MASSACHUSETTS

5 Things: Winter in Massachusetts

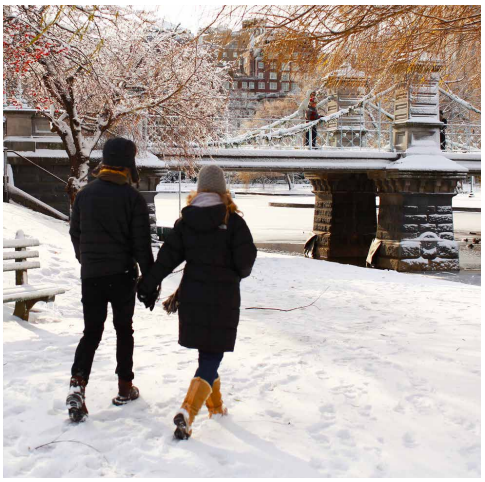

photo credit: Jeff Folger

Winter is a special time visit to Massachusetts. Imagine snuggling up with your honey on a romantic getaway, embracing the chill with outdoor adventures, dining on seasonal cuisine, collecting bespoke goods from local artisans, getting pampered on a spa retreat, losing yourself in world-class art exhibits, or connecting with rich history...

Now, layer up and plan your winter getaway to Massachusetts at massvacation.com/winter

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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

Fosse fans, welcome to the infamous Kit Kat Klub, and spend an evening on the town for an exceptional performance of **Cabaret**, the musical, at the **Hanover Theater.**

Spark some spontaneity through the **PlayTime** exhibit, the first major thematic exhibition celebrating the role of *play* in contemporary art and culture, at the **Peabody Essex Museum**.

What could be smoother than **swaying to jazz** with your sweetie? Massachusetts boast year-round jazz festivals, concerts, and clubs.

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

Explore the Monet in you by taking a painting class for two at **Muse Bar** at Assembly Row or Boston's first [sip and] **Paint Bar** on Newbury Street. Then again, you could always channel your inner Moore & Swayze *a la* "Ghost" making pottery at **Clay Dreaming** in Beverly.

FOOD & DRINK

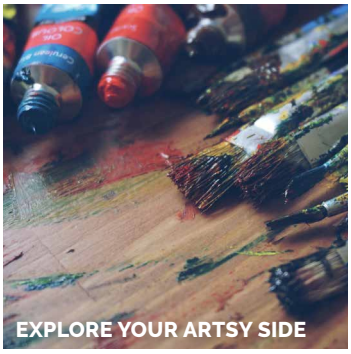
A treat for the taste buds, amplify flavors by pairing chocolate and wine with **Boston Chocolate Tours** or sample artisinal spirits in Plymouth at **Dirty Water Distillery**.

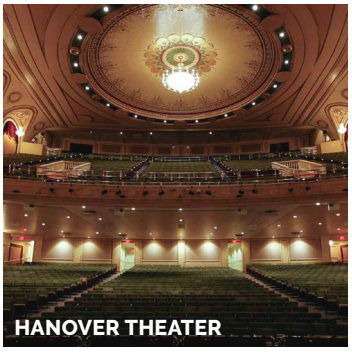
Join one of the daily tours of **Westport Rivers Vineyard and Winery** to taste their signature wines and spirits – or make it extra special with a private tour.

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 carb-loving combo of doughy delights, frothy brew, and Boston Harbor views is enough to make any couple fall head-over-heels again.

TAKE A COOKING CLASS


EXPLORE YOUR ARTSY SIDE


HANOVER THEATER

CHOCOLATE TOURS
photo source: boston chocolatetours.com

FEEL THE MUSIC

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 | blantyre.com

The Beauport Hotel
55 Commercial Street, Gloucester | beauporthotel.com

XV Beacon
15 Beacon Street, Boston | xvbeacon.com

The Lord Jeffery Inn
30 Boltwood Ave., Amherst | lordjefferyinn.com

The Captain's House Inn
369 Old Harbor Road, Chatham | captainshouseinn.com

Greydon House
17 Broad Street, Nantucket | greydonhouse.com

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.

