

All area codes are 617 unless otherwise noted.

(H) denotes walking distance from Harvard.

(M) denotes walking distance from MIT.

❖ Reservation Services

Bed and Breakfast of Cambridge

M-F 9am-5pm, Sa during the summer 262-1155

A free agent for smaller B&B's, many of which are near Harvard, Bed and Breakfast of Cambridge suggests accommodations ranging from modest rooms (\$75/night) to elegant suites (\$200+/night), with discounts for extended stays. Establishments are chosen for cleanliness, comfort, attractive surroundings, and welcoming hosts. Bed and Breakfast of Cambridge will make every effort to meet your needs, and will happily refer you elsewhere if it cannot.

Boston Citywide Reservation Service

M-F 9am-8pm, Sa-Su 11am-7pm 800-HOTEL-93 267-7424

A free service that handles reservations for hotels, B&B's, and furnished apartments throughout the northeast and Montreal. Year-round discounts offer savings of up to 40%, and Summer Best Value packages offer savings of up to 50%.

Just Right Reservations

M-F 9am-5pm 247-6282

www.ziplink.net/~jimwelles

A guest house, inn, and hotel reservation service for Boston, Provincetown, Salem, Newport, NYC, and Montreal. Friendly manager James Koumpouras assures that he has either visited or toured each of the establishments he represents, and he will assist in your decision based on location, quality of service, facilities, and cost. He covers accommodations ranging from \$95-250/night. There is no fee for the service.

❖ Under \$70

Beacon Town House

1047 Beacon St., Brookline T: GREEN C-ST. MARY'S

Reservations 9am-6pm 232-0292

800-872-7211, fax 734-5815

This dark, wood-paneled 14-room guest house, located on Brookline's main thoroughfare, is a refreshing alternative to grander and more expensive lodgings. Conveniently down the block from a number of small bakeries, restaurants, and grocery stores. All 14 carpeted rooms have telephones, TVs, A/C, toilets, and most have private baths. Rooms with either one king or 2 double beds are \$99-119. Free continental breakfast. Only three parking spots available, so reserve in advance (\$5/night). AE/MC/V.

The Farrington Inn

23 Farrington Ave., Allston T: GREEN B-HARVARD AVE.

787-1860, 800-767-5337

Follow Harvard Ave. to Farrington

Close to the center of Allston, The Farrington is a 2-house B&B. Although some smaller rooms are a bit shabby and somewhat musty, larger doubles and apartment-sized complexes with kitchens are comfortable. Rooms range \$60-90 (for a double bed) and up but during the dead of winter (Dec.-Jan.), room rates drop and breakfast is complimentary. Converted apartments, convenient for longer stays (\$250-300/week) have kitchens

and wood balconies. Rates increase with demand and nice weather. All prices include an off-street parking space and local phone service. Some rooms are wheelchair-accessible.

❖ **\$71-100**

463 Beacon Street Guest House

463 Beacon St., Boston T: HYNES/ICA or #1 BUS
536-1302

Exit the T onto Mass. Ave., turn right towards the river, walk 3 blocks, and turn right onto Beacon St.

Convenient to Newbury St., this beautiful old townhouse has 20 rooms, each with a bathroom, cable TV, telephone (free local calls and voice mail), small fridge, and stove or microwave. Ask for one of the more spacious, well-decorated rooms and you might forget you're staying in a hotel. Up to 3 people/room; \$5 per additional person. Rooms \$50-90.

Beacon Inn

1087 Beacon St., Brookline T: GREEN C-DEAN RD.
566-0088

Situated in a restored late 19th-century brownstone, the Beacon Inn offers vaguely shabby rooms in a variety of sizes. Creaky hardwood floors and a dimly lit central stairwell make the place feel a bit cold. Rooms in the front have an appealing view of Beacon Street; those in the back look out on a dirty courtyard. Prices range from \$49-69 in the off-season to \$89-119 in peak season; rooms with private baths cost a bit more. Additional rooms are available at 1750 Beacon Street.

Beacon Inn Guest Houses

248 Newbury St., Boston T: HYNES/ICA or #1 BUS
262-1771

Consisting of two buildings on Newbury St., a few blocks apart, the Beacon Inn Guest Houses have the feel of an apartment complex rather than a hotel or B&B. Each room, while on the small and plain side comes with a kitchenette complete with a variety of cooking utensils. The bathrooms are spartan and the décor is a bit drab, but at this location and for these prices, you're not going to find anything better. If city noise doesn't bother you, request a room facing Newbury St. – the view is entertaining. Singles \$85/night or \$425/week; doubles \$99/night or \$550/week. ISIC discount 10%. Prepaid reservations required. No maid service.

