

# 5 Things: *Winter in Massachusetts*



photo credit: Charles Sternaimolo



photo credit: Jeff Folger



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Winter in Massachusetts is about so much more than puffy coats and string lights (though we're fans of warm layers and sparkly things). Whether you're into snuggling up with your honey on a romantic getaway, embracing the chill with outdoor activities, collecting bespoke goods from Massachusetts artisans, pampering yourself at the spa, dining on seasonal cuisine, or losing yourself in art with world class exhibits - we've got you covered!

To plan your winter getaway in Massachusetts visit [massvacation.com/winter](https://massvacation.com/winter)

## SPOTLIGHT: A ROMANTIC GETAWAY

Perhaps it's the cooler temps and twinkling lights, but we find ourselves naturally inclined to spend more time with that extra-special someone during the winter season. Cozy up with your sweetheart on a romantic getaway in Massachusetts. What could be better than basking in the warm atmosphere of a charming hotel, savoring a glass of wine or cup of hot cocoa by the fire, or strolling hand-in-hand down cobblestone streets? Our recommendations for a loving trip for two...

### ARTS & CULTURE

Strut through the *Pleasure and Pain Shoe Exhibit* at the **Peabody Essex Museum**.

Go out on the town with **The Hanover Theater** for an exceptional performance of *Once* the musical.

Visit **The Clark** for a Met live performance of Dvořák's Russian opera *Rusalka*, followed by a *Gallery Talk* for art connoisseurs.

Explore the Van Gogh in you by taking a painting class for two at **Muse Bar** at Assembly Row or Boston's first (sip and) **Paint Bar** on charming Newbury Street. Or channel your inner Moore & Swayze *a la* "Ghost" making pottery at **The Clay Room** in Brookline.

Revel in the magic of the movies on the island at the **Martha's Vineyard Film Festival**, an event that has the town of Chilmark brimming with stunning art, music, and films.

### CULINARY

A treat for the taste buds, amplify flavors by pairing chocolate and wine with **Boston Chocolate Tours**.

Join in one of the daily tours of **Westport Rivers Vineyard and Winery** to taste their signature wines and spirits – or make it extra special with a private tour.

For food lovers, take a winter culinary class at **Good Stock Farm** in the Pioneer Valley, or a couples cooking class at the **Cambridge School of Culinary Arts**.

Snuggle up in the Seaport District for a jeans-and-flannel date with beer and pretzels, from local brewer **Harpoon**. The combination of doughy-goodness and Boston Harbor views is enough to make any couple fall in love with this twist on snow day delights.



WARM UP WITH A TOASTY BEVERAGE



CHOCOLATE TOURS

photo source: boston.chocolatetours.com



HANOVER THEATER



PAINT AT THE CLAY ROOM

photo source: clayroom.weebly.com



COOKING CLASS

### STAY

On a rendezvous for two, not just any hotel will do! Luckily, options are plentiful, with a certain *je ne sais quoi* that beg you to stay for a while. So why not do just that?

#### Blantyre

16 Blantyre Road Lenox, MA 01240 | blantyre.com

#### The Merchant Hotel

148 Washington St., Salem, MA 01970 | themerchantsalem.com

#### XV Beacon

15 Beacon Street, Boston, MA, 02108 | xvbeacon.com

#### The Lord Jeffery Inn

30 Boltwood Ave., Amherst, MA 01002 | lordjefferyinn.com

#### The Captain's House Inn

369 Old Harbor Road, Chatham MA | captainshouseinn.com

#### Union Street Inn

7 Union Street Nantucket, MA 02554 | unioninn.com

## OUTDOORS & RECREATION

Ski beneath the starlight at **Wachusett** for night skiing and savor apres-ski options with live music and dinner at Coppertone Lounge.

Cuddle under a woolen blanket for a horse drawn sleigh ride at **Sweet Brook Farm**.

Embark on a leisurely snowshoe hike at **Bartholomew's Cobble**, followed by hot chocolate at the Visitor's Center.