Turn back a page in time with a day at **Historic Deerfield** - a well preserved slice of New England with museum homes, art and antique collectibles, and a beautiful working village dating back to 1671.

Soak in the creative spirit of Massachusetts by exploring a **literature trail** through the North of Boston region to visit sites that revered American authors, such as Nathaniel Hawthorne, called home. For fans of **Henry David Thoreau**, spend an afternoon **touring historic Concord sites** touched by his influential life and work.

HISTORIC DEERFIELD'S CHARMING DEERFIELD INN

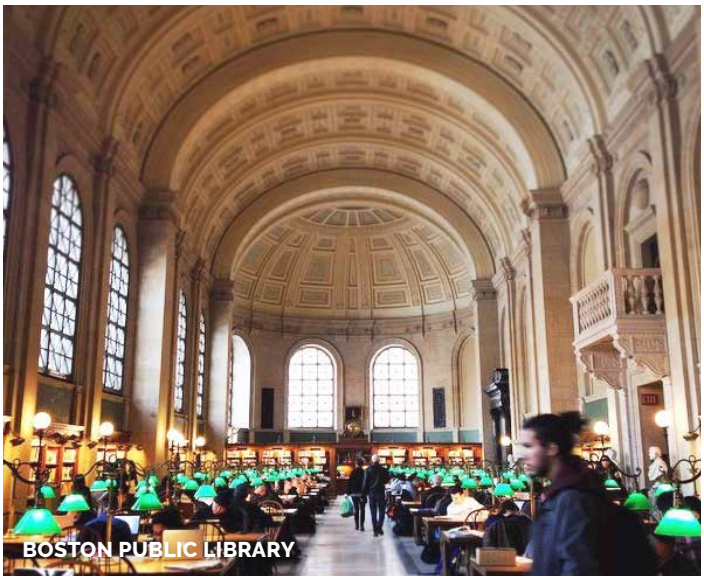
OUTDOORS & ADVENTURE

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

Cuddle close 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 longtime favorite, fun for all ages, glide around on ice skates like a winter Olympian at **Boston Common's Frog Pond**.


BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

DINE OUT

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, candles, and soft jazz, or sultry music and exotic flavors, pick your mood and make a night of it with someone special.

Angelina's Ristorante Italiano
11 Depot Street, Suite 1, Concord | angelinasrestaurant.com

No. 9 Park
9 Park Street, Boston | no9park.com

Twenty-Eight Atlantic
2173 MA-28, Harwich | wequassett.com

Table Six
2 Kemble Street, Lenox | tablesixenox.com

Nuovo
92 Shrewsbury Street, Worcester | nuovoworcester.com

The Terrace at the Charlotte Inn
27 South Summer Street, Edgartown | theterracemv.com

Cork Wine & Tapas
90 Front Street, New Bedford | corkwineandtapas.com

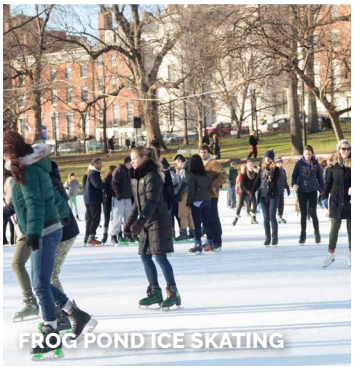
Samba
1138 Worcester Road, Framingham | sambaframingham.com

Ceia Kitchen + Bar
38 State Street, Newburyport | ceiakitchenbar.com

Scarlet Oak Tavern
1217 Main Street, Hingham, MA 02043 | scarletoaktavern.com

Woods Hill Table
24 Commonwealth Avenue, Concord | woodshilltable.com

SCENIC SLEIGH RIDE
photo source: sweetbrookfarm.com


FROG POND ICE SKATING

TOAST TO ROMANCE

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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 spirit at these spa and wellness spots that will have you feeling your best in no time.

REFRESH and REJUVENATE

Self care should always be on the agenda, but deserves special attention with a dedicated spa retreat. Cherish *you* and make wellbeing a priority with luxurious treatments and tranquil medidations, finding solace at one of these escapes.

