

## PARK FEATURES

## White Stadium

- **Overlook Shelter Ruins:** Originally a field house, it was one of the few structures Olmsted ever designed. The site was the home to Elma Lewis' Playhouse in the Park in the '60s and '70s, and jazz greats, including Duke Ellington, performed here.
- **3** The Playstead: A large, active sports area that accommodates basketball, tennis and many field sports.
- (4) Franklin Park Zoo: Founded in 1912, the zoo's 72 acres are home to lions, tigers, giraffes, and more. Visitors to the signature Tropical Forest can stand face-to-face with the Zoo's seven gorillas at one of five glass viewing stations. Heroic statues by Daniel Chester French flank the north entrance. \$ www.franklinparkzoo.org
- (5) William J. Devine Golf Course: Originally a sheep meadow in Olmsted's design, this 18-hole facility is the second oldest public golf course in the country. Open year round, weather permitting. \$ 617.265.4084
- 6 Schoolmaster Hill: Named for Ralph Waldo Emerson who lived near this site in the 1820s when he was a schoolteacher in Roxbury. This hidden spot has picnic tables, century-old white pines, and offers a spectacular view across the park and to the Blue Hills beyond.
- **The Wilderness:** A 65-acre native oak forest with meandering paths and huge Roxbury puddingstone outcroppings, the Wilderness is a picturesque landscape and a good example of urban woodlands.
- (8) The 99 Steps/Ellicott Arch

## **9** Scarboro Pond and Hill

- Peters Hill: The highest point in the Emerald Necklace, Peters Hill (240 feet) offers spectacular views of Jamaica Plain, Roslindale, and the Boston skyline.
- **Explorers Garden:** The area around the Chinese Path has long been used by researchers to test the hardiness of new plants gathered from around the world by plant explorers. Don't miss rare and unusual plants like the dove tree, paperbark maple, or Franklinia.
- **Larz Anderson Bonsai Collection:** See the oldest and smallest trees at the Arboretum. Open mid-April to early November.
- **Hunnewell Building:** This building houses admin-istrative offices, a horticultural library, restrooms, and a visitor center with maps, seasonal exhibitions, and nowledgeable staff to help make the most of your visit. Weekday building access for restrooms begins at 9:00am; closed holidays. Visitor Center hours: November through March: noon-4:00pm, April through October, 11:00am-6:00pm; closed Wednesdays (617.384.5209). Library hours: Monday-Friday, 10:00am-3:45pm (617.522.1086).
- **Jamaica Pond Boathouse/Bandstand:** Built in 1912, these Tudor-style structures add a rustic element to the pond. Visitors can rent sailboats or rowboats to enjoy unique views of the park or simply drift on the water (www.courageoussailing.org). The Bandstand is home to numerous recreational, educational, and cultural activities. The Boathouse is open April 1 through Veteran's Day.

- mansion that stood here.
- Ward's Pond: This secluded pond is a glacial "kettlehole" formed at the end of the last ice age. A serene, heavily wooded area, the visitor finds a quiet wilderness, steps from the surrounding city.
- (18) Wildflower Meadow: Once the site of an indoor ice skating rink, the meadow now offers unique habitat for tterflies, bees, and other pollinators.
- **Daisy Field:** Olmsted originally designed this as a large meadow surrounded by woods. Today, playing fields serve community groups for little league, softball, soccer and touch football.
- into the park and provides scenic views of the banks and islands of Leverett Pond.
- 6 Pinebank Promontory: A peaceful spot in this busy park, the promontory's stunning views across the Pond and cooling breezes through tall pines made it an attractive site for three successive mansions in the 1800s. Today, a granite outline marks the footprint of the last
- 20 Allerton Overlook: This semi-circular walk descends

(21) Leverett Pond: Leverett Pond is a fine example of Olmsted's skill combining landscape, water, and

structure into his designs. Islands were created to provide

- 22) Bellevue Street Bridge
- Chapel Street Bridge Area/Historic Bridle Paths: Bridges played a key role in all of Olmsted's work, not only along rivers, but everywhere that he sought to separate different modes of transportation. The Chapel Street Bridge separated walkers above from the bridle path below.

both visual interest and waterfowl breeding area.

