

Sidney-Pacific Orientation 2002

First of all, welcome to Sidney-Pacific Graduate Residence! We hope that living here will be a pleasant and rewarding experience for you. This year, Sidney-Pacific will be celebrating two special events: the opening of S-P and new student orientation. S-P residents will be treated to multiple days of fun-filled activities throughout Boston and Cambridge. These activities include a trip to the top of the Prudential Skywalk for a view of the city, a bike ride around the famed Walden Pond, dinners at fabulous local restaurants, and day trips to well-known Boston haunts. In addition, there will be a series of orientation activities within the dorm, including house tours of S-P, hall get-togethers to "meet the neighbors," and a wild scavenger hunt through the sprawling S-P complex. All of these activities will culminate in the Opening Celebration, a two-day party that will include dazzling performances from several MIT cultural groups, fun activities for residents like a rock climbing wall, a huge BBQ at S-P, and a campus-wide party to let you get your groove on. September will be definitely be a month to remember at S-P!

That being said, although your first few weeks here at MIT will definitely be exciting, we realize that it can also be quite overwhelming and confusing at the same time. This guide was developed by the Sidney-Pacific Orientation Committee to help you begin to find your way around the basics of MIT life and to help you adjust to living in the Boston/Cambridge area. Included are a dining guide, a shopping guide, an overview of athletics to be found around MIT, an introduction to entertainment in the area, and a calendar of S-P orientation events and activities. This is meant to augment the other guides (not replace), so please see the SPIN (Sidney-Pacific INformation) guide online, the GSC welcome package, and any academic information you were given by your department for additional information. This isn't meant to be a complete guide, but rather to give you some pointers on how to get yourself fed, buy all the things you need to be comfortable here, exercise, and keep yourself amused.

The information here represents a compilation of several years experience of many different people (much thanks to Manish Jethwa, Grace Kim, and the rest of the Ashdown 2001 and 2002 orientation committee officers for providing much of the information found in this guide). The information provided here is not necessarily complete, and may even be wrong or outdated, though it is correct to the best of our knowledge. We hope that you can use it to help you through the first few days here. Please feel free to contact any of us if you have any questions or suggestions for the guide. Updates are available in the electronic Orientation Guide on the Sidney-Pacific website at <http://s-p.mit.edu>.

The Sidney-Pacific Orientation Committee 2002

Michele Aghassi	sp-orientation-chair@mit.edu
Neville Sanjana	sp-orientation-chair@mit.edu
Anita Villanueva	sp-publicity-chair@mit.edu
Anke Hildebrandt	sp-recycling-chair@mit.edu
Mine Ozkar	sp-plants-chair@mit.edu
Stephanie Dalquist	sp-history-chair@mit.edu
Christina Silcox	sp-secretary@mit.edu
Manish Jethwa	sp-vp-restlife@mit.edu
Ronak Bhatt	sp-vp-resources@mit.edu
Sham Sokka	sp-president@mit.edu

A full list of officers can be found on the Sidney-Pacific website, <http://s-p.mit.edu>. Please feel free to contact the appropriate officer if you have any questions or concerns about anything in this guide.

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House Information

Emergency Phone numbers

Emergency (from within S-P or any on-campus phone)	100
Emergency (from off-campus phone)	911
MIT Medical – 24-Hour Urgent Medical & Mental Health Care	(617) 253-1311
MIT Campus Police	(617) 253-1212

Note: From within S-P and any other phone on campus, to dial another campus phone number, you just dial the last five digits of the number (i.e. for MIT Medical just dial 3-1311). To dial a non-campus phone number, you must first dial "9", a "1" (if it's not within the 617 area code), and then the number (including the area code, even if it's just a local call). Most calls within the 617, 781, 857, and 339 area codes are considered local calls. If you want to make a long-distance call, you will need to use a pre-paid calling card or sign up for a long distance service. For more information, see <http://web.mit.edu/is/tel/students.html>.

Fire Safety

If you smell smoke or suspect a fire, contact Campus Police immediately (dial 100 or x3-1212). If evacuation is necessary, follow the evacuation procedures outlined on the back of your apartment door.

Other Important Phone Numbers

AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts	617-437-6200
Alcoholics Anonymous	617-426-9444
Boston Area Rape Crisis Center	617-492-RAPE
Gay and Lesbian Helpline	617-267-9001
Samaritans Suicide Prevention	617-247-0220
Massachusetts Poison Control Center	800-682-9211

Urgent Maintenance Problems

Dennis Collins (House Manager)	x3-0550
MIT Housing Repair Facilities	x3-1500

Residents with urgent maintenance problems should contact Dennis Collins (sp-housemanager@mit.edu) on weekdays (7:30am – 4pm) or contact MIT Housing Repair Facilities on evenings and weekends. Or, you can just dial F-I-X-I-T (3-4948) on your phone (this is really useful at night when you need an immediate response). For non-urgent repair requests, you can fill out a repair request form online at <http://web.mit.edu/facilities/www/rlslp/>.

Sidney-Pacific Address

The correct mailing address for Sidney-Pacific is:

70 Pacific Street, Apt # (Your apt number)
Cambridge, MA 02139
USA

Please *do not* include MIT in your address since it will delay the delivery of your mail.

MIT ID Cards

Your temporary MIT student ID card will be available at the MIT Card Office (E32-117, x3-3475). After you get your picture taken (during Orientation Week), your permanent ID card will be made and sent out to you in a few weeks (around October). If you lose your card, please notify the card office immediately. MIT ID cards are required for access to Sidney-Pacific and for checking out movies and other building equipment.

Campus Computing - Athena



MIT is a very computer-happy school, so you will need an Athena account. Just go to any Athena cluster, sit at an empty terminal, and click on the "Register for an Account" button. (An Athena cluster is any room where there are a bunch of workstations set up for you to log onto Athena). There is a large Athena cluster in the 5th floor of the Student Center (W20-575). Other Athena clusters around campus can be found at (<building>-<room>): 1-142, 2-032, 2-225, 4-035, 4-167, 7A-100/200, 10-500, 10-600, 11-004, 12-182, 14S-0330, 33-202, 37-312, 37-332, 38-370, 56-129, 66-080, E51-075.

To register for an Athena account, you will need your MIT ID number and your Kerberos/Athena Account Coupon (a piece of paper containing personalized keywords, usually either handed out or mailed to you by your department). Once you have entered all this information, it's straightforward from there. Your account will be activated in about a day, and then you are free to use the computing facilities, including e-mailing old friends and using the Web to check out the sites listed in this guide. For online Athena help see: <http://web.mit.edu/olh/index.html>.

Just so you know, your username cannot be changed once you have applied for an account. So if you were planning on using a "fun" name for a while (i.e. "slacker99") and then changing it when you want to be serious and find a job, rethink the idea. You will be stuck with this username for several years, so decide on something you will want to keep.

Dormitory Ethernet Connections



If you have a computer, you can get an ethernet connection to the Internet from your room in Sidney-Pacific (there are two ethernet jacks per person in each room). Can't tell which jack is for the internet? A good way to check is to plug your phone cable into both jacks; the one without the tone must be it. For detailed instructions, you can check out the MIT RCC or Residential Networking web pages at <http://rcc.mit.edu> or <http://web.mit.edu/rescomp/www/dorm.html>. The first one is for submitting installation or help requests. You will need an Athena account to log in there. The second URL is more of a reference page for getting started.

If you have problems with setting up your computer (or if you have problems installing certain software), you can contact the MIT Computing Help Desk (<http://web.mit.edu/helpdesk>) in Building N42 on weekdays from 8am to 6pm (x3-1101 for Mac, x3-1102 for Windows).

Sidney-Pacific Computing



The Resource Center located on the first floor of S-P in room #158, just off the main lobby across the hall from the large multipurpose room, is a computer cluster open to all residents. The cluster contains 8 Windows PCs, 2 Macs, and 2 Athena workstations, and 3 Athena quickstations. Quickstations only allow 10 minute logins, and are handy for checking email if you don't own your own computer. The name quickstation is not a misnomer; don't spend half an hour composing love poetry as other residents wait.

There are a number of MIT mailing lists to which you can freely add yourself. Login to Athena and type "mailmaint", and then follow the directions. The generic list for Sidney-Pacific announcements is sp-anno@mit.edu. It includes housing information, dorm notices and event announcements. This is good to get onto. A full compendium of S-P mailing lists is available on the house website at <http://s-p.mit.edu>.

Recycling



At Sidney-Pacific, we deal with 3 groups of recyclables:

- (1) COMMINGLES (glass, plastic (1-7), metal)
- (2) PAPER (cardboard, printer paper, journals, envelopes (with plastic window))
- (3) COMPOST (vegetable/fruit peels, plant parts, eggshells)

Recycling bins for (1) and (2) are located in the same spots as the trash bins in the hallways. To figure out what goes where, please follow the signs on the bins. Please make a conscious effort to recycle as much as possible (FYI, recycling of glass, metal, plastic and paper is mandatory in Massachusetts).

We would be thrilled if you would like to join our compost program (# 3). Because of hygienic (and smelly) reasons we decided to outsource the compost bin and put it in the yard. It is the BIG bowl that you find on the lawn close to the railway at Albany Street. This compost bin is only for *raw vegetables (never meat)*.



If you want, you can receive a small recycling bin to collect recyclables in your apartment (different designs are available for paper/commingles and compost - the compost bins have a lid that closes firmly). Please contact our house manager Dennis Collins to receive one (email: sp-housemanager@mit.edu).

If you have any more questions about recycling or environmental issues, e-mail sp-recycling@mit.edu.

Phone



Local service is free in all the rooms. You can use the 5-digit extension to reach on-campus phones. To call a number off-campus dial 9 first and then the number (include the area code, even if it's just a local call). Dial 9-411 for information. Dial 100 for an emergency call to the MIT Campus Police. If your phone service has call waiting, press the switch hook momentarily and then 77 to answer an incoming call. Do the same to switch back to the first call.

For long distance calling you will either need a calling card or you can get a seven-digit CampusLink (PaeTec) code. With this code, you direct dial long distance calls. The rates at night are competitive with calling cards and the service doesn't have the hefty first-minute surcharge. However, the rates are not competitive with long-distance services available to residential areas. PaeTec is the only long distance service available on campus. For more information, see <http://web.mit.edu/is/tel/students.html>.

Laundry



There are washing and drying machines (24 of each) on the ground floor, in room #190, near the game room. You can pay with quarters or charge it to your Meal Plan Account on your MIT Card. For more information on how to establish a Meal Plan account, see <http://web.mit.edu/dining/myaccount/index.html>.

Kitchens



There are common kitchens in the 9-story buildings, provided with a stove, full-size refrigerator and freezer, and dishwasher. As said above, keeping the common kitchens clean is the responsibility of everyone who uses it—the janitors are *not* in charge of cleaning the kitchens. So please be considerate and wipe up anything you spill on the counters, floor, stoves, etc, and don't leave food in the sinks. One side of each sink is equipped with a garbage disposal.



As for garbage collection, you can leave your trash in a bag outside of your apartments (it will be cleaned up by maintenance in the morning). There is also a garbage chute at the end of the 5-story building (blue wing). And all common kitchens have garbage cans; if you find the garbage can full, please empty it into the garbage chute. Please don't pile the garbage until the can overflows.

Music Room



There is a soundproof music room located on the ground floor of S-P (room #187). An upright piano as well as some other musical equipment is available for residents' use. For policies regarding access to the room and for more information, contact the S-P music officer at sp-music-chair@mit.edu, or see the website at <http://s-p.mit.edu>.

Other Services

The staff at S-P provides a number of miscellaneous services for the residents. If you happen to be sharing a room in S-P, you can request that your beds be bunked to have more space. To do this, make a regular request through the maintenance website (<http://web.mit.edu/facilities/www/rtslp/>) and Jesse, the S-P house mechanic, will do it for you. Also, cots will be available for checkout (inquire at front desk) if you have overnight guests.

MIT Medical – Urgent Care & Mental Health Services

Urgent/Emergency Care

If there is a potentially life-threatening situation and you are on the MIT campus, dial 100 from any campus telephone. Campus Police will provide ambulance service to MIT Medical or a nearby acute care hospital.

