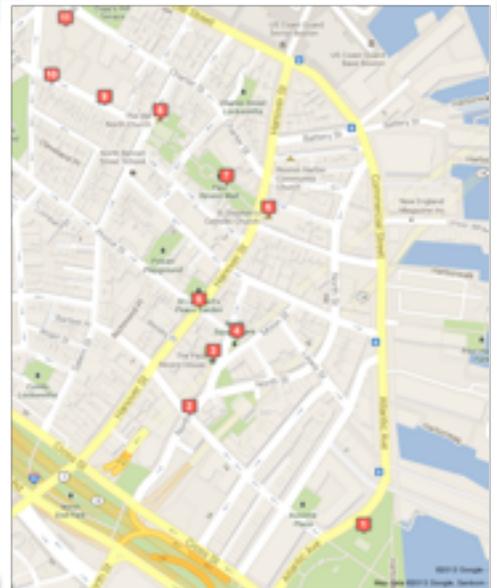


Boston's North End



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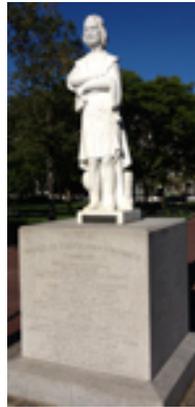
WELCOME TO BOSTON'S NORTH END!

Established in the 17th century, the North End is the oldest residential community in Boston. Members of the historic community established the Second Church of Boston and named their building the North Meeting House. Their minister, Increase Mather, was a prominent community leader who attempted to defuse the fear and hostility ignited during the Salem Witch Trials. When a fire destroyed the church and Mather's residence in 1676, the church rebuilt their meetinghouse. The former parsonage site was vacant until Paul Revere's future house was constructed. By the 18th century, the area was home to many of Boston's wealthy elite. The Ebenezer Clough House and the Pierce-Hichborn House are two preserved examples of period architecture. The Old North Church, formally known as Christ Church, was also built during this time. The edifice is the oldest existing house of worship in Boston. The North End was the site of several patriotic demonstrations prior to the Revolution as well as the Great Molasses Flood in 1919, when a 2.3 million gallon storage tank ruptured and spewed its contents down Commercial Street.

As affluent families moved to other areas of the city, the North End experienced hard times. It became home first to Irish and then Italian immigrants who remained in the area and established a flourishing community. Also known as Little Italy, the North End hosts numerous festivals dedicated to Italian-American culture. Points of interest in the neighborhood include Copp's Hill, Paul Revere Mall, also known as the Prado, and Christopher Columbus Waterfront Park. Experiencing a renaissance, the area is home to Bumpkin Island, Langone Park, and the Sports Museum of New England as well as the North End Music and Performing Arts Center. - CityWalkingGuide

1. Christopher Columbus Waterfront Park

Situated between the Rose Kennedy Greenway and Boston Harbor, the Christopher Columbus Waterfront Park was created in 1974. The centerpiece of this 4.5-acre urban green space is a life-size, white



marble statue of Columbus. Designed by Andrew Mazzola, the sculpture was fabricated by the Norwood Monumental Works. The six-foot-tall statue is mounted on a six-foot-tall granite base with a plaque that states that the

sculptor used Carrara marble, which is the same material that Michelangelo used for his renowned works "Moses" and "David." Dedicated in 1979, the memorial depicts the Spanish explorer wearing period clothing and holding a manuscript. Behind Columbus are ropes and pilings that represent his seafaring legacy.

The recreation area has benches, walking paths, free Wi-Fi and expansive lawns where visitors picnic and enjoy wonderful views of the harbor. Children can explore the sprinklers and playground equipment. The park hosts parades, art exhibits, concerts, summer movie nights and weddings near the romantic wisteria-covered trellises. Columbus Park also has a rose garden that honors Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy, the mother of President Kennedy, who was born on a nearby street. Surrounded by a wrought iron fence, the rose garden and its granite fountain were dedicated in 1987.

2. North Street

North Street begins at City Hall and runs past Faneuil Hall, Dock Square, the Rose Kennedy Greenway and North Square. Encompassing 0.6 miles, the street was created in 1852 when several connected roads were renamed. They were Ann, Conduit, Fish, Ship and the aptly named Drawbridge Streets. Located near the docks, its infamous taverns and brothels were a haven for off-duty sailors and longshoremen as well as disreputable police officers. Prior to the renaming, the North End neighborhood was also known as the "Black Sea." The establishments were the focus of numerous law enforcement raids. Local residents demanded that civic leaders take action to improve the neighborhood. These establishments eventually closed or relocated to other areas of the city. North Street along with a large portion of the North End is undergoing a renaissance and gentrification as upscale eateries, hotels and boutiques discover the neighborhood.

