its residents, East Boston's restaurant scene satisfies a variety of tastes, from the authentically ethnic to modern American. Foodies can dig into some of the city's best Latino and Italian fare, while closer to the shoreline, newer, upscale restaurants serve chef-driven options.

★ Angela's Cafe

\$\$ | **MEXICAN | FAMILY** | This Mexican restaurant reflects the culture of many of the people living in the neighborhood,

and its eponymous cook re-creates dishes from her native Puebla. Locals love it for its authenticity and extensive selection of small plates (mmm, *queso fundido*) and hearty main courses (*chilaquiles*, *mole poblano*). **Known for:** house-made guacamole; chicken and queso chilaquiles; brunch. \$ Average main: \$23 ☎ 1012 Bennington St., East Boston ☎ 617/874-8251 🌐 www.angelascafeboston.com 📍 Orient Heights.

★ The Quiet Few

\$\$ | **AMERICAN** | One look at the neighborhood bar's menu will have you holding back belly laughs, even as it's grumbling with hunger. Plates are interesting and well thought-out, mainly hot sandwiches and apps. **Known for:** extensive whiskey menu, including flights and top-shelf, off-the-menu options; basic meals with creative, quality ingredients; crowded during peak hours. \$ Average main: \$17 ☎ 331 Sumner St., East Boston ☎ 617/561-1061 🌐 www.thequietfew.com 📍 Maverick.

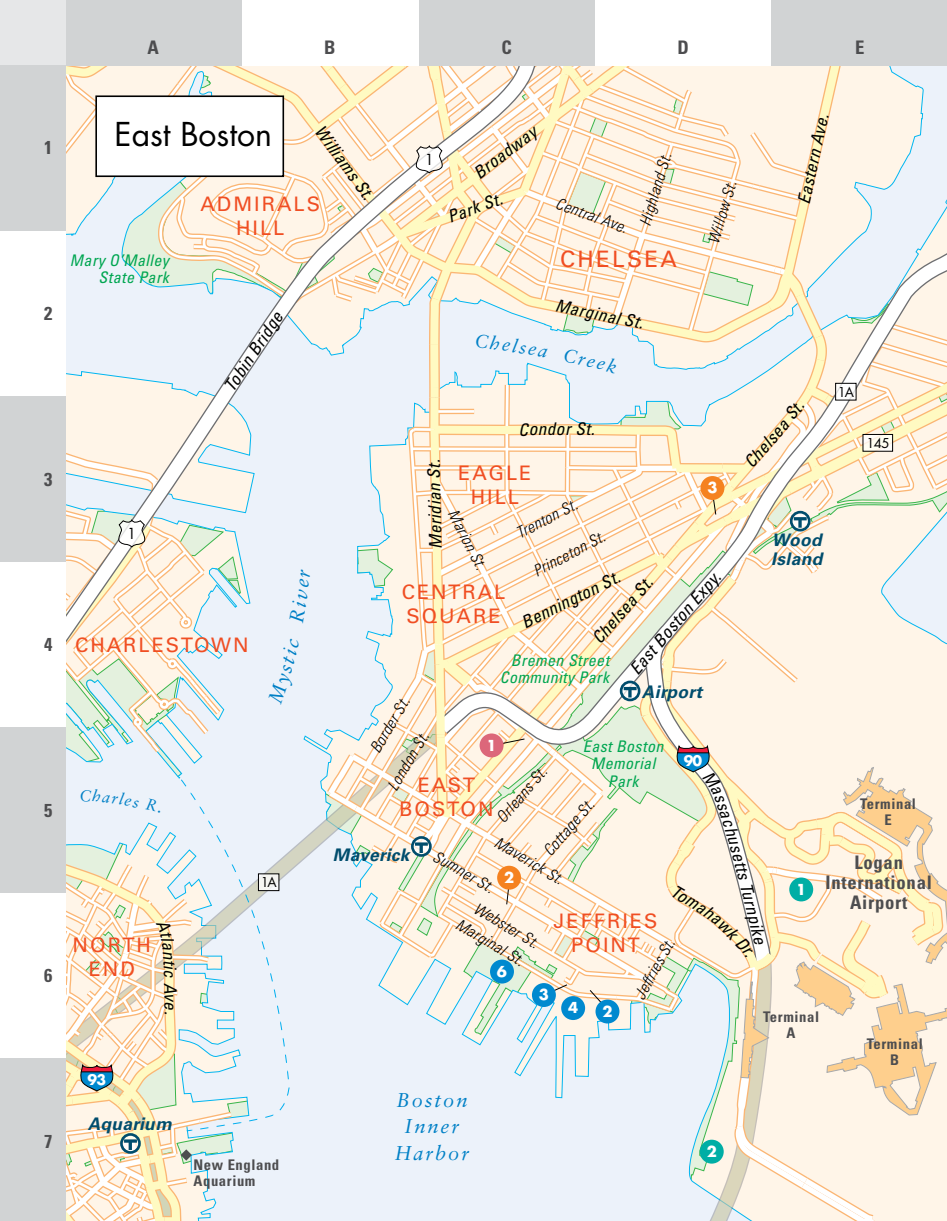
Rincon Limeño

\$\$ | **PERUVIAN | FAMILY** | This wonderful authentic Peruvian restaurant is locally owned and is welcoming to families. Food, which includes traditionally prepared dishes, seafood, and ceviche, and smaller plates called *piqueos*, is beautifully presented. **Known for:** often busy; anticuchos, a Peruvian classic; famous pisco sour drink. \$ Average main: \$23 ☎ 409 Chelsea St., East Boston ☎ 617/569-4942 🌐 www.rinconlimeno.com 📍 Wood Island.

