

FIFA World Cup 2026 in Boston: Stadium Guide, Hotels, Things to Do & Travel Tips



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Boston is one of the official U.S. host cities for the FIFA World Cup 2026, offering football fans the opportunity to experience one of America's oldest and most [*iconic destinations*](#) alongside the world's biggest sporting event. Although matches are officially hosted under the Boston name, they will take place at **Gillette Stadium** in Foxborough, Massachusetts, approximately 30 miles southwest of downtown Boston.

For international visitors, Boston provides much more than match-day excitement. From the historic Freedom Trail and Boston Common to world-renowned universities, waterfront neighborhoods, seafood restaurants, and museums, the city offers countless experiences before and after the tournament. Excellent public transportation, a major international airport, and easy access to New England

attractions make Boston an ideal destination for football fans planning a longer vacation.

Whether you are attending a single match or following your national team throughout the tournament, this guide covers everything you need to know. You will find information about Gillette Stadium, transportation options, the best places to stay, recommended hotels, nearby attractions, and practical travel advice to help you enjoy an unforgettable experience of the [*FIFA World Cup in the USA*](#).

FIFA World Cup 2026 in Boston

Boston will play an important role during the FIFA World Cup 2026 as one of the tournament's eleven United States host cities. The city will welcome thousands of supporters from around the world while showcasing New England's rich history, sports culture, and hospitality.

All FIFA matches will be played at [*Gillette Stadium*](#) in Foxborough. The stadium is internationally recognized for hosting major sporting events and offers modern facilities, excellent fan amenities, and one of the best match-day experiences in North America.

Boston is also one of the easiest destinations for international travelers thanks to **Boston Logan International Airport**, extensive public transportation, and convenient rail connections throughout the Northeast.

Why Boston is one of the best FIFA host cities:

- Hosts seven FIFA World Cup 2026 matches.
- Modern world-class stadium with excellent facilities.
- Rich American history and cultural attractions.
- Easy public transportation throughout Greater Boston.
- Outstanding seafood and New England cuisine.
- Convenient airport with global connections.

- Excellent base for exploring New England before or after the tournament.
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Boston FIFA World Cup 2026 Match Schedule

Boston will host **seven FIFA World Cup 2026 matches** at Gillette Stadium, including group-stage fixtures and knockout-round matches. Supporters visiting Boston will have the opportunity to watch some of the world’s best national teams while enjoying one of America’s most historic cities.

Tournament Overview

- **Total Matches:** 7
- **Venue:** Gillette Stadium, Foxborough
- **Group Stage Matches:** 5
- **Knockout Matches:** 2
- **Host State:** Massachusetts

The official list of participating teams depends on the FIFA tournament draw. As the competition progresses, Gillette Stadium will welcome both group-stage fixtures and knockout matches featuring teams that advance through the tournament.

Tip: If you're planning your trip around a specific national team, monitor FIFA’s official schedule and ticket updates, as match assignments become finalized after the tournament draw.

Quick Information

Information	Details
Host City	Boston, Massachusetts

Stadium	Gillette Stadium
Stadium Location	Foxborough, Massachusetts
Tournament	<u><i>FIFA World Cup 2026</i></u>
Airport	Boston Logan International Airport (BOS)
Public Transportation	MBTA Subway, Commuter Rail, Bus
Best Areas to Stay	Downtown Boston, Back Bay, Seaport District, Foxborough
Stadium Capacity	Approximately 65,000
Time Zone	Eastern Time (ET)
Recommended Stay	3-5 Days

About Gillette Stadium

Gillette Stadium is one of the premier sporting venues in the United States and will serve as the home of FIFA World Cup 2026 matches in the Boston metropolitan area. Since opening in 2002, the stadium has hosted international football matches, NFL games, concerts, and numerous major sporting events.

Stadium Capacity

Gillette Stadium accommodates approximately **65,000 spectators** for FIFA World Cup matches, creating an exciting atmosphere while providing excellent sightlines throughout the venue.

