



# GREATER BOSTON CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

# Who We Are and What We Do

#### **Our Mission**

The Greater Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau (GBCVB) is the primary private sector marketing and visitor services organization charged with the development of meetings, conventions and tourism related business. Our goal is to enhance the economy of Boston, Cambridge and metropolitan area as well as develop business opportunities for members.

# **Our Organization**

The GBCVB is a not for profit, membership driven sales and marketing business comprised of over 1,200 companies across Boston, Cambridge and New England that depend upon the visitor and convention industries for their own success and growth. The marketing focus of the GBCVB involves the following departments: Group Sales, Visitor Services, Media Relations & Tourism Sales, Visitor Marketing and Destination Services.

# **Conventions & Meetings**

The solicitation of conventions and meetings involves city and state government, area hotels, exhibition companies and other GBCVB member companies. Our Destination Services team works with all group business booked definite for Boston and serves as a "match maker" between these clients and our members.

#### **Tourism**

The tourism marketing effort is a carefully planned strategy that takes into consideration every opportunity to partner with state and city government, as well as local and private groups who share the same objectives. Through our partnerships, the GBCVB works to stimulate growth in international and domestic markets that offer the highest potential for new business for Greater Boston.

Join over 1,200 businesses that benefit from the GBCVB's unique access to Boston's visitors, meetings and events, convention attendees and group tour market!



Membership in the GBCVB is open to any business or organization interested in promoting Greater Boston as a leading destination for convention, group tour and leisure travel.

The GBCVB is the primary source of local Boston information. We can refer your business to meeting and event organizers, convention attendees, group tour operators, visitors and our members to greatly enhance your bottom line!

#### **Outlook for the Tourism Market**

Pinnacle Advisory Group forecasts that hotel occupancy will reach 65% for Boston and Cambridge in 2022, up from 45% in 2021. The Greater Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau will continue to drive recovery campaigns that focus on the leisure market, international visitors, and the revival of the meetings sector and business travel.

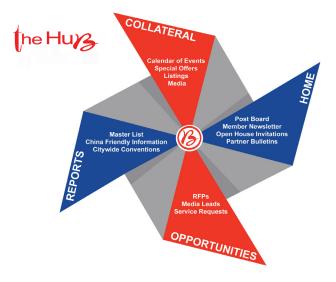
Our regional drive markets remain critical, though we will expand our marketing efforts in 2022 to include all domestic areas, Canada, Ireland, Germany and the UK. The Bureau will work with our partners, including Massport and the MA Office of Travel & Tourism, to strategically reengage international markets.

On behalf of our members and the travel industry, we will continue to educate, advocate, innovate and share resources related to traveler sentiment and salient industry trends.



# Membership Benefits Membership Benefits

#### **Leads & Referrals**



#### The HUB - Member Access on BostonUSA

Each member has the opportunity to receive leads directly from GBCVB sales and destination services managers working with domestic and international meeting and event planners.

#### **Masterlist of Conventions & Events**

This proactive and exclusive Convention Calendar provides a list of definite meetings and events coming to the Boston area over the next few years. It also contains the contact for each meeting and event.

#### Media & Tourism Leads

Members receive inquiries generated from domestic and international travel journalists, photographers, tour operators, travel agents and group tour leaders looking to promote Greater Boston and our members.

#### **FAM Trips & Tours**

We sponsor tours, sales missions and site visits for meeting planners and tour operators considering Boston. Plan to participate so that your services and products can be experienced firsthand.

#### **Trade Shows**

We purchase booths and attend key domestic and international trade shows every year. You have the opportunity to partner with us and showcase your business and the best of Boston.

#### **Concierge Desk**

We staff a Concierge Desk at the Hynes Convention Center and Boston Convention & Exhibition Center to assist attendees with all their needs and interests - this includes but is not limited to making restaurants reservations, providing information on tours, transportation and theatre, and advice about what there is to see and do in the city and beyond.

#### **Phone Center**

Our call center is open Monday-Friday 9-3 to answer questions and give referrals. Visitor kits and our publications are sent out by request through our call center.

#### **Visitor Information Centers**

We staff the Boston Common Visitor Center to help visitors and locals find what they're looking for in Boston. Here, we also have available from member companies, an array of unique Boston and Massachusetts themed gifts and souvenirs to serve as wonderful mementos of our visitors' stays.





#### **Open Houses**

Once a month we hold open house networking events which are great opportunities to build relationships and partnerships with your fellow members. You can also host an open house to showcase your venue and services to members of the GBCVB.







#### BostonUSA.com

Each member receives a free listing on our high-traffic website which also includes images, videos, and links to your website and social channels. We also list your special events on our calendar, packages/offers in Great Deals, and special dining on our website for no additional cost.

