

Downtown & Waterfront

FANEUIL HALL | QUINCY MARKET | DOWNTOWN CROSSING | FINANCIAL DISTRICT | WATERFRONT

Neighborhood Top Five

- 1 Frolicking in the Ring Fountain, riding the carousel and walking the labyrinth in the **Rose Kennedy Greenway** (p84).
- 2 Taking a **whale-watching boat** (p91) out to Stellwagen Bank to spy on whales, dolphins and other sea life.
- 3 Remembering the first violent confrontation of the American Revolution at the **site of the Boston Massacre** (p82).
- 4 Seeing eye-to-eye with multicolored fish, toothy sharks and massive sea turtles at the **New England Aquarium** (p81).
- 5 Eating, drinking, shopping and general merry-making at **Faneuil Hall** and **Quincy Market** (p83), Boston's oldest marketplace.



For more detail of this area see Map p236 ➔

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

If you are following the red-brick road, consider purchasing the Freedom Trail Ticket (adult/child \$13/2), which includes admission to the Old State House, the Old South Meeting House and the Paul Revere House.



Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Koy (p86)
- ➔ Casa Razdora (p86)
- ➔ Pedro's Tacos (p86)
- ➔ jm Curley (p87)
- ➔ Marliave (p87)

For reviews, see p86 ➔



Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Highball Lounge (p88)
- ➔ Silvertone (p88)
- ➔ Thinking Cup (p88)
- ➔ Caffe Nero (p88)

For reviews, see p88 ➔



Best Historic Buildings

- ➔ Old State House (p82)
- ➔ Faneuil Hall (p83)
- ➔ Custom House (p86)

For reviews, see p83 ➔

Explore Downtown & Waterfront

Almost every visitor will traipse through this neighborhood while following the Freedom Trail to Faneuil Hall and Quincy Market. Indeed, the marketplace is one of the most visited tourist sites in the country. Even though it's basically a shopping mall (but a *historic* shopping mall!), it's a fun stop to admire the public art, cheer on the street performers and soak up the festive atmosphere.

The marketplace is a stark contrast to the neighborhood's interior streets around Downtown Crossing and the Financial District. This is the Boston of the work-a-day world – a bustling place, but after hours the streets are eerily empty.

Along the waterfront, the dismantling of the Central Artery has meant that the call of seagulls and the lapping of waves no longer compete with the roar of cars. Instead, pedestrians can stroll across the Rose Kennedy Greenway parks to the harbor, enjoying the greenery and admiring the Rings Fountain along the way. The focal point of the waterfront is the excellent New England Aquarium. From Long Wharf, you can catch the ferry out to the Boston Harbor Islands. Harbor cruises and trolley tours also depart from these docks, while seafood restaurants and outdoor cafés line the shore.

It's tourist central, and with good reason. With the sun sparkling off the water and the boats bobbing at their moorings, it's hard to resist this city by the sea.

Local Life

➔ **Block Party** On Thursday evenings in summer, the Greenway hosts a block party on **Dewey Sq** (Map p236; www.rosekennedygreenway.org; Atlantic Ave & Summer St; T South Station), where local workers gather for drinks and music.

➔ **Happy Hour** Mr Dooley's Boston Tavern (p88) is the rare downtown bar that feels like a neighborhood bar.

Getting There & Away

➔ **Metro** To reach Faneuil Hall and Quincy Market, take the green, orange or blue line to Haymarket, Government Center or State. The blue-line Aquarium stop offers access to the waterfront, as does State (orange or blue). Downtown Crossing sits at the junction of the red and orange lines. Just west of here, Park St station is on the red and green lines.

➔ **Boat** City Water Taxi stops at Long Wharf on the waterfront, while the MBTA water shuttle runs from Long Wharf to Charlestown Navy Yard.