

## **Permanent Housing**

**Welcome to Boston, the Beantown, the Hub, the Athens of America, the Walking City!**

Lets say you have booked your flight and time flies by and you're standing at the airport line. Long tedious 20 hr flight and you're at [Boston Logan](#). **Welcome to Boston!**

Just a small issue, you don't know where you're going to stay? All of a sudden you feel Boston isn't as welcoming as you may have thought. Everyone would fear such a situation and hence its our instinct that we start to secure a roof even before coming to Boston. There is nothing wrong with this approach but this insecurity might lead you to take quick but regretful decisions. You realize that living in India was such a bliss and devoid of this paranoia, **Enter Boston ISA!**

### **Here's ISA's take on nailing an Accommodation:**

Until and unless you're taking on-campus housing, finding an accommodation in an alien city can be a nightmare and indeed a stressful experience. Finalizing a good apartment is essential both for your mental peace and academic excellence. Below mentioned are a few pointers to read before taking a step ahead :-

### **Experience counts!**

First and foremost consult your seniors before making the call. Decisions in the US can not be changed that easily so please understand that fact, insights from a senior will help you make a better decision about most of the things.

### **Appearances can be deceptive!**

Students get very anxious about living in the US and we, at ISA we understand this completely as we too were students at one point of time. Photographs and promises made can be fake. It may or may not be a case with you in particular but we have seen people losing their hard earned money with realtors here. Sometimes, promises made by realtors or agents can not be fulfilled by landlords. So believe our instincts before doing any booking / confirmation from INDIA.

### **Lease Transfer**

We, at ISA do not recommend you to do a lease transfer as in most cases you have a bunch of hidden costs and there could be many inadvertent issues. Folks who come for the first time can fall prey to such shrewd ideas. We do not wish to criticize anyone but the thing about Shrewd people is that they are EVERYWHERE!!. Thereby, we recommend you to do a complete background check before you take up a lease transfer.

### **School Proximity**

Most students at Boston do not like traveling over the Bus / Lightrail owing to weather and personal imprudence. Generally, students stay in and around 2 mile radius from the university. Walking might become your daily exercise as going to the gym may not be an option for many.

ISA too recommends students to find accommodation close to the university as it makes it easy to get to the university for studying / on-campus employment. Ultimately, everybody would make a decision depending upon each one's priorities in life. Prices are directly proportional to the proximity of the university, which implies closer to the university will require you to shell more bucks!

**Staying “far away” from school**

We are not against this idea and that being said we also admit that there are places far off from the university that have beautiful houses at economic rates. But while narrowing down on such a place please remember that its a trade off between time and money. Though you might think public transportation can take you anywhere in Boston but they are not entitled to save on your time. A 10 min ride could extend to an harrowing hour on a bad day and believe us you don't have the luxury to afford that kind of time when the semester is winding up. Also when you see that the place is \$100/month cheaper than the so called “expensive” near campus housing please remember that you'll spend \$70/month on commutation. Suddenly staying far away from campus isn't that cheap at all, right?

**Your new extended family, Mr & Mrs. Bedbug**

Students often are very unprepared to extend their folks in the Boston apartments, the bedbugs are often a pre-occupied tenant. It is your responsibility to verify and do an extermination check for your apartment. Most of the times, realtors and agents give a clean chit to bedbugs but within a few months you may be a victim to bedbugs. Thereby, we recommend you choosing apartments which give you a certificate from exterminators for the apartment inspection before you get in. Apartment costing is inversely proportional to the bedbug occupancy. More the bugs less is the cost, this is true most of the times but not always.

**Peace & Harmony**

Being graduate students you are expected to behave in courteous and cordial manner. Avoid doing activities which may affect your neighbors as it is highly intolerable to invade someone's privacy.





**Boston ISA**

Our team has been going through various pages in Facebook towards finding the insights on every neighborhood in the Boston Area. We have innumerable number of posts which claim the beautiful experiences and harrowing nightmares as well. So we thought of describing certain popular location around the Northeastern vicinity.

