

CITY CENTRAL BOSTON

Revolutionary sights and big-city island hopping under blue skies

GO NOW

Boston bursts into life in summer, when urban explorations can be paired with whale-watching and island excursions – all basking under brilliant blue skies. Virgin Atlantic (virginatlantic.com), British Airways (ba.com) and Norwegian (norwegian.com) all offer non-stop flights, as does Primera Air (primeraair.co.uk), which launched low-cost services from Stansted last month.

STAY HERE

Addresses don't come grander than **Fairmont Copley Plaza (1)** (telegraph.co.uk/tt-copleyplaza), whose historic façade fills the southern side of the square (doubles from \$434/£326, room only). A little further out is **Hotel Commonwealth (2)** (telegraph.co.uk/tt-hotelcommonwealth); doubles from \$399, room-only), whose décor playfully reflects its proximity to **Fenway Field (3)**, the home of Boston's famous Red Sox baseball team.

WALK HERE

The Freedom Trail (thefreedomtrail.org) is a two-and-a-half mile (4km) self-guided walk linking

16 sites from Boston's revolutionary past. Pick up a map from the Boston Common information centre and follow it via the gold-domed **State House (4)** and elegant churches and buildings, including the **Old State House (5)** – scene of the 1770 Boston Massacre.

SEE THIS

Stroll around **Beacon Hill (6)**, Boston's most picturesque neighbourhood, to admire its red-brick, bow-fronted terraces and charming, leafy squares. Midweek visits are best to avoid the crowds Instagramming themselves on Acorn Street, the city's most photographed strip.

TRY THIS

Beacon Hill aside, central Boston is largely flat, so sightseeing by bicycle is a breeze. A three-hour tour with Urban Adventours (urbanadventours.com) takes in all the key highlights for \$55.

SHOP HERE

Newbury Street and parallel **Boylston Street (7)** offer high-end fashion and quality, high-street brands. Try Beacon Hill's **Charles Street (8)** for boutiques, or

hit the South End's **SoWa Open Market (9)** on Sundays for gourmet food and artisanal designs.

DRINK HERE

Fold-back windows allow **Bistro du Midi's bar (10)** to spill on to the street (bistrodumidi.com). Order a Midi Crush, a summery blend of prosecco, Aperol and orange (\$13).

EAT HERE

Boston Chops (bostonchops.com), opens a new branch this month at **52 Temple Place (11)**. Housed in a former bank, it's a funky and fashionable take on American steak and seafood. Expect to pay around \$90 with wine.

OFF THE MAP

Swap city streets for adventures afloat with Boston Harbor Cruises (bostonharborcruises.com). Ferries (\$20 return) connect Long Wharf with three of the Boston Harbor Islands – green oases within 40 minutes of the city. Or set sail for Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary to see the whales that spend the summer here (\$55).

James Litston

2019 RIVER CRUISES

DID YOU KNOW?

The Boston Tea Party of 1773 - a protest against the British Tea Act - helped to spark the American Revolution and the eventual Declaration of Independence in 1776.

Established in 1634, Boston Common is officially America's oldest public park.

BOSTON

Charles River



200m