If the need is urgent but not life-threatening, call **MIT Medical's Urgent Care Line** for advice at x3-1311, or come directly to MIT Medical's 24-hour entrance at 25 Carleton Street (near Kendall T-station). To reduce your wait, it's best to call first for advice. The staff may suggest care you can begin immediately, or advise you to come in at a specific time.

For members of the MIT community, urgent medical care is available 24 hours a day, every day of the year at MIT Medical. Members of the physician and nursing staffs are always on site, with other providers on call at all times. For more information on MIT Medical services, see the website at <http://web.mit.edu/medical/>.

Mental Health Services

Telephone: (617) 253-2916 (emergency care available 24-hours)

Location: E23-368, 25 Carleton Street, Cambridge (near Kendall T-station, inbound side)

As a registered MIT student (under the MIT student health plan), there is no charge for using Mental Health services. You do *not* need a referral (you can make appointments yourself). To schedule an appointment, call x3-2916 during business hours (Mon-Thurs, 8:30am-7pm, Fri 8:30am-5pm). There are also **walk-in hours** available every weekday (except holidays) from 2-4 pm. Just come to the Mental Health Service reception desk on the 3rd floor of MIT Medical (E23-368) during those hours and tell the receptionist you're there for the walk-in hours. A clinician will see you as soon as possible (the waiting time will depend on how many people show up that day).

For more in-depth information about Mental Health services, see <http://web.mit.edu/medical/service/menthlth.htm>.

Athletics

This section is designed to give you a quick overview of what activities and facilities are available at and around MIT. For the most comprehensive list of activities and facilities (including hours) around campus, see the following URLs:
<http://web.mit.edu/athletics/www/index.html>
<http://www.mit.edu:8001/activities/sports.html>

Campus Facilities

Dupont Athletic Center (W32) - locker facilities, rifle and pistol ranges, a weight room with nautilus and universal systems, trainers' room, six squash courts and rooms for fencing, wrestling and general exercises.

Johnson Athletic Center (W34) - hockey rink, 200 m. synthetic track and multipurpose infield.

Rockwell Cage (W33) - three basketball, or six volleyball, or eight badminton courts.

DuPont Gym (W31) - two basketball/volleyball courts and gymnastic apparatus.

Briggs Field - 23 acres for football, track, soccer, softball, frisbee, etc. Outdoor tennis courts.

Alumni Swimming Pool (57) - 25 yd. competition pool, smaller teaching/warm-up pool. Also eight squash courts, two of which may be converted for handball.

Zesiger Sports and Fitness Center (W35) - an Olympic-class 50-meter pool, seating for 450 spectators, recreational courts, a sports medicine area, and a fitness center (Opening Fall 2002).

Pierce Boathouse (crew) (W8) - Along the Charles River, opposite Burton House.

MIT Sailing Pavilion (51) - Along the Charles River, opposite Walker Memorial.

Around MIT - One of the most popular facilities around MIT is the esplanade or the Dr. Paul Dudley White Bikeway; it's about 18 miles long along both sides of the Charles River. The pavement is excellent for running, biking, and rollerblading. Living so close to the water makes rowing, sailing, or kayaking a great activity for any day.

S-P Facilities



Sidney-Pacific has an exercise room for its residents, located in room on the ground floor of the 5-story building (room #189, across from game room and laundry). The exercise room features physical fitness equipment such as treadmills, recumbent bikes, elliptical trainers, Icarian and Paramount selectorized weight equipment and free weights. The courtyard can also serve as a venue for volleyball, wiffleball, or frisbee.

Intramurals



MIT has approximately 24 intramural sports (<http://sports.mit.edu/>), each having various levels of competition. If you are interested in an intramural sport, contact the Intramural Office at x3-7947.

Signup sheets for Sidney-Pacific intramural teams are posted at the front desk or you can contact the Sidney-Pacific athletics committee at sp-athletics-chair@mit.edu. Additional info about intramurals is sent to the email mailing list sp-athletics@mit.edu

Transportation

Public



MBTA
 In general, the Boston public transportation system is very convenient. You don't necessarily need a car to get around town. The T (MBTA) is used to refer both the subway and bus. It may cause confusion. By T-station, we mean subway station. To go downtown you can take the Red Line from either the Central Square T-station (or the Kendall T-station, if you happen to be closer to campus). To get to Harvard Square, you can take either the Route #1 bus or the Red Line subway, depending on where you start. The bus stop of MIT is near the big steps on 77 Mass Ave. Across the street, you can catch the #1 bus southbound, which is helpful if you want to cross the bridge on a cold, windy day. The bus costs 75 cents per ride, whereas the subway ride is \$1. Annoyingly, the T stops running a little after midnight (depends on the line), so plan ahead. For detailed schedules and maps of T routes, check out <http://www.mbta.com>.

And if you will be using the T quite frequently, you'll be happy to know that the MIT Parking & Transportation Office offers subsidized MBTA monthly passes for students and employees. Registered students who have a current bursar account (and do not have a full MIT parking permit) are eligible. Applications run from September to August each year. You can apply mid-academic-year, but you must apply one month in advance of the first month you wish to begin receiving passes. Subscriptions can be canceled 15 days prior to the beginning of the following month. The prices most relevant to S-P residents are as follows: local bus (regularly \$25, \$9.50 with subsidy), subway (regularly \$35, \$17.50 with subsidy), combo (regularly \$57, \$28.50 with subsidy), combo plus (regularly \$63, \$31.50 with subsidy). You can download a printable application online (<http://web.mit.edu/parking/studentapp.html>) or you can get an application from the MIT Parking Office (E32-105, x8-6510).



EZRide



The EZRide (big blue bus) runs between Cambridge and Boston's North Station. It operates Mondays-Fridays from about 7am to 7pm (check <http://www.ezride.info> for the exact schedule and a map). The EZRide Shuttle is free with your MIT ID (regular fare is \$1), and conveniently has a stop located near S-P, in University Park (inbound stop is at 38 Sidney Street). You can take the EZRide to a number of locations, including Kendall Square and the CambridgeSide Galleria (Lechmere T-stop).

SafeRide



SafeRide (white vans with MIT logo) is run by MIT and provides a free and safe means of transportation at night within and around MIT and in parts of Boston. Routes start at the MIT bus stop on Mass Ave, and run every half-hour between 6pm and 3am. It's convenient to take it to cross the bridge to Boston during the winter evenings. Check the schedules and routes at <http://web.mit.edu/parking/saferide.html>.

Private



If you have a car, be reminded that parking in Boston can be a headache. And unless you're adventurous, driving against Boston drivers isn't much fun either. However, having your own car is extremely convenient for things like grocery/furniture shopping, or for travel outside Boston (i.e. ski trips, camping/hiking trips, etc.)



At Sidney-Pacific there are 139 parking spaces in the garage under the building, and 70 in the lot behind the building. A regular MIT parking sticker is needed (applications are at the front desk). For student residents, an MIT parking sticker is \$466 for an entire year (September thru following August). Temporary passes will be available the first few days that residents move in.

For more information about vehicle registration, parking stickers, campus parking lots, and other parking- or transportation-related stuff, contact the MIT Parking & Transportation Office (E32-105, x8-6510) or see their website at <http://web.mit.edu/parking/>.

Taxicabs



Ambassador Brattle Cab
Green Cab
Cambridge Yellow Cab

617-492-1100
617-547-3000
617-625-5000

Car Rentals



If you only want a car for the weekend (or whatever), you can rent one. But if you are under 25, renting can be difficult, and many car agencies add a substantial surcharge (\$20 *per day*) for under-25 drivers. However, if you are being supported by MIT (RA or TA), you are eligible to rent cars for MIT business under the MIT Corporate Account with Budget. Check out the MIT Travel website (<http://web.mit.edu/cao/www/travel.htm>) or contact the Travel Office (E19-628, x3-3547) for more information. They can give you an account number so you can reserve a car with corporate rates and no surcharge. You may be required to prove your affiliation when you pick up the car, so bring a recent pay stub (RA/TA check receipt) with you.

ZipCar



An alternative to renting a car is to use a Zipcar. Zipcars can be found at parking locations throughout the city and are available for use by members for any length of time. To become a member, a one-time \$30 application fee and a \$300 security deposit is generally required. However, MIT has begun sponsoring Zipcar membership for all MIT staff and graduate students. Thus you can become a Zipcar member without having to pay the application fee or the security deposit (and you also get a discount off the annual membership fee). There is one Zipcar in the S-P parking lot behind the building that is available for use by S-P residents. For more information about Zipcars, check out www.zipcar.com. To apply for membership online, just follow the links to "apply" and then select "I'm affiliated with an existing organization." Enter "MIT" and choose the MIT - Staff & Grads account. Zipcar will verify your employment at MIT and process your application electronically.

Bikes



During the warmer season, biking is the certainly the best way to get around in Cambridge. Conveniently, there are two bike storage rooms in S-P located on the ground floor in the southeast end of the building.

Where to get a bike?

There are various ways to get to a bike. If you are looking for a used bike, check out the announcements of the **Chinese Students Association** (<http://cssa.mit.edu/mail/mitcssa-ads>) and wait until somebody sells one. You may be able to find a bike from \$20 upward, but of course the quality is directly correlated with the price. Also, MIT police collects all abandoned bikes on campus at the end of the summer term and sells them during the **MIT bike auction** in the fall (check announcements for exact date.) Some of these bikes are in ruins, because they have been exposed to the weather for a long time, but still you may find a decent deal on a bike.



You can get new and used bikes at the **Cambridge Bicycle** store (259 Mass Ave), which is right down Pacific Street. They also do repairs and have an air station. However this fancy store is not necessarily a place to get a simple and cheap bike. Another option is **Broadway Bicycle School** (351 Broadway, 617-868-3392), a nonprofit, collectively-owned bike store that sells both reconditioned and new bikes. Their bikes are rather safe, simple and good for getting around in the city. Besides repairing bikes, they also offer bike-repair classes where people can learn how to work on their own bikes. And if you are more interested in mountain biking, you may want to check out **ATA bikes** (1700 Mass Ave, 617-354-0907) which is in Porter Square.

Zip a bike!

If you are new in town, if the winter is near, or if you are just short on time (or money), you may not want to buy a bike immediately. The solution for this case is S-P's zip-bike program. S-P owns 20 bikes, which can be checked out at the front desk for a fee of \$1 per day. The rental works like all other leases in S-P. As always, we are looking for people who enjoy working on bikes and who want to help maintain the program. In case you are at all excited by this idea, or would just like more information about the zip-bike program, please drop an email to: sp-recycling-chair@mit.edu, or check out the website at <http://s-p.mit.edu>.

Take care of your bike!



In Cambridge, it's better if you don't challenge your luck. Bikes get stolen frequently. A *strong lock* is a must. You should also consider getting a long cable that allows you to lock both wheels. Lock your bike and remove the seat to prevent it from being stolen. Do this also when your bike is in one of the S-P bike storage rooms or in the basement of your lab.

Another safety measure is to register your bike with MIT police. They will note down the serial number of your bike and give you a sticker that says that your bike belongs to the MIT campus. There is not much hope that your bike will be retrieved once it is stolen, but thieves will have a much harder time reselling it. You can register online at <http://web.mit.edu/cp/www/otherserv/bikereg.html>.

Shopping

Groceries



The biggest supermarket in the area (and the closest) is **Star Market** (a Shaw's Supermarket), at the corner of Green St. and Sidney St., between S-P and Mass. Ave. This is a good place to go for the majority of your grocery shopping, take-out and other basic needs (i.e. dorm/stationery supplies). Star Market has a wide selection-- they have an entire aisle of international foods and a section of organic/vegetarian products. Star Market is open everyday until midnight (with a pharmacy open till 9 pm weekdays). Parking is free as long as you buy more than \$10 worth of groceries and park for less than an hour. On your first trip to Star Market, make sure to sign up for a Shaw's "rewards" card, which will allow you to get special discounts.

If you happen to be on the main campus, **LaVerde's** (in the Student Center, W20) is a smaller, convenient store that has similar but pricier items. It'll do for quick shopping and lunches (you can buy ready-made sandwiches and salads or order soups/subs from the deli).