The Stonehedge Hotel & Spa
160 Pawtucket Boulevard, Tyngsboro | stonehedgeinnandspa.com

Mirbeau Inn & Spa at the Pinehills
35 Landmark Drive, Plymouth | mirbeau.com

Brass Key Guesthouse and Spa
67 Bradford Street, Provincetown | brasskey.com

Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health
57 Interlaken Road, Stockbridge | kripalu.org

The White Elephant Hotel and Spa
50 Easton Street, Nantucket | whiteelephanthotel.com

The Spa at Mandarin Oriental
776 Boylston Street, Boston | mandarinoriental.com

Cranwell Resort & Spa
55 Lee Road, Lenox | cranwell.com

Daniel Webster Inn & Spa
149 Main Street, Sandwich | danlwebsterinn.com

Chatham Bars Inn
297 Shore Road, Chatham | chathambarsinn.com

The Langham Chuan Body & Soul Spa
250 Franklin Street, Boston | langhamhotels.com

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 | cambridgewinterfarmersmarket.com

Life Alive
Lowell, Cambridge, and Salem | lifealive.com

The Farmer's Daughter
122 Main Street, North Easton | thefarmersdaughtereaston.com

MKRT Restaurant
6B Elm Street, South Deerfield | mrktrestaurant.com

Gibbet Hill Grill
61 Lowell Road, Groton | gibbethillgrill.com

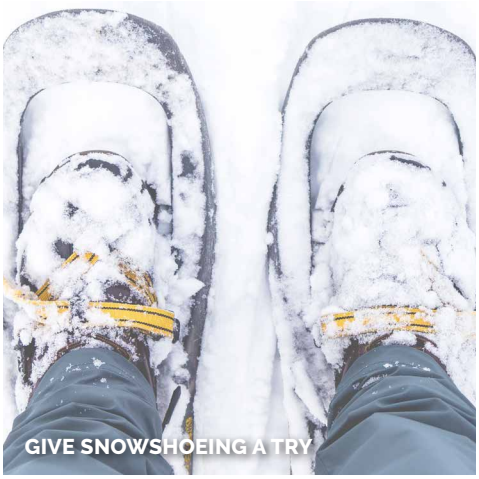
Plymouth Farmer's Market
137 Warren Ave, Plymouth | plymouthfarmersmarket.org

Mezze Bistro & Bar
777 Cold Spring Road, Williamstown | mezzerestaurant.com

Erbaluce Restaurant
69 Church Street, Boston | erbaluce-boston.com

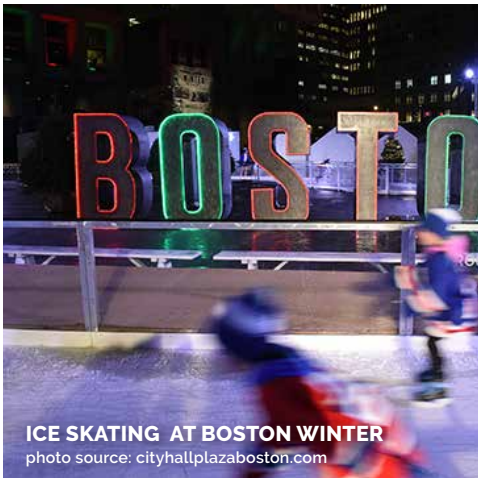
Sonoma Restaurant of Princeton
206 Worcester Road, Princeton | sonoma-princeton.com

The Armsby Abbey
144 North Main Street, Worcester | armsbyabbey.com



GIVE SNOWSHOEING A TRY

NORDIC SKIING
photo credit: J. Monkman



ICE SKATING AT BOSTON WINTER
photo source: cityhallplazaboston.com

TUBING IS FUN AND EASY
photo credit: Ogden Gigli

GET OUTDOORS

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

Let moonlight be your guide on the Trustees' **Full Moon Brew Moon: Moonlight Ski & Snowshoe** through Notchview's trails, followed by a beer, wine and cheese tasting.

Consider the walk up the hill your workout, then speed down in a tube at **New England Sports Park**.

Glide into the holidays with **Boston Winter** at City Hall Plaza to shop for goodies at the charming chalet market and whirl around on ice skates.