- 24) Round House Shelter
- Athletic Facilities: The Joseph Lee Playground area features softball, soccer, lacrosse, football, basketball and a recreational running track. One of the diamonds is named in honor of Roberto Clemente — the first Latin American elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame.
- 26 James P. Kelleher Rose Garden: Designed by landscape architect Arthur Shurcliff in the 1920s, this garden was restored by the City of Boston and the Emerald Necklace Conservancy. Combining the best of old and new roses, today's garden includes over 1,500 plants representing 200 different varieties.
- (27) War Memorials
- Japanese Bell: Found on a scrap heap in Yokosuka, this beautiful bronze 17th-century temple bell was brought back by sailors on the USS Boston in 1945. In 1953, the Japanese government announced that the bell should remain in Boston as a gesture of peace.
- 29 Shattuck Emerald Necklace Visitor Center: Designed by H. H. Richardson in 1882, the building is one of a pair that housed the gates used to regulate the Stony Brook's flow into the Fens. This gatehouse, no longer in operation, was converted in 2010 to a visitor center and offices of the Emerald Necklace Conservancy.
- **30** Fenway Victory Gardens: Victory Gardens were cultivated during World War II to ease demand on wartime food supply. The Fenway gardens are among the few to remain in continuous cultivation. Today, 500 plots are tended by community gardeners and feature a bounty of flowers and vegetables
- (31) **Boylston Bridge:** Designed by prominent 19th-century architect H. H. Richardson, this bridge is constructed of Cape Ann granite. Projecting bays offer sweeping views across the Fens.
- Leif Eriksson Statue
- Boston Women's Memorial: Mayor Thomas M. Menino reserved the site for a women's memorial in 1992. The Boston Women's Commission selected Abigail Adams, Lucy Stone, and Phillis Wheatley as exemplary figures. Meredith Bergmann, Sculptor
- Samuel Eliot Morison Statue: This scholar, educator, and maritime historian was the Pulitzer-prize winning author of the "Oxford History of the United States" (1927) and "The Oxford History of the American People" (1965). Penelope Jencks, Sculptor



- **35** William Lloyd Garrison Statue: Publisher of "The Liberator" and founder of the New England Anti-Slavery Society, Garrison was a powerful voice in the abolitionist movement. Olin Levi Warner, Sculptor
- (36) Alexander Hamilton Statue: Hamilton, a Founding Father who also started the central banking system welcomes visitors to the Mall between Arlington and Berkeley streets. Dr. William Rimmer, Sculptor
- (37) 9/11 Memorial
- 38 George Washington Statue: Thomas Ball, Sculptor
- Swan Boats: These iconic pedal boats first appeared on the Lagoon in 1877. Designed by Robert Paget, they are still owned and operated by the Paget Family. \$
- (40) Make Way for Ducklings Sculpture: Mrs. Mallard and her eight ducklings were created as a tribute to Robert McCloskey, author of a children's book about ducks that live in the Public Garden's Lagoon. *Nancy Schön*, Sculptor
- (41) **Central Burying Ground:** Purchased in 1756 and added to the Common in 1839, this is the final resting place for Revolutionary War soldiers and many others.
- 42 Soldiers and Sailors Civil War Monument: Martin Milmore, Sculptor
- (43) Frog Pond: Site of 1848's "Water Celebration" inaugurating the city's public water system, today the pond serves as a skating rink in the winter and a supervised wading pool in the summer. The Tadpole Playground is nearby.
- **Shaw Memorial:** This honors the 54th Regiment of the Massachusetts infantry. Led by Colonel Robert Gould Shaw, the 54th was the first free black regiment in the Union. Bronze relief by Augustus Saint-Gaudens. Granite frame and terrace by Charles F. McKim
- (45) Brewer Fountain

Boston Common Visitors' Center and Park **Ranger Station:** Maps, tourist information, and restrooms. This also marks the start of the Freedom Trail ®. Hours: Monday–Saturday, 8:30 am–5pm; Sunday 10am–6pm