Beech Tree Inn

83 Longwood Ave., Brookline T: GREEN C-ST. PAUL
Reservations M-F 9am-5pm 277-1620, 800-544-9660

With your back to the Holiday Inn, go up St. Paul St. and take a left onto Longwood Ave.

A wonderfully charming B&B on a quiet residential street near Coolidge Corner, the Beech Tree Inn is an old Victorian home prettily infused with fresh life. Each of the 10 individually decorated and generously pillowed rooms boasts a telephone, air-conditioning, and ceiling fan. The non-smoking inn welcomes small children with puzzles and crayons. The large community kitchen serves complimentary continental breakfast. A common sitting room graced with plenty of cozy, high-backed lounging chairs sports a large TV as well as a book, game, and video library. Singles \$55-72; doubles \$95, with private bath \$125-135; triples with private bath \$150. Reservations a must if you're arriving in the evening or on weekends.

The Buckminster

645 Beacon St., Boston T: KENMORE
236-7050, 800-727-2825; fax 262-0068

A stone's throw away from Fenway and BU, this turn-of-the-century hotel evokes memories of past glory. Marble columns and delicate china adorn the dimly lit foyers and sitting rooms. Rooms facing the inner courtyard are quieter than those with views of Kenmore Sq. The cramped but fancy rooms come equipped with

private bath, shower, TV, and phone. Singles \$69-99; doubles \$75-129; suites \$105-159. Parking available next door (\$20/night).

Chandler Inn

26 Chandler St., Boston

T: BACK BAY

482-3450 or 800-842-3450; fax 542-3428

<http://www.chandlerinn.com>

From Back Bay, take a right on Dartmouth St., go 1 bl., cross Columbus St. onto Chandler.

The Chandler offers friendly service and simple, inexpensive rooms with (very) small bathrooms. Prices and availability vary with the season. Singles \$79+; doubles \$89+ and \$99+ in the winter. Prices rise to \$89+ and \$99+ in the spring, and \$109+ and \$119+ during the summer. Color TVs and continental breakfast (muffins, coffee in the lobby). Rates change frequently, check their web site. Wheelchair-accessible. AARP discounts. Member IGLTA.

Copley House

39 W. Newton St., Boston

T: PRUDENTIAL

236-8300, 800-331-1318; FAX 424-1815

From Prudential Ctr., cross Huntington St., go 2 blocks to the right and take a left onto W. Newton St.

This small-scale studio complex in the middles of a quiet, tree-lined residential neighborhood offers a variety of fully equipped studios for short- and long-term residents in 6 different buildings. Ranging from Queen Anne-style antique suites to modern white walls and pastel carpeting, each room includes a kitchenette, private bathroom, cable TV, and local telephone access. Many rooms also have tiled fireplaces and sofas. Daily rates \$85-135; weekly fees \$500-600 for studios and \$650-750 for 1-bedroom apartment units.

A Friendly Inn (H)

1673 Cambridge St., Cambridge

T: HARVARD

tel/fax 547-7851

From Sanders Theatre, go 3 bl. Down Cambridge St.; it's opposite Cambridge Rindge & Latin School

Located 2 blocks from campus up Cambridge St., this immaculate B&B provides a private bath, continental breakfast, and free parking. Housed in a century-old red Victorian, the 18 functional rooms are equipped with air conditioning, phones, TV, and queen-sized beds. Rooms are \$67/night November-March; \$97/night April-October.

The Irving House (H)

24 Irving St., Cambridge

T: HARVARD

547-4600, 800-854-8249; fax 576-2814

The Irving House offers refreshingly inexpensive and homey lodgings nestled on a leafy street only a 5-to-10-min. walk from the Square. Its 44 rooms have large windows and antique desks and chairs. Renovations, including a complete overhaul of the top floor, have brought central A/C to the main building and expanded reading and dining areas. An excellent value for the price. Singles start at \$85 (depending on season – Aug.-Feb. is cheaper), and depending on the amount of TV and private bath you want, rooms can reach \$185. Most hover in the \$100 range. Laundry facilities, library, and off-street parking (though limited to 10 spaces – first come, first served). Continental breakfast included.

John Hancock Conference Center

40 Trinity Pl., Boston

T: BACK BAY

547-7700; fax 572-7700

From Back Bay station, take a right on Dartmouth St., a right on Stuart St. and another right onto Trinity Pl.

Behind the Copley Plaza and the Hancock Tower, this Marriot-owned hotel boasts an unbeatable location. Each room has a private bath, color cable TV, and A/C. Two single beds or 1 queen-size bed for \$130; suite: \$150 for double occupancy. Free continental breakfast. Parking available for \$12 in nearby garage.