Coffee and Quick Bites

★ Santarpio's Pizza

\$\$ | **PIZZA | FAMILY** | Stepping into this family-owned East Boston pizza joint is like stepping into the 1980s, even though it first opened way back in 1903. Every table is full on a Saturday night at 7 pm, and don't be surprised to see a line that runs out the cramped front doorway.



Sights

- 1 Belle Isle Marsh Reservation..... I2
- 2 Downeast Cider House Taproom..... C6
- 3 HarborArts & the Shipyard Gallery.... C6
- 4 ICA Watershed..... C6



- 5 Madonna Queen of the Universe National Shrine G1
- 6 Piers Park..... C6

Restaurants

- 1 Angela's Cafe G2
- 2 The Quiet Few..... C6
- 3 Rincon Limeño D3



Quick Bites

- 1 Santarpio's Pizza..... C5



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Hotels



- 1 Hilton Boston
Logan Airport E5
- 2 Hyatt Regency
Boston Harbor D7

Known for: legendary pizza; really long lines during peak hours; unapologetically casual atmosphere. [5] *Average main:* \$18 ☒ 111 Chelsea St., East Boston ☎ 617/567-9871 🌐 www.santarpiospizza.com [M] Airport.

Hotels

Hilton Boston Logan Airport

\$\$\$ | HOTEL | FAMILY | Quiet rooms, competitive prices, and the only hotel actually connected to the airport make this Hilton a good choice for in-and-out visitors to Boston. **Pros:** attached via skywalk to Logan terminals A and E; indoor pool; free shuttle to subway or water taxi.

Cons: standard check-in time is late, at 4 pm; not walking distance to attractions, restaurants, or shopping; pay for Wi-Fi.

[5] *Rooms from:* \$550 ☒ 1 Hotel Dr., East Boston ☎ 617/568-6700 🌐 www.hilton.com ➡ 604 rooms 🕒 No Meals [M] Airport.

Hyatt Regency Boston Harbor

\$\$ | HOTEL | FAMILY | Half the rooms at this hotel have sweeping views of either the city skyline or the ocean; the other half overlook Logan Airport runways. **Pros:** blackout curtains and soundproof windows keep plane noise to a minimum; 24-hour free airport shuttle; restaurant and bar on-site. **Cons:** late standard check-in, at 4 pm; it's an effort to get to downtown sights. [5] *Rooms from:* \$325 ☒ 101 Harborside Dr., East Boston ☎ 617/568-1234 🌐 www.hyatt.com ➡ 270 rooms 🕒 No Meals [M] Airport.

Nightlife

The Layover

GATHERING PLACE | Riffing off its location not far from Boston's Logan International Airport, this tropical rooftop bar boasts a lush place to while away the hours with a tiki cocktail in hand. There are incredible panoramic views of Boston Harbor as well as planes soaring overhead. Patrons can order drinks and island-inspired

bites to eat at a walk-up window. ☒ 24 Orleans St., East Boston ☎ 617/567-7609 🌐 www.cunardtavern.com/roofdeck 🕒 Closed Mon.–Wed. [M] Maverick.

★ Next Door Speakeasy & Raw Bar

BARS | In order to score 90 minutes at a table in this exclusive bar (the waitlist to get in is booked up months in advance), you must be dressed up, charm the person guarding the door, and most important, first find the entrance—it's not obviously marked. Craft cocktails have a flair for the dramatic, made with unique premium and small-label brands, creative liqueurs, and other interesting juices, syrups, and ingredients. The food is fantastic, but secondary to the cocktails. ☒ 103 Porter St., East Boston 🌐 www.nextdooreastie.com 🕒 Closed Mon.–Wed. ➡ No casual shorts, beachwear, flip-flops, tank tops, ripped pants, baseball caps, or hats. [M] Maverick.

The Tall Ship Boston

BARS | This historic-style ship sidles up to an East Boston pier and features outdoor drinking, games like corn hole, live music, and more alfresco fun. You can also book a private lounge. The unique destination does offer food in the form of raw oysters, pizza, tacos, and fried seafood, plus there are a number of food trucks that park on-site. Drinks are slightly overpriced, but let's be honest: you're paying for the view. If you happen to be dining in the area, there's a free shuttle to the ship from local restaurants on the weekends. ☒ 1 East Pier Dr., East Boston ☎ 617/307-7714 🌐 www.tallshipboston.com 🕒 Closed Mon. and Tues. [M] Maverick.