Organic/Natural Foods



Harvest Coop in Central Square (581 Mass. Ave.) is a co-op-run, healthy-minded grocery store. They have good quality organic produce and dairy, good bread, cheese, wine, and a large bulk foods section. Prices vary from item to item. Harvest promotes local farmers. And speaking of healthy food, there are two **Bread & Circus (WholeFoods)** markets within our area. The larger one is at 340 River St. Another is at 115 Prospect St. (close to Central T-stop). You can bike (5min) or walk (20min) to both. They are a bit pricey but always provide good-quality organic produce, seafood, meat, a wide variety of cheese, and alcohol. **Trader Joe's** (727 Memorial Drive, near the MicroCenter) is a great store for fun grocery shopping, also just a 15-20 min walk from S-P. They have specials that may not be available another time you go there. Some things are really cheap compared to other stores. They have a limited selection of produce, but have a wide selection of wine and organic/gourmet foods. Trader Joe's has a free parking lot that almost always has open spaces (a rarity in Cambridge).

Produce Markets



Haymarket is an open-air produce market every Friday and Saturday, at the Haymarket T-stop on the Green Line. Very cheap produce of varying quality. It is always better to go early as they finish up by lunchtime. Friday is also better than Saturday, because the produce is exposed to cold and hot weather depending on the season. The vendors are not always willing to sell smaller amounts so it may not be practical for a single person. Thus, unless you want to eat nothing but potatoes for a week, it's advisable to go with roommates and split up the food, cost, and cooking.

There are also several Farmers Markets in the area, but unfortunately only during the summer through November. **Cambridgeport Farmers Market** is held on the Morse School parking lot on Magazine Street & Memorial Drive (near Trader Joe's) on Saturday. **Central Square Farmers Market** takes place every Monday, in the parking lot at Norfolk & Bishop Allen Dr. (behind Harvest Co-op) from noon to 6pm. **Harvard Square Farmers Market** is every Sunday in front of Charles Hotel at Harvard Square from 10am to 2:30pm (can take the T to get there).

Wholesale



For those of you who are **Costco** members (and who have cars), there's a Costco in Waltham, off I-95 (checkout www.costco.com for location and map). There's also a **Sam's Club** in Natick (again, it's about 10 miles away so you will need a car to get there, see www.samsclub.com for location and map). **BJ's** is another wholesale club, located in Medford. If you are not a member of either of these clubs, you can apply for membership (usually around \$40, check websites for details). These places are great to go to when you want to buy large amounts of food or supplies (especially for parties, barbecues, etc).

If you are looking for just fruits and vegetables, **Russo's** is a wholesale food place (no membership required) located in Watertown, where you can find fresh, cheap produce. Unfortunately you can only get there by car - check out their webpage www.arusso.com for the address and more info on specials.

International Foods



For international foods shopping, you can refer to the amazingly extensive online guide of MIT Medical Spouses and Partners web page. (<http://web.mit.edu/medical/spousesandpartners/faq/shopping.html>) But within our area, there is **Shalimar** (Indian) and **Lotte** (Korean) on Mass Ave. between Central Sq. and MIT. For Chinese supermarkets, Chinatown is the ideal location. The most popular store is **Mei Tung Supermarket** (109 Lincoln St, 426-1917) on the east edge of Chinatown.

Online Shopping



Lastly, if you don't own a car and are sick and tired of dragging home heavy grocery bags in the intense heat (or in the pouring rain, or in the middle of a snowstorm, or whatever the current wacko Boston weather condition may be), you can choose to buy your groceries without stepping outside the little world of S-P. **Stop & Shop** has online shopping and grocery delivery through Peapod (www.peapod.com), with an organics section in its catalog.

Furniture



Rooms in Sidney-Pacific come with standard furniture (desk & chair, dresser, nightstand, wardrobe, bookshelf, side chair) but if you are here for a while you probably will want to buy more. Lamps, extra bookshelves, filing cabinets, comfortable chairs, and sofas are common items. Please be aware however, that there is NO storage space in S-P, so all the furniture provided with the apartments will have to stay within the apartment.

There are a lot of furniture stores around, in all price ranges. **Economy Hardware** in Central Square (438 Mass Ave) is pretty close, it sells all kinds of furniture but may be a bit pricey for some of the larger items. For other places, look in Central Square, and along Mass. Ave. across the river for several cheapish places. Most of them don't deliver, which can be a problem if you don't have a car. There are also several more expensive places, which are likely to deliver, along Mass. Ave. between Central Square and Harvard.

Even cheaper is to buy used furniture. Check out the bulletin boards in the corridors, particularly the Infinite Corridor and in the Student Center. Also, people frequently advertise on the newsgroup athena.forsale. And you can even find free items on the MIT reuse mailing list (email reuse-request@mit.edu to subscribe or for more info). And there is the **MIT Furniture Exchange** that is open Tuesdays and Thursdays 10-4 and the first Saturday each month 10-1. There are no guarantees on what you will find, but there are often good buys on decent furniture. They also sell household stuff, like pots and utensils. You need an MIT ID and you need to pay with cash or check. 350 Brookline St. (MIT Bldg. WW15) near the BU Bridge. For more info, call manager Judy Halloran (253-4293).



For bedroom furniture and other supplies (pillows, bedsheets, towels, etc) there is a **Bed, Bath & Beyond** located in Landmark Center (401 Park Drive, 617-536-1090), next to Staples. This is located at the Fenway stop of the #47 bus and the CT2 bus (the latter only runs during the week). The total bus ride is only about 10 minutes away from MIT. There is also a **Big Kmart** in Dorchester (7 Allstate Road, 617-541-4959). To get there, take the Red Line to Andrew and then either walk or take the free shuttle to South Bay Center. In that shopping center there is also a **Marshall's** that offers some household items at discount prices. There is also a new **Target** store that just opened in Watertown (in the Arsenal Mall area).

And speaking of beautifying your apartment, you can buy nice, reasonably-priced plants at **Mahoney's Garden Center**, near River Street (880 Memorial Drive, (617) 354-4145).

Appliances



Best Buy (in the CambridgeSide Galleria) is a good bet for your electronics and appliance needs, from computer peripherals to stereo equipment. Prices are better or comparable to anywhere else. If you are looking for mainly computer- or cell-phone related stuff, and you don't mind walking a bit, there is also a **MicroCenter** (at 727 Memorial Drive, near Trader Joe's) that has decent prices as well. And for a place really close by, there's a **Radio Shack** near Central Square (493 Mass Ave, (617) 547-7332).



A very important note about electronic appliances: If you purchase any items that are particularly valuable (i.e. laptops), MAKE SURE YOU ALSO PURCHASE APPROPRIATE SECURITY FOR IT. We

cannot stress this enough! Particularly when you first move in, most people aren't around and that is when thefts tend to happen the most often. Laptop locks and other security items are available at the same places mentioned above (BestBuy, Microcenter). A decent lock for a laptop costs around \$30 (may seem expensive, but is worth every penny). For additional laptop security, you may also have your laptop registered through MIT for \$10 (for more info about this, see <http://web.mit.edu/security/www/stophome.html>).



In terms of kitchen appliances, you will surely find it convenient to have things like microwaves, toasters, blenders, etc. These can be purchased at Star Market (very limited selection) or at **Sears** or **Filene's Home Store** at the CambridgeSide Galleria mall (at Lechmere T-station). **Kmart** (mentioned earlier, in furniture section) also has a large selection of cheap dorm and kitchen appliances, but they tend to run out of stock in the beginning of the school year. The Coop (MIT bookstore) in Kendall Square also sells some kitchen stuff, but the prices there are on the high side of competitive. **Economy Hardware** in Central Square (438 Mass Ave) sells hardware, appliances, and furniture at very decent prices. (They also carry silverware, plates, and other "essential" kitchen items such as dish-drying racks and trashcans.) The coupon books distributed around campus usually have a \$5 or \$10 off coupon for Economy Hardware.

Stationery Supplies



If you go to the **Coop**, you can have all your binders and pens nicely emblazoned with the MIT logo. Note that there is a Coop in the Student Center as well as the main one in Kendall Square. **University Stationery** is close by (311 Mass. Ave, open M-F 8:30-5) and will give you 20% off with a student ID. They have pretty much everything, and for decent prices. If you want to go to a large office-supply store, you can take the Red Line (or the #1 bus) to the **Staples** (57 JFK St, 617-491-1166) in Harvard Square. There is also a Staples in Landmark Center (401 Park Dr, 617-638-3292), which is at the Fenway stop of the #47 and CT2 bus (latter only runs on weekdays). And there is **OfficeMax** (8 Allstate Rd, 617-445-5152), another huge office-supply/computer store, located in the South Bay Center in Dorchester (it's next to Kmart, for T directions see furniture section above).

Post Offices



There is a post office conveniently located in the basement of the Student Center (617-494-5511), which is open weekdays from 7:30am to 5pm. There is also the Cambridge main post office in Central Square (770 Mass Ave, 617-876-0550), and a smaller branch at Kendall Square (250 Main St, 617-876-5155).

Drugstores



Star Market has a pharmacy (open until 9pm on weekdays). There are **CVS**s in Central Square (624 Mass Ave), the CambridgeSide Galleria, Harvard Square, Kenmore Square, and on Newbury Street. There's also **Walgreen's** in Central Square (625 Mass Ave) and on Boylston across from the Prudential Center. The **MIT pharmacy** (E23) fills prescriptions, which are \$10 (with co-pay) if you have the MIT Blue Cross Blue Shield student insurance.

Clothes



The **CambridgeSide Galleria** has the usual mall clothing stores like Express, the Gap, Banana Republic, Old Navy, The Limited, Structure, J. Crew, as well as the larger department stores like Sears and Filene's. As mentioned earlier, you can take the EZRide shuttle to the Lechmere T-station to get to the CambridgeSide Galleria. The **Prudential Center / Copley Square** is a much more upscale mall—a great place to window shop—but mostly out of the price range of the average grad student. There are more malls in the suburbs, but they require a car to get there.

Downtown Crossing is Boston's biggest shopping district. It includes the original Filene's Basement (where you can get clothes for cheap), as well as other discount stores like Marshall's. There's also a Filene's, Macy's, H&M, as well as many other shops including a Gap outlet and an Eddie Bauer outlet. The **Faneuil Hall / Quincy Market**

area includes many trendy shops, but are generally overpriced. Same goes for **Newbury Street**. Both can be a lot of fun to poke around in, but you'll save yourself some cash if you buy elsewhere.

Books



Bookstores abound in the Boston area. Major chains are Borders, Barnes and Noble, Waldenbooks, and B. Dalton. They're pretty much the same as those stores are anywhere else. The **Coop** sells books, but their selection isn't great compared to many in the area. The Harvard Coop branch has a better selection. The **MIT Press Bookstore** in Kendall Square sells books from MIT Press and a good selection of art, architecture, and science-type books. **Wordsworth** in Harvard Square is huge, all books are slightly discounted, and their special order department is apparently quite good. The **Borders Books** store in the Downtown Crossing is enormous. With a self-help coffee house and free culture events, it makes a cozy place to spend your weekend days. There is also a Borders Books store in the CambridgeSide Galleria

As for used books, one of the most popular ones is **McIntyre & Moore's** at Davis Sq. (take Redline to Davis T stop). They have a good, well-ordered selection, and seasonal good prices! Another is **House of Sarah Books** on Cambridge St. at Inman Sq. Take 69 bus from Harvard or Lechmere T stops. They have comfy couches for in-store reading (but be delicate with the books, or elset!), a lovely cat to play with, and a variety of foreign language books. **Harvard Bookstore** in Harvard Sq. (on Mass. Ave.) has a used book section in its basement, conveniently located if you want to check regularly for good catches. There used books are half the cover price. **Starr**, again in Harvard Sq, is hard to find. Take the small side street next to Harvard Bookstore, and look around for a cute red brick building with a "face". The one bad thing about Starr is lack of order inside, can be time-consuming. **Rodney's** in Central Sq. also offers a good number of books. And the **Avenue Victor Hugo Bookstore** on Newbury Street stocks a wide assortment of new and used books, with a good sized science fiction section. Again, watch for the cat wandering around the store. Look for more bookstores on line (www.mitpress.edu/bookstore/graphics/otherstores.pdf)

Apart from all these, www.bookfinders.com is the meta-search engine that goes through a long list of bookseller databases to find new, used, rare, and out of print books.