John Jeffries House (H)

14 Embankment Rd., Boston

T: CHARLES/MGH

367-1866; fax 742-0313

John Jeffries is at the corner of Charles and Cambridge St., within walking distance of Faneuil Hall, and across the street from the Charles River. Originally built in 1909 to house "nurses and domestic servants," this 46-room B&B, though renovated, preserves some of the (slightly depressing) turn-of-the-century fell of its original purpose. The rooms are nicely furnished, but the less pricey ones tend to be cramped. A studio room (1 twin bed with kitchenette) goes for \$90; standard room (double with kitchenette) \$110; suites \$120-145. No roll-away beds. Coffee available 24hr.; continental breakfast included. Most rooms have A/C. No smoking. Parking \$15 in the adjacent garage. Prices can run as high as \$175 in busy seasons.

Medford Bed & Breakfast

131 Woburn St., Medford

T: DAVIS or #94 BUS

(781) 396-0983; fax (781) 393-0620

<http://www.medford.bnb.com>

This pair of large colonial homes provides affordable lodging in a quiet neighborhood near the Tufts campus, just a 15 min. drive from Harvard Sq., 10 min. from Boston. The quaintly furnished, Victorian rooms all have A/C and a complimentary breakfast featuring homemade muffins. Rooms \$85-105. Call 2 weeks in advance to reserve rooms. No smoking.

Milner Hotel

78 Charles St. South, Boston

T: BOYLSTON

426-6220, 800-453-1731; fax 350-0360

Location, location, location! Situated in a traditional Boston brownstone, Milner offers all the basic amenities at significantly lower prices than others in Boston's theater district, but at the cost of some luxury. The very small but cozy and clean rooms come with cable TV, A/C, but not parking (\$11/day, across the street). Singles \$65; doubles \$90 (\$5 more in summer); roll-away beds \$10. Free continental breakfast.

Susse Chalet Motor Lodge

211 Concord Turnpike, Cambridge

T: ALEWIFE

661-7800,

reservations: 800-5-CHALET; fax 868-8153

Exit the Alewife T station through the doors on the right. Turn right and follow the highway ramp against traffic. The Lodge is a 5 min. walk on the left.

<http://www.sussechalet.com>

Great for family visits, the Susse Chalet Motor Lodge provides a welcome rest from nearby Rte. 2 traffic. Reasonable rates and quiet rooms. Every room boasts A/C, clean bathrooms, and a color TV with HBO and ESPN. Nov.-Apr., singles \$59.70; doubles \$65.70. Continental breakfast included. Students, seniors, and AAA members receive a 10% discount.

❖\$101-150

A Bed & Breakfast in Cambridge (H)

1657 Cambridge St., Cambridge

T: HARVARD

868-7082, 800-795-7122; fax 876-8991

An 8-minute walk from Harvard Square, across from the Cambridge Library, this small B&B offers a superior location for Harvard visits. The lovely accommodations are homey, with three rooms sharing one bathroom. The rooms have antique Oriental rugs, lace curtains, down pillows, and comforters for the cold winter months. Special features include voice mail, telephone, cable TV, and modem access in each room. During the summer, the rooms are air-conditioned, and guests can enjoy the sun on a cozy back porch. An elegant breakfast is served in the comfortable common room each morning, and complimentary tea and sherry are served in the

afternoon. Rooms range from \$75 in the dead of winter to \$125-160 for a summer-time weekend. Free parking. No smoking.

Best Western Terrace Inn

1650 Comm. Ave., Brighton T: GREEN B-MT. HOOD
566-6260; fax 731-3543

<http://www.bestwestern.com>

Near Boston College, this motel is located conveniently within the city. Typical if uninspiring rooms. Singles with cable TV \$105-115; doubles \$119-149. Large suites with kitchen, living room, bedroom, and bathrooms \$139-179. AAA members and senior citizens receive a 10% discount. Contact motel for group discounts. A free continental breakfast (coffee, juice, and donuts) is the only food option, but restaurants like Tasca Tapas Restaurant are within easy walking distance. Free parking.

A Cambridge House Bed & Breakfast Inn

2218 Mass. Ave., Cambridge T: DAVIS
491-6300, 800-232-9989

<http://www.acambridgehouse.com>

BBC called this place "Boston's premier bed and breakfast," and *Country Inns Magazine* named it "Boston's finest gem." Complete with period antiques, working fireplaces, and nightly hors d'oeuvres and beverages, this upscale B&B offers a respite from the hassles of modern life. Breakfast is made to order by a guest cook, and never-ending cookies grace the common area. Guest rooms accommodate 1-3 people, and are equipped with A/C and cable TV, and often canopy beds. No smoking, and no children under 7 allowed. Singles \$109-225; doubles \$139-325; 10% discount on weekly stays; tax not included. Free parking.