A can't miss for all, glide around on ice skates like a winter Olympian at **Boston Common's Frog Pond**.



## HISTORY & HERITAGE

Spend a day thumbing through romance classics at the beautiful **Boston Public Library** in Copley Square, the first of its kind in the US.

Imagine a day in the life of sculptor Daniel Chester French at **Chesterwood**, his country home, studio, and gardens in Stockbridge.

Soak in the spirit of Massachusetts by exploring a **literary trail** of some of the greatest writing minds that called Newburyport, Salem, and other North of Boston towns their home.

Hearken back to yesteryear with an intriguing evolution of New England wedding styles over nearly four centuries, beginning with a creative re-imagining of the very first Plymouth Colony marriage in 1621 at the **Wedding 396** exhibit.



## DINE

A table for two can mean a casual evening out, or something to remember. What does a romantic dinner look like to you? Whether it's white tablecloths and candles or sultry music and exotic flavors, pick your mood and make a special night of it.

### Bondir

24 Walden Street, Concord, MA 01742 | bondirconcord.com

### Alta Restaurant & Wine Bar

34 Church Street, Lenox, MA 01240 | altawinebar.com

### No. 9 Park

9 Park Street, Boston, MA 02108 | nogpark.com

### Twenty-Eight Atlantic

2173 MA-28, Harwich, MA 02645 | wequassett.com/dining

### Nuovo

92 Shrewsbury Street, Worcester, MA 01604  
nuovoworcester.com

### The Terrace at the Charlotte Inn

27 South Summer Street, Edgartown, MA | theterracemv.com

### Cork Wine & Tapas

90 Front Street, New Bedford, MA 02740  
corkwineandtapas.com

### Samba

1138 Worcester Rd. (Rt 9E) Framingham, MA 01702  
sambaframingham.com

### Ceia Kitchen + Bar

38 State Street, Newburyport, MA 01950 | ceiakitchenbar.com

### Scarlet Oak Tavern

1217 Main Street, Hingham, MA 02043 | scarletoaktavern.com

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# 2

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## SPA and WELLNESS

It's important to take a little "me" time to recharge your battery and get ready to take on the New Year. Treat your mind, body, and soul at these spa and wellness spots that will have you feeling your best in no time.



### REFRESH and REJUVENATE

From luxurious spa treatments to tranquil meditations, find solace at one of these escapes.

#### The Stonehedge Hotel & Spa

160 Pawtucket Blvd., Tyngsboro, MA | [stonehedgeinnandspa.com](http://stonehedgeinnandspa.com)

#### Mirbeau Inn & Spa at the Pinehills

35 Landmark Drive, Plymouth, MA 02360  
[mirbeau.com/pinehills-plymouth](http://mirbeau.com/pinehills-plymouth)

#### Brass Key Guesthouse and Spa

67 Bradford Street, Provincetown, MA 02657 | [brasskey.com](http://brasskey.com)

#### Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health

57 Interlaken Rd, Stockbridge, MA 01262 | [kripalu.org](http://kripalu.org)

#### The Wauwinet

120 Wauwinet Road, Nantucket, MA, 02584 | [wauwinet.com](http://wauwinet.com)

#### G2o Spa and Salon

278 Newbury St, Boston, Massachusetts | [g2ospasalon.com](http://g2ospasalon.com)

#### Cranwell Resort & Spa

55 Lee Road, Lenox, MA 01240 | [cranwell.com](http://cranwell.com)

#### Daniel Webster Inn & Spa

149 Main St, Sandwich, MA 02563 | [danlwebsterinn.com](http://danlwebsterinn.com)

#### Chatham Bars Inn

297 Shore Road Chatham, MA 02633 | [chathambarsinn.com](http://chathambarsinn.com)

#### The Langham Chuan Body & Soul Spa

250 Franklin Street Boston, MA 02110  
[langhamhotels.com/en/the-langham/boston/wellness](http://langhamhotels.com/en/the-langham/boston/wellness)

### EAT WELL

Pull up a chair at one of many farm-to-table restaurants or fill up at an organic market, with an emphasis on quality, freshness, and seasonal ingredients.

