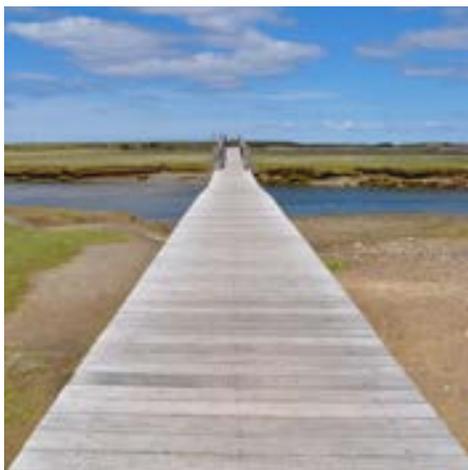
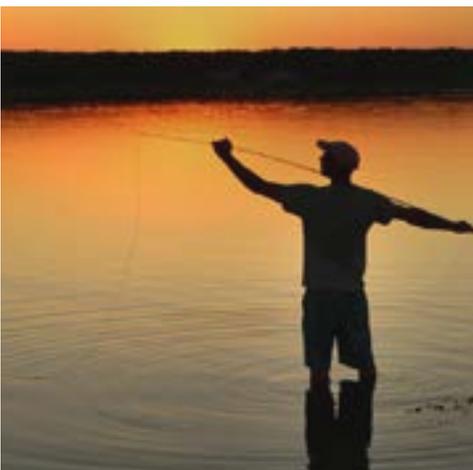


5 Things: Spring in Massachusetts



The spring story in Massachusetts is all about regeneration, from nature's warming welcome to the re-opening of the Bay State's most beloved attractions. We find our groove with a boost of daylight, pavement itching for road races, the opening of scenic trails, arts and cultural events galore, and a burst of exciting experiences waiting to be had.

Put a little spring in your step at massvacation.com/spring

1

THE BAY STATE IN BLOOM

Massachusetts has a thing for spring blooms. From flower shows to our own local gardens, the Commonwealth cherishes each new petal like a precious gem. Blossom chasing is the spring compliment to our world-renowned leaf peeping, and this season brings even more fresh hues to lighten the landscapes and bring on the smiles.



DAFFODIL FESTIVAL ON NANTUCKET

TULIPS, DAFFODILS, and LILACS, OH MY!

If you're looking for some of the best in bloom this year, be sure to visit one of these signature garden shows for a peek at this season's best in local color:

Spring Bulb Show | March 2 - 17, 2019
The Botanic Garden of Smith College, Northampton
smith.edu/garden/event/spring-bulb-show

Boston Flower & Garden Show | March 13 - 17, 2019
Seaport World Trade Center, Boston
bostonflowershow.com

Daffodil Festival on Nantucket | April 26 - 28, 2019
Events throughout Nantucket
daffodilfestival.com

Lilac Sunday | May 12, 2019
The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, Boston
arboretum.harvard.edu/news-events/lilac-sunday

FRESH and NEW

There's something special about the discovery of springtime flowers. Leave your rose-colored glasses behind and let mother nature do the work. Take a leisurely tour of these destinations to witness the seasonal transition.

Sashay through the cache of colors in the ornamental collections of plants at Tower Hill Botanical Garden in Boylston. This 132-acre property offers trails and seasonal programs that make this one of Massachusetts' premier destinations for green-thumbed individuals, families, and spring weddings!

Head to Heritage Museums and Gardens in Sandwich for some fantastic springtime sightseeing. The site is home to one of the most nationally recognized, significant garden collections in the country, known especially for their family of Dexter Rhododendrons!

Open mid-May through October, Berkshire Botanical Garden in Stockbridge is one of the oldest public gardens in the United States. The collections in this garden emphasize native New England roots for a fantastic floral display in the pictorial countryside of Western Massachusetts.

Take a walk through what feels like a storybook at Garden in the Woods in Framingham. A mélange of rare and native plants are scattered throughout this 45-acre garden. Where trees sing with color and petal-filled paths perch over lofty, glacier-sculpted ridges, this garden is the perfect reason to spend time outdoors!



RHODODENDRONS at HERITAGE MUSEUM & GARDENS
photo credit: Heritage Museum & Gardens

2

SPRING 2019 CHEERS TO MOMS and DADS

Spring hosts the beginnings of mid-May morning brunches, arts in the afternoon, and All-American sports games! This year, we're proposing that you revamp your spring calendar to make extra time for dear mom and dad. These excursions are certain to add special memories and springtime feels into any celebration!