The Copley Inn

19 Garrison St., Boston T: PRUDENTIAL
236-0300, 800-232-0306; fax 536-0816

From the Prudential Ctr., take Huntington Ave. 1 bl. East and turn right on Garrison St.

This cozy, 19th-century Back Bay brownstone features modest but comfortable rooms with traditional furnishings, cable TV, direct-dial phones with voice mail, and fully equipped luncheonettes. Some have ornamental fireplaces and bay windows. Rustic oil paintings and quilts adorn the hallways, and the air is scented with potpourri. The surprisingly quiet location offsets the lack of parking facilities and elevators. Not wheelchair-accessible. Prices: May-Nov. \$125/night, \$750/week; off-season \$85/night. Parking available nearby at the Colonnade Inn and the Prudential Center Shops.

Holiday Inn Express

250 Monsignor O'Brien Hwy., Cambridge T: LECHMERE
441-9200; fax 354-1313

Located in unscenic East Cambridge, but right over the bridge from Boston, this year-old hotel offers charmless, but pristine and spacious rooms fully equipped with kitchenettes, A/C, and cable TV. Free parking. Rooms are \$129-229 depending on season and availability.

Howard Johnson Hotel, Central (H, M)

777 Memorial Dr., Cambridge T: CENTRAL
492-7777, 800-654-2000; fax 492-6038

The view of the Charles through the spotty windows may be the only reminder that you're not at the HoJo's in Wichita or Juneau. The basic rooms, equipped with TV, fridge, and microwave, are uniformly priced, but rates vary dramatically from season to season; call ahead for prices. Take a dip in the pool or catch some rays on the concrete-enclosed sundeck. Standard rooms can vary \$90-225, double rooms are around \$129 Nov.-Apr. Expect to pay within 2 weeks.

Howard Johnson Hotel, Kenmore

575 Commonwealth Ave., Boston T: KENMORE
267-3100, 800-654-2000

Inside this concrete 1970s architectural relic you'll find standard HoJo's amenities – full bath, TV, ice and vending machines, a small indoor pool – all in mauve-and-beige, mirror-heavy décor (perhaps to distract you from the view of the Green Line outside). A moderately priced Chinese restaurant opens for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Standard prices for all rooms are \$145-210, but some rooms go for as little as \$90, and some shoot upwards of \$200 during major events like the Boston Marathon. Wheelchair-accessible and smoking rooms available, as well as larger executive suites replete with VCR. Free parking in garage.

Mary Prentiss Inn (H)

6 Prentiss St., Cambridge T: HARVARD
661-2929; fax 661-5859

A charming inn, just 5 min. from the Harvard Quad and the Law School, the Mary Prentiss received a Mass. State Preservation Award – and it shows. 20 rooms in a gorgeously renovated 19th-century mansion (on the National Register of Historic Places) are tastefully furnished with tall or cannonball-post beds, flowered cotton comforters, and a choice of down or hypo-allergenic foam pillows. The location is quiet, the bathrooms spotless, and the staff friendly. Guests enjoy breakfast and an afternoon tea on the patio in the summer or by a fire in the dining room in the winter. A/C, telephones, and TVs in every room. No smoking on the premises. Free parking if requested in advance. Rooms (all doubles) range from \$169-229 and vary significantly with the season. Suites come for a bit more. An extra person is \$25/night, \$10/child. Harvard affiliates 10% discount.

Midtown Hotel

220 Huntington Ave., Boston T: PRUDENTIAL
262-1000, 800-343-1177; fax 262-8739

This 50s-style white-brick building offers comfortable, modestly sized rooms in an antiseptic atmosphere. Free parking, cable TV, and outdoor pool. Prices range from \$109 in the winter to \$189 in the summer for a room with 2 double beds or 1 king-sized bed. AAA and AARP members receive a 10% discount.

The Newbury Guest House

261 Newbury St., Boston T: COPLEY or HYNES/ICA
437-7666

Historically minded visitors should enjoy any of the 32 rooms in the B&B. Each room successfully combines the flavor and dark-wood furnishings of Victorian Boston with the amenities of 20th-century life (cable TV, private bath). Right in the heart of ultra-trendy Newbury St., 1 block from the Hynes Convention Center and Copley Place. The rooms are spacious and well appointed (queen-size beds and fold-out loveseats in every one). Chat with your fellow boarders over complimentary continental breakfast in the parlor below the reception area. Singles \$95-130; doubles \$105-140, depending on size. From Dec. 16 to May 1, lower rates apply (singles \$85-115; doubles \$95-125). Generally, make reservations at least 3 weeks in advance. Parking (\$15/day) must be secured in advance.