#### Cambridge Winter Farmers Market

5 Callender Street Cambridge, MA 02139  
[cambridgewinterfarmersmarket.com](http://cambridgewinterfarmersmarket.com)

#### Life Alive

Lowell, Cambridge, and Salem | [lifealive.com](http://lifealive.com)

#### The Farmer's Daughter

122 Main Street, North Easton, MA 02356  
[thefarmersdaughtereaston.com](http://thefarmersdaughtereaston.com)

#### MKRT Restaurant

6B Elm Street, South Deerfield, MA 01373 | [mrktrestaurant.com](http://mrktrestaurant.com)

#### Gibbet Hill Grill

61 Lowell Road, Groton, MA 01450 | [gibbethillgrill.com](http://gibbethillgrill.com)

#### Plymouth Farmer's Market

137 Warren Ave, Plymouth, MA 02360 | [plymouthfarmersmarket.org](http://plymouthfarmersmarket.org)

#### Mezze Bistro & Bar

777 Cold Spring Road, Williamstown, MA 01267  
[mezzorestaurant.com](http://mezzorestaurant.com)

#### Erbaluce Restaurant

69 Church Street, Boston, MA 02116 | [erbaluce-boston.com](http://erbaluce-boston.com)

#### Sonoma Restaurant of Princeton

Post Office Place, 206 Worcester Road/Rte 31, Princeton, MA 01541  
[sonoma-princeton.com](http://sonoma-princeton.com)

#### The Armsby Abbey

144 North Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608 | [armsbyabbey.com](http://armsbyabbey.com)



**1. WINTER WALK IN MARTHA'S VINEYARD**  
photo source: Trustees



**2. TUBING**  
photo source: New England Sports Park



**3. ICE SKATING**  
photo source: cityhallplaza**o**st**o**n.com

### GET OUTDOORS

Mix adventure with stunning scenery and you've got a winning, adrenaline-filled day in Massachusetts.

1. Participate in the Martha's Vineyard Winter Walk by the Trustees, where you can explore rare habitat, fascinating natural history and spectacular views not usually accessible to the public.
2. Consider the walk up the hill your workout then speed down in a tube at New England Sports Park.
3. Glide into winter in the city at Government Center, with the new City Hall Plaza ice rink.
4. Try your hand at Nordic skiing and snowshoeing at Hilltop Orchards, then finish off the excursion with scrumptious apple cider.
5. Take it down a notch with an easy hike through Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary in Easthampton.
6. Amp up your winter sports game with downhill ski or snowboard lessons from seasoned pros at Otis Ridge.



**5. TRYING OUT SNOWBOARDING**  
photo source: Otis Ridge



**4. EASY SNOWSHOEING**  
photo source: hilltoporchards.com



**5. EASY HIKE ALONG THE RIVER TRAIL**  
photo source: Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

## MADE IN MASSACHUSETTS

We're rejoicing Bay State talent! Three cheers for the makers, artisans, and crafts people that make our pocket of New England extraordinary and a shopper's dream. Unique finds are often tied to unique stories, making those *Made in Massachusetts* goods all the more dear. Read on to discover a few of the greats and add your faves to the wishlist...

### LISA BESSETTE | NANTUCKET BASKETWORKS OF CAPE COD

Nantucket Basketworks owner, Lisa Bessette, is a homegrown Lightship Basket maker. After learning the craft of basket weaving from her father, Lisa began to cultivate more distinctive products, from purses to serving trays. Lightship Baskets are a 150 year-old maritime tradition, popular among lightship crewmen. Each hand-stitched piece is made from a rattan or cane, decorated with a maritime embellishment.