Location

Although officially representing Boston, Gillette Stadium is located in **Foxborough, Massachusetts**, roughly 30 miles (48 kilometers) southwest of downtown Boston. Visitors can reach the stadium by commuter rail, car, shuttle services, or ride-sharing.

Stadium Facilities

Visitors can enjoy:

- Modern seating with excellent visibility
- High-definition video boards
- Numerous food and beverage vendors
- Official merchandise stores
- Mobile ticket entry
- Free Wi-Fi in many areas
- Family facilities
- Accessible seating and guest services

Match-Day Experience

Gillette Stadium is known for its organized operations, enthusiastic crowds, and excellent visitor experience. FIFA supporters can expect fan entertainment, international food options, merchandise shops, and a lively atmosphere before kickoff.

Stadium Entry Tips

- Arrive at least three hours before kickoff.
- Download your digital tickets before arriving.
- Check FIFA's latest bag policy.
- Complete security screening early.
- Locate your gate before entering the stadium.

Accessibility

The stadium provides wheelchair-accessible entrances, elevators, accessible seating, companion seating, assistive listening devices, and guest support services throughout the venue.

Best Seating Areas

- **Lower Bowl:** Closest views of the pitch.
 - **Club Level:** Premium seating and enhanced amenities.
 - **Upper Level:** Affordable tickets with wide panoramic views.
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How to Reach Gillette Stadium

Planning transportation ahead of time is essential because Gillette Stadium is located outside downtown Boston. Fortunately, several convenient options are available.

From Boston Logan International Airport

The airport is approximately 35 miles (56 kilometers) from Gillette Stadium.

Average travel times:

- **Rental Car:** 45-60 minutes
- **Ride-share or Taxi:** 50-75 minutes
- **Public Transportation:** Approximately 90 minutes

MBTA Commuter Rail

During major events, the MBTA often operates special event trains between Boston and Foxborough. This is one of the easiest ways to avoid traffic and parking challenges on match days.

By Car

Drivers can reach Gillette Stadium via Interstate 95 and Route 1. Traffic becomes significantly heavier before and after matches, so arriving early is highly recommended.

Parking

Official stadium parking is available but should be reserved in advance whenever possible. Several private parking lots also operate around the stadium during major events.

Ride-Sharing

Uber and Lyft provide service to Gillette Stadium with designated pickup and drop-off areas.

Shuttle Services

Many hotels and private operators may provide transportation packages during the tournament, making travel easier for international visitors.

Best Areas to Stay in Boston During World Cup

Where you stay depends on whether you want to experience Boston's attractions or remain close to the stadium.

Downtown Boston

Downtown Boston is the most popular choice for international visitors. You will be close to historic landmarks, restaurants, shopping districts, and public transportation while still having convenient access to Gillette Stadium.

Best for:

- First-time visitors

- History lovers
 - Families
 - Walking tours
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Back Bay

Back Bay is one of Boston's most beautiful neighborhoods, known for luxury hotels, shopping on Newbury Street, and excellent restaurants.

Best for:

- Couples
 - Luxury travelers
 - Shopping
 - Fine dining
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Seaport District

The Seaport has become one of Boston's fastest-growing neighborhoods with waterfront hotels, rooftop bars, modern restaurants, and convention facilities.

Best for:

- Young travelers
 - Nightlife
 - Waterfront views
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Cambridge

Located across the Charles River, Cambridge offers easy subway access to downtown along with famous universities, museums, cafés, and quieter accommodations.

Best for:

- Longer stays
 - Students
 - Museum visitors
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Foxborough

Visitors focused primarily on attending FIFA matches may prefer staying close to Gillette Stadium. Foxborough offers several hotels within a short drive of the venue.

Best for:

- Match-day convenience
 - Families
 - Early stadium access
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Best Hotels Near Gillette Stadium

Whether you are looking for luxury accommodations in Boston or convenient hotels near the stadium, there are excellent options for every budget.

Renaissance Boston Patriot Place Hotel

Located next to Gillette Stadium, this is one of the closest and most convenient hotels for FIFA visitors. Guests can easily walk to the stadium while enjoying nearby restaurants and shopping.