Its our sincere attempt to document all the popular sites around Northeastern University making it the bible of accommodations.

Before you get to the “Housing Bible”, please review ISA Ratings mentioned below -

	Good	Bad
General	Pros	Cons
Rent	\$	\$\$\$\$\$
Bed Bug	☼	☼☼☼☼☼
Ambience	□□□□□	□
Proximity	=	=====
Crime	🚓	🚓🚓🚓🚓🚓

Free Cooking Gas	
Laundry (Inside the building / apartment)	
Grocery Store	
Indian Store	<b>INDIAN STORE</b>
Laundromat ( Laundry outside your Building)	

**[CityView Apartments\(75 Saint Alphonsus Street\)](#)**

This is the next best thing after on campus housing. Apartments are huge spacious and pleasant.

**Pros:**

- Spacious and Elegant at the same time
- Secure environment with the concierge at the entrance round the clock
- Swimming pool, gym, Recreation hall
- A committed staff that caters almost all housing maintenance for “FREE”
- Virtually an Indian Student dorm exposing you to vast indian network
- Grocery stores round the corner

**Cons:**

- Not your place if you party hard.
- Relatively expensive than most locations
- Periodic inspections can give you a tough time

**Boston ISA Rating**

Rent \$\$\$\$

Bed Bug 

Ambience 

Proximity 

Crime 

Amenities    **INDIAN STORE**

**Realtors / Agents****[City View Apartments](#)**

☎ (866) 915-1070

✉ [Contact Us](#)

### [Mission Main](#)

Again very spacious and elegantly designed. The rooms are huge and offer a lot of space for decor and furnishing.

#### Pros:

- Very Spacious and neat
- Less Stringent noise policies (Admit it we indian students party loud)
- Dedicated Laundry inside every house
- Housing maintenance catered by the management

#### Cons:

- Very unsafe at nights
- Allegedly Crime prone area with mugging a frequent event
- Bed Bugs are a grave issue in few of the houses.
- No concierge service

### **Boston ISA Rating**

Rent \$\$\$

Bed Bug ❄❄❄❄

Ambience ☐☐

Proximity ≡≡≡≡

Crime 🚓🚓🚓🚓

Amenities 🧺🛒 **INDIAN STORE**

### **Realtors / Agents**

#### [Mission Main Housing](#)

☎ (617)879-1580

✉ [Contact Us](#)

### Mission Hill

Very spacious individual condos available at nominal prices. Shady area makes it more risky to stay but nice place to stay if you're bold enough.

#### Pros:

- Very Spacious
- Relatively less expensive than most places
- Less Stringent noise policies
- Some apartments have laundry in the condo
- Grocery stores round the corner

#### Cons:

- Very unsafe at nights
- Allegedly Crime prone area with mugging a frequent event
- Single owner does not give maintenance free of cost
- Your packages (parcels) are kept outside your apartment / condo
- No concierge service

#### Boston ISA Rating

Rent        \$\$\$

Bed Bug    ☼☼

Ambience  ☐☐

Proximity  =====

Crime       ☼☼☼

Amenities      **INDIAN STORE**

#### Realtors / Agents

[Brigham Circle Realty](#) | ☎ (617)566-1196 | ✉ [Contact Us](#)

[Mission Hill Pads](#) | ☎ (617)208-2121 | ✉ [Contact Us](#)

[My Parker Hill](#) | ☎ (617)471-0300

[Craigslist - Mission Hill](#)

### [South Huntington Avenue](#)

Huge apartments and far off from Northeastern University but yet accessible by a Bus and/or Train in less than 15min. These apartments are popular because of their economic nature.