Libraries don't really fit into the shopping section, but it is about getting books, so it will be included here. **Cambridge Public Library** (<http://www.ci.cambridge.ma.us/~CPL>) is located on Broadway, near Harvard. There's also a small branch in Central Square on Franklin St. Cards are issued free to Cambridge residents, so bring ID and something showing your address (a bill, an official letter, etc.). The setup is kind of confusing: paperbacks by the circulation desk, recent books (after about 1993) on the right, and everything older than that shelved away in the stacks.

The **Boston Public Library** (<http://www.bpl.org>) is located in Copley Square. They offer tours-- the architecture of the place makes it worth going to. See the murals in the main reading room. The Boston Public Library is a major research library as well as a light reading library and includes patent records and US government documents. They also have a large selection of foreign-language/international books (novels, etc).

The **MIT library** includes a browsing section and a moderately large (for an academic library) light reading section in the Humanities Library (Building 14).



Now, after talking for half a page about real books, we all also have to buy textbooks, which are much more expensive (and much less fun). The MIT university bookstore is the **MIT Coop** in Kendall. There aren't many other alternatives, although **Quantum Books** (494-5042) sells a lot of EE type books for decent prices, and **Text Express** (859-7170) accepts orders for textbooks and delivers them to your door. Look for their flyers.

The web is also a great way to get books. There are a whole host of online book suppliers. Fortunately, MIT does often use well-known texts, so some of your required purchases may be available online. Confused about which service to use? Try <http://www.bestbookbuys.com>. They will tell you which online supplier carries your book and, even better, for how much each one sells it. (You will need a credit card, of course.)

CDs/Music



The *Virgin Megastore* (on the corner of Mass. Ave. and Newbury St, in Boston) is enormous-- the first floor is books (mostly alternative) and videos, second is rock, alternative, dance, pop, reggae, country, etc., and the third floor is jazz and classical. Basically, they have everything under the sun. And they always have lots of CDs on sale. *Tower Records*, located at 1249 Boylston, is another big CD/video store that offers a wide selection. *Newbury Comics* on Newbury Street and in Harvard Square sells CDs for reasonable prices (the top 50 CDs are always on sale). The coupon books distributed on campus usually include \$3-off coupons for Newbury Comics and Tower Records. There is also an *HMV* at Brattle Square (splitting distance from Harvard Sq.) and a *Strawberries Music & Video* at 750 Memorial Drive (next to Trader Joe's).

There are numerous used CD places around MIT. Expect to pay about \$8 for single newish CDs, less for older ones, and more for vintage/rare types. They often have \$1 bins to rummage through, who knows, maybe you will find a treasure. Most public libraries lend CDs, especially in the classical, jazz, folk, and international genres.

Banking



Most people upon coming to the Boston area will have to get a sign up for a new bank account. (For all you non-East Coast people, you will eventually have to realize that, sadly, there isn't a Bank of America or a Wells Fargo anywhere near Boston). Never fear, however...during the beginning of the school year there are usually a bunch of representatives from various banks and credit unions in the Student Center, that have oodles of brochures containing info about various types of bank accounts. In this section we have provided some basic info about the most common banking options.



Ok, first lets start with the obvious.... *Fleet Bank*, as you surely have noticed, is huge here. There is a one branch inside the Student Center, and there are ATMs off Lobby 10 and on the corner of Mass Ave and Vassar St. They have ATMs all over town (and over the East Coast in general) but when you can't find one (i.e. if you happen to be back home on the West Coast) they charge a fee for using ATMs other than Fleet's (75 cents). Also, some plans have monthly service charges. However, they will give you a year with no monthly charges if you sign up for one of their standard checking/savings account (usually requires a minimum monthly balance). They also have online banking available as well as direct deposit for your RA/TA checks, as do many other banks. Fleet is the standard option for convenience, but may not be the best if you don't like service charges, or having to keep a minimum balance.

Citizens Bank is another bank near campus. They have branches in Star Market, Central Square and the Tech Square area (corner of Portland and Broadway). Citizen offers accounts with interest on savings and checking and you don't get charged ATM fees for using ATMs other than ones at Citizen. Also, look into getting an e-checking account such as those offered by pcbanker.com, they offer excellent interest rates since they operate without excessive overheads.

The *MIT Federal Credit Union* (MIT FCU) is a membership-based bank. Getting membership is easy once you have found one of their offices: one is located at E19-437 (x3-2844), and another is at Lincoln Laboratory in Building A (room 100). They offer checking account services at low prices. Withdrawing money from ATMs is free 8 times per month at essentially all non-Fleet ATM's in the Boston area. Check out their website for more information: <https://www.mitfcu.org/>.



The most interesting part of the MIT FCU is their credit service: You can get uncomplicated and reasonable small loans to buy a computer or a car. This may be particularly helpful if you happen to be an international student and are having a hard time getting a credit card. You may be in a difficult situation since essentially all banks (including Fleet) require some "credit history" in the USA before they can give you credit. Not to worry, however. The Visa card office of the MIT FCU offers 2 possibilities to work around this problem: (1) you can ask your bank back home to give you a credit history or (2) you deposit a certain amount on your savings account at the MIT FCU. This amount is equal to your credit card coverage. It serves as your security and you cannot touch it for a few months (while it is earning some small interest though). Once you have paid your credit card bills regularly for a while, you can ask MIT FCU to give your money free again. Admittedly during the first month it is not really a "credit" that you get with your credit card, but after this you have built a "credit history" and better chances to get higher coverage or successfully apply for other credit cards.

Entertainment

For more on entertainment, check out <http://www.boston.com>. You can also check out the Boston Phoenix (local alternative newspaper) either in print (distributed free in the Student Center on Fridays) or online at www.bostonphoenix.com for information on local music/film/theater/art showings.

Movies



MIT's own *Lecture Series Committee* shows movies Friday, Saturday, and Sunday in 26-100 (with good sound but uncomfortable seats). For a calendar of what's playing soon, check out <http://lsc.mit.edu>. Movies have usually left theatres (but haven't hit video yet) and cost only \$3 to see. Soda, popcorn, and candy are also available at good prices (much cheaper than at a movie theater). It's worth going to a classic or two just to watch (and hear) the audience, which has to be experienced to be believed.

If you want to see the new release films or foreign/art films, there are plenty of movie theatres in the Boston area-- a list of the nearest and most popular ones are given below. Note that tickets for blockbuster films usually tend to sell out rather quickly (especially on opening nights) so use an online ticket purchasing service like Fandango (www.fandango.com) to make sure you have a ticket. Also, it wouldn't hurt to arrive a bit early before showtime, in order to get decent seats.

Loews Boston Common (175 Tremont St, 617-423-5801). New releases. Red Line T to Park Street.
AMC Fenway Theatre (201 Brookline Ave, 617-333-3456) New releases. \$7 with student ID. Near Fenway Park, so can either walk or take Green Line to Kenmore Station.
Kendall Square Cinema (behind 1 Kendall Square, 617-494-9800). New art films. Is not near the T-stop.
FreshPond 10 (168 Alewife Brook Pkwy, 617-661-2900). New releases. Red Line T to Alewife, plus 5 min walk.
Harvard Square 5 (10 Church St, 617-864-4580). Older releases and artish films. T: Red Line or #1 bus to Harvard.
Copley Place 11 (100 Huntington Ave, 617-266-1300). New releases, family films. Green Line T to Copley.

Videos



There is *Blockbuster Video* in Central Square (541 Mass Ave, 617-491-1300), which has new releases and all the popular selections. *Hollywood Express* (765 Mass Ave, 617-864-8400) has a better selection of foreign and independent films. There is also a *Videosmith* further along Mass. Ave. between Central and Harvard. They have everything, but emphasize classics. Check out the \$1 a night "Rent a Turkey" section if you are feeling brain-dead.

Sidney-Pacific organizes movie nights in house common areas regularly. There is also a collection of movies available for check-out at the S-P front desk. This can be good, especially if you are feeling lazy, it is raining, or your tastes coincide with whomever was ordering movies. If you have any suggestions or comments on the DVD/Video collection, contact the Movie Chair at sp-movie-chair@mit.edu.

TV



S-P has televisions in the lounges on floors 2-5, and in the kitchen areas on floors 6-9 if you don't have your own TV. If you do, you'll be happy to know that all bedrooms in Sidney-Pacific have cable jacks. Just plug into the jack in your room and you get the major networks (ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, UPN, WB), two or three public broadcasting channels, a couple of Spanish channels, several MIT channels, and SPTV (the building's television channel) all for free. You can get oodles more if you sign up for extended cable (Economy Basic is \$23.99/month, and Digital Xtreme is \$32.99/month). There is usually someone in the Student Center near the beginning of the term to discuss signing up for extended service.

For more information on cable services, including channel listings, see: <http://web.mit.edu/mitcable/www/>.

Music



You can find a wide number of excellent performances on campus (i.e. a capella concerts, MIT symphony orchestra, jazz ensembles, musicals). Visit the MIT events calendar (<http://events.mit.edu/>) and click on "Concerts" to see the upcoming schedule of musical events.

And when it comes to music, Boston has a large local scene. Live bands frequently perform at various bars. Street performances can be found in Harvard Square and the Boston Commons (especially in nicer weather). And the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Boston Philharmonic, the Hatchshell, and the Berklee School of Music are renowned favorites.

Arts



There are a variety of art-related activities on campus. The **MIT Office of the Arts** compiles a calendar of art events at MIT (see <http://web.mit.edu/arts/calendar.html>). The **MIT Student Art Association** offers a variety of classes in arts and crafts (see http://web.mit.edu/dsa_0002/www/index.html). And for the artists among us, the **Council for the Arts at MIT** sponsors creative and performing art projects of all sizes through its Grants Program (<http://web.mit.edu/arts/council/grants.html>). And the List Visual Arts Center runs the **Student Art Loan Program** which loans artwork to MIT students each academic year. For more information contact the List at 617-253-4680 or go to: http://web.mit.edu/lvac/www/slap/slap_genl.html

Dancing



The two major spots for clubbing are Landsdowne Street and the Theatre District. Landsdowne Street is right in behind Fenway Park (can take the Boston West SafeRide or the Green Line T to Kenmore). Here you'll have your pick of handful of different places, among them **Embassy** (30 Landsdowne St, 617-536-2100; Modern/Latin), **Axis** (13 Landsdowne St, 617-262-2437; 80's on Friday, 90's on Saturday), and **Avalon** (15 Landsdowne St, 617-262-2424; Rock, Dance, Techno). There are other clubs in the Theatre District, which is below the Boston Commons, close to the Wang Theater (take the T to Park Street). Some of the clubs there are **Pravda** (116 Boylston, 617-482-7799; Techno), **Big Easy** (1 Boylston, 617-351-7000; Dance), **Aria** (246 Tremont St, 617-338-7080, various types of music). Most of these clubs have some sort of dress code (i.e. no jeans) and charge at the door (\$10-\$15). Sometimes it gets crowded and you have to wait in line a bit, but it is definitely a fun thing to do with a group of people. For Latin dancing, check out <http://www.salsaboston.com>.

Bars



In case you didn't notice when you got here, bars are everywhere in the Boston area. There are two on the MIT campus; the **Thirsty Ear** in the Ashdown basement, and the **Muddy Charles Pub** in Walker Memorial (Bldg. 50). Another popular MIT student hangout is **Miracle of Science**, on 321 Mass Ave. Other nearby bars are **Asgard** (350 Mass Ave, features Irish bands), **The Middle East** (472 Mass Ave, live music, often has new album release parties), and The **Good Life** (720 Mass Ave).

There are also plenty of bars in Harvard Square—**Hong Kong** (1236 Mass Ave, 617-864-5311) has a restaurant downstairs, a bar upstairs, and dancing on the 3rd floor. **The House of Blues** (617-491-BLUE, 96 Winthrop Street) has shows at night (sometimes get sold out!)

