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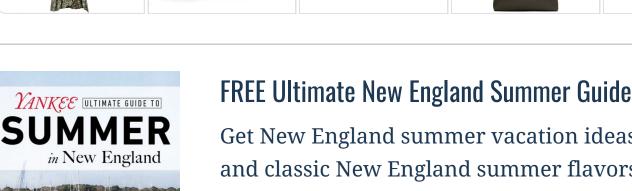
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## **BOSTON** Best of Boston & Cambridge | 2017 Editors' Choice

## **Awards** Need a reason to travel this summer? From dining and lodging to

attractions that are well worth the drive, here are nearly 20 of our editors' picks for the best of Boston & Cambridge. Yankee Magazine · April 11, 2017 · Add Comment

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Cambridge.



Few small museums in the world are as admired—or as distinctive—as the Gardner. Its namesake socialite and arts patron lived and entertained in this four-floor Italian palazzo before designating it and all the art within as a museum in her will. Today,

#### with a modern wing newly added, the Gardner houses a simply stunning collection of international paintings and sculpture, with an emphasis on American artists such as

John Singer Sargent. 25 Evans Way, Boston. 617-566-1401; gardnermuseum.org **BOOKSTORE: Trident Booksellers & Café** One of the few independent bookshops left in town, Newbury Street's Trident Booksellers is also a paragon of its genre. Featuring an in-depth selection of bestselling fiction and nonfiction, breakout new authors, guidebooks, and magazines, it's a wonderful spot in which to hole up for an afternoon, grab a seat and a sandwich in the café, and get lost in a good potboiler or some soul-satisfying poetry. 338 Newbury

#### conscientiously raised and grass-fed beef and poultry, and produce from area farms like Stillman, Kimball, and Busa. Harvard Square, Bennett and Eliot streets,

866-955-0667; bostonteapartyship.com

FARMERS' MARKET: Charles Square Market

St., Boston. 617-267-8688; tridentbookscafe.com

Cambridge. 617-864-1200; charleshotel.com HISTORICAL EXPERIENCE: Boston Tea Party Ships and Museum It may be 244 years later, but let's face it: Reenacting one of the American Revolution's best-known acts of rebellion just never gets old. On the authentically renovated wooden ships, visitors can soak up the cathartic thrill of dumping tea overboard after a quick history lesson via the holographic displays and films, then peruse the authentic tea chests from the original protest. 306 Congress St., Boston.

sometimes still do, because the place is a legend in its own right. Since 1958 the tiny

and friendly Club Passim has been a magnet for folk music and bluegrass lovers,

Celtic and a cappella fans, world music and klezmer performers alike. Skip dinner

elsewhere, order up a dish and a drink from the kitchen, settle in for the show, and

see what the night has to offer. 47 Palmer St., Cambridge. 617-492-7679; passim.org

Rain or shine, from May till November, farmers from all over New England and

in the corner of Harvard Square. Look for cheeses and homemade candies,

hungry buyers from throughout the neighborhood descend on a brick-lined veranda

## MUSIC CAFÉ: Club Passim Heroes and legends from Joan Baez to Regina Spektor have graced this stage and

**PUBLIC GARDEN: Arnold Arboretum** A stroll through this Harvard University– owned, Frederick Law Olmsted–designed landscape is no ordinary walk in the park. This is where you'll find some of the most rare and majestic trees and plants (all helpfully labeled) in the entire country. They're spread across verdant meadows, fields, and gardens, herbariums, bonsai collections, and greenhouses—all equally educational and bucolic. 125 Arborway, Boston. 617-524-1718; arboretum.harvard.edu

At Boston proper's oldest working farm, regulars come by throughout the growing

a small family farm with an old-fashioned country store. Fresh-picked cucumbers,

season to find something that meshes an extensive nursery with a garden center, and