❖\$151-250

Back Bay Hilton

40 Dalton St., Boston T: HYNES/ICA or #1 BUS
236-1100; fax 867-6104

Exit the T onto Mass. Ave. and turn left. Take the first left onto Boylston St., and turn right onto Dalton St.

A couple of blocks from Newbury St., the Hilton features 385 clean, quiet suites. If your room is on one of the top floors, your view of MIT and the river may make the nightly \$215-300 price more bearable (ask about weekend specials and Harvard discounts). Roll-aways \$20. Kids 18 and under stay free with parents. Have fun

in the lobby with a touch-screen computer guide to Boston. An on-site ticket agency, trolley tour, and travel office will also help guide you around the city.

Beacon Hill Bed and Breakfast

27 Brimmer St., Boston

*T: CHARLES/MGH
523-7376*

From Charles St., turn toward the river on Mt. Vernon; walk 2 bl., and turn right on Brimmer St.; Beacon Hill B&B is across the street from the church.

Situated on an elegant, tree-lined Boston street, Susan Butterworth's B&B has 3 sumptuous rooms in a 6 story Victorian brick row-house built in 1869. Plush red carpets leading up to bedrooms and gorgeous bay windows overlooking the Charles may make you feel like a Kennedy. Each room has a fireplace, private bathroom, double bed, and a fold-out couch. The prices range from \$160 in the off-season to \$235 at the peak. Kids are welcome, but smoking is not.

Boston Harbor Hotel

70 Rowes Wharf, Boston

T: AQUARIUM

439-7000, 800-752-7077; fax 345-6799

This gorgeous waterfront hotel has been recognized by hoteliers as one of the country's finest. The hotel boasts a 60-ft. pool, blue-chip health club (\$10 weekdays, free weekends), water-shuttle service to Logan airport (\$11), a seasonal outdoor café, and charming private ballrooms. Impress your formal date and depress your bank account with dinner at the award-winning Rowes Wharf restaurant. Standard doubles range \$170-285 during Commencement. Harbor views \$55-65 extra.

Boston Marriott Copley

110 Huntington Ave., Boston

T: COPLEY

236-5800; 800-228-9290

1 block from the Hynes Convention Center an connected to the Copley Place mall.

If the sushi bar, shoe-shine stand, gourmet café, health club, free afternoon cookies, and the largest ballroom in New England aren't enough to lure you to the Marriott, the rooms may very well be. Bright chambers with tasteful schemes and great views of Back Bay rooftops, the harbor, or the Charles River offer a bit more character than the average hotel chain. Fully wheelchair-accessible bathrooms and building. Rates fluctuate seasonally, but a "basic" room with 2 doubles or 1 king-sized bed runs \$239-299 in the off-season, while the "concierge level" upgraded rooms at the top of the hotel run \$269-329 and include access to a luxurious lounge with complimentary hors d'oeuvres in the evenings and a continental breakfast. Very limited valet parking (\$25/day).

Cambridge Marriott (M)

2 Cambridge Center, Cambridge

T: KENDALL

494-6600; fax 494-0036

Perhaps the first thing you'll see as you emerge into daylight from the Kendall T station, this 26-story hotel is formed in the competent Marriott mold, complete with a copy of the *J. Willard Marriott Story* next to the *Book of Mormon*. Because of its convenient central location and its proximity to both the T station and the bus stop, this hotel is louder and more hectic than most, and also is popular for business types. Airy rooms attired in forest green and mahogany wood feature a coffeemaker, cable TV with HBO, an iron and ironing board, and a king size or 2 double beds (\$209, no charge for additional people). Indoor pool and jacuzzi, sauna, and health club. The hotel also has 2 restaurants and a fast-food court. Call and inquire about lower promotional rates. Parking available at \$15/24hr.

Colonnade Hotel

120 Huntington Ave., Boston

T: PRUDENTIAL

424-7000 or 800-962-3030; fax 424-1717

Behind its grim and stony façade, the Colonnade offers an extravagant interior. While its open air rooftop pool may not be suitable for Boston winters, sunny rooms with cable TV, a friendly staff, and its optimal location

near Copley Place and Back Bay make this hotel a luxurious haven in the heart of Boston. Offers a fitness club (no age restrictions) and indoor parking for a fee. Singles and doubles (deluxe suites) begin at \$150 and \$375; rates vary seasonally (April-November). Check for the "overnight escape package," including parking and breakfast, starting at \$149.