Honor Mother's Day the Massachusetts way with some of these arts and culture crowd pleasers:

Explore the museums of Dr. Seuss, Eric Carle, and Norman Rockwell on the Iconic Illustrators Trail. From childhood classics to lifelong favorites, works from these renowned artists will bring back memories and provide the backdrop for creating new ones as you venture on a daytrip through Western Massachusetts.

Beloved Boston favorite, Make Way for Ducklings, will take over the Boston Public Garden on Sunday, May 12th for the Duckling Day Parade. Festivities include the Parkman Bandstand and several activities for your own family of mallards.

Visit The Crane Estate in Ipswich and be transported to a life of old world decadence at this stunning property.

Pamper your mom with a personal shopping experience. You can go to a department store or Massachusetts outlet and ask for assistance, or play fashion-expert yourself, to make sure mom's style is on point this spring.

Treat mom like a queen with a trip to a real Venetian-style palace, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, to view their most intimate, private collection and gardens this Mother's Day.

Father's Day falls right in the crux of spring and summer fun! Dust off the old standbys with some new adventures in the Bay State.

Celebrate one of Massachusetts favorite dads by taking a trip to either the Boston or Hyannis JFK Museum. This first family was beloved by a nation, with family ties as strong to the Bay State as they do to each other.

Leverage a love of literature and the sea with a visit to Arrowhead, once home of renowned "Moby-Dick" author Herman Melville. Take that a step further by experiencing the Melville Trail, a collection of eight sites in the Berkshires that deepen the understanding of Melville's connection to the region and its influence on his works.

Give sports games a facelift with a trip to The Sports Museum in Boston or the Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield.

Turn up the adrenaline with a thrilling Deep Sea Fishing adventure in Gloucester. Feel free to spare mom any mention of shark sightings.

Because nothing says Father's Day like the Godfather and seafood. Make dad an offer he can't refuse with a trip to Eataly. Or embark on a culinary quest through the fun and quirky neighborhoods of Boston, Somerville and Cambridge with Off the Beaten Path Food Tours.

With 154 breweries and counting in Massachusetts, it's never been easier to blaze your own beer trail. Bonding with dad over a pint or two (and maybe some pretzels) is always a winner. Check out some of the other craft beverage producers, while you're at it. The Bay State is booming with distilleries, wineries, and cideries, too, producing a number of small-batch, award-winning products you simply can't find anywhere else.

3

STEP IT UP

There's no time like spring to add some pep to your step! Take your winter workout outdoors and enjoy this season's hiatus from cool temperatures and early evenings. More daylight means Massachusetts gets more active - from road races to hikes for the whole family, we've got everything you'll need for a spring power boost!

SCENIC JAUNTS

Searching for a scenic route? Try one of these mildly challenging, yet stunning, trails that will make you feel even more connected to the elements of springtime!

Visit vibrant Petersham for a glimpse of one of Mass Audubon Society's treasures, Brooks Woodland Preserve and bird sanctuary. With beautiful hemlocks, red oaks, and maidenhair ferns, this remarkable reservation will make you believe in the magic of springtime transformation!

Follow the carriageways of Mashpee and Sandwich along the Lowell Holly as you head toward the beech woodlands — the largely untouched shorelines of fresh water ponds will make you feel like you're the first to explore these ancient Wampanoag lands.

Bear Swamp (doesn't it just sound like a storybook destination?) in Ashfield is a bucolic playground that spans three miles of trails where all kinds of creatures come to play, like owls, woodpeckers, and frogs... but contrary to its name, no bears.

Test your hiking skills with the three hills at Ward Reservation. Shrub, Boston, and Holt hills will bring you to some of the highest points for excellent sightseeing.

There's no better place to snap a coastal-scape photo than World's End in Hingham. With 251 acres of hilltops and shorelines, this local beauty doesn't disappoint!

TAKE IT EASY

If you're looking for a leisurely spring walk with friends or a pet, we recommend these historic and beautiful Massachusetts trails:

A favorite among history buffs, patriotic trails can be found in Concord and Lexington on Battlefield Road, which chronicles Paul Revere's famous ride and the redcoats' march through 18th century countryside.

Time travel to the early Industrial Revolution by taking a walk in Uxbridge's Cormier Woods. These woods lead through pastures, woodlands, and a boulder field along the Blackstone River Valley.

Hop a ferry to Chappaquiddick Island on Martha's Vineyard and walk around the Japanese-style gardens at Mytoi or go for a nature walk along the ever-changing Wasque shore.

