

# Hotel Information

The headquarters hotel for Noreascon II will be the Sheraton-Boston. We have also reserved blocks of rooms at five other nearby hotels in order to give you the widest possible choice of accommodations. These participating hotels are: The Copley Plaza, The Boston Park Plaza, The Copley Square, The Lenox, and The Midtown. Below you will find detailed writeups of each of these hotels to help you make your selection. A map showing their locations and a chart giving the complete set of room rates will be found on page 22. All room rates are subject to a 5.7% Massachusetts room tax.

We have done our best to make these hotel writeups complete and accurate, but you should understand that some items, such as parking fees, restaurant hours, etc., are subject to change between now and the convention. We have listed all the restaurants in each hotel, but you will not necessarily have to eat there. There are dozens of restaurants in the neighborhood, and we'll have a list in a later publication.

**Reserving rooms.** Room reservations are being handled through the Greater Boston Convention and Tourist Bureau. Instructions are on the removable reservation form located in the centerfold of this Progress Report (across from page 22). Please send the reservation form to the Bureau, not to the hotel. Do not send any money to the Bureau. After you get a confirmation from your hotel, the hotel will tell you how much of a deposit they want. Then you send the deposit to the hotel (then, not before). If this sounds complicated, it is, but please just follow the instructions on the reservation form.

Because the space available at some of the hotels is limited, please send in your reservation early, and please list your second- and third-choice hotels in case your first choice is unavailable. If all your listed choices are filled, the Convention Bureau will try to place you in the hotel that comes closest to matching your requirements.

**Paying for rooms.** The hotels accept all major credit cards (American Express, Visa, Master Charge, Carte Blanche, etc.), and this is the most convenient method of handling payment. If you want to pay by personal check, either establish your credit with the hotel in advance or pay for the entire stay in advance—allowing sufficient time for your check to clear. If you are paying by check or cash, you will probably not be able to charge meals to your room. Remember, if you decide not to attend, your deposit will be refunded if you notify the hotel far enough in advance.

**Deposits.** Most of the hotels will request an advance deposit in the amount of one night's rental, although some of them will ask for a deposit only if you expect to arrive later than 6pm. It has been our experience, however, that you are much less likely to have registration hassles if you do send a deposit and bring a copy of the cancelled check with you. Each hotel's current policy on deposits is given in its writeup.

**Blocking.** We have been asked about blocking floors in the Sheraton into family, party, and quiet areas. This is not really possible, given the location of the large rooms and the suites. These are the rooms that would be used for parties, and there are some on each floor. In addition, the hotel's room-assignment process depends on which rooms are available at check-in time, and they have no way to assign specific rooms to specific people in advance. However, if your room is unsatisfactory, the convention and the hotel will make every effort to move you to another one which will be. In general, we would expect the participating hotels to be somewhat quieter than the headquarters hotel (the Sheraton-Boston).

**Further information.** If you have questions about any of the hotels or the reservation procedure that are not answered in this Progress Report, please write to Jim Hudson of Member Services, at the Noreascon II address.

## The Sheraton-Boston

The Sheraton-Boston, our headquarters hotel, is looking forward to hosting its second Worldcon (a first in fannish history); it has also been the site for seven regional SF conventions (Boskones). So science fiction conventions, with their weird hours and somewhat eccentric styles, are not a novelty here.

Rooms are comfortable and of a reasonable size for sleeping and small parties. Larger parties may tend to get crowded. One way around this is to get a suite and/or use a block of rooms at the end of a hall. The latter effectively makes the hall part of the partying area. Using a number of rooms for a single party also changes one large overwhelming mass of fans into a number of more comfortable groups. Almost all singles are single-occupancy doubles; usually there are two double beds in the room. There are a few real singles; they are small. Rollaway beds cost \$7, but are free for children 14 or under. Lanai rooms border the pool on the fifth floor, but these can sometimes be noisy when the pool is in use.

The Sheraton has four types of suites. Mini suites have a regular bedroom and a small living room suitable for entertaining a few visitors, but not for holding a party. One-bedroom suites have a bedroom and a large living room; the ones in the North Tower cost a bit more because they have recently been redecorated. The two-bedroom suites have two bedrooms, a large living room, and a "wet bar" with a sink, a refrigerator, and cabinets.

Ever since the hotel opened, there has been a problem with balancing the air-conditioning and heating in some rooms of the North Tower. Some rooms are very dry, though we expect this to be much less a problem over Labor Day weekend than it has been at Boskones in February. If you are particularly prone to respiratory problems, you might want to bring a portable humidifier. Since we haven't stayed at the other hotels, we can't say if they would be better or worse in this regard.