Copley Square Hotel

*47 Huntington Ave., Boston
At the corner of Exeter.*

*T: COPLEY
536-9000, 800-225-7062
Reservation faxes: 236-0351
Guest faxes: 267-3547*

<http://www.copleysquarehotel.com>

The Copley features clean, moderately sized rooms a short walk from Newbury Street, Copley Place, and the Prudential Center. The friendly staff and intimate scale provide an alternative to the larger hotels nearby. All rooms have coffeemakers, hair-dryers, and modem ports. Fax machines are available on request. Single- or double-occupancy rooms \$225-265, Family Room \$385.

DoubleTree Guest Suites (H)

400 Soldiers Field Rd., Boston

*T: HARVARD
783-0090*

Straddling Boston and Cambridge, this deluxe hotel is very conveniently located, especially thanks to complimentary shuttle service to Boston and the Square. The standard suite has a small living room with dining table, TV, and a couch that pulls out into a double bed; the bedroom proper is equipped with a queen-size bed or 2 twin beds (and another TV), and the hallway that connects the 2 rooms has a coffee maker and a refrigerator stocked with costly goodies. This luxurious set-up is \$209 during the off-season. Decoration may be a bit drab, but the spectacular views of Boston (2 mi. away) and the Charles river (20 ft. away) amply make up for the interior's relative simplicity. Prices range \$120-379, but watch for special rates during the holiday season. Amenities include an indoor pool, jacuzzi, sauna, fitness room, restaurant, and bar.

The Eliot Hotel

*370 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
1 bl. from the T.*

*T: HYNES/ICA
267-1607; 800-44-ELIOT*

Renovated in 1988, the Eliot offers luxurious suites complete with air-conditioning, a living room, an Italian marble bath, a pantry, and a mini-bar. Some rooms even have kitchenettes. If you don't want to cook for yourself, though, look to Clio's, the Eliot's in-house restaurant, which has garnered Best Boston acclaim. Spacious 1-bedroom single suites cost \$225-255; for \$550 they'll open the door into an adjoining bedroom and turn it into a 1 bedroom suite. Since all single suites come with doubles (or queens) and a fold-out couch, you probably won't need the extra room unless you have more than four people. Rates vary seasonally. There are designated non-smoking floors and rooms are wheelchair-accessible.

Harborside Inn

185 State St., Boston

*T: GOV'T CTR.
723-7500; fax 670-2010*

Located in a renovated mercantile warehouse a block from Faneuil Hall, the Harborside offers simple, comfy, spacious rooms with exposed brick walls, old Victorian furniture, and beautiful hardwood floors. Lovely view of the waterfront and 8-story skylit atrium. Each room includes a queen-size bed, beautiful cherry furniture, phone with free local calls, A/C, cable, a brand-new exercise room, and continental breakfast. Singles \$155-195; doubles \$170-210; suites \$175-275.

Harvard Square Hotel (H)

110 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge

*T: HARVARD
864-5200, 800-458-5886; fax 864-2409*

These recently renovated rooms are practical, clean, and centrally located. Though small, some rooms feature beautiful picture windows overlooking the Square. Cable TV, hair-dryer, iron and ironing board are standard in

every room. Singles and doubles \$149-275, \$10 per additional adult. Generally, book 2 weeks in advance. No room service, but the C'est Bon Café in the same building offers patrons of the Hotel the option to bill purchases to their room. Guests can use the nearby YMCA facilities for free. Parking available (\$18/night). 4 wheelchair-accessible rooms; 24hr. reception. Safety deposit box available and a PC with free Internet in the lobby. Discounts available for AAA, AARP, Harvard affiliates on official business, and corporate-types.

Holiday Inn Boston

*1200 Beacon St., Boston T: GREEN C-ST. PAUL
At the corner of St. Paul and Beacon St. 277-1200*

The Holiday Inn Boston, marked against Brookline's old brownstone by red piping and a greenhouse out front, is a very convenient and relatively affordable place. Each room has A/C, cable TV, pay-per-view films and Nintendo, as well as hair-dryers, irons and ironing boards, and a coffeemaker. Hotel amenities include a brand-new fitness center with Nautilus and Cardio equipment. One queen, one king, or two doubles \$189; suites (a king and a pullout sofa) \$239, plus \$10 each additional person.

Holiday Inn Select

*5 Blossom St., Boston T: CHARLES or GOV'T CTR.
742-7630, 800-HOLIDAY; fax 742-4192*

The white exterior and green Holiday Inn sign, clearly visible from the CHARLES/MGH platform, guide the weary traveler to pleasant rooms over which friendly staff preside. Each room is equipped with a coffee maker, TV, hair-dryer, iron, ironing board, phone, and fax machine. There's a health club on the 2nd floor. Executive suites and wheelchair-accessible rooms with larger bathrooms are available. Room prices average \$229 for a single, \$249 for a double room, but rates vary seasonally.

