



Boston Welcome Guide The Boston Vermont Law School Alumni Association

Congratulations on coming to Boston! The Boston Vermont Law School Alumni Association hopes you will enjoy your time here and take an active part in one of the school's most growing alumni networks.

As you have probably already discovered, Boston is a wonderful place. We hope this brief guide will help avoid some of the confusion involved when moving to a new place.

Your fellow VLS Alumni are willing to help! If you have other questions that are not covered here, feel free to get in touch with the Boston Vermont Law School Alumni Association at vlsbostonalumni@gmail.com.

Getting Set Up:

If you just arrived in Boston, there are some stores, [Target](#) and [Home Depot](#), a short bus ride away to help you get settled in. Other stores like [Walmart](#) and [Costco](#) are a short drive away. If you do not have a car, sign up for [Zipcar](#) or reach out to fellow Boston Alumni. There are many more options in the suburbs. Also, don't forget to check [Craigslist](#) for stuff—people are always moving out in Boston.

Getting Around:

Boston's traffic is regarded as some of the worst and has earned Massachusetts drivers a special nickname (google it). However, there are many options for getting around Boston. Do not forget that many places are within walking distance!

Cars:

Boston loves parking tickets! If you're staying for any length of time and bringing a car, make sure you get a [neighborhood parking permit](#) and Massachusetts plates at the [DMV](#).

Boston also has a number of car sharing options. Check out [Zipcar](#), [RelayRides](#), [Hertz 24/7](#), and [Enterprise Car Share](#).

Metro:

The Boston area has a (somewhat) reliable subway—called the T—and a number of buses that can usually get you where you need to go. To figure out which train or bus you need, you can use the Ride Tools at <http://www.mbta.com/>.

Most Boston residents have a Charlie Card, which is a plastic, rechargeable card used on buses and the T. They can be purchased at various locations found here: <https://commerce.mbta.com/>.

The T is very busy during commuting hours, so plan your commute wisely. Also, on the escalators Bostonians stand to the right and walk on the left. You should too.

Biking:

Many Boston residents are bikers. If you are a biker but did not bring your bike, you can sign up for [Hubway](#). Bike maps for safe biking around the city and surrounding areas can be found [here](#). Always remember to wear a helmet!

Going Out:

Both drinking and eating are popular pastimes in Boston. Sadly, Happy Hour was banned in Massachusetts in 1984. Today, most restaurants and bars offer food specials throughout the week in lieu of Happy Hour. Check out reviews of Boston's best Happy Hours [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

Boston is also home to several of food trucks selling lunches from grilled cheese, lobster rolls, and bbq. You can find which trucks are closest to you on any given day [here](#) and [here](#).

Maybe you're looking to meet new friends and try new activities? Boston is full of people and things to do. [Boston Social Sports](#) has various sports options from basketball to softball, kickball to volleyball. If you're not looking to play sports, there are several networking sites: [Boston Young Professionals Network](#), [Boston Social and Professional Networking](#), and other [sites](#). There are also other [sites](#) that cover all activities from biking and volunteering to dating.

Professional Growth:

Many attorneys in the Boston area are members of various Bar Associations. Here are links for the various pages.

Boston Bar: <http://www.bostonbar.org/>

Massachusetts Bar: <http://www.massbar.org/>

Women's Bar: <http://www.womensbar.org/>

Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar Association: <http://www.vlpnet.org/>

Though Massachusetts does not require CLE credits, the Boston Bar does host [several CLE course annually](#).