



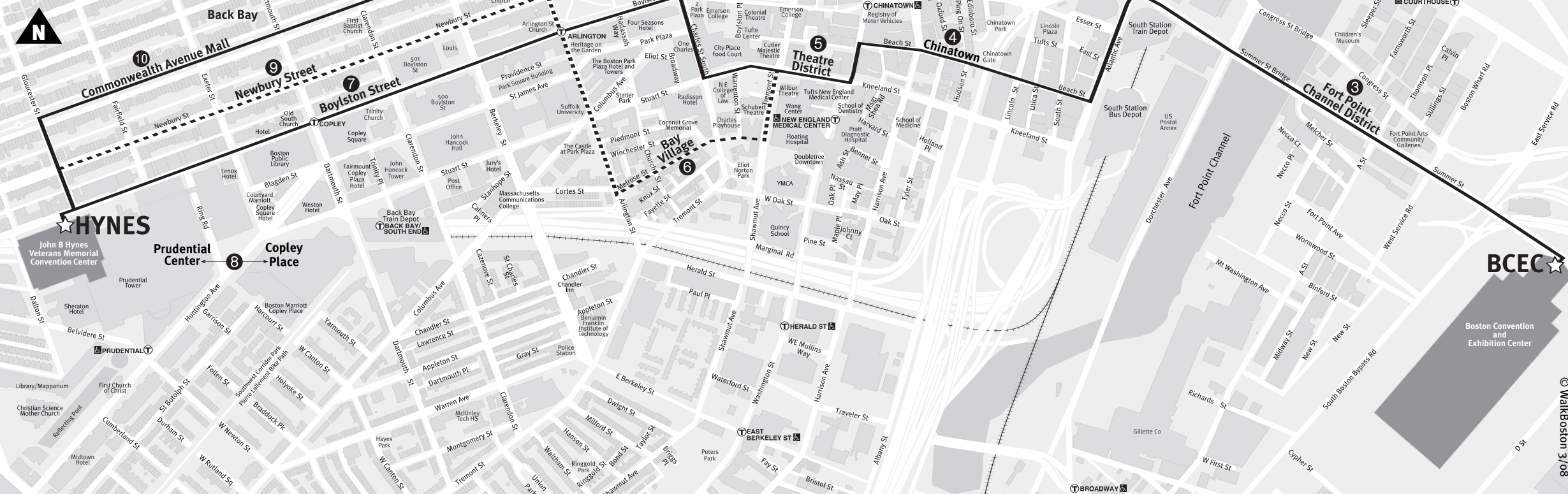
WalkBoston

Explorations with ease

Boston is not only a historic city but also a very walkable one. Many sites that were significant in the development of Massachusetts and the nation, along with well-known neighborhoods and modern landmarks, lie between Boston's main convention centers — Boston Common, Beacon Hill, the Public Garden, the State House, Chinatown, Back Bay, Copley Square, Filene's Basement [the original], Hancock and Prudential Towers, Newbury Street shopping, residential lofts in Bay Village and the Fort Point Channel District.

The Boston Convention & Exhibition Center [BCEC] and the Hynes Convention Center [Hynes] are close to the City's best sights. With only a few minutes' walk you'll experience the character of Boston.

.5 mile / 10 min.



Choose your route

Walking and transit make exploring the City easy.

The Boston Convention & Exhibition Center [BCEC] and Hynes Convention Center [Hynes] are close to everything. Walk and see as much as you want — the full route is approx. 2.8 mi./70 min. If time is limited or you tire, the T's transit stations are always nearby.

Convention Center T stations:

- Hynes – Hynes Station @ Boylston St./Mass. Ave.
- BCEC – World Trade Center Station

A Hynes to BCEC via Boston Common

Exit Hynes/Boylston St. doors, turn R onto Boylston St., then L on Gloucester St. and R on Commonwealth Ave. Follow the landscaped mall 6 blocks. Cross Arlington St. into the Public Garden. Take the path around the statue of Washington on his horse, over the suspension bridge and cross Charles St. into Boston Common. Head straight toward the tall Park Street Church steeple. Cross Tremont St. to Winter St., [Winter St. changes to Summer St. at Washington St.], and begin to follow Summer St. 12 blocks to BCEC.

B Hynes to BCEC via Theatre District .

Exit Hynes/Boylston St. doors, turn R onto Boylston St., go 8 blocks, Turn R on Charles St. , L on Stuart St. through the Theatre District. Turn L on Washington St. and R on Beach St. through Chinatown. Turn L at end onto Atlantic Ave. Turn R on Summer St., follow it 6 blocks to BCEC.

C BCEC to Hynes via Boston Common

Exit BCEC/Summer St. doors, turn L and follow Summer St., [Summer St. changes to Winter St. at Washington St.]. Cross Tremont St. into the Common, follow diagonal path past the R side of the fountain to Charles St. Cross into the Public Garden, over the suspension bridge to Arlington St. Cross to Commonwealth Ave. and walk down the center of the boulevard in the landscaped mall. Turn L at Gloucester St. and walk 2 blocks to reach the Hynes.

D BCEC to Hynes via Theatre District

Exit BCEC/Summer St. doors, turn L and follow Summer St. to South Station at Atlantic Ave. Turn L, then R on Beach St. through Chinatown. Turn L on Washington St. and R on Stuart St. through the Theatre District. Turn R on Charles St. and L on Boylston St. and follow it 8 blocks to the Hynes.

What to look for

1 **Boston Common [1630]** – A part of Boston since its founding as the grazing ground for cows and sheep, the Common remains the city's most important open space. It buffers Beacon Hill and Back Bay from the bustle of Downtown shopping and financial areas.