Hyatt Regency Cambridge

*575 Memorial Dr., Cambridge T: KENDALL/
BU-GREEN B LINE
492-1234; fax 491-6906*

It's a bit of a trek – a 15-20 min. walk along the Charles, or a 15 min. walk from BU – but the beautiful Hyatt does not disappoint. The Hyatt's luxurious interior soothes its patrons with airy brightness and a jungle of potted plants. Terracotta; green; and gold-touched rooms are fully appointed, though the river view will cost \$25 more. Seasonal rates and weekend packages available. Call for exact rates, as they vary by day of the week and time of year. Weekend specials start at \$199. The cheery staff will direct you to the indoor pool, health club, complimentary city shuttle, or most especially to the revolving Spinnaker restaurant, offering costly meals and a building-top view of Boston that make the prices go down easier. Room reservations can be made up to a year in advance. Parking costs \$15/night.

Inn at Harvard (H)

*1201 Mass. Ave., Cambridge T: HARVARD
491-2222, 800-222-8733; fax 491-6520*

Decorated with art from Harvard's museums, the skylit dining atrium/lobby makes the interior of the Inn seem deceptively spacious. Somewhat small but bright and aesthetically neutral rooms encircle the Inn's apricot-hued inner sanctum. The Inn's 113 rooms (with either queens or doubles) vary in price, depending on the time of year. Harvard students and affiliates get a year-round discount which varies in amount. The Inn's relationship with the University allows its guests to use the otherwise off-limits Faculty Club. Underneath the Inn, both guests and the public can park for \$20/night. Smoke-free floors are available. Try to get a room on the Harvard St. side, which is slightly less noisy than the Mass. Ave. side. The Inn will give out passes to a nearby YMCA facility.

The Omni Parker House Hotel

*60 School St., Boston T: PARK ST.
Reservations: 800-THE-OMNI
227-8600, concierge 2142*

From the T, walk 2 bl. down Tremont (toward the gold-domed State House). It's on the left.

Built in 1855, the Parker House is the longest continuously operating hotel in the U.S. The walls are crimson, the views, food, rooms, memories are historic, and the restaurant gave birth to the *Atlantic Monthly*, Boston Crème Pie, and the term "scord." A large, dark-wood lobby is more elegant than comfy; the newly-restored building is attractive and stately. Multi-million dollar renovations wrapped up in '98: the rooms are now sprinkler-equipped, key-carded and a bit boring. Carpet hides the marble on which tread JFK, Malcolm X, and Sarah Bernhardt. Trolley tickets, car and limousine rentals, faxes, and copies are available at the concierge's desk; gym access \$9 (across the street). Gift shop, hair salon, and quick eats shop also available. Make reservations 2 months in advance. Different packages available with rates depending on size of room and bed (\$159, with breakfast).

Radisson Hotel

200 Stuart St., Boston

*T: ARLINGTON
482-1800; fax 451-2750*

The Radisson offers 350 clean, attractive rooms in an unassuming highrise at the heart of Boston's Theater District. Amenities include a small indoor pool, sauna, and sundeck with a glorious view of the city. Original performances are held downstairs in the newly-opened 57 Theater. Valet parking \$15/night. Rates run from \$160 in the off-season to \$205 between April and September. King-size beds available for slightly more.

Sheraton Boston

39 Dalton St., Boston

*T: PRUDENTIAL
236-2000; fax 236-1702*

This leading convention hotel boast a hot tub, a health club, a restaurant, several lounges a cigar bar, and an indoor pool with a retractable dome. Rooming capacity will be cut to 700 and lower throughout the year as the hotel undergoes extensive renovation. The Sheraton caters to the business traveler, featuring discounted corporate rates that vary by season. Several meeting rooms, retail shops selling Harvard paraphernalia, and quick access to the Prudential shops and the Hynes Convention Center are among the hotel's many conveniences. Rooms include a personal computer jack. Deluxe tower rooms provide library privileges, full bar, and private butler service.

Sheraton Commander (H)

16 Garden St., Cambridge

*T: HARVARD
547-4800; fax 234-1302*

The Sheraton's neon roof-top sign can be spotted from almost anywhere in the Square. This recently renovated hotel has an unassuming elegance as well as a location convenient to the Quad. Rooms are equipped with irons, hair-dryers, and phone lines that allow modem access from your room. Rooms with a fax are available upon request. The Sheraton features a newsstand, free valet parking, a restaurant, and a café. Prices vary seasonally. The hotel restaurant, 16 Garden Street, features a Sunday brunch buffet from 10:30am to 2pm for \$18.