# Calendar of Events & Seasonal Highlights

Send us your events and happenings so they may be promoted on our BostonUSA calendar, Local Picks (sent to hotel concierges throughout the city) and through our social channels. Information can be emailed to: events@bostonusa.com.

# **Hotel Package Promotions**

We promote specials and packages on our website and in our various publications and marketing campaigns throughout the year. (School Vacation and in conjunction with special events.)

# **Publication Listings**

The GBCVB produces annual publications to attract visitors and conventions. All members receive a free listing in the Destination Planning Guide (DPD) and a listing in relevant publications such as the **Official Visitors Guide** (OVG). GBCVB publications are also available online in an interactive pdf format.

# **Company Brochure Distribution**

We can help you reach visitors once they've arrived in Boston. Members can display their brochures at our busy Visitor Information Centers located at the Boston Common and Boston's convention centers.

#### **Media Relations**

Our Media Relations Department serves as an extension of your company by helping spread the word about your business, new products and special happenings via press releases, updates, press trips and media leads.

#### Social Media

We promote and engage audiences with your special events and offers through Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Pinterest.









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#### Leisure Destination Services

Our toll-free visitors information line lets visitors and attendees talk to a GBCVB Visitor Information Representative for things to do, where to stay, directions and more.

#### Sales and Destination Services

The GBCVB Sales Team is charged with the solicitation of groups of all sizes that would not require utilization of space at the Hynes Convention Center or Boston Convention & Exhibition Center (BCEC) beyond 18 months. The Destination Services Department at the GBCVB works with all group business booked into the Hynes, BCEC or an individual hotel by the GBCVB Sales Department or the Boston Convention Marketing Center. We act as a "match maker" with our clients and members. This is accomplished through Sales Leads and Service Requests sent out via The HUB - Member Access on BostonUSA.

# **Marketing & Communications Services**

Participate in promotions with our industry partners: Massachusetts Lodging Association (MLA), Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism (MOTT) and the Massachusetts Port Authority, to name a few.

#### **Seasonal Promotions**

We create and promote landing pages for holiday events and specialty dining such as Brunch, Outdoor & Fireside Dining. We solicit seasonal offers and hotel packages to promote on our website and through our social media.

# Signature Initiatives



Dine Out Boston takes place twice a year (March & August). Participating restaurants have the opportunity to offer special prix fixe menus for lunch and dinner providing locals and visitors an opportunity to sample their restaurant at special prices.





# **Industry Resources**

#### The HUB - Member Access on BostonUSA

Designed for members only, this portal includes a post board for members to connect, partner bulletins, a Masterlist of Conventions & Events, Opportunities (RFPs, Service Requests and Media Leads) and reports such as the GBCVB Marketing Plan.

# **Economic Impact and Industry Reports**

Throughout the year you will find several informative industry reports that serve as a resource and comparative tool: Hotel Openings & Statistics, Outlook & Regional Lodging Reports and Overseas Visitation numbers.

#### **Press Room**

Important information, industry research, tourism statistics, news clips, media documents and recent press releases will be sent to you throughout the year and can also be accessed on BostonUSA.com.

# **Media Library**

Images and videos are available in our media library for member use. We encourage members to send "best shots" so we have on hand to promote their business.

# **Membership Newsletter**

Emailed monthly, our membership newsletters serve as our main communication with members. In each edition, you will find industry information, open house event invitations, new members, visitor marketing, leads, trade show and advertising opportunities.

#### **Member Presentations**

Members have the opportunity to meet with the GBCVB staff to learn more about the team and present their company's products and services. The more we know about your business, the better we can serve to promote you.



# **Advertising Opportunities**

# **Sponsorship Opportunities**

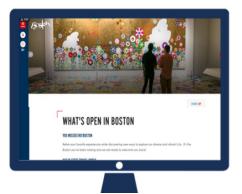
Reach larger audiences by sponsoring our special events, newsletters, Dine Out Boston and more.

# **Publications and Marketing Collateral**

Increase your presence on our website and in our publications and marketing collateral by advertising. Many different opportunities are available throughout the year.

# **Digital Opportunities**

Display your company on BostonUSA.com which attracts over 1.8 million unique visits per year. Showcase your company on Digital Screens at the Visitor Center - reaching over one million tourists every year.





# **BostonUSA Visitor eBlast**

Advertise your special events, offers and packages to 10,000+ visitor subscribers and 2,500+ GBCVB member contacts.

# **Cooperative Advertising**

Opportunities are available for the trade, visitor and meetings market at substantial discounts.

Please visit **BostonUSA.com/members/advertising-and-sponsorship-opportunities** for a complete list of advertising opportunities with the GBCVB.