Best for: Match-day convenience.

Hilton Garden Inn Foxborough Patriot Place

Situated within Patriot Place, this hotel offers comfortable rooms, modern amenities, and quick access to the stadium.

Best for: Families and football fans.

Home2 Suites by Hilton Walpole Foxborough

A spacious all-suite hotel located a short drive from Gillette Stadium with complimentary breakfast and free parking.

Best for: Longer stays.

Omni Boston Hotel at the Seaport

One of Boston's newest luxury hotels featuring upscale dining, spacious rooms, and excellent access to downtown attractions.

Best for: Luxury travelers.

The Langham, Boston

This historic luxury hotel combines elegant accommodations with easy access to Boston's financial district and waterfront.

Best for: Couples and premium stays.

Boston Marriott Copley Place

Located in Back Bay, this popular hotel provides excellent public transportation access and numerous nearby restaurants and shopping destinations.

Best for: Families and first-time visitors.

Hyatt Regency Boston

Conveniently located in downtown Boston, this hotel offers comfortable accommodations within walking distance of many famous attractions.

Best for: Sightseeing.

Hampton Inn & Suites Foxborough

An affordable option near Gillette Stadium offering comfortable rooms and convenient access to match-day transportation.

Best for: Budget-conscious travelers.

Things to Do Before or After the Match

Your FIFA World Cup trip doesn't have to begin and end at Gillette Stadium. Boston offers world-famous attractions, historic landmarks, waterfront experiences, and excellent dining that are easy to fit into your itinerary before or after kickoff.

Walk the Freedom Trail

Explore one of America's most famous historic walking routes. The Freedom Trail connects 16 significant landmarks, including Boston Common, Faneuil Hall, Paul Revere House, and Old North Church, making it an excellent way to experience the city's history in just a few hours.

Explore Quincy Market and Faneuil Hall

Located in downtown Boston, Quincy Market is one of the city's most popular gathering places. Enjoy fresh seafood, local specialties, street performers, souvenir shopping, and a lively atmosphere before heading to the stadium.

Visit Fenway Park

Sports fans shouldn't miss a visit to the iconic home of the Boston Red Sox. Stadium tours offer access to historic areas, the famous Green Monster, and behind-the-scenes locations that make Fenway Park one of America's most celebrated sports venues.

Relax at Boston Common and Public Garden

Take a break from the tournament by visiting America's oldest public park. The nearby Public Garden offers beautiful walking paths, Swan Boats, and peaceful green spaces just minutes from downtown attractions.

Discover Boston Harbor

Spend an afternoon along the waterfront enjoying harbor cruises, seafood restaurants, scenic boardwalks, and panoramic views of Boston's skyline before or after your match.

Tour Harvard University

Located across the Charles River in Cambridge, Harvard University is one of the world's most prestigious institutions. Visitors can explore the historic campus, museums, bookstores, and charming cafés within walking distance.

Visit the New England Aquarium

Ideal for families, the New England Aquarium features thousands of marine animals, interactive exhibits, penguins, sea turtles, and one of the largest ocean tanks in the region.

Experience Boston's Seafood Scene

No visit to Boston is complete without trying New England clam chowder, lobster rolls, fresh oysters, or Boston cream pie at one of the city's renowned waterfront or North End restaurants.

Best Time to Arrive on Match Day

Arriving early helps you avoid transportation delays and enjoy the complete FIFA World Cup experience at Gillette Stadium.

- **Arrive 3 Hours Before Kickoff:** Give yourself enough time for transportation, security screening, and stadium entry without rushing.
- **Use MBTA Event Trains When Available:** Special commuter rail services help avoid heavy traffic between Boston and Foxborough on match days.
- **Plan for Security Screening:** Security lines become much longer during the final two hours before kickoff, especially for high-profile matches.
- **Explore Patriot Place Before the Match:** Restaurants, entertainment venues, and official merchandise shops around the stadium are less crowded earlier in the day.
- **Download Mobile Tickets in Advance:** Save your tickets offline and ensure your phone is fully charged before leaving your hotel.