#### Pros:

- Spacious apartments
- Access to bus / train
- Very economical
- Old style and good apartments

#### Cons:

- Shady at night
- No grocery stores nearby
- Laundry outside at a Laundromat
- Zilch maintenance by owners
- Far from Northeastern University

#### **Boston ISA Rating**

Rent        \$\$

Bed Bug    ☼☼

Ambience   □□□

Proximity   =====

Crime       

Amenities    **INDIAN STORE**

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[Craigslist - South Huntngton Avenue](#)

### Westland Avenue

Very near to Northeastern University. But the apartments are old and dingy. And theres a compromise on space. But on the plus side the apartments are very economic.

#### Pros:

- Rent is economic
- Very close to the university
- Proximity to Bus/Train
- Maintenance provided by the Management
- Grocery stores round the corner

#### Cons:

- Very small kitchen
- Not every apartment has laundry facility.
- Apartments are old
- Less Stringent noise policies(but here the American neighbours are way louder than what you can get)

### **Boston ISA Rating**

Rent        \$\$\$

Bed Bug    ☼☼

Ambience   □

Proximity   ≡≡≡

Crime       

Amenities      **INDIAN STORE**

### **Realtors / Agents**

[Boston Brokerage Group](#) | ☎ (617)437-8801 | ✉ [Contact Us](#)

[Symphony Properties](#) | ☎ (617)536-1400 | ✉ [Contact Us](#)

[Boston Heritage Realty](#) | ☎ (617)447-2200 | ✉ [Contact Us](#)

[Craigslist - Symphony](#)



### [Hemenway Street](#)

Very near to Northeastern University. But the apartments are old and small. And there is a compromise on space. Very economic apartments.

#### Pros:

- Rent is economic
- Very close to the university
- Proximity to Bus/Train
- Maintenance provided by the Management
- Lively area

#### Cons:

- Very small kitchen
- Not every apartment has laundry facility.
- Apartments are old
- Matchbox style apartments

### **Boston ISA Rating**

Rent        \$\$\$

Bed Bug    ❄❄

Ambience   □□□

Proximity   ≡≡≡

Crime       

Amenities      **INDIAN STORE**

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[Craigslist - Hemenway](#)

### Fenway / Park Drive

Walk to Northeastern University may probably instigate you to sip some coffee. Apartments are very quiet and soft. Parties are generally not in these areas. Walk at night may be a little scary although not many incidents reported till this point of time. 2 -3 Storey apartments are available in plenty. Amenities are not available in comparison to other places.

#### Pros:

- Rent is slightly economic
- Walkable distance to the university
- Relatively bigger apartments than other places
- Grocery stores available in plenty
- Noise free and complete residential area

#### Cons:

- Walkway to Northeastern at nights is a little lonely
- Not every apartment has laundry facility.
- Apartments are old
- Laundry may not be in your apartment / building

### **Boston ISA Rating**

Rent        \$\$\$

Bed Bug    ☹☹

Ambience   □□□

Proximity   == ==

Crime        🚔🚔🚔

Amenities      **INDIAN STORE**

### **Realtors / Agents**

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[Craigslist - Fenway / Park Drive](#)

### Saint Stephen's Street

Stone throwing distance from Northeastern University. Apartments are very quiet and soft. Dorm housing is next door, safety is not at all a problem. 2 -3 Storey apartments are available in plenty. Amenities are not available in comparison to other places.

#### Pros:

- Northeastern University is next door
- Access to Bus / Train
- Grocery stores available in plenty
- Noise free and complete residential area

#### Cons:

- Rent is very high
- Matchbox style apartments
- Not every apartment has laundry facility.
- Apartments are old
- Mice are a big problem
- Laundry may not be in your apartment / building


### **Boston ISA Rating**

Rent \$\$\$\$

Bed Bug ☹☹

Ambience ☐☐

Proximity ≡

Crime 

Amenities    **INDIAN STORE**

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[Craigslist - Saint Stephen's Street](#)

Disclaimer - All the mentioned views are solely Boston ISA's findings from various resources. Boston ISA does not guarantee or promote any of the listed apartments. Crime ratings have been sourced from [Crime Reports](#)