

Fannish Inquisition Survey: Boston in 2020 Christmas Worldcon Bid

Bid: Boston in 2020 Christmas Worldcon Bid

What are the proposed dates for which you are bidding?

Wednesday 12/23/20 - Thursday 12/31/20. We have some **spectacular** plans for the Dead Dog and Old Pharts' Parties!

What is your proposed convention host city? Is your convention site in a city center location or a suburb? If a suburb, what are the transport options into the city center? How far is the site from the city center?

Boston! It says so right in the name of the bid, for cryin' out loud. We are still choosing facilities, but we can say we're liking the Boston Common Garage for our parking options.

What is the typical current airfare to your closest airport from world cities such as London, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, Melbourne? Atlanta?

It all depends on whether you wish to fly economy, business, or first class. Non-stop or with stops. Checking luggage or carry-on only. Honestly, that's a lot of choices and we don't have time to figure it all out. We're very busy fans, you know.

Do international flights, as well as domestic, fly into your local airport? Which airlines? If not, where is the closest international airport? Are direct flights from the cities above flown into your local airport?

Yes. Many. N/A. Yes.

How far is your convention site from the nearest airport/train station and what is the likely cost of getting to the hotels by both public transport and taxi from that airport/train station?

We could make something up, but to be honest, we don't know yet since we don't know where our facilities will be yet. Don't make us lie to you.

What hotel(s) are being used for the convention? How many rooms, what type, accessibility issues, etc.?

We like the Ritz-Carlton at Boston Common, ourselves. Only \$775 / night for an executive suite. Plus, it's right by our parking garage!

Tim is advocating for the Red Roof Inn, just outside of town, off I-95 on your way to Maine, but we aren't sure we'd be able to fill the room block. It's a small committee.

We don't know where the rest of y'all are going to stay, though. Let us know when you decide so we can meet up for dinner, 'kay?

What are your hotel room rates? Do these rates include breakfast? Do they include internet in the room? How firm are these rates?

Ooooo, they're firm. Very, very, firm.

So, um, we'll be in our bunk...

What is the cost to *park* at the convention/hotel facilities?

The maximum rate for 24 hours at the Boston Common Garage is \$28. Monthly passes are \$360.

What is the distance from the main hotel(s) to the closest entrance of the convention site? What are the transportation options for those who prefer not to walk or who have mobility difficulties?

Jeez. There you go, asking us to make something up again. Fine. 14.72 feet.

If using overflow hotels (or hotels not directly connected) what is the cost of a cab ride door-to-door with the convention center?

It's gonna cost you what the cabbie charges you. As if we have any control over that.

Please describe your convention site facilities. For example, the quantity and sizes of rooms, tech options, accessibility issues, etc.

There will be rooms. All have floors, most have walls and ceilings. Unlike Glasgow.

Where will your large events (i.e. Hugo Ceremony and Masquerade) be held?

If there isn't a lot of snow, we're going to have them in Boston Common. After all, it's super close to our parking garage!

Please describe the restaurant scene near your site.

Restaurants - check. Pubs - check. Fast food - check. Late night - check.

Chris recommends New York Pizza on Tremont, especially since all the Emerson students will be gone.

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Please describe the policies / laws regarding smoking in your hotel(s), convention center, and city.

You'll be going outside to smoke.

What type of weather can we expect at the time of year your convention is to be held?

The average temperature on December 25th is 32 degrees Fahrenheit. So sayeth the Weather Channel.

What are some of the main tourist attractions of your city?

The Berkeley Weather Beacon, The Citgo Sign on Beacon Street, Damnation Alley, the Darth Vader Building, the location of the First UFO Sighting in America, the Giant Tea Kettle, the Pregnant Building, the Sacred Cod, and Smoot's Bridge. (<http://www.celebrateboston.com/strange.htm>) and Ducky Tours. But, it sounds like the Hostess Outlet Stores will be closed by then.

Who is on your committee? Who is your bid chair? What experience do they have in general? In running this convention in particular?

Bid's Moral Compass: Christopher J. Garcia (Head Muckety Muck)

Rick Carson (I'm Batman!)

Norman Cates (Grand Poobah)

Jesi Lipp (Top Banana)

Tim Miller (Big Cheese)

Helen Montgomery (Head Honcho)

Barbara vanTilburg (Kingpin)

Leane Verhulst (Official Guilty Party)

We'd tell you our experience, but then we'd have to kill you.

If known, who will be the chair of the convention? What experience do they have?

Deb Geisler. She chaired a convention in Boston before, or so we've heard.

What arrangements will be made for evening socializing and party space? Do you have a corkage waiver?

Ummm, have you met us? Of course there will be parties! And presents! Shiny!

Are you planning to have any membership discounts for certain groups, such as young adults, military, or seniors?

What, are you trying to make sure we don't have money? Get off our lawn!

Are you participating in pass-along funds?

We plead the 5th.