#### tomatoes, sunflowers, and handmade breads line the wooden bins; home decor and indoor herbs sit next to the penny candy; fresh-baked apple pies and fruits are here, too, from purveyors all over the area. At the holidays, Allandale Farm's selection of

**URBAN FARM: Allandale Farm** 

Christmas trees is of the highest quality around. 259 Allandale Road, Brookline. 617-524-1531; allandalefarm.com Yankee's New England Adventures is Back in Stock! Over 400 Essential Things to See and Do! Yankee's New England Adventures is your go-to source for in-depth travel information, with the same stunning photography and practical know-how Yankee brings to you every month. **BUY NOW** 

## **BEST OF BOSTON & CAMBRIDGE 2017: LODGING DOG-FRIENDLY HOTEL: XV Beacon** Opt for the "Dazzle Your Dog" package, and Fido will be treated to homemade dog biscuits in a personalized dish, a cushy dog bed, and a bowl of filtered water.

### Among the many amenities offered to humans at Beacon Hill's posh boutique hotel, one of them is the knowledge that your furry companion will be equally catered to.

Meanwhile, you'll get help finding nearby pet-friendly sites to visit (with cleanup

Langham is located a few minutes' walk from Faneuil Hall Marketplace, the New

instead? Grab the kids and head to the Chocolate Bar brunch, an epic buffet of

drama of weather as it rolls in. 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston. 617-439-7000; bhh.com

England Aquarium, and the Freedom Trail. Rather spend the day chilling at the hotel

bags). Don't feel like making the rounds yourself? Walking services are available, too.

### **FAMILY LODGING: The Langham** Few properties in the city are better located for multigenerational satisfaction, as the

15 Beacon St., Boston. 617-670-1500; xvbeacon.com

elaborate and creative sweets. Afterward, let everyone make the most of their food coma with a nap in your adjoining family suites. 250 Franklin St., Boston. 617-451-1900; langhamhotels.com **HOTEL WITH A VIEW: Boston Harbor Hotel** There are plenty of excellent reasons to spend the night at the Boston Harbor Hotel, but the most compelling is the availability of panoramic vistas of Boston Harbor and the Atlantic Ocean through the guest rooms' floor-to-ceiling windows. From your aerie you can watch yachts, ferries, and sailboats chug along, and even witness the

### It's hard to top the allure of the Envoy, near Fort Point Channel in the expanding Seaport District. As soon as its eighth-floor rooftop bar opened in 2015, locals were lining up after work to savor the alluring view of the Boston skyline. Many of the 136

Eataly | Best of Boston & Cambridge

4519; fazendaboston.com

**GREEK CUISINE: Doretta** 

ITALIAN CUISINE: SRV

**NEW HOTEL: The Envoy** 

rooms in the hotel offer the same exquisite view (especially the corner suite one floor below). The spacious rooms have historic maps of the city painted on the glass doors that lead to the shower, flat-screen televisions hidden in the wall, and large windows that bathe everything in sunlight. 70 Sleeper St., Boston. 617-338-3030; theenvoyhotel.com



enriched with chicken liver mousse. 3710 Washington St., Jamaica Plain. 617-477-

With a slew of Hellenic eateries jazzing up the city's dining scene lately, from the

the '90s. But of all the nouveau renderings of grilled octopus and spinach pie out

Seaport District's Committee to Jody Adams's fast-casual Saloniki mini chain, there's

no question that Greek cuisine is to this decade what northern Italian cooking was to

there, our favorites come from the kitchen of Brendan Pelley, who took over as chef

de cuisine at Doretta last autumn. He brings the same inventiveness that made his