And there are quite a few bars across the bridge, many within walking distance. Popular ones are **Pour House** (909 Boylston, 617-236-1767) and **McCarthy's** (903 Boylston St, 617-867-9090). **Whiskey's** (885 Babylon St at Boylston, 617-262-5551) is another popular favorite, they have ~20 beers on tap and they also have good burgers and salads. Good place to celebrate birthdays (or the ending of qualifying exams).

Sporting Events



Baseball - Boston Red Sox - Fenway Park, Kenmore T stop. Sit in the grandstands for \$10 a ticket, where the crowd is as interesting as the game.

Basketball - Boston Celtics - Fleet Center, North Station T stop. New venue, better seats, same parquet floor.

Football - New England Patriots - Foxboro Stadium, drive. Known for their rowdy fans. Also for being the winners of Super Bowl XXXVI.

Hockey - Boston Bruins - Fleet Centre, North Station T stop. The Bruins have a full sized rink for the first time, but have lost the character of the old Garden (which is still standing, since no one designed room for the wrecking ball when they put up the Fleet Centre 9 inches away).

Soccer - New England Revolution - Foxboro Stadium, drive.

The other major sporting event is the **Boston Marathon**, run every year on Patriots Day in April. It's crowded at the finish, but it's fun to go further up the course and sit on the sidelines and cheer the runners on. If you do want to run, you have to qualify to get a number in the marathon. However, the organizers do accommodate the few thousand who traditionally jump the fence each year (after all the elite runners have started)

Museums/Parks



First of all, there's the **MIT Museum** nearby (Bldg N52, at Mass Ave and Front Street, <http://web.mit.edu/museum>). This highlights science and technology exhibits and programs related to MIT. Admission is free with your ID. If you want to see even more science- and technology-related stuff, be sure to check out the **Museum of Science** in Boston (www.mos.org). Admission here normally \$12, but is free with student ID. The Museum of Science features several interactive exhibits, a virtual fish tank, live shows/plays, and planetarium & laser-light shows. To get there, take Green Line T to Science Park, or the EZRide to the CambridgeSide Galleria.



And if you're into sea creatures, be sure to check out the **New England Aquarium** (www.neaq.org). The aquarium has over 70 exhibits featuring aquatic animals and their habitats (Sea lions, penguins, and fish, oh my!) There's also an IMAX theatre featuring films about science, nature and conservation. To get there, take the Blue Line to the Aquarium stop.

Yet another famous museum in Boston is the **Museum of Fine Arts** (MFA), which features an extensive sculpture and painting collection (including Renoir, Van Gogh, Rembrandt, Monet) as well as Egyptian and Asian art. Check out the website at www.mfa.org for more information. The MFA is located at 465 Huntington Ave-- to get there, take the Green Line "E" to the MFA stop.



The MFA is nearby a long belt of connected parks, which is called the **Emerald Necklace**. It is one of the oldest systems of public parks in the US and all in all about 6 miles long. It stretches from the Boston Common downtown to the Arnold Arboretum and Franklin Park in Roslindale and Roxbury. Check out <http://www.emeraldnecklace.org> for a map and more information about various parks.

At the edge of the Emerald Necklace is the **Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum**. The museum is not only full from top to bottom with art works from various geographies and times, but it is also a contemplation space with its courtyard full of great flowers. The courtyard is surrounded by an introverted Venetian palace. Check out the schedule for concerts before you go at www.gardnermuseum.org. The museum is within walking distance from the MFA (after getting off T, cross Huntington Ave and walk down Louis Prang Street for 2 blocks). Admission is \$5 with student ID.

Another place that holds most wonderful species of flora is the **Mount Auburn Cemetery**. It makes a lot of people wince at first, but it is a great place for a beautiful walk. It has a large variety of colorful trees, especially during foliage, and there are many, many kinds of flora, scattered around ponds, and along walkways. It is located 1.5 miles past Harvard Square (from Harvard Square, take bus # 71 or 73 towards Watertown).



Many green places are located along the Charles River. Right across the bridge from MIT you'll find the **Esplanade**. But there is more to see if you walk or bike upstream-- you can find a number of green spots until you reach the Upper Charles Reservation, including the Hemlock George Reservation

(<http://www.channel1.com/users/hemlock>.) There is a National Park right in the Boston Harbor! The **Boston Harbor Islands** there are protected for their historical heritage. Take the ferry from the Long Wharf (Aquarium T-stop) over the George Island. From there you can take a free water taxi to the other islands. The experience is indeed less nature and more history, but you get out of the city and get a great vista on the Boston skyline and the harbor.

An "Insider's" Guide To Boston

The truth, now. How many of you said "Boston University" to the cabbie at Logan and ended up at BC? You're right. It wasn't a misunderstanding. The cabbie knew you weren't bon heah, so he took you for a ride. By now, you know that nobody in the Hub calls it Boston University. We don't really call it the Hub, either, except in headlines. By the time you graduate, you'll also be able to tell Southie from the South End, know how to pronounce Gloucester and who should have been at first base instead of Bill Buckner. You'll know who the cahdnl is, how to take the T to JP and what the blinking red light atop the old Hancock Building means in the summer. And if you're smaht, you'll know how not to get cahded at the packie. Herewith, a student's survival guide to Bawstin:

How We Tawk

We don't speak English. We speak whatever they brought over here from East Anglia in 1630. The Bawstin accent is basically the broad A and the dropped R, which we add to words ending in A - pahster, Cuber, soder. For the broad A, just open your mouth and say "Ah" like the docta says. So car is cah, park is pahk. If you want to talk like the mayah, repeat after me: "My ahnt takes her bahth at hahpast foah."

<i>What we say</i>	<i>What we mean</i>
bzah	odd
flahwiz	roses, etc.
hahpahst	30 mins after the hour
Hahwahya	How are you?
khakis	what we slaht the cah with
awesome	superb
retahded	silly
shuah	of course
wikkid	Extremely
yiz	you, plural

How We'll Know You Weren't Bon Heah

You wear a Harvard sweatshirt. You cross at a crosswalk. You ask directions to "Cheers". You order a grinder and pop. You pronounce it "Worcester". You walk the Freedom Trail. You call it "Copely" Square. You go to BU.

Getting Around

Boston is a mishmosh of 17th-century cow paths and 19th-century landfill penned in by water. You know, "One if by land, two if by sea." Charlestown? Cahn't get theyah from heah. And which Warren Street do you want? We have three plus three Warren Avenues, three Warren Squares, a Warren Park, and a Warren Place.

Pay no attention to the street names. There's no school on School Street, no court on Court Street, no dock on Dock Square, no water on Water Street. Back Bay streets are in alphabetical odda. Arlington, Berkeley, Clarendon, Dartmouth. So are South Boston streets: A, B, C, D. If the streets are named after trees (Walnut, Chestnut, Cedar), you're on Beacon Hill. If they're named after poets, you're in Wellesley. Dot is Dorchester, Rozzie is Roslindale, JP is Jamaica Plain. Readville doesn't exist.

The North-East - South-West Thing

Southie is South Boston. The South End is the South End. The North End is east of the West End. The West End is no more. A guy named Rappaport got rid of it one night. Eastie is East Boston. The East End is Boston Harbor.

About Our "Cuisine":

Boston cream pie is a cake. Frappes have ice cream; milk shakes don't. Chowdah does not come with tomatoes. Scrod is whatever they tell you it is, usually fish. If you paid more than \$6 a pound, you got scrod. Brown bread comes in a can. You open both ends, push it out, heat it, and eat it with baked beans. They're hot dogs. Franks were people who lived in France in the ninth century.

Things Not To Do:

- Don't call it Beantown.
- Don't park your car in Hahvid Yahd. They'll tow it to Medfid.
- Don't swim in the Charles, no matter what Bill Weld may have said.
- Don't sleep in the Common.
- Don't wear orange in Southie on St. Patrick's Day.
- Don't call the mayah "Mumbles". He hates that.

Things You Should Know:

- There are two State Houses, two City Halls, two courthouses, two Hancock buildings.
- There's also a Boston Latin School and a Boston Latin Academy. How should we know which one you mean?
- Route 128 is also I-95. It is also I-93 (but not in the same spots).
- It's the Sox, the Pats (or Patsies), the Seltz, the Broons.
- The Harvard Bridge goes to MIT. It's measured in 'smoots.'
- Johnson never should have hit for Willoughby.
- The subway doesn't run all night. This isn't Noo Yawk.
- Ray Flynn used to be mayah.
- It's Comm Ave, Mass Ave, Mem Drive, and Dot Ave.
- Yaz wore 8, Ted wore 9.
- The drinking age is 21. If you use a fake ID, make sure it isn't from Mississippi.
- To get back to Logan from BC, take the Green Line to the Blue Line, then grab the bus.

Miscellaneous

- The Hub: A Bostonian once called this city the Hub of the Universe. It was in 1775.
- The Big Dig: The downtown highway project that's taking longer and costing more than it should. The latest excuse for why traffic here is bzah.
- The old Hancock Building lights are actually a weather forecast:
 - Steady blue, clear view
 - Flashing blue, clouds due
 - Steady red, rain ahead
 - Flashing red, snow instead.
- In the summer, flashing red means the Sox home game has been called off.

Helpful Websites For Orientation

- MIT Home Page: <http://web.mit.edu>
- Acronyms and Abbreviations Used at MIT: <http://web.mit.edu/acronym>
- SIPB (Student Information Processing Board): <http://www.mit.edu/sipb-homepage.html>
- Homepages of MIT community members: <http://www.mit.edu/home-pages.html>
- Sidney-Pacific homepage: <http://s-p.mit.edu>
- Academic calendar, watch for add/drop dates: <http://web.mit.edu/registrar/www/calendar.html>
- Bursar's Office, E19-215, x3-4132: <http://web.mit.edu/bursar>
- Registrar's Office, E19-335, x3-4784: <http://web.mit.edu/odsue/academic>
- Financial Aid Office, 5-119, x3-4971: <http://web.mit.edu/finaid>
- International Student's Office, 5-106, x3-3795: <http://web.mit.edu/iso/www>
- MIT Computing: <http://web.mit.edu/cwis/computing.html>
- Graduate Education Office: <http://web.mit.edu/geo>
- Graduate Student Council (GSC), 50-220, x3-2195: <http://gsc.mit.edu>

On-Campus Dining Guide

Refer to <http://web.mit.edu/dining> for maps of locations, updated hours of operation, and other information.

Food Trucks (located at corner of Ames and Main St. at lunch time)



Yona's Pizza
Jerusalem Café
Goosebeary's
Jose's Mexican Food

Pizza
Middle Eastern
Pan-Asian
Mexican

Convenience Stores



MacGregor
LaVerde's Market
Walker/Pritchett
Baker Convenience

W61 (MacGregor House), Ground Floor
W20-105 (Stratton Student Center), First Floor
Building 50 (Walker Memorial), Second Floor
Building W7 (Baker House), Ground Floor

Coffee, Juice, Fast Food

24-Hour Coffee House

Coffee, pastries, "grab-and-go" meals, snacks, penny candy. Also has pool tables, and occasional live music

W20 (Stratton Student Center), Third Floor



Juice Bar

Made-to-order fresh fruit smoothies, bottled juices and waters and a variety of healthy snacks

Zesiger Sports and Fitness Center

Building 4 Coffee Shop

Coffee, bagels, muffins, soup, sandwiches, ready-to-eat entrees

Building 4, First Floor (off Infinite Corridor)

Walker/Pritchett

Burgers, chicken sandwiches and other grilled and fried foods

Building 50 (Walker Memorial), Second Floor

Simmons Hall Coffee Shop

Sandwiches, salads, cappuccino, espresso, latte, treats, and coffee

Vassar Street

Full Meals

Baker Dining

Traditional dinner entrees, salad bar and sandwiches, cooked-to-order stir-fry.

Building W7 (Baker House), Ground Floor



Lobdell Food Court

Pan-Geo's (vegetarian options), Global Spin's (international cuisine), Tortilla Fresca (Mexican), Burger King. Also serves bagels and muffins, pizza and calzones, deli sandwiches, pasta dishes, grilled chicken, salads, and numerous dessert selections.