- Frog Pond – wading in summer, skating in winter
- Park Street Station – the nation's first subway [1893]
- Park Street church [1809]
- Massachusetts State House [1797] by architect Charles Bulfinch – gold dome overlooking the Common.
- Beacon Hill mansions facing the Common

2 **Downtown Crossing** – The retail center of Boston is the intersection of Summer and Washington Sts. Four subway lines converge here and shoppers, workers and tourists crowd the sidewalks and streets.

- Pedestrian shopping zone – stores & carts
- Filene's building [1912] by architect Daniel Burnham
- Filene's Basement – the original/best [under constr.]
- Mercantile buildings – 19th and 20th century
- Mansard roofs – built after the Great Fire of 1872

3 **Fort Point Channel District** – Long an industrial center for wool importing and exporting, this district is now better known for its museums, offices, and residential loft buildings in an attractive location just minutes from the center of Downtown.

- Wool import-export buildings [over 80] – late 19th century, now artists' studios
- Fort Point Arts Community Galleries – 300 Summer St.
- Summer St. Bridge [1899] – rare retractile drawback bridge on rails
- Boston Tea Party site [1773] – north side of Channel

4 **Chinatown** – The largest Chinese settlement in New England has bustling streets, exotic grocery stores and countless restaurants featuring Chinese, Cambodian, Laotian, Vietnamese, Thai, and Malaysian cuisine.

- Chinatown Gate [1982] guarded by 4 marble Fu dogs
- Restaurants – Asian specialties
- Beach Street – Chinatown's principal thoroughfare
- Big Dig Chinatown Park – above Central Artery tunnels

5 **Theatre District** – A 100-year-old concentration of theatres along Tremont and Washington Streets remains the focus of city entertainment for plays, musical events, performances and high drama.

- Majestic, Wang, Shubert & Wilbur Theatres – Tremont St.
- Charles Playhouse – off Stuart St.
- Opera House, Paramount & Modern Theatres – 3 blocks up Washington St. past turn on Beach St.
- 12 ft. bronze bear – Floating Hospital for Children in Tufts New England Medical Center
- City Place food court – Mass. Transportation Bldg.

6 **Bay Village** – Tiny townhouses, replicas of Beacon Hill grandeur, line the streets of this small neighborhood that has a history of speakeasies, film production and openness to all ethnic groups.

- The Castle Armory of the First Corps of Cadets [1863] – Medieval Romanesque building with towers, turrets, moats and crenellations, Columbus Ave. & Arlington St.
- Coconut Grove Memorial [1942] – most fatalities [492] by fire in Boston's history, 17 Piedmont St.

7 **Boylston Street/Copley Square** – As the principal business street in the Back Bay, Boylston St. connects some of the city's largest buildings and shopping areas to Downtown. Along the route are public spaces – Boston Common, the Public Garden, and Copley Square, with its fountain, farmers' market and Tortoise & Hare sculptures at the end of Boston Marathon route.

- Copley Square – business focus of the Back Bay
- Trinity Church [1877] – by architect H.H. Richardson
- Boston Public Library [1895] – Charles McKim
- New Old South Church [1875] – Cummings & Spears
- John Hancock Tower [1975] – I.M. Pei

8 **Prudential Center/Copley Place** – These upscale malls are connected by a 4-block indoor path. They contain an impressive selection of shops & restaurants.

- Prudential Tower [1964] & Skywalk – 360° city views
- Prudential Center shopping & apartments
- Copley Place shopping & offices
- Southwest Corridor Park [1989] over Orange Line [1987]

9 **Newbury Street** – Known for its upscale shopping and dining, this is one of the city's best streets for walking and people-watching. It has a distinctive feeling because of the relatively low buildings, high-toned retail stores and fashionable people.

- Taj Hotel/formerly Ritz-Carlton [1927] – grand dame of Boston with Public Garden views
- Largest concentration of art galleries in Boston
- Outdoor cafes – superb people-watching venues
- Emmanuel Church [1860] – poetry and music programs

- Louis – once the Museum of Natural History

10 **Commonwealth Avenue** – This central boulevard of the Back Bay is lined with tall brownstone and granite Victorian townhouses, each with a tiny front garden. The wide mall down the center is studded with sculpture.

- Alexander Hamilton statue [1865] – at Arlington St.
- First Baptist Church [1871] – by H.H. Richardson, at Clarendon St.
- Vendome Firefighters Memorial – Dartmouth St.
- Statue of Samuel Eliot Morison [1982] – sailor & maritime historian, at Exeter St.
- Boston Women's Memorial [2003] – first lady Abigail Adams, journalist Lucy Stone, and African writer Phyllis Wheatley, at Fairfield St.

11 **Boston Public Garden [1837]** – The filling of the Back Bay began with the construction of the Garden, which became a fashionable focus that encouraged development of blue-chip residences nearby and along streets leading westward.

- Mini suspension bridge over the Lagoon
- Ducklings' fictional island home
- Swan boats in the Lagoon
- Make Way for Ducklings statue – NE corner of Garden
- Changing seasonal flower displays

12 **Beacon Hill** – Fabled aristocratic location of Boston's wealth and "good breeding," the Hill is the first historic district in the city. It is the heart of state government and still a prestigious residential area.

- Beacon Street mansions – look for old lavender glass
- Chestnut Street townhouses
- Acorn Street servants' houses
- Louisburg Square – the finest location
- Charles Street – the charming, small-store shopping and food center of the Hill.



Old City Hall | 45 School Street | Boston MA 02108 | T: 617.367.9255
F: 617.367.9285 | info@walkboston.org | www.walkboston.org