Access to and movement in the hotel is very good for people in wheelchairs. The only problem is access to the Kon Tiki Ports restaurant, where there is a small flight of stairs. There are 20 rooms in the South Tower especially equipped for handicapped people. (These rooms can be requested by checking the appropriate blank on the reservation form.) The South Tower elevators are marked with braille. A number of the public restrooms also have special facilities.

There are ice machines and soft-drink machines on each sleeping-room floor, and a domed-over pool and whirlpool on the fifth floor.

The following restaurants are on the first floor, off the main lobby: Kon Tiki Ports, a Chinese-Polynesian restaurant with a plethora of fancy rum drinks and a good daily brunch; and the Mermaid Room, serving lighter meals with an emphasis on salads and seafood. On the second floor there are the Falstaff Room, with steak and seafood and an excellent Sunday brunch; the Pavilion Coffee Shop, a typical hotel coffee shop with typical hotel-coffee-shop prices; and an ice cream parlor, which serves ice cream and sandwiches and may be open on a 24-hour basis during the convention. There is also a bar on each of the three function floors, each with a different style.

Pets are allowed but must be kept under control. Owners are fully responsible for the actions of their pets.

Parking is in part of the Prudential Center garage, which has a direct entrance to the hotel. Cost for hotel guests is \$4.50/day, with a \$1.00 in/out charge. (The regular fee is \$8.00/day.) Vehicles are limited to 6 feet in height (i.e., no vans).

A one-night deposit is required if expected arrival is later than 6pm.

The Sheraton Towers is a section of the Sheraton-Boston that is operated as a luxury hotel, and the prices reflect this. Amenities include a special express elevator and direct check-in on the Tower floors; a fresh flower and a newspaper each morning; beds turned down with a peppermint on the pillow each evening; rooms supplied with a shoeshine machine, sewing kit, and special stationery; and use of a special lounge for continental breakfast or evening cocktails.

#### The Copley Plaza Hotel

Overlooking Boston's historic Copley Square, the Copley Plaza is a luxurious hotel with a diversity of rooms.

Sleeping rooms are divided into three classes: standard, superior, and deluxe. All are newly renovated, but the standard rooms are on the inside of the hotel and have either two twin beds or one queen-sized bed. The superior and deluxe rooms are both larger than the standard, and many have two double beds. The deluxe rooms overlook Copley Square; the superior rooms overlook the other main streets in the area. Suites with a parlor and from one to three superior or deluxe bedrooms are also available. There is no charge for children 17 or under sharing a room and the existing beds with their parents; rollaway beds are available for \$10.

Wheelchair access is very reasonable; the elevators are large. Some of the bedrooms can have wall bars installed.

Parking is in a nearby garage; the cost is \$2.00/day. Ice and soft drinks must be obtained through room service.

There are three good restaurants: the Tea Court, the Copley, and the Cafe Plaza, all off the main lobby.

Pets are allowed, if kept confined in a carrier when left alone. This enables housekeeping to care for the rooms.

Personal checks require two types of identification (photo ID preferred). The hotel will request a one-night deposit.

#### The Boston Park Plaza

Located near the Boston Common and the Greyhound and Trailways bus terminals, the Boston Park Plaza is two subway stops from the Hynes Auditorium. If you walk, it is only 10-15 minutes along Boylston Street, via Copley Square.

Recently remodeled, it is a comfortable place to stay, although some of the lower-priced singles can be rather small. Double rooms have either one full or one queen-sized bed; twins have two double beds. Suites, with either one or two bedrooms, have large separate sitting rooms. In the west wing, large rooms having two showers, but no tub, have been formed by combining small rooms. In these rooms, access to the lavatory may be cramped for those in wheelchairs. Rollaway beds cost \$8/night, but are free for children 16 or under. The elevators are roomy but do not have braille lettering. Each floor has both ice and soda machines.

24-hour valet parking is available free to registered guests; the vehicular clearance is 6 feet (no vans).

The restaurants, which are currently being rebuilt, will include a branch of the famous Legal Sea Foods, a French restaurant, and a steak house. There is also a cafe serving breakfast and lunch. Legal Sea Foods will be down four or five wide steps, and will contain both smoking and non-smoking sections. The other restaurants are on the main lobby level, near the airline and tour offices.

A one-night deposit is required if expected arrival is later than 6pm.