Building W20 (Stratton Student Center), Second Floor

Next House

Pizza, grill, and sandwich menu. Vegetarian Options (dedicated equipment for preparing vegetarian items only).

Building W71 (Next House), First Floor

Simmons Hall

Cooked-to-order foods, a full delicatessen, and self-service options.

Vassar Street

Kosher Kitchen

Kosher meals available 5 days/week or for Shabbat/holidays (cooperates with MIT Hillel)

Building W11, Religious Activities Center

Walker/Pritchett

Comfort foods ranging from roasted whole chicken to deli sandwiches, pizza, pasta, vegetarian fare and Chinese noodle or rice bowls. Soups, full salad bar.

Building 50 (Walker Memorial), First Floor

Stata Center

Continental breakfast and extensive lunch menu. Hot entrees and made-to-order specials, as well as grab-n-go sandwiches and salads. Open extended hours for café items such as coffee, snacks and to-go meals.

Vassar Street

Specialty Foods

Alpine

Bagels, grill, pizza

W20 (Student Center), First Floor

Arrow St. Crepes

Crepes; branch of Harvard Square restaurant

W20 (Student Center), First Floor

Dome Café

Espresso, hot grilled-to-order panini sandwiches, grab and go sandwiches, soups and salads.

Building 7 (Rogers Building), Fourth Floor



Bio Bagels

Bagels and bagel sandwiches, soup, chili, coffee, pastries.

Building 68 (Biology Building), First Floor

East Side Café

For breakfast, they serve coffee, pastries and morning breakfast sandwiches. For lunch, they serve hot entrees, sandwiches, soup, subs or chili.

Building 19 (Horace Seyford Ford Building), Third Floor



Refresher Course

Made-to-order sandwiches and wraps, daily hot entrée special, cappuccino, and assorted fresh-baked goods. Open for breakfast and lunch.

Building E52 (Sloan Building), First Floor

Restaurants are listed alphabetically by type, with the exception of cafes/bakeries and ice cream parlors, which are at the end.



Establishments marked with an asterisk (*) are 2002 S-P Orientation Committee personal favorites for quality of food and/or atmosphere. Those marked with ☺ indicate the restaurant offers better-than-average selection for vegetarians.

Note: Boston is not so big. Feel free to walk to places instead of taking the T or driving.

Additional Boston Dining Resources

<http://www.mit411.com>

<http://boston.diningguide.net>

<http://www.bostonbest.com/dining.home.html>

<http://www.dinesite.com>

<http://www.kerrymenu.com/bosall.htm>

Afghani

Helmand ☺ *

The Afghan cuisine served here hints at Indian, Nepali and Middle Eastern, but has a culture and appeal all its own. It is a bit on the expensive side but well worth it. Show up early, as the wait even during the week can be an hour. Fruit lovers must try the dessert Firenee. Also has a good deal of vegetarian dishes. (143 First St, Cambridge, 492-4646) Walk or take the Galleria shuttle from the Kendall T stop.

African

Addis Red Sea

Dinner at cool, subterranean Addis is not like dinner at any Boston restaurant of similarly high caliber: one sits on cushioned stools at low, wicker tables; sumptuously spongy bread replaces utensils. The quietly solicitous servers spread a cornucopia of richly spiced Ethiopian cuisine before you on communal platters. You won't find white linen and silver here, but you will find fine dining of a refreshingly exotic sort. Chicken stew and sauteed lamb are specialties. (544 Tremont Street, Boston, 426-8727) T: Green line to Boylston, then walk down Tremont St. across the I-90 turnpike.

American



Bartley's Burger Cottage *

Very popular burger joint in Harvard Square. Lots of down-to-earth American food. Interesting decor, too. Best place to be if you crave a real burger with all the fixin's. More grease in one place than you are likely to see anywhere else. (1246 Mass Ave, near Bow St. 354-6559). T: Red Line or #1 bus to Harvard.

Characters Bar and Grill

Sports bar and grill in the Marriott complete with TVs and pool tables. Standard fare is very reasonably priced. (Inside Cambridge Marriott, Kendall Square, 494-6600). Walk.

Division Sixteen

Popular Boylston spot with a young clientele and a sleek interior. Lots of cheap and good sandwiches, salads, omelets, burgers and fries. (955 Boylston at Hereford, 353-0870). T: Green Line to Hynes.



House of Blues

Co-owned by Dan Aykroyd, this legendary blues bar deserves as much credit for its menu as it does for its musical integrity. Jambalaya and pulled pork exemplify the rootsy American cuisine that long ago helped give Southerners their hospitable reputation -- and the Gospel Brunch may well be Cambridge's most original and satisfying way to shake off the Sunday blues. (96 Winthrop St, Cambridge, 491-2583) T: Red line or #1 bus to Harvard.



Redbone's Barbecue

The best place for ribs in the Boston area. Beef, chicken, and pork stand proud on the meat-lovers' menu, so don't go here if you're a vegetarian (unless you can live on beer and cornbread). It gets pretty busy on weekends so be prepared to wait for awhile (reservations are not accepted). Highly recommended. (55 Chester St near Elm St in Davis Square, Somerville, 628-2200) T: Red line to Davis Square.

Rosebud Diner*

An authentic bus-diner in Davis Sq. works best for brunch or breakfast, egg being the main ingredient on the menu. Everyone likes it. Be prepared to wait in line if you Saturday and Sunday mornings after 10:30.

Brazilian/Portuguese



Midwest Grill*

All-you-can-eat buffet is what makes this place so special. Set in the Brazilian/Portuguese neighborhood of Cambridge, they offer a great variety of Portuguese and Brazilian foods, salads, fruits and desserts on the buffet, but the all-you-can-eat deal also includes churrasco rotisserie, and that is the key deal. Right off the fire, all kinds of barbecued meat will be brought to your table. Don't go if you are not a meat lover. 1124 Cambridge Street at Inman Sq. (354-7536)

Cambodian

Elephant Walk

One of the most talked-about restaurants juxtaposes classic French cuisine with spicy Cambodian concoctions. The setting is a converted basement submerged in a subtropical jungle under the gaze of Buddhist statues. The Indochinese colonial lobby is one of most charming waiting rooms around. Food quality is high, although not stellar. But dining is a total experience, and on this score, the Elephant Walk more than delights. (70 Union Square, near Washington St., Somerville, 617 623-9939). Drive. (2067 Mass. Ave. 617-492-6900) Take #77 bus from Harvard Sq. or walk from Porter Sq. T stop.

East Asian

Cafe Mami, Sapporo Ramen, Kotobukiya, Tanpopo, Bluefin

Authentic Japanese cafes in the Porter Exchange Building. Reasonably-priced and excellent lunches. (1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge). T: Red Line to Porter.



Cafe Sushi

The best moderately priced sushi place around. (1105 Mass. Ave. in Harvard Square, 492-0434), T: Red line to Harvard or #1 bus to Harvard.

China Pearl

Probably the best Cantonese dim sum place around. Every weekend brunch is a boisterous food fest. (9 Tyler St., Chinatown, 426-4338) T: Red Line to Downtown Crossing or South Station.

Chinatown Eatery

The one food court that serves a myriad of delicious dishes. Most of the menu is excellent for under \$5. (44 Beach St, 2nd floor, near Harrison, 357-5430) T: Red Line to Downtown Crossing or South Station.



East Ocean City

While East Ocean has good, familiar stuff like sesame beef, this is a place to get adventurous, especially with the seafood dishes, which are their specialty. Excellent house-special soup, "Dungeness" crab, fresh scallops, crispy spicy shrimp, clams in black bean sauce, and chow foon. Recently renovated, the restaurant is now decked in glass and aqua motifs with a polished granite tile wall and a fish tank in the window. (25 Beach St., 543-2504) T: Red Line to Downtown Crossing or South Station.

Grand Chau Chow

More hip version of its ancestor with essentially the same seafood-based menu. The ingredients are fresh and the surroundings pleasing. (41-45 Beach St. near Harrison/Washington, 292-5166) T: Red Line to Downtown Crossing or South Station.



Hsin Hsin Noodle

Convenient and cheap place to grab a bowl of noodles or try some scallion pancakes. Food is good for the price. (25 Mass. Ave. near Beacon, 536-9852) Walk.

Jae's Cafe and Grill

A blatant effort at dressing Asian food in hip clothing. This interesting cafe provides reliable dishes in a new light (1281 Cambridge St., Cambridge, near Prospect, 497-8380). Drive.

New Shanghai

One of the only restaurants in Boston to make an attempt at the eastern regional cuisine of China. The adventurous who want to stray from the path of Cantonese seafood and dim sum will be rewarded. (21 Hudson, near Kneeland, 338-6688). T: Red Line to Downtown Crossing or South Station.

Peking Cuisine

You know it's good when most Chinese grad students flock there. Mostly mandarin-style food with good Northern-style appetizers. (10 Tyler St., near Kneeland, 542-5857). T: Red Line to Downtown Crossing or South Station.



Royal East

Perpetual favorite of MIT students, if only for proximity. Food is generally above average, but dishes tend to taste the same rather quickly. Good for moderate banquets. (782 Main St., Cambridge, at Windsor, 661-1660). Walk.

Shilla

Harvard Square spot offering Korean and Japanese dishes. Quality is above average and the interior is spacious. (95 Winthrop St. Cambridge, near JFK, 547-7971). T: Red line to Harvard or #1 bus to Harvard.

Eclectic

Cambridge 1

Recently opened on Church St in Harvard Sq. It's actually a sports bar that is never crowded as a sports bar is, maybe because of its slick interior design. They serve tasty vegetable pizzas. You are welcome to sit, even if you are not eating.

Central Kitchen

Although pricey, the small menu offers stylish and quite tasty dishes inspired mostly by Mediterranean cuisine. They serve great appetizers such as the octopus, and great desserts such as the maple crème brûlée or the blueberry bread pudding. It is right at 567 Mass. Ave in Central Sq. (617-491-5599)

Christopher's

Eclectic upscale pub fare with many Tex-Mex, vegetarian dishes. (1920 Mass Ave. Cambridge, Porter Square, 876-9180). T: Red Line to Porter.



East Coast Grill*

An upscale barbecue joint in the area, East Coast Grill serves colorful American cuisine. Seafood dishes, and side orders are especially very tasty. Great for out-of-the-ordinary Sunday brunches. You can also mix your own Bloody Marys at the bar. (1271 Cambridge St in Inman Square, Cambridge, 491-6568) T: walk or drive to Inman Square or take the #83 or #91 bus from Central Square to Inman Square (weekdays only).

Jumbalaya

Half Cajun, half Mexican, half burgers, this new joint has a lot of unique options, from catfish and crawfish to quesadillas and blackened anything. Their jumbalaya is just average, but the place can be a nice alternative to the standard eateries. (795 Main St. Cambridge, 354-3600). Walk.

Fast Food



What's grad student life without it?? Thankfully, the nearest spots are close by, around Central Square. **McDonald's:** 463 Mass Ave. **Burger King:** 502 Mass Ave, and in the Student Center (Lobdell). **Wendy's:** 598 Mass Ave. **TacoBell, Kentucky Fried Chicken:** 168 Hampshire St (walk up Mass Ave and turn right on Prospect St, then keep going until you hit Hampshire St). **Dunkin' Donuts:** 616 Mass Ave.

French

Cafe Celador

Charming, hard-to-find basement bistro in a quiet Cambridge neighborhood. French and Italian bistro fare are presented with loving care. Innovative appetizers and wonderful desserts compliment well-portioned main courses. Friendly service and lively conversation brings an authentic bistro feel. (5 Craigie Circle near Concord Ave., Cambridge, 661-4073) T: Red line to Harvard or #1 bus to Harvard.



1 Arrow Street Crepes

Basically, they just sell crepes. Somewhat expensive for what you get, but very tasty, and they have some interesting recipes. Small place off Mass Ave. (1 Arrow St., 661-2737). T: Red line or #1 bus to Harvard.