3. Paul Revere House

Situated at 19 North Square in Boston's historic North End, the Paul Revere House is a national monument and a stop on the Freedom Trail. Open



to the public as a museum since 1908, the edifice is Boston's oldest existing residence. The building occupies the site of a former parsonage where

Increase Mather lived when he served as the rector of the Old North Meeting House. This home was razed during the Great Fire of 1676. Robert

Howard, a wealthy businessman, constructed the Elizabethan Tudor style, three-story house on the site four years later. Many of the architectural features were designed to keep the home warm during severe New England winters, including the low ceilings, small casement windows, mud-coated walls and the large fireplaces. Other highlights include the high-pitched roof, the overhanging second floor, overhead beams and stout framing posts. Unlike other homes during that period, the kitchen was located in a two-story extension instead of an outbuilding.

Paul Revere and his 14 children lived in the house from 1770 to 1800, but they may have also resided other places during this period because of the Revolutionary War. Due to the size of their family and residence, the Revere household never quartered British soldiers. The home underwent two major renovations during the 18th century. During these remodels, the large chimney was added and the roofline was raised so that the home would evoke the appearance of Georgian style architecture, which was popular at the time. A lean-to structure that sloped from the second story was added to the rear corner of the building. After Revere sold the property, it was converted into a boardinghouse with shops on the ground floor that housed a variety of businesses.

When the home was threatened with demolition due to its poor condition, John Reynolds, Jr., Revere's great-grandson, purchased the property in 1902. The Paul Revere Memorial Association raised the funds to restore the property to its late 17th century appearance. This included removing the lean-to and re-configuring the roof. Approximately 90 percent of the

interior, including the foundation, portions of the floor, doors and window frames are original. Several rooms have been decorated with Revere family furniture and heirlooms. In recognition of his work as a silversmith, numerous pieces of Revere's work adorn the interior and the exterior courtyard. Designated a National Historic Landmark in 1961, the museum charges a small entrance fee.

4. North Square

The junction of North and four other streets in Boston's North End was originally known as Clark's Square. The site was the center of community life when the Old North Meeting House was constructed in 1649. The parsonage and the meetinghouse were adjacent to the square. When the



home burned down in the Great Fire of 1676, it was eventually replaced by the residential structure that would become Paul Revere's home. The residence is a stop on the Freedom Trail. On July 4, 1788, the intersection was renamed North Square. During this late 18th century period, North Square became the backdrop for two of Boston's finest homes when wealthy merchants William Clark and John Foster built their lavish, 3-story homes.

Philanthropist Clementine Poto Langone grew up in a home on the square. She played an active role in helping new Italian immigrants to assimilate into society. Another notable resident was the poet Sarah Josepha Hale who created the Seaman's Aid Society and championed the creation of Thanksgiving Day. In addition to

writing the poem "Mary Had a Little Lamb," she was instrumental in raising the funds required to complete the Bunker Hill Monument, which had remained unfinished for more than a decade.

5. Hanover Street

Hanover Street traces its origin to a Native American footpath that once led to the harbor. The roadway is now one of the primary thoroughfares through Boston's historic North End. The street stretches from Government Center northward through a portion of the Rose Kennedy Greenway and culminates at the docks of the U.S. Coast Guard station. Known as Orange Tree Lane until 1708, the roadway was renamed in honor of the House of Hanover. The family became successors to the British throne through the 1701 Act of Settlement. Preacher and community leader Cotton Mather lived on the street from 1688 until 1718. The street was extended when segments of North and Middle Streets were included in 1824. The southern end of Hanover Street was shortened and numerous buildings were demolished in the 1960s when during the Government Center construction project.

The heart of Little Italy, Hanover Street is lined with Italian restaurants, pastry shops, gelato stands, restaurants and cafes as well as businesses and churches. The street provides a stunning backdrop for Catholic feasts and festivals throughout the year. North End Parks of the Kennedy Greenway, at the intersection of Hanover and Cross Streets, serve as a gateway to the North End. The green space connects the area to downtown and the government center complex. Famous landmarks along Hanover Street include St. Stephen's Church,

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