Music is all around us!
The 10th Annual Make Music Harvard Square / Fete de la Musique will hit the streets of the Square on Saturday, June 17th from 2pm – 10pm! Make Music Harvard Square is inspired by the "Fete de la Musique" a street music festival which was started 35 years ago in Paris. The "Fete de la Musique" is now celebrated, under many names, in more than 700 cities and 120 countries, from London to Beijing to Buenos Aires. On June 17th, the streets of Harvard Square become a free, live music festival featuring more than 70 musicians from across the USA playing on 12 different stages. The event is free and open to public.

From May 26 through May 28, 2017 Harvard Athletic Complex will host the traditional Boston Calling Music Festival for the first time! This is a three-day, multi-stage festival featuring the biggest and best acts in live music, comedy, and visual arts. The event will provide easy access to all performance areas, incredible concessions, indoor theatre and many surprises for the audience. In addition to the traditional music festival, Boston Calling will introduce a film festival portion curated by Academy Award winning actress Natalie Portman. All ages are welcome and children under age of 10 are free. For tickets and more information, click here.

Looking forward to a successful year ahead!

Around Harvard
Summer Suggestions

Tall Ships are coming to Boston!
On June 17, 2017, the Tall Ships will make their return to Boston. Boston is an official port of the Rendez-Vous 2017 Tall Ships Regatta. The trans-Atlantic regatta will start in Royal Greenwich, UK. From there the fleet will race to Sines, Portugal, followed by Bermuda. The fleet will then race to Boston, for Sail Boston 2017®. From Boston, the fleet will cruise in company north to Quebec City, Canada. Sail Boston® will entertain its younger audience with educational programs focusing on US and international maritime history. Cadets and crewmembers will be available to share with children of all ages their personal experiences at sea, home countries, and more.

The ships from all over the world will make their way up Broad Sound and into the main channel of Boston Harbor before proceeding to their berthing areas. Classic schooners, grand clippers, barques and brigs—all evoking the great Age of Sail—will participate the most spectacular Tall Ships procession to take place in Boston since 2000. For more information on how and when to see the ships, click here.

Boston Harbor Islands
The beautiful Harbor Islands – where you can walk a Civil War-era fort, visit historic lighthouses, explore tide pools, hike lush trails, camp under the stars, or relax while fishing, picnicking or swimming—all within reach of downtown Boston. The 34 islands and peninsulas spread over 50 square miles of bays, harbors, and rivers within the greater Boston Harbor basin. Spectacle, Georges, Grape, Bumpkin, Lovells and Peddocks Islands can only be accessed by boat. Passenger Ferries are located at Long Wharf North, Pemberton Point in Hull, and the Hingham Shipyard in Hingham. Click here for a Ferry Schedule. Did you know that you can also camp on some of the islands? The Boston Harbor Islands offer rustic camping within sight of downtown Boston. While you’re camping, you can see the sunrise over the harbor and experience the islands in a whole new light. Rustic camping on Lovells, Grape, and Bumpkin means no flush toilets, showers, fresh water, electricity, telephones, or onsite supplies. So you’ll have to carry it all in, and carry it out.

On Peddocks Island yurts, equipped with furniture and electricity, as well as individual and group campsites are available for reservation. Electricity and running water is available at the visitor center. The camping season generally runs from the end of June to Labor Day weekend.

Visit Massachusetts Historic Houses
This weekend you can visit some of the state’s most historic homes — even those usually not open to the public — for free. For their annual “Home Sweet Home” event, the Trustees of Reservations is hosting an open house day at 10 historic properties throughout the state as a part of National Preservation Month. The properties are: Fruitlands Museum in Harvard, Castle Hill on the Crane Estate in Ipswich, the Eleanor Cabot Bradley Estate in Canton, Stevens-Coolidge Place in North Andover, The Old Manse in Concord, Ashley House in Sheffield, Naumkeag in Stockbridge, The Mission House in Stockbridge, The Folly at Field Farm in Williamstown, and the William Cullen Bryant House in Cummington.

Each house has a unique history, some dating back 300 years. Though many of these homes offer tours regularly, there are some that are open only for special events. You can find more details about the event here.

Boston Custom House
The Marriott Custom House was Boston’s first skyscraper. Located in McKinley Square of Boston’s financial district, the Custom House Tower is a part of Marriott’s Custom House Hotel. Completed in 1849, this 151 meter (496 feet) tall clock tower — with its neoclassical design and claim as 17th-tallest building in the city — has earned its reputation as an iconic part of the Boston Skyline. Less well known though, however, is that the tower hosts a 360° observation deck atop its 26th floor, which is open to both Marriott guests and the public. The deck is accessible at limited hours: Monday through Thursday, right at 14:00 (weather permitting). And while the Custom House’s 26 floors is dwarfed by the Prudential Center’s 50, its $4 entrance fee (a donation to the Children’s Miracle Network) is preferable to the Skywalk’s $17. The Custom House’s angle in the city also offers some views that can’t be seen from the Prudential — like the historic North End. More even, many Boston locals haven’t heard of this exclusive bird’s eye view.

Weekend Ideas

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