German

Jacob Wirth

If you're close to the theater district, you're close to Jacob Wirth's Tavern, a Boston institution. They have cheap but flavorful German-style food, and the decor is wonderful (dark old wood, 19th century pictures, wrought iron, etc.) They also have a great selection of beer including a couple of their own brews like Jake's Dark. (31-37 Stuart Street near Tremont Street, Boston, 338-8586) T: Green line to Boylston stop, head down Tremont with traffic flow and make a left on Stuart St.

Indian

Ajanta ☪ *

On 145 First Street (617-491-0075) it has authentic South Indian Sunday brunch buffet, with idlis, dosas, sambar and rasam. You can meet the whole South Indian community of Cambridge there and even enjoy a cup of madras "kaapi" coffee.



Bombay Club

Upscale Indian dining tuned to the American taste. Elegant atmosphere and attentive service. Dinners can be expensive but the lunch buffets are great deals. (57 JFK St. near Winthrop, 661-8100). T: Red line or #1 bus to Harvard.

Border India ☪

On 781 Main Street (617-354 0405), they are just around the corner from MIT and have vegetarian lunch boxes (\$5) and deals on the dinner for students.

Cafe of India ☪ *

Traditional Indian dishes with high quality, moderate prices, and great decor. Wide selection of curries and excellent bread. The food here is better than at Bombay Club and it is a little bit less expensive. The naan (an Indian bread) is the best in the city. (52a Brattle St. near Church, 661-0683). T: Red line or #1 bus to Harvard.

Kebab N' Kurry

Small North Indian place just across river with lots of good chicken dishes and great spices. Moderately priced. (30 Mass Ave. near Beacon, 536-9835). Walk across the Harvard Bridge.



Maharajah ☪

A favorite vegetarian Indian restaurant with recommended tandoori and curries. Specialty is spicy food. (2088 Mass. Ave. near Walden 492-9538). T: Red line to Porter.

Punjabi Dhaba ☪

In Inman Square (617-547 8272) this is a take away place with a great variety of curries vegetarian and non-vegetarian. It is also possible to eat right there, probably less fancy than in a normal restaurant, but you will always feel like home. You find very competitive prices for great food.

Rangoli

A dependable alternative to traditional Indian restaurants, Rangoli's knowledgeable chefs create innovative and inexpensive South Indian dishes. The Allston site's attentive service and authentic courses have attracted a loyal following. (129 Brighton Avenue, Boston, 562-0200) T: Green line (B) to Brighton Ave.

Italian

Artu

An Italian-style bistro with a relaxed atmosphere, Artu lies along Charles Street at the foot of Beacon Hill. An eclectic assortment of grilled meats and panini supplements the traditional Italian menu. Salads and antipasti preface a variety of sauteed chicken dishes. The rotisserie chicken sandwich is a house specialty. (89 Charles Street, Boston, 227-0499) T: Red line to Charles.



Bertucci's

The Old Reliable may not have the best brick-oven pizza outside of Bologna but its presence near the warehouses behind MIT is reassuring. Also at Harvard Square. Pizza here is best eaten at the restaurant – for some reason the taste seems to degrade quickly with delivery. Excellent dinner rolls. (799 Main St., Cambridge, 661-8356; 21 Brattle St., Cambridge, 864-4748). Walk to the Main St. location.

California Pizza Kitchen

The adventure and funk of CPK invade the colonial tranquility of Harvard Square and the result can be expected. An abundance of California-style and ethnically-inspired pizzas. This is pizza a-la-mode if there is such a thing. (16-18 Eliot St., Cambridge, near JFK St., 492-0006) T: Red line to Harvard or #1 bus to Harvard.



Caffe Paradiso

Elegant and night-owlish cafe with an abundance of mirrors. Great gelati, sorbetti and many designer desserts not to be found elsewhere. (255 Hanover St. 742-1768). T: Green line to Haymarket.

Daily Catch

A small and crowded place whose big theme is calamari. The Sicilian seafood dishes are all superb. Prepare to wait (but it's worth it). (323 Hanover St., 523-8567). T: Green line to Haymarket.



Galleria Umberto

This is a place where food is literally attacked the minute it is put out, and with good reason. Excellent North End pizzas, calzones and other finger foods. Lunch only. (289 Hanover St., Boston, near Richmond, 227-5709). T: Green line to Haymarket.

L'Osteria

Classic menu with many chicken and veal dishes as well as excellent pastas. More moderately priced than competitors. (104 Salem St., Boston, 723-7847). T: Green line to Haymarket.

La Famiglia Giorgio's *

To finish a dish here, you need to either weigh over 200 pounds or not eat for two days. Noted more for economy than quality, La Famiglia is a natural favorite of grad students. North End (112 Salem, 367-6711, T: Green line to Haymarket) and Newbury Street (250 Newbury, 247-1569) T: Green line to Copley.

La Groceria

Best of the Italian restaurants within walking distance. Favorite for Cambridge office parties. Good pastas, wines and decent decor. They have delicious sorbet too. (853 Main St. 876-4162). Walk.

La Piccola Venezia *

North End favorite with hearty family-cooking. Lots of traditional fare with great sauces. Portions are large and the prices are reasonable. (263 Hanover St. 523-9802). T: Green line to Haymarket.



Pinnocchio's *

A friend of a friend (who went to Harvard) calls it "The best in The Square". Not to be rivaled in the area. A favorite of Harvard students. Open late, and really cheap. Good pizza. (Harvard Square, 876-4897) T: Red line to Harvard or #1 bus to Harvard.

Trio's

Pasta heaven, all freshly made at this southern Italian spot with Sicilian emphasis. (222 Hanover St. 525-9636) T: Green line to Haymarket.



Vinny Testa's *

Enormous portions of Italian food turn the Vinny's dining experience into a gluttonous free-for-all. Although the spectacle of excess on each plate is sure to strike awe in the hearts and mouths of most diners, the tab is anything but excessive. A tableside lottery game played after the meal even affords patrons the chance to walk out with a free meal in addition to a full belly. (New location on Boylston across from the Prudential Center, 262-6699). T: #1 bus to corner of Newbury and Mass Ave., then walk down Boylston about 2 to 3 blocks.

Mediterranean

Algiers Cafe *

Trendy, meditative cafe right next to the Brattle Theater. Emphasis on Middle-Eastern food with an assortment of teas and coffees. A little bit pricey. Quality is average and service somewhat unpredictable, but these things make it an easy-going, casual cafe. Smoking and non-smoking floors. (40 Brattle St, Cambridge, 492-1557). T: Red line to Harvard or #1 bus to Harvard.

Baraka Café ☼ *



This is one of the nicest restaurants you'll find in Cambridge due to its friendly ownership, service, and cozy dining space. They serve selections out of North African cuisine. You'll find a great variety of delicious vegetable dishes and a talkative chef. It's located on Pearl St, couple of blocks towards the river when you start from Central Sq. 80 1/2 Pearl Street, 617-868-3951.

Casablanca

Bogart's place in the Square, with a nostalgic bar and cheery dining rooms. Food is eclectic and a bit overpriced. But then there aren't that many hip North African places in the Square. (40 Brattle St., Cambridge, 876-0999) T: Red line to Harvard or #1 bus to Harvard.

Phoenicia

Excellent Middle Eastern and Lebanese food for around \$8-9 per person. Reliable tabbouleh, hummus, spinach pie and a few twists like pumpkin kibbeh. (240 Cambridge St. in the Beacon Hill area of Boston, 523-4606) T: Red line to Charles, walk up Cambridge St. several blocks.



Steve's

Can a good, cheap, and popular restaurant exist on Newbury Street? Steve's is a living testament. This always-packed Greek/Middle Eastern joint turns very good Greek salads, gyros and kebabs. Its Sunday breakfast is one of the most sought-after in the city. The other place where you can eat on Newbury for less than \$10. (316 Newbury St. near Hereford, 267-1817). T: Green Line to Hynes or #1 bus to Hynes to Mass Ave. and Newbury.

Mexican

Boca Grande



Close, Cheap and good Tex-Mex cafeteria foods featuring all the usual tacos, burritos and tamales. It has become popular as a take-out place. (1728 Mass. Ave., 354-7400). Walk.

Border Cafe

Many go to this over-hyped, yuppie Mexican place for atmosphere alone. Always overbooked during the evening and on weekends, Border's will introduce you to the latest beeper technology. The food is generally good, although hardly superior. Prices are moderate. But all that tends to get lost amid the hubbub. Expect to wait over an hour for dinner. Best to go early. Surprisingly fast lunch service. Good margaritas. (32 Church St., Harvard Square, 864-6100) T: Red line to Harvard or #1 bus to Harvard.

Casa Mexico

Lots of so-named restaurants fail to deliver good Mexican food but this one is up to the task. Generous portions of classic Mexican dishes are well-prepared, approaching Rio Grande standards. (75 Winthrop St., Cambridge, 491-4552). T: Red line or #1 bus to Harvard.



Picante Mexican Grill ☼ *

California-style Mexican food served with some zesty sauces. The service is fast and the prices reasonable. You can sit out in good weather. (735 Mass Ave. 576-6394) T: Red line or #1 bus to Central.

Pubs



Asgard Irish Pub and Restaurant *

American cuisine with an Irish flair. Good food, and great selection of beers. Wonderful atmosphere, too (interior decor is nice, and they also offer live Irish music several nights a week). Very close by (350 Mass Ave, in University Park). For a menu, band schedule, and info about similar Irish pubs in the Boston Area, check out www.classicirish.com.

B-side

Located at the corners of Hampshire and Windsor, B-side is a bit packed almost every night, but has talented bar tenders, and chef. Try the appetizers, if you haven't had enough of the hardboiled eggs at the bar. A little bit pricey for student budget.

Boston Beer Works

Across from Fenway Park (Brookline Ave.) T: Green line to Kenmore. Standard pub fare, sour cream and chive fries are recommended. You can't get a table unless you get food. About 12 beers on tap at any given time, all made in-house. Don't go on Red Sox game days.



Bukowski's *

Can you try over 100 different types of beer in one year? Bukowski offers many many kinds of beer. If you try all the kinds they have in the bar, you'll win an original Beer glass, that of your most favorite kind. Bukowski's offers a linear but cozy space, with tables as well. The walls are filled up with Bukowski's writing, not that anyone reads them. They also serve good burgers and fries. Located under the big parking lot at corners of Boylston and Mass. Ave.

Cambridge Brewing Company

Located at One Kendall Square, CBC is close to MIT. The nicest thing the CBC offers is not beer but that they have a large outdoor sitting area, which is very enjoyable once the sun starts coming out.

Charlie's Kitchen *

Quite a place, if you want to stay up late in a bar (2 am is their last call). A young crowd with little money in their pockets usually go there. A good selection of beer on tap (not the usual stuff) and a rich diner menu. Their double cheeseburger is a classic. JFK St. in Harvard Sq. Smoking and non-smoking floors are available.

John Harvard's Brew House

A perpetually popular hangout at Harvard Square. The attractions are the good home brews and innovative menu. The interior is a surprisingly elegant rendition of the English pub, plus a few stained glass windows and murals. Great for weekend brunch. Try the chicken pot pie. (33 Dunster St., 868-3585) T: Red line or #1 bus to Harvard.



North East Brewing Company

It's a bit of a trek on the Green Line, but is a nice place with excellent beer and tasty pizza. Full menu restaurant, and about 8 in-house beers on tap (1314 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton, 566-6699). T: Green line to Griggs.

Pour House *

One of the cheapest places to get good burgers anywhere in the city. Fun atmosphere and great hang-out place. Burgers are half price on Saturdays. Chicken sandwiches and Mexican dishes are on discount on other days. Probably the best chocolate frappes you'll get in Boston. (907-909 Boylston St. near Hereford, 236-1767). T: Green Line to Hynes.

Seafood



Barking Crab *

A casual fishermen atmosphere, great seafood. Perfect if you are tired of fried seafood. You eat right by the waterfront, and can actually breathe the ocean smell in on their patio. Take the Red line to South Station (or the Blue Line to Aquarium), and walk across the Fort Point Channel. (80 Sleeper St. by the Federal Courthouse, 617-426-2722)

Durgin Park

People who know it know it well. The food has always been good but not great, the service has always been hostile, yet the lines to get in still circle Quincy Market. The second floor warehouse is one of the city's oldest eateries, and Prime Rib, hot dogs and beans still make the trip worthwhile. (340 Faneuil Hall Market Place, Boston, 227-2038) T: Green line to Government Center.