Try your hand at Nordic skiing and snowshoeing at **Hilltop Orchards**, finished off with warm apple cider.

Take it down a notch with an easy hike through **Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary** in scenic Easthampton.

Amp up your winter sports game and bring a friend for downhill ski or snowboard lessons at **MA Ski Areas**!

LEARN TO SKI OR SNOWBOARD

SCENIC HIKE ALONG THE RIVER TRAIL
photo source: Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

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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...

MERMAID WEATHERVANE
photo source: 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 Road, Vineyard Haven | tuckandholand.com

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-stiched piece is made from a rattan or cane, decorated with a maritime embellishment.

Nantucket Basketworks of Cape Cod
nantucketbasketworks.com

HANDWOVEN BASKET
photo source: nantucketbasketworks.com

HOLIDAY SHOPPING HIGHLIGHT
SoWa Winter Festival | December 2 - 3, 2017

The SoWa Winter Festival features 100+ of the area's best artisans and specialty food vendors, food trucks, winter cocktails, carolers, and more. At Boston's largest winter shopping village, you'll find arts, crafts, and maker goods of all sorts that will kick your gift- giving game up a notch. The 2017 SoWa Winter Festival will be held at the SoWa Power Station at 540 Harrison Ave. in Boston's cultural epicenter, the South End neighborhood. Whether you're shopping for yourself, or friends and family, keep your eyes peeled for one-of-a-kind finds sure to please!

540 Harrison Avenue, Boston | sowaboston.com

STROLLING THROUGH VENDOR TENTS
photo source: sowaboston.com

PLATTER
photo source: sturbridgepottery.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 Road, Sturbridge | sturbridgepottery.com

MIDNIGHT RIDE BUNNY
photo source: valfa.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 | valfa.com

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 seasoned glassblowing veteran is an expert 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 Avenue # 125, Lowell | aronleamanglass.com

SAND GLOBES
photo source: 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 Avenue, Holyoke | holyokepuzzles.weebly.com

PUZZLE SCULPTURE
photo source: holyokepuzzles.weebly.com

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HOLIDAYS

Winter is holiday season! Special performances, sparkling lights, and lively celebrations close out one year and usher in the next. After fireworks and mistletoe, we make time for remembrance, candle-lit romance, and frothy green beer.

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2017/2018 WINTER HAPPENINGS

There's always something exciting going on in Massachusetts, and wintertime is no exception.
For a greater listing of events, festivals, and other happenings, head on over to **massvacation.com/events**

Winter Reimagined at Tower Hill Botanical Garden | towerhillbg.org

Boston Winter Market and Ice Skating (11/24 - 12/31) | cityhallplaza.com

Nantucket Festival of Trees (12/1 - 12/31) | nha.org

Boston Pops Holiday Season (12/5 – 12/31) | bso.org

The Nutcracker screening at The Clark Museum (12/16) | clarkart.edu

Boston Tea Party Reenactment (12/16) | bostonteapartyship.com

Boston Wine Festival (1/12 - 3/30) | bostonwinefestival.net

Spalding Hoop Hall Classic (1/12 - 1/16) | hoophall.com

14th Annual Boston's Celtic Music Festival (1/18 – 1/21) | clubpassim.org

Fitchburg's Annual Winter-fest (2/10) | appleseed.org

Beanpot Hockey Tournament (2/5 - 2/13) | beanpothockey.com

Lowell Winterfest (2/24 - 2/25) | facebook.com/lowellwinterfest

Hyannis Marathon (2/25) | hyannismarathon.com

Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade (3/18) | holyokestpatricksparade.com

18th Annual Martha's Vineyard Film Festival (3/15 - 3/18) | tmvff.org

Like free stuff? Don't miss out on **Wicked Free Winter Fun**, a collection of hundreds of 100% FREE statewide activities taking place from 12/21 - 3/20. Take your pick and start planning at **massvacation.com/freewinter**

BOSTON TEA PARTY REENACTMENT
photo source: bostonteapartyship.com

HOLYOKE ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE
photo source: holyokestpatricksparade.com

BEANPOT HOCKEY TOURNAMENT
photo source: dailyfreepress.com