



Greetings from your **FAVORITE LOCAL HAUNT**

Recharge Harvard: Your Favorite Local Haunts

Use your time off to get out of your comfort zone.



Visitors from out of town often plan to spend an afternoon at the Museum of Fine Arts; it takes a Bostonian to suggest they visit the [Museum of Bad Art](#) (MOBA). The MFA is a national treasure, for sure, but there's something delightful and memorable about quirky places like MOBA that only locals know about.

Around New England, finding hidden gems might mean exploring the sculpture garden at [Hogpen Hill Farms](#) in CT, cave skating at the [Freedly Quarry](#) in VT, playing video games at the [American Classic Arcade Museum](#) in NH, or wandering the [Desert in Maine](#).

When you're traveling, you can find local haunts and oddball sites on the [Atlas Obscura website](#), or through local weekly alternative newspapers—just Google “alt weekly” and the city you're planning to visit.

[Record scratch] Looking for something different? If you're caught up in the spooky spirit of Halloween, here are some suggestions for experiences that will take you out of your comfort zone:

- Travel somewhere you don't speak the language, like [Montreal](#) or [Mexico City](#), [Munich](#) or [Mumbai](#).
- Take up a challenging physical activity like scuba, [spelunking](#), or skydiving.
- Visit eerie places like the [Island of the Dolls](#), the [Winchester Mystery House](#), or other [iconic destinations for horror movie buffs](#).
- Or even...stay a week with your in-laws! (Just kidding! We're sure they're lovely people.)

Putting yourself in an unfamiliar situation—whether a local haunt or a haunted locale—is a great way to spend your vacation, break up your routine, and recharge your creativity and productivity.

What's your favorite local haunt?



Tom Hollister

Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer, Harvard University

“My favorite haunt is the original Toscano restaurant in Beacon Hill. Wonderful food, atmosphere, and a neighborhood hangout—lots of friends and family!”



Susan Ocitti Mahoney

Assistant Director, Research Staff Services, Harvard Business School

“One of my favorite local haunts is Nine Tastes Thai Cuisine. I've taken colleagues, fellows, and friends there and strengthened many connections over a plate of drunken noodles or fried rice. I've had some of the best lunch conversions. The low-lit ambiance allows you to relax and forget that you are in the middle of Harvard Square. And the food is fantastic!”

The Recharging Station

- Salem, MA, may be the Halloween capital of the nation, but there are other [haunted houses in Massachusetts to explore](#).
- Make a tour of the [most bone-chillingly haunted places in Massachusetts](#)...if you dare!
- Take a day off and bring a companion on the [Ghosts and Gravestones tour of Boston](#).
- Try to beat the clock as you solve puzzles and riddles in an [Escape room](#).



Your Favorite Hobby Playlist

If you're feeling out of sorts and need some tunes to get back in the game, try these:

- [The Impression That I Get](#) – The Mighty Mighty Bosstones
- [Don't Stop Me Now](#) – Queen
- [Stronger](#) – Kelly Clarkson
- [Brave](#) – Sara Bareilles
- [I'm Still Standing](#) – Elton John

Add our [Spotify playlist](#) to your library!

Digital Downloads

Nothing says, "Ask me about my upcoming time off" like [downloadable Zoom backgrounds](#)! Save time with pre-written [out-of-office messages](#) for when you're away. These, plus adult coloring pages can all be found on the [Recharge Harvard](#) website.



Visit the [Recharge Harvard website](#) for more information.