2015 pop-up, Pelekasis, such a hit, while preserving the mainstays of Michael

Schlow's original menu (including the excellent Village Salad and crispy lamb

meatballs). 79 Park Plaza, Boston. 617-422-0008; dorettaboston.com

Kingdom. 569 Columbus Ave., Boston. 617-536-9500; srvboston.com

Ave., Cambridge. 617-864-2300; waypointharvard.com

SRV, where have you been all our lives? Sure, a Venetian-style wine bar (or bacaro, as they say in the Most Serene Republic) with an ambitious menu may have been a riskier launch than some vaguely Tuscan trattoria or a generic Mamma's Meatballs joint, but Boston is a seafood town and, conveniently, so is Venice. And co-owners Michael Lombardi and Kevin O'Donnell can cook, as evidenced by cult favorites like the half-moon casunziei pasta stuffed with beets and garnished with poppy seeds and nori, and the baby clams with *guanciale*, garlic bread, and chili pepper. And, OK, the meatballs at SRV are fantastic. No wonder the place is always filled with a happy crowd of New Englanders discovering the culinary wonders of Italy's Northeast

If you come to Waypoint looking for expertly broiled scrod and linguine with clams,

you may be disappointed. The food at this, Michael Scelfo's latest eatery, is "coastal-

(meatballs) cozying up to king crab served with black rice and browned butter. But

you just have to trust the chef here. The food is simply fantastic. 1030 Massachusetts

First, let's get the jokes out of the way: Yes, there is such a thing as New England

dishes such as Race Point oysters dressed with chamomile vinegar, molasses-grilled

pork ribs, a succulent mead-braised lobster, ample roasts designed to be shared, and

more. True, the conceit sometimes verges on preciousness, but that's only because

inspired." That leaves a lot of room for globe-trotting, with octopus *polpetti* 

#### cuisine. No, it's not all overcooked scrod. Loyal Nine chef-owner Marc Sheehan proves this nightly at his East Cambridge restaurant, where he applies precise technique to heritage cooking. Armed with a degree in history and an enviable collection of vintage cookbooks, Sheehan works with his team to turn out superlative

MODERN SEAFOOD: Waypoint

**NEW ENGLAND CUISINE: Loyal Nine** 

everything is done with such care. 660 Cambridge St., East Cambridge. 617-945-2576; loyalninecambridge.com PRIX FIXE DINING: Fat Hen For \$45, here's what you get: semolina rolls from a wood-fired oven, followed by your choice of four courses, with such tempting offerings as spicy-sweet fluke crudo; mushrooms stuffed with chanterelles, walnuts, and creamy cheese; and homemade tortellini in a broth that chef Michael Bergin coaxes into life over five days of simmering. You can have swordfish dusted with dehydrated orange and fennel, or tender lamb loin with a kick of black garlic. And for dessert, an excellent fruit tart with olive oil gelato. It's so rare these days to leave a restaurant with your socks knocked off and your wallet intact, but a visit to Fat Hen ensures that you'll do just that. 126 Broadway, Somerville. 617-764-1612; fathenboston.com

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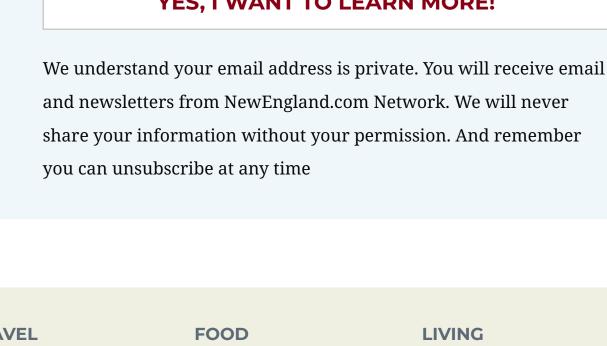
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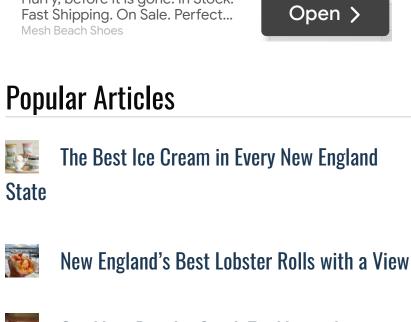
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