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## On business in Boston

by [Cheryl](#) January

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Once the workday is over, business travel in **Boston** can lead to just about anything you want - from seaside harbour strolls to reliving moments in America's history, funky jazz clubs to tours through a ballpark or brewery. When the meetings and presentations have come to a close, it's time to turn work into play. Here's our city guide to being on business in Boston.

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The Living Room Lounge at Nine Zero adds a vintage vibe to this Kimpton Hotel in Boston's Back Bay © [Nine Zero](#)

**Where to stay:** Where you stay in Boston is as important as what you do while you're there. Nobody plays the chic boutique hotel hand better than a Kimpton hotel, and its [Nine Zero](#) is no different. This hotel blasts you out of the standard overnight experience with its vintage cocktail lounge, colourful modern décor, and even a "floating" suite that uses futuristic retinal scans.

If you want to keep your stay classic and cosy, book a room at the [Boston Harbor Hotel](#) on the historic Rowes Wharf Harbor with its picturesque iconic archway, or the [Ritz-Carlton, Boston Common](#), where you'll soak up the views of America's first public park, the Boston Common, and the Public Garden.



Wake up with Ogawa a's signature chilled foamed espresso in a martini glass or an ornate cappuccino © Ogawa a Coffee

**Where to eat:** Pump up your morning with hot java from Ogawa Coffee. This is the Japanese coffee shop's first U.S. location, and if you're lucky, your cappuccino will be adorned by Haruna Murayama, the 2010 World Latte Art Champion. Later in the day, fill up on traditional New England fare (think lobsters and fried clams) under the iconic red striped awning of the lively waterfront **Barking Crab**. Or simply eat your way through the North End, Boston's famous Italian District. It might only be 0.36 square miles but its winding streets are packed with cafes, grocery stores and restaurants. While there are plenty of steakhouses in Boston, **Strip by Strega** has some of the best cuts, along with a glam dining room and tunes spun by the most amazing DJs in town. The handsome French-inspired bistro **Bar Boulud** brings charcuterie to the next level, along with seasonal New England dishes, pâtés, terrines, and its famous Coq au Vin.



Bar Boulud, a French-inspired bistro inside the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, offers signature charcuterie, pates, and terrines © George Apostolidis

**Where to go for evening cocktails:** Gauzy swags, shimmery pillows, globally infused tunes, the swanky **W Boston's** lounge sets a *scintillating* scene for sipping cocktails among the city's trendsetters. Or try your hobnobbing skills at the upscale **Oak Long Bar + Kitchen**, a Back Bay brasserie that offers classic handcrafted cocktails. For a suds selection like no other, visit the **Tip Tap Room** for its immense list of beers on tap and craft bourbons.



Cosy up on a couch for a fireside cocktail at the swanky W Boston lounge © [W Boston](#)

**Top Sites:** With Boston holding court as a walking city, it isn't hard to get around its top sites with or without wheels. Hit most of history's hot spots by following the famous [Freedom Trail](#), a DIY 2.5-mile, brick-lined route through Boston that takes a page out of America's past with 16 historically significant stops, such as Granary Burial Ground, Kings' Chapel Cemetery, the Old State House and the Boston Massacre Site. It also goes right by the USS Constitution, or "Old Ironsides." A true symbol of Boston's seaside status, this is U.S. Navy's oldest commissioned warship afloat in the world, and you can explore its decks on a guided tour. Miss a visit and tour to [Fenway Park](#), America's most beloved baseball park and home of the Red Sox, and you've struck out.



Daily tours are offered through Fenway Park, known by many as America's beloved ballpark © Bernard Gagnon

**Great Gifts:** There's nothing like bringing home something special for someone special to commemorate your time away. When you're in need of a little local flare, a visit to Quincy Market is a must. Home to the country's first pushcart, the cobblestones of this 6.5 acre outdoor marketplace weave you from cart to cart decked in Boston garb. For more notable names (think Valentino, Max Mara and Ted Baker), hit up Newbury Street, the "Rodeo Drive of the East".



Stroll the high-end designer shops of Newbury Street, an eight-block stretch known as the Rodeo Drive of the East © Greater Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau Convention & Visitors Bureau

**Going Local:** When locals want to get outside and play, they grab their sneakers and hit the pavement for a run along the Charles River, which runs between Cambridge and Boston. There's also the Rose F. Kennedy Greenway. Once the home of the main highway, it's now a peaceful outdoor setting with fountains, a carousel, and benches for sunny day appreciation. Or check out the Emerald Necklace, a vibrant park system consisting of six parks, the Arnold Arboretum and Jamaica Pond. If you work up a thirst, blend hops with history during a tour of one of **Sam Adams**, Boston's most beloved brewery.



Located in Harvard Square, Beat Brasserie is an artsy spot to grab a cocktail and listen to local live music © [Beat Brasserie](#)

**Where to Break Curfew:** When meetings have wrapped, you deserve a little fun. Head over to the South End's shaggy chic [Beehive](#) or its sister restaurant in Cambridge's Harvard Square, [Beat Brasserie](#), for live music, psychedelic art, and funky fare. Or kick it old school and relax at [Wally's Café](#), a tiny jazz and blues hideaway. For fast and furious release, step into the bustling [Jillian's Pool Hall](#) to play on their 24 tournament calibre pool tables, six bowling lanes and 12 plasma screens.

Header Image: The newly renovated luxury Parkview Suites at the Ritz Carlton, Boston Common offer sweeping city views © [Ritz-Carlton, Boston Common](#)

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*Have you been on business in Boston? Let us know in the comments section below.*



## On business in Toronto

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As the largest metropolis in Canada, the city of Toronto has much to offer business travellers during their downtime. From the city's vibrant art and culture scene, to the numerous neighbourhoods and world-class dining, shopping and nightlife, there's an array of ways to wind down after a busy day of meetings. Take a look at our guide to being on business in Toronto next time you're in town.

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### About the author: **Cheryl**

*Cheryl Fenton*

A Boston native, Cheryl Fenton is no stranger to the goings on and hot spots of her favorite city. Throughout her 15-year freelance career in dining, fashion, beauty and travel, Cheryl has covered it all for local magazines and websites including Stuff, The Boston Globe, Boston Phoenix, mysecretboston.com and Boston Common. You can also find her national bylines in glossies such as Glamour, Cooking Light, and Wallpaper. In her spare time, what little there is, Cheryl strolls the city with coffee in hand, always looking for what's next on the agenda.



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