The Fishery

Reasonably priced alternative to the big seafood restaurants. Good crab cakes, calamari, mussels and scallops. Praised as the best seafood value in Boston. (718-730 Mass. Ave., 868-8800) T: Red line or #1 bus to Central.



Legal Seafoods

For every raving fan heaping praise on this Boston tradition, there is another who rants on the overpriced mediocre seafood. The key is to pick a lucky date when the restaurant is on. Mostly American traditional preparation, except for a few departures here and there (Shandong style from Chinese "invented by Confucius"). Of course, it's all likely to taste good if someone else is paying. A good place to get your parents or advisor to take you to. Not cheap. Key lime pie is good. Seven locations around Boston. Nearest: (5 Cambridge Center, in Kendall Square, 864-3400). Walk.

No Name Restaurant

It's the fish, not the ambiance, that has drawn hoards of regulars to this Fish Pier favorite for years. And it's reasonable prices, fast service, and fresh catches that keep 'em coming back to long wooden tables and "family-style" seating. (15 1/2 Boston Fish Pier near Northern Ave., Boston 338-7539) T: Red line to South Station, then either walk or take the shuttle to the World Trade Center. (May be better to go with someone who knows where it is.)

Union Oyster House

America's oldest restaurant? Faneuil Hall Landmark boasting Boston's seafood tradition in colonial surroundings. Only drawback are the tourists. (41 Union St. near Congress, 227-2750) T: Green line to Government Center.

Spanish

Dali Restaurant and Tapas Bar

Dali is a very popular hangout place, sharing tapas makes it especially ideal for big parties. It is at the corner of Washington and Hampshire Streets in Somerville. Learn that corner well because there is also a bakery and a **Wine and Cheese Cask** that are equally worth the trip there.

Iruña

One of the few Spanish restaurants in the area, Iruña serves traditional Spanish home-style cooking. Interesting and moderately priced dishes always draw a large crowd to this Harvard Square spot. (56 JFK St., Cambridge, 354-8576). T: Red line or #1 bus to Harvard.

Thai



Siam Garden

A little bit away from Harvard Square. Standard Thai dishes are all good. (45 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge, 354-1718). T: Red line or #1 bus to Harvard.

Siam Square

One of the most authentic Thai places in Boston. Traditional favorites and inexpensive. (86 Harrison near Kneeland, Chinatown, 338-7706). T: Red Line to Downtown Crossing or South Station.



Thai Basil

Good Thai place on Newbury St. The garlic shrimp is excellent, but make sure your companions eat it too. Kind of pricey for what you get. Another place to have someone else take you to. (132 Newbury St., Boston, 424-8424) T: Green line to Hynes or #1 bus to Mass Ave & Newbury, then walk down Newbury.

Thailand Café

Being close to campus, it has become a popular dining spot amongst grad students. Good food, very reasonably priced (lunch specials around \$5-\$7, dinner specials from around \$6 and up). Take-out and delivery available as well. 302 Mass. Ave, 617-492-2494.

Tibetan

Rangzen

Located at 24 Pearl Street (617-354 8881), this restaurant has a different kind of lunch buffet in a silent atmosphere that is in welcoming contrast to the hectic life in Central Square. They let vegetarians and non-vegetarians have an interesting, refreshing and healthy lunch and a cup of tea. It is also nice for dinner.

Veg*an

Blue Shirt Café ☺

(bakery, tofu, organic, fair trade) Davis Sq. wonderful international wraps and salads with organic ingredients, great fruit smoothies; vegetarian heaven but they also have chicken and other meats, 424 Highland Ave (617-629 7641), T: Red line to Davis.



Buddha's Delight ☺

Vegan except for dairy in some desserts. Consistent rave reviews. Specializes in temple cuisine, a very impressive traditional Chinese vegetarian cuisine. 5 Beach Street, Chinatown, (617- 451 2395). T: Chinatown or Downtown Crossing .

Christopher's Natural foods ☺

Many vegetarian and vegan options. Grain burgers, soups, Mexican food, pasta dishes. No preservatives or artificial ingredients. 1920 Mass Ave, (617-876 5405, 876-9180.) T: Red line to Porter.

Country Life ☺

Vegan. Outstanding "all you care or dare to eat" buffet and rich salad and fruit bar. Family operated, owned by a nonprofit board. Dinner only 4 nights per week -- call ahead for hours. Closed Sat. 200 High Street (617-951 2534), T: South Station, walk 600m.

Grasshopper ☺

Vegan restaurant at 1 North Beacon Street, Allston-Brighton (617-254-8883)



Mama Gaia's Café ☺

At corner of Mass Ave and Main St. (617-441-3999), it is perfect for a vegetarian and organic lunch with subs, sandwiches and soups. Also music instruments are handy if you want to play a bit. They also provide free wireless internet and computer access.

Masao's Kitchen ☺

Vegan macrobiotic. Very good. Closed Mondays. Porter Exchange, 1815 Mass Ave, (617-497-7348). T: Porter

Middle East Restaurant ☺

They have a variety of bean dishes, and great salads, all freshly made. It is definitely a nice place to hang out with friends, sometimes in the company of live music. Great fun! 472 Mass Ave, 354-8238. T: Central.
<http://www.mideastclub.com>.

Trident Bookstore Café ☺

Located at 338 Newbury Street (617- 267 8688), you get to flip through books and magazines, or daily newspapers as you sit down in a bay window that overlooks Newbury St while eating healthy sandwiches, salads, drinking smoothies, chai etc. The prices are Newbury St. prices.



Veggie Planet

A pizzeria at 47 Palmer Street, Harvard Sq. (617-661-1513). Take-out is welcome. Even their pizza dough is organic. They have salads and other dishes as well--their coconut rice is excellent. T: Red Line or #1 bus to Harvard.

Check out <http://web.mit.edu/vsg/www/mailling.shtml#rest> for more info on vegetarian life.

Vietnamese

Ba Dat

Great place for pho in Chinatown. Many noodle and rice dishes from the Vietnamese repertoire. (28 Harrison Ave. near Kneeland, 426-8838). T: Red Line to Downtown Crossing or South Station.



Pho Pasteur

With locations in Brookline, Harvard Square, and Chinatown, Pho Pasteur is Boston's ubiquitous Vietnamese restaurant. While their signature dishes are the enormous bowls of excellent, inexpensive soup, a full range of Vietnamese fare is available.

Cafés, Teahouses and Bakeries

1369

A Cambridge classic at two locations: original site Inman Sq., secondary site in Central Sq, right across from the post office. Very nice atmosphere, and yummy desserts (but pricey!), as well as muffins, bagels, good coffee and a variety of teas.



Carberry's Bakery

74 Prospect Street (near Central Sq, 617-576-3530) has all sorts of croissants, baguettes and anything else the Francophile breakfast heart can hope for. The windows are large and give a bright good morning feeling, even though they only overlook at the parking lot.

Cezanne

A coffee shop quite close to MIT, competing with Toscanini's and Mama Gaia's where Main St. and Mass. Ave. meet. They have healthy fruit juices and sandwiches, together with a paper and a sofa in the back, 424 Mass Ave, (617-547 9616)



L.A. Burdick

Chocolaterie at 52D Brattle St (617-491-4340) is the place to go when you really need endorphins (if your math test didn't go well or if it is simply a harsh winter day). This place has the richest chocolate in the area. It is a tiny cafe and the line is sometimes long, but once you've successfully hunted for a seat, their truffles and atmosphere will make you happy.

Mike's Pastry *

A ritzy pasticceria, Mike's defines the word caloric. But of course, the desserts here are worth every calorie! The very wide (and tempting!) selection of traditional Italian pastries (biscotti, cannoli, tiramisu, etc) and other goodies (cakes, candy, cookies, pies, you name it) will demand the utmost dietary self-control. A must-go if you're in the North End after dinner. (300 Hanover St., North End, 742-3050). For more info, visit <http://www.mikespastry.com>. T: Green line to Haymarket.

Pamplona *

Bow St. in Harvard Sq. perfect for hot chocolate and coffee, and little fruit tarts. Works and acts like a European café. They don't offer great variety to eat, but definitely a distinct atmosphere of Cambridge intellectuals reading, writing and talking (often to themselves).



Tealuxe

One location at Harvard Sq. and one location on Newbury St. This chain tea store offers in-house drinking as well. Variety is large, perfect for tea lovers.

Ice Cream

Ben & Jerry's

Reliable high-quality ice cream (174 Newbury St., 536-5456). T: Green line to Copley.

Christina's *

Very good ice cream, many flavors, a neighborhood place. Perfect for after dinner at Inman Square. 1255 Cambridge St. in Inman Sq.



J. P. Licks

Big servings of excellent ice cream and frozen yogurt (352 Newbury, near Mass Ave. 236-1666). T: #1 bus to Mass. Ave. & Newbury St..

Steve's

Quincy Market's best. (367-0569) T: Green Line to Government Center.

Herrell's

Steve's last name. (15 Dunster St., Harvard Square, 497-2179, and a location on Newbury St.) T: Red line or #1 bus to Harvard.

Toscanini's

Many exotic flavors and the favorite MIT haven of sweets and coffee. Near the corner of Main St. and Mass Ave. There is also one in Harvard Sq. on Mass. Ave.

S-P Orientation Calendar 2002

Week 1 August 27-September 1	
Tuesday, August 27	
10:00 am – 6:00 pm	Orientation Table (S-P Lobby)
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	S-P Tour*
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	S-P Tour*
Wednesday, August 28	
10:00 am – 6:00 pm	Orientation Table (S-P Lobby)
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	S-P Tour*
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	S-P Tour*
7:00 pm – 11:00 pm	Prudential Skywalk & Ice Cream* (Newbury Street)
Thursday, August 29	
10:00 am – 6:00 pm	Orientation Table (S-P Lobby)
12:00 pm – 2:30 pm	<i>Grad Welcome Address and Lunch</i> (Kresge Auditorium/Oval)
2:30 pm – 8:00 pm	<i>Camera Safari and Dinner</i>
Friday, August 30	
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	S-P Tour*
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	S-P Tour*
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Hall Dinners (meet in Hall Lounges)
9:00 pm --	<i>Night Out on the Town</i> (meet at Ashdown House)
Saturday, August 31	
7:00 am – 10:00 pm	<i>Hiking Trip</i>
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Shopping Bus to Target/Bed,Bath&Beyond (runs continuous loop from S-P)
TBD	<i>U.S. Open Trip</i>
TBD	<i>Ashdown Movie Night</i> (Ashdown House)
Sunday, September 1	
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	S-P Scavenger Hunt* (S-P building and courtyard)
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	<i>Warehouse Reception</i> (The Warehouse)
7:00 pm – 10:00 pm	<i>Boston Harbor Cruise</i> (Long Wharf, Boston)

Notes: * Meet for these events in the S-P lobby at the time specified.
 Bold denotes S-P events.
Italics denote major GSC events or other graduate dorm events.
 All events are either free or subsidized for residents of S-P.

Week 2 September 2 - September 8	
Monday, September 2	
Labor Day	
9:30 am – 4:00 pm	<i>Cape Ann Beach Trip</i> (meet at Inbound Kendall T stop)
Tuesday, September 3	
Registration Day	
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Ice Cream Social (50-220 Lobby)
9:00 pm – 11:00 pm	Hall Meetings (Hall Lounges)
Wednesday, September 4	
Classes Start	
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm	<i>GSC Meeting and Reception</i> (50-220)
8:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Orientation Information Session (S-P Multipurpose Room)
9:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Coffee Hour
Thursday, September 5	
Friday, September 6	
4:00 pm – 2:00 am	S-P Opening Celebration
Saturday, September 7	
11:00 am – 2:00 am	S-P Opening Celebration
Sunday, September 8	
2:00 pm- 7:00 pm	<i>Whale Watch</i> (Long Wharf, Boston)

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