#### Nantucket Basketworks of Cape Cod

[nantucketbasketworks.com](http://nantucketbasketworks.com)



HANDWOVEN BASKET

photo source: [nantucketbasketworks.com](http://nantucketbasketworks.com)



MERMAID WEATHERVANE

photo source: [tuckandholand.com](http://tuckandholand.com)

### ANTHONY HOLAND | TUCK & HOLAND

Anthony Holand, renowned metal-worker, has been immersed in metal working since childhood— particularly the metal found on his family's working farm in Washington State. His early work included stainless steel and metal pieces that would later be developed into lost-wax bronze casts. In 1996, Anthony began work as an apprentice for celebrity sculptor Travis Tuck, the infamous weathervane maker for Steven Spielberg's *Jaws*. "My work begins with a flat sheet of copper and ends with an heirloom-quality piece of art built to last for centuries, all accomplished completely by hand. This is especially satisfying with the custom weathervanes, where I bring to life a design that has real significance for the family, individual or business we are working with," said Holand.

#### Tuck & Holand

275 State Rd, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568 | [tuckandholand.com](http://tuckandholand.com)

### HOLIDAY SHOPPING HIGHLIGHT

#### SoWA Holiday Market | December 10 - 11

The SoWA Holiday Market includes original art work from its local artists collective. None of the work on display at the Holiday Market has been mass-produced, making the newest addition to your personal art collection unique and exclusive. The 2016 Sowa Holiday Market will be held at the Benjamin Franklin Technical Institute at 41 Berkeley Street in Boston's Historical South End, the city's cultural epicenter. The market will be held in the lobby, lobby hallways, breezeway and auditorium.

41 Berkeley St., Boston, MA 02116 | [sowaholidaymarket.net](http://sowaholidaymarket.net)



HOLIDAY ORNAMENTS

photo source: [sowaholidaymarket.net](http://sowaholidaymarket.net)

## ARON LEAMAN | MILL CITY GLASS WORKS

Founder of Mill City Glass Works, Aron Leaman, is a local artist whose passion for glass work has taken him all over the world for inspiration and cultivation of best-practices. Aron, a 15 year glassblowing veteran is a seasoned teacher, student, and studio owner. His work is characterized by its fun and playful nature - as art very much imitates its maker with many of his inventive and cool pieces. Leaman says, "These globes contain sand from various beaches around Massachusetts. In addition to sand I use woven copper and air bubble "pearls" to create elegant yet simple design. No one is exactly alike. Please view them from all angles turning and watching for change. I hope you enjoy them as much as I enjoy making them."

### Mill City Glass Works

122 Western Ave. # 125, Lowell, MA 01851 | aronleamanglass.com



## BARBARA BITGOOD | HOLYOKE PUZZLES

It's a dream to do what you love for a living, and it's safe to say that Barbara Bitgood has managed to accomplish that very thing. What began as a beloved pastime for the Holyoke craftsperson - making hardwood jigsaw puzzles for friends and family - evolved into a unique business. Since 2013, Barbara has been designing custom puzzle art from her home workshop in Western Massachusetts, with an emphasis on sculptural pieces that are freestanding once assembled. The artistic process begins with a hand drawn pattern which is then cut into a specially selected hardwood, chosen for its color and texture to enhance the overall design. With works ranging from animals to architecture, Barbara's crafts appeal to a wide audience.

### Holyoke Puzzles

304 Hillside Ave., Holyoke, MA 01040 | holyokepuzzles.weebly.com



## GARY and ANN MALONE | STURBRIDGE POTTERY

Gary Malone and his wife, Ann, have been making pottery since the 1970s. After meeting on Sturbridge common, they decided to combine their artistic practices to become masters of clay, Raku, porcelain and painting. Each piece from Sturbridge Pottery is developed in their Sturbridge Studio and is completely handmade or hand-thrown.

