



Rose Art Museum



Waterworks Museum



Griffin Museum of Photography

# HIDDEN GEMS Special MUSEUMS Guide

**TUCKED AWAY AT THE END OF T LINES, IN QUIET LIBRARIES AND ON COLLEGE campuses, fascinating art, artifacts and architecture fly under the radar of even year-round Bostonians. Here are six interesting museum collections to explore around the Boston area. BY SAMANTHA DIMAURO**

**West End Museum** (150 Staniford St., 617-723-2125, [thewestendmuseum.org](http://thewestendmuseum.org)): At this museum dedicated to the history and culture of the West End neighborhood, visitors learn why it is remembered as “The Greatest Neighborhood this Side of Heaven.” The Last Tenement exhibition documents the razing of the old West End and the damage done by urban renewal.

**Warren Anatomical Museum** (10 Shattuck St., 617-432-6196, [countway.harvard.edu](http://countway.harvard.edu)): On the fifth floor of the Countway Library of Medicine at Harvard Medical School in the Longwood Medical Area sits this quirky collection of history’s medical oddities, rarities and anomalies. Its most famous display is the skull of Phineas Gage, a railroad worker who survived an accident in which a metal rod went completely through his head and part of his brain—an extraordinary case that contributed much to the study of medicine.

**Rose Art Museum** (415 South St., Waltham, 781-736-3434, [brandeis.edu/rose](http://brandeis.edu/rose)): Founded in 1961 at Brandeis University, “The Rose” was a pioneering institution for the display of modern and contemporary art. The collection numbers more than 8,000 objects, with significant holdings of 1960s and ’70s American art, including works by Andy Warhol.

**McMullen Museum of Art** (140 Commonwealth Ave., Devlin Hall 108, Chestnut Hill, 617-552-8100, [bc.edu/gn-artmuseum](http://bc.edu/gn-artmuseum)): Located on the Boston College campus, this museum brings work spanning the history of art from Europe, Asia and the Americas into one extensive collection. One of its more prominent displays includes intricately woven and colorful Gothic and Baroque tapestries.

**Waterworks Museum** (2450 Beacon St., 617-277-0065, Brighton, [waterworksmuseum.org](http://waterworksmuseum.org)): Ever wonder where your water comes from? Wonder no more at this unique museum covering all the bases about the history of Boston’s water system, health and clean water, as well as the brilliant engineers behind it all. Visitors can also take advantage of sunny days with a walking tour of the lovely Chestnut Hill Reservoir.

**Griffin Museum of Photography** (67 Shore Rd., 781-729-1158, Winchester, [griffinmuseum.org](http://griffinmuseum.org)): This photography museum just north of Boston presents thought-provoking and thematically important work from the most talented photographers on the scene. The galleries rotate exhibitions in a variety of genres, ranging from photojournalism to contemporary art, and historical to social commentary.