- **Monitor Traffic and Weather Conditions:** Summer traffic around Foxborough can be heavy, and New England weather may change quickly, so check conditions before departing.
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Practical Travel Tips for FIFA Fans

These practical recommendations can help make your FIFA World Cup trip to Boston smoother, more comfortable, and more enjoyable.

- **Book Accommodation Several Months Early:** Hotels in Downtown Boston and Foxborough often sell out quickly once major matches are announced.
- **Choose Hotels Near MBTA Stations:** Staying close to public transportation makes traveling between Boston and Gillette Stadium much easier.
- **Allow Extra Time to Reach Foxborough:** Gillette Stadium is about 30 miles from downtown Boston, and travel times can increase significantly on match days.
- **Reserve Stadium Parking in Advance:** If you are driving, book official parking before arrival, as many lots reach capacity early.
- **Carry a Portable Phone Charger:** Digital tickets, navigation apps, and mobile payments are essential throughout your trip, making a power bank highly recommended.
- **Wear Comfortable Walking Shoes:** Expect to walk between train stations, parking areas, attractions, and stadium entrances.
- **Try Local New England Cuisine:** Make time for regional favorites like lobster rolls, clam chowder, fresh oysters, and Boston cream pie while exploring the city.
- **Review FIFA Stadium Policies Before Departure:** Check the latest rules regarding bag sizes, prohibited items, and entry requirements to avoid delays at security.

- **Stay an Extra Day if Possible:** Many visitors combine FIFA matches with exploring Boston's historic sites, waterfront, museums, and nearby destinations across New England, making the trip far more rewarding than a single match-day visit.
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Conclusion

Boston offers one of the most unique FIFA World Cup 2026 experiences by combining world-class football with centuries of American history, outstanding museums, scenic waterfronts, and renowned New England hospitality. While matches take place at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, visitors can easily combine tournament action with unforgettable experiences throughout Greater Boston.

Whether you're cheering for your national team, exploring the Freedom Trail, enjoying fresh seafood along the harbor, or visiting legendary landmarks, Boston provides far more than a match-day destination. With thoughtful planning, reliable public transportation, and a wide range of accommodation options, your World Cup trip can become one of the highlights of your travels across the United States.

👉 Download our FREE Boston FIFA World Cup 2026 Travel Guide PDF to access stadium information, transportation tips, hotel recommendations, and local attractions anytime during your trip.

Frequently Asked Questions

How many FIFA World Cup 2026 matches will be played in Boston?

Boston will host **seven FIFA World Cup 2026 matches** at Gillette Stadium, including group-stage and knockout-round fixtures.

Where is Gillette Stadium located?

Gillette Stadium is located in **Foxborough, Massachusetts**, approximately 30 miles (48 kilometers) southwest of downtown Boston.

Is Gillette Stadium easy to reach from Boston?

Yes. Visitors can travel by car, ride-sharing services, or MBTA Commuter Rail during special event operations. Driving typically takes 45 to 60 minutes, depending on traffic.

Should I stay in Boston or Foxborough?

If you want to explore museums, restaurants, and historic attractions, staying in downtown Boston is the best option. If your primary focus is attending matches with minimal travel, Foxborough offers hotels much closer to Gillette Stadium.

What airport should I use for the FIFA World Cup in Boston?

Most international visitors arrive through **Boston Logan International Airport (BOS)**, which offers extensive domestic and international flight connections.

What are the best attractions near Gillette Stadium?

Patriot Place, located next to the stadium, features restaurants, shopping, entertainment venues, and family-friendly attractions. Visitors staying in Boston can also enjoy the Freedom Trail, Fenway Park, Boston Common, Quincy Market, and the New England Aquarium.

How early should I arrive for a World Cup match?

Plan to arrive **at least three hours before kickoff** to allow enough time for transportation, security checks, and finding your seat.

Is Boston a good destination for international football fans?

Yes. Boston combines excellent transportation, world-class attractions, diverse accommodations, and one of the richest historical experiences in the United States, making it an outstanding host city for FIFA World Cup 2026 visitors.