### Sturbridge Pottery

99 New Boston Rd., Sturbridge, MA 01566 | sturbridgepottery.com



## JUDY and GARY VAILLANCOURT | VAILLANCOURT FOLK ART

Recently celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2014, Vaillancourt Folk Art has solidified its place in the world of chalkware. Classically a Victorian art form, chalkware was turned on its head when artist and founder Judi, along with her husband Gary, began pouring liquid chalk into vintage confectionery molds. The result was the creation of the most delightful figures, finished off with Judi's fine art talents. After incredible response at craft fairs countrywide, Judi and Gary made the decision to convert the kitchen, dining, and bedrooms of their home into a chalkware production facility. Shortly thereafter, they brought on several employees to assist with demand, and never looked back. Santa and rabbits tend to be among the most popular items, along with other Christmas and antique-inspired goods

### Vaillancourt Folk Art

9 Main Street #1H, Sutton, MA 01590 | valfa.com

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# 4

## HOLIDAYS

Winter is chock full of holidays to celebrate. Christmas trees, lighting the menorah, fireworks and cheer bring a close to 2016. Then following the New Year, a time for remembrance, candle-lit romance, and green beer.



**CHRISTMAS | HANNUKAH | NEW YEARS**



**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**



**VALENTINE'S DAY**



**ST. PATRICK'S DAY**

# 5

## HAPPENINGS

There's always something fun going on in Massachusetts, especially during the winter season. For the full list of events, festivals, and other happenings head on over to [massvacation.com/events](http://massvacation.com/events)

**41st Annual Boston Pops Season (12/7 – 12/31) | [bso.org](http://bso.org)**

**Boston Tea Party Reenactment (12/16) | [oldsouthmeetinghouse.org/calendar/annual-reenactment](http://oldsouthmeetinghouse.org/calendar/annual-reenactment)**

**Berkshire Grown Holiday Farmers' Market (12/18) | [berkshiregrown.org](http://berkshiregrown.org)**

**Sugar Plum Sunday Tea Event at The Clark Museum (12/18) | [clarkart.edu/importedevents/864-26745](http://clarkart.edu/importedevents/864-26745)**

**MAAH and H•H Celebrate Freedom with First Night Jubilee Concert (12/31) | [maah.org/events.htm](http://maah.org/events.htm)**

**First Night and First Day | events statewide**

**14th Annual Boston's Celtic Music Festival (1/13 – 1/14) | [clubpassim.org/BCMFest](http://clubpassim.org/BCMFest)**

**Gender Reel Film Festival (1/20) | [genderreelfest.com](http://genderreelfest.com)**

**City Hall Plaza Ice Skating and Holiday Market | [cityhallplaza.com](http://cityhallplaza.com)**

**Lunar New Year | Celebrations statewide**

**The Beanpot Hockey Tournament (2/1 and 2/8) | [beanpohockey.com](http://beanpohockey.com)**

**7th Annual Northampton Ice Art Festival (2/10) | [nohoarts.org](http://nohoarts.org)**

**Boston Wine Expo (2/18 – 2/19) | [wine-expos.com](http://wine-expos.com)**

**Lowell Winterfest (2/25 – 2/26) | [facebook.com/lowellwinterfest](http://facebook.com/lowellwinterfest)**

**Hyannis Marathon (2/26) | [hyannismarathon.com](http://hyannismarathon.com)**

**Salem Film Fest (3/2 – 3/9) | [salemfilmfest.com/2017](http://salemfilmfest.com/2017)**

**Concord Museum Winter Ball (3/4) | [concordmuseum.org/special-events-gala.php](http://concordmuseum.org/special-events-gala.php)**

**March Madness | Pick your favorite Massachusetts team!**

**Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade (3/19) | [holyokestpatricksparade.com](http://holyokestpatricksparade.com)**

**Shakespeare Unauthorized (thru 3/21) | [bpl.org/exhibitions/shakespeare-unauthorized](http://bpl.org/exhibitions/shakespeare-unauthorized)**

Like free stuff? Don't miss out on Wicked Free Winter Fun, a collection of hundreds of totally free happenings all winter long from the Berkshires to the islands. Start planning at [massvacation.com/freewinter](http://massvacation.com/freewinter)