The Tremont

275 Tremont St., Boston

*T: BOYLSTON (GREEN) or
NE MEDICAL CTR. (ORANGE)
426-1400; fax 338-1893*

Across the street from the Wang Center in the heart of the theater district, the Tremont makes it easy to find entertainment. Don't worry too much about noise: 3 floors of hotel offices act as a buffer between your bed and the Roxy's sound system. The bathrooms are enormous, courtesy of recent remodeling. The rooms themselves feel a bit cramped. Of course, you can alleviate that problem by renting a suite. A tip from the concierge: rooms with the last 2 digits between 28 and 40 have better views of the city. Rates vary seasonally, generally ranging \$129-350 or higher. Some rooms are wheelchair-accessible.

Westin Hotel

10 Huntington Ave., Boston

T: COPLEY

262-9600; 800-937-8461

The Westin offers everything expected from a hotel in this price range; don't expect much more. Fortunately, the Westin's attractive location amply compensates for its lack of character. Attached to the Copley Place shopping mall, the Westin offers easy access to enough stores to appease even the most demanding shopaholic. Rooms facing west offer spectacular views of Boston's Back Bay and Cambridge. It is advisable to book rooms up to one month in advance. Load on the calories at one of 3 in-house restaurants (Turner Fisheries, a steakhouse, and a bar & grill), then burn them off at the free health club. Rooms are \$199-259, depending on size and view.

❖ \$251+

Boston Park Plaza Hotel

64 Arlington St., Boston

T: ARLINGTON

426-200, 800-225-2008; fax 423-1708

Rooms range from small but tasteful singles to 2-bathroom family doubles, some with appealing park views. Services include a pharmacy, several restaurants, currency exchange, valet parking (\$23), and airport transportation (\$7.50/person). Main hotel: singles \$269-320; doubles \$289-400; suites \$289-740. These prices fall slightly in autumn.

The Charles Hotel (H)

1 Bennett St., Cambridge

T: HARVARD

Tel. 864-1200; Fax 864-5715

Easily the most luxurious hotel in Harvard Square. The standard rate is \$329 for singles or doubles, but rates go as low as \$200 in low season, and jump to \$439 in the hot seasons like the recruiting craze in Feb. Prices for suites are \$739-4000. Valet parking available for \$18/24hrs.

Copley Plaza Hotel

138 James Ave., Boston

T: COPLEY

267-5300 or 800-527-4727; fax 375-9648

Prices fluctuate, but in off-season, expect to pay \$299 for a standard room or \$379 for a deluxe park-view room. Suites start at \$650. Add \$40 to any of the above rates for a double. Overnight parking \$28.

Lenox Hotel and Motor Inn

710 Boylston St., Boston

T: COPLEY

536-5300 or 800-225-7676

Rooms start at \$308, suites are \$408-508. Parking \$26/night with valet service. \$22/night without.

Marriott Long Wharf

296 State St., Boston

T: AQUARIUM

227-0800; fax 227-0867

Singles and doubles hover around \$275-305/night (add tax, varying by season); weekend rates are sometimes available at \$170. The Aquarium T stop is connected to the hotel.

Le Meridien (Hotel Meridien)

250 Franklin St., Boston

T: D'TOWN CROSSING

451-1900 or 800-543-4300;

fax 423-2844

Regular rates for singles begin around \$310 in the off-season; doubles at \$350, and suites at \$500. Prices fluctuate (rise) greatly by season. Parking adjacent to hotel runs \$29/day weekdays, \$9 on the weekend; valet for \$30 and \$14 respectively.

The Regal Bostonian Hotel

North and Blackston St., Boston *T: GOV'T CTR.*
523-3600 or 800-222-8888;
fax 222-2454

Off-season singles and doubles begin around \$370, Some rooms have views of Faneuil Hall (at a premium). Suites are also available, but will cost \$550+. AAA discounts available. Complimentary limo service to Logan Airport available on a first-come-first-served basis.

The Ritz-Carlton

15 Arlington St., Boston *T: ARLINGTON*
536-5700 or 800-241-3333; fax 536-1335

Rooms with views of Back Bay or the hotel interior run \$280 for a single, \$320 for a double.

Swissôtel

Ave. De Lafayette, Boston *T: D'TOWN CROSSING*
451-2600; fax 451-0054

Rooms are divided up into the "Superior" (standard, \$155-290 depending on season), the "Swiss Butler" (\$196-335), and "Executive Level" (\$209-375), which features free hors d'ouvres from 7-10pm in a stately lounge. Jan.-Feb. is low season.