#### The Midtown Hotel

A small, modern hotel located less than three blocks from the Hynes, the Midtown is a convenient place to stay. Single rooms have either one double or one king-sized bed (as do double rooms), while twins have either two twin or two double beds. The rooms are spacious and contain both AM/FM radios and televisions. There is no charge for children 16 or under sharing a room and the existing beds with their parents; rollaway beds are available for \$8.

There is an outdoor grass patio surrounding a swimming pool, normally open from 10am to 6pm.

Wheelchair access is very good, except into the dining area and lobby. Ramps lead from the parking area to a large elevator that goes to both floors of the Midtown. A short flight of steps (5 or 6) leads into the lobby; a similar flight leads to the dining area.

The food is reasonable and the prices moderate. The dining room overlooks the pool area. Ice and soda machines are in a central location off the main hall.

24-hour parking is available free under the hotel; there is some minimal space available where vans may park.

Pets are allowed, with the owner responsible for all damages.

If you plan on paying by check, you will need a valid driver's license or some other form of photo ID. A one-night deposit will be requested.

#### The Copley Square Hotel

A brief walk from the Sheraton and Hynes, the Copley Square hotel was built in 1891 and has been serving Boston ever since. With a policy of constant upgrading, the rooms inside are new, although the exterior style is more in keeping with the hotel's age.

The rooms are either singles with one double bed; doubles with one bed, either double-, queen-, or king-sized (rates vary depending upon room and bed size); or twins. Twins have either one double bed or, more often, two single beds. The Copley Square also offers twin doubles, which have two double beds, and family suites. The suites

have two bedrooms and one bathroom; there are two double beds in each room. Rollaway beds are available for \$6, but they don't fit in the twin doubles. Children 13 or under sharing a room with their parents will be provided with rollaway beds at no extra charge. Most rooms have baths with both shower and tub; a few still have only showers. Each room has a color TV and a hot plate for heating water. There are soda machines on every other floor; ice can be ordered through room service.

Parking in the Prudential Center garage is \$3 for 24 hours, with a \$1.50 in/out charge. Vehicular clearance is 6 feet (no vans).

If you are confined to a wheelchair, it is impossible to get around. Because of its age, the elevator is very small and the door is too narrow for wheelchairs. Many of the halls are narrow and would present major mobility problems.



Off the main lobby are a coffee shop that serves breakfast and lunch, and a bar, the Sports Salon, featuring a large-screen TV with local and national sporting events. In the lower level is one of Boston's finest restaurants—the Cafe Budapest (Hungarian and French cuisine). It is expensive, but well worth it.

The hotel will request a one-night deposit, which is refundable given 72 hours' notice of cancellation.

#### The Lenox Hotel

Less than five minutes' walk from the Hynes Auditorium, the Lenox was built around the turn of the twentieth century. It is an elegant hotel offering much to its guests.

The hotel was recently remodeled, and most rooms are either doubles (one queen-sized bed) or twins (two single or two double beds). A few single rooms have one double bed, but most have a queen-sized bed. The three suites have one bedroom and a living-room-style parlor. About 20% of the rooms have fireplaces for show (not use). There is no charge for children 16 or under sharing a room and the existing beds with their parents. Although cribs are provided free, a rollaway bed costs \$8.

Each room is provided with a digital alarm clock, a supply of instant coffee with a coffeemaker, and an individual air-conditioning unit. A limited number of small refrigerators are available on request. There is either an ice machine or a soda machine on each floor. The elevators are being replaced, and the new ones will be large, with braille lettering.

Parking in the Prudential Center garage is \$3 for 24 hours, with a \$1.50 in/out charge. Vehicular clearance is 6 feet (no vans).

Hotel access for wheelchairs is adequate except in the London Pub, which is reached by stairs.

Delmonico's and Diamond Jim's, both located off the main lobby, are well known throughout the city for their fine food and good entertainment. Delmonico's is a re-creation of the original New York City restaurant, and features items prepared at tableside; Diamond Jim's is a lively 1890's-style piano bar. At a more moderate cost, the London Pub, Upstairs and Downstairs, serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The pub, open until 2am, was re-created by Alex Waugh, and is modeled on the Elizabethan pubs of the late 1500's.

Because of the recent remodeling and lack of proper facilities, pets are not allowed.

A deposit of \$25 will be requested.

