

# Chinatown



If you are looking for authentic Asian food and retail, Chinatown is the place to go. Asian canned goods, fresh fruits and vegetables, spices, teas, fresh seafood, live lobsters, and meats can be found in Chinatown's many markets. You'll find herbalists selling traditional medicine, and shops with vases, silk dresses, hand-carved chests, intricately embroidered screens, and jade jewelry – a symbol of good luck. Don't miss a chance to sample Dim Sum, meaning "delight your heart," a Cantonese specialty served morning until 3PM.

Located in the heart of Boston, Chinatown is a 5-minute walk from Boston Common, Downtown Crossing, and the Financial District. Chinatown is known throughout New England for its colorful celebrations – August Moon Festival, Chinatown Festival and Chinese New Year among them. Look for Lion Dance parades, food, music, traditional Chinese opera, cultural performances – and firecrackers! For more information please visit [www.chinatownmainstreet.org](http://www.chinatownmainstreet.org)

## Dining & Foods

Chinatown boasts sixty Asian restaurants and nine bakeries serving Cantonese, Japanese, Korean, Malaysian, Mandarin, and Vietnamese delicacies.

## Directions

By MBTA: Orange line to Chinatown Station; Silver line to Chinatown stop; or Green Line to Boylston Street Station and walk one block down Essex Street.

By Car: From downtown follow Boylston Street to Essex Street into Chinatown.



## Sights to See

### Chinatown Gate

On the eastern end of Beach Street is this classic symbol found in Chinatowns throughout the US. Given by the Taiwanese government to the City in 1982, the gate is inscribed with "Tian Xia Wei Gong," a saying attributed to Sun Yat-sen that translates to "everything under the sky is for the people," and "Li Yi Lian Chi", an ancient Chinese proverb meaning a good person is one who understands "Manner," "Loyalty," "Honesty," and "Shame."

### Chinese Tea Balconies

The Chinese Tea Balcony at 36 Harrison Avenue is an architectural remnant of an early Chinese teahouse that was established late in the 19th century.

### Phillis Wheatley Landing Place

Before landfill, Beach Street served as the waterfront of South Cove. At this location African American poet Phillis Wheatley, the first African-American to arrive in Boston as a slave, landed in 1761.

### The Quincy School

Named after the second mayor of Boston, Josiah Quincy, this was the first school in America to have individually graded classrooms. It now houses the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association.

