

# Boston—An Exciting City with Many Family Friendly Attractions!

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*As you gear up for ICPP2018, Family Friendly APS is here to help you plan exciting activities for the whole family!*

The Hynes Convention Center, where ICPP2018 will be held, is conveniently located in downtown Boston. Boston is a very walkable, historic city with many green spaces and museums, plus a waterfront and harbor. Newbury Street, a shopping mecca with many trendy boutiques and restaurants, is just around the corner from the Hynes Convention Center. From the Hynes, families can also walk to the Boston Public Garden, where children might enjoy a ride on the swan boats. At the Boston Common, next to the Public Garden, families might also enjoy playing at the Tadpole Playground or join a guided tour of the [Freedom Trail](#), a 2.5-mile route with stops at many historically significant sites. If you don't want to take a guided tour of the Freedom Trail, you can follow the red line on the sidewalk for a self-guided tour of these historic sites. In addition to the Boston Common, other notable stops along the Freedom Trail are the Massachusetts State House, Faneuil Hall, Paul Revere's house, and the *USS Constitution*.

The Boston Common is also close to the city's Chinatown, which is fun to explore. The [Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway](#), a series of public parks and green spaces, starts in Chinatown and runs to the North End, Boston's Little Italy. The greenway has many playgrounds, food carts, and interesting stops, including The Greenway Carousel. The greenway also connects to the Boston Harborwalk, which provides a great way to explore the waterfront and many family friendly sites, such as the Boston Children's Museum and the New England Aquarium. Families should note that Boston's museums are very busy in the summer, especially on weekends! The APS Family Friendly Committee will organize a visit to the Children's Museum. Look for more on that visit in another article.

In addition to exploring Boston on foot, you can see the city in many other ways. Among organized tours, the Boston Duck Tours are very popular; you can start at either the Museum of Science or the New England



*Families at ICPP2018 can take advantage of several open green spaces near the convention center.*

Aquarium and tour the city both on land and by water via the Charles River. The Old Town Trolley Tours travel through downtown Boston and allow travelers to hop on and off to explore as desired; the cost is about \$40 per person for the first day, and the second day is free. Boston Harbor and the nearby islands can be visited by ferry or through one of the harbor cruises. Boston also has an extensive subway system called the "T." Check out [tips on how to use the T](#) before you arrive.

For older kids, the Museum of Fine Arts and Fenway Park are within walking distance of the Hynes Convention Center. Cambridge, the home of MIT and Harvard, is another entertaining part of the city to explore. Harvard Square, in the heart of Cambridge, is the starting point of campus tours guided by Harvard students.

Keep an eye on *Phytopathology News* for more updates and ideas from Family Friendly APS leading up to ICPP2018! ■

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## ICPP2018 PRE-MEETING OPPORTUNITY

# Join Us for the Agricultural Microbiomes Workshop in Boston

Sign up for the [Ag Microbiomes Workshop](#), and participate in building the agricultural microbiomes research community! This NSF-funded workshop will engage scientists from academia, government, and industry who are interested in agricultural microbiomes research. Workshop participants will have the opportunity to engage actively with other microbiome scientists to discuss the current "state of the science" in agricultural microbiomes research, identify research priorities and critical gaps, and explore opportunities for collaborative microbiome research and synthetic analyses of diverse existing datasets. The workshop will highlight existing large-scale microbiome research platforms and resources and identify community priorities for analytical and skills development and training.

To participate, make sure to add this workshop to your [ICPP2018 registration](#)! For questions about the workshop or the RCN, contact [Linda Kinkel](#) or [J. P. Dundore-Arias](#). ■