Get away from it all with a day trip to Copicut Woods in Fall River. These 13,600 acres house forests, wetlands, and waterways echoing the area's agricultural roots.

After April 1st be sure to visit Chesterfield Gorge in Chesterfield, and behold one of Mother Nature's masterpieces with a 70-foot high rock canyon carved by riverbed erosion.



MONUMENT MOUNTAIN

FEEL THE BURN

If you're willing to work for your blossom peeping, these rough and rugged trails will turn things up a notch in no time.

Join literary lions like Nathaniel Hawthorne and Herman Melville with a hike to the summit of Monument Mountain in Great Barrington! These famous authors found inspiration for some of their greatest masterpieces amid spectacular views and sounds of nature atop this 1,642-foot mountain.

Coskata-Coatue Wildlife Refuge on Nantucket isn't reserved for summer tourists. These rolling dunes and forest uplands run along two peninsulas and are home to all kinds of maritime wildlife.

Royalston Falls is the ultimate spot to chase waterfalls and flex your photography skills for instagram-worthy captures.

Peaked Mountain in Monson is not for the faint-of-heart. Towering at 1,227 feet, the summit is home to some of the most pristine land in the state. The 360-degree view from the top means this mountain is perfect for sightseeing hikers with an interest in wildlife, nature, and a serious workout.



CORMIER WOODS



COASKATA-COATUE
WILDLIFE REFUGE
photo credit: R. Cheek



REEBOK
photo source: reebok.com



ADIDAS
photo source: adidas.com



ROCKPORT
photo source: rockport.com



MASSACHUSETTS KICKS

Massachusetts is one of the fittest states around, so it's no surprise many world-renowned footwear brands have made the Commonwealth home. With a high demand for seasonal activities and outdoor adventures, these shoe makers really capture the runner spirit.

Converse in Boston

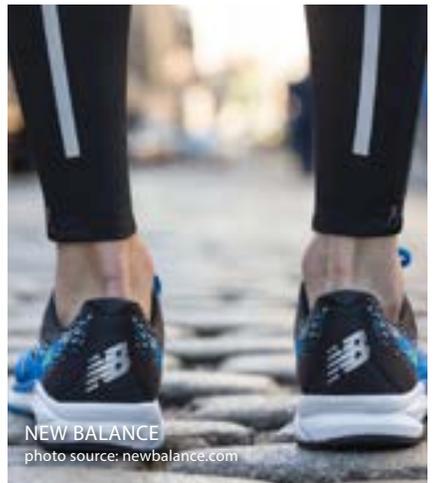
Reebok in Canton

Saucony in Waltham

Adidas (Boston Marathon sponsor) in Canton

New Balance in Brighton

Rockport in Newton



NEW BALANCE
photo source: newbalance.com



CONVERSE
photo source: converse.com



SAUCONY
photo source: saucony.com

No springtime Massachusetts fitness list would be complete without a special nod to one of the Bay State's most famous pastimes... Runners, we salute you! Each spring, runners rekindle their relationship with the road, from the salty shorelines of the coast, to the tangled, wooded trails of the Berkshires. Runners will join **road races** across the state and participate in various qualifying races for our annual Boston Marathon. This iconic event welcomes visitors from around the world to compete (and cheer on participants) in the 26.2 mile challenge from Hopkinton to Boston each Patriots' Day.

4

HOLIDAYS



PASSOVER and EASTER



PATRIOT'S DAY



MOTHER'S DAY



MEMORIAL DAY



BUNKER HILL DAY



FATHER'S DAY

5

2019 SPRING HAPPENINGS

Spring is in session and good times are in full supply. From an iconic road race to celebrations of creativity, the Commonwealth is hopping with happenings! This is just a taste of what's going on this spring.

For a full list of events, check out massvacation.com/events

Boston Red Sox Opening Day, April 9

Boston International Film Festival, April 11 - 16

75th New England Folk Festival, April 12 - 14

Boston Marathon, April 15

Anime Boston, April 19-21

Independent Film Festival Boston, April 24 - May 1

Daffodil Festival on Nantucket, April 26 - 28

ArtWeek, April 26 - May 5

Lilac Sunday at the Arnold Arboretum, May 12

Brimfield Antique Show, May 14-19

Boston Calling Music Festival, May 24 - 26

MCNAA Spring Planting Moon Pow-Wow, May 25 - 26

Boston Pride Parade, June 8

40th Annual Boston Dragon Boat Festival, June 8 - 9