#### The Convention Schedule

Some of you might be interested in hearing details of the convention schedule before making your hotel reservations. We can't give specifics right now, but we can tell you in a general way what will be happening each day. The dates of the convention are August 29–September 1, which is Friday through Monday, and most of the major areas of the convention will run from 10am Friday to about 6pm on Monday. This includes main program, art show, dealers' room, etc. The only major exception that seems likely is films—which may start on Thursday and run until late on Monday. Artists and dealers should plan on setting up on Thursday and tearing down on Monday night. Any outside tours or expeditions that we arrange will probably be set for the Wednesday and Thursday preceding the convention. Helpers can probably be used at any time, but will be especially welcome during the week preceding the con. We'll try to give you more specific details as they are available. We have plans to publish a short Progress Report quite close to the convention that will have last-minute information about the program.

Map Key	HOTEL	Single	Double or Twin	Roll-away	Suites	Children	Parking (per day)	Deposit Required?
1.	Sheraton-Boston	\$39	\$49	\$7	MS: \$85 P+1: \$115,\$130 P+2: \$180	14 or under free, rollaway provided	\$4.50; \$1.00 in/out	if arrival after 6 pm
1.	Sheraton Towers	\$77	\$92	\$7	P+1: \$210 P+2: \$260	same as above	same as above	same as above
2.	Copley Plaza standard rooms superior rooms deluxe rooms	\$42 \$52 \$52	\$52 \$62 \$62	\$10	P+1: \$125 P+1: \$150 P+1: \$175	17 or under free	\$2.00; \$2.00 in/out	yes
3.	Copley Square	\$34-40	\$44-50	\$6	FS: \$64-68	13 or under free, rollaway provided	\$3.00; \$1.50 in/out	yes
4.	Lenox	\$44-56	\$52-66	\$8	P+1: \$135	16 or under free	\$3, \$1.50 in/out	yes
5.	Midtown	\$43-53	\$48-58	\$8	P+1: \$106-116	16 or under free	free	yes
6.	Boston Park Plaza	\$38-40	\$64-66	\$8	P+1: \$160 P+2: \$225	16 or under free, rollaway provided	free	if arrival after 6 pm

- A. Hynes Auditorium  
 B. Massachusetts Turnpike exit  
 C. Greyhound terminal  
 D. Trailways terminal  
 T subway stop  
 ..... subway

**PLEASE NOTE**

- Do Not send deposits in with your reservation. The hotels will write to you about them later.
- Rates given do not include the 5.7% Massachusetts Room Tax.
- Did you remember to put a return address on your reservation form?



# Noreascon Two

The 38th World Science Fiction Convention  
Friday, August 29—Monday, September 1, 1980

## Room Reservation Request

Complete and mail before August 1, 1980, directly to:

Noreascon II Housing Bureau  
Greater Boston Convention and Tourist Bureau  
Box 490, Prudential Tower  
Boston MA 02199

Reservation requests must be sent to the Noreascon II Housing Bureau, using the above address. You will receive confirmation directly from the hotel. After that time, please notify the hotel of all cancellations and changes.

Rooms will not be held after 6 pm unless a later arrival time has been guaranteed. Failure to notify the hotel of any change in your arrival time may result in cancellation of your reservation.

**Deposits: Do Not** send deposits to the Housing Bureau; the hotel will request a deposit, if required, with their confirmation to you. The Copley Plaza, Copley Square, Lenox, and Midtown hotels will require a deposit on all reservations; the other hotels require a deposit only if you expect to arrive after 6 pm.

Please use the accompanying listing for hotel names and rates. If accommodations are not available at the hotels of your choice, comparable reservations will be made at other cooperating hotels. If the requested rate is not available, the next available rate will be assigned. Telephone reservations will not be accepted.

If you have special requirements not covered by this form, please write to the Noreascon II address with a description of your needs.

### Hotel Preference

1st: \_\_\_\_\_  
2nd: \_\_\_\_\_  
3rd: \_\_\_\_\_  
4th: \_\_\_\_\_

### Room Types

S Single  
DBL Double  
TW Twin  
MS Mini Suite (Sheraton only)  
P-1 One Bedroom Suite  
P-2 Two Bedroom Suite  
FS Family Suite (Copley Square only)

NAMES OF OCCUPANTS (bracket those sharing room; include ages of children)	Room Type	Preferred Rate	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Departure Date	Number of
						Rollaway Beds

Hotel should send confirmation letter to:

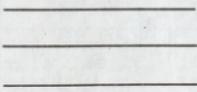
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ PostCode/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I require a room for the handicapped (Sheraton only). Reason:



**Noreascon II Housing Bureau**  
Greater Boston Convention and Tourist Bureau  
Box 490, Prudential Tower  
Boston MA 02199