

# Quincy Market Review

- Becky Twaalfhoven

Although many do not know its exact name, the Quincy Market Colonnade is a well-known, popular destination for all people, especially for the food. With over 35 international food vendors, it is the largest food hall in New England; and there's something for everyone. Located in the heart of downtown Boston, Quincy Market is adjacent to Faneuil Hall, located along the Freedom Trail and within walking distance of... well, just about everywhere! This includes the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston Public Gardens, Fenway Park, TD Banknorth Garden, the North End, the waterfront, Government Center, and the State Houses (both New and Old), among other places. Conveniently, the Green, Blue, and Orange T lines all have stops within one block of the market. The main attraction – for me, at least – is the fantastic food to be found just inside the Colonnade. Even before entering the building itself, passersby can detect the delicious aromas of all different types of food wafting from the windows and doors. Walking in, one is immediately struck by the incredible variety of foods and specialty vendors crammed along both sides of the walking path. Local restaurants selling every manner of seafood, beans, and Irish food jostle for attention alongside international cuisine, ranging from burritos to baklava and displaying cooking from around the globe. Overwhelmed, you sigh with relief upon hitting the food court in the middle of the hall, where low wooden tables and chairs are crammed full with students, tourists and families. The respite does not last long, however, as you realize that there is another identical half of the building, with similar layout but an entirely different collection of restaurants flaunting their delicious goods. And, of course, the array of mouth-watering desserts is almost irresistible, with display cases stuffed full with chocolate, nuts, ice cream, and pastries to tempt even the most fastidious of eaters.

And that's just the food. In terms of the city of Boston, Quincy Market is a great transitional point for walking around. At night, trees wrapped in twinkling lights line Faneuil Hall marketplace, inviting revelers and event-goers to stop in and grab a bite before heading on their way. No matter what time of day or night, there is always a bustling crowd of people shopping, sight-seeing, and enjoying the breeze from the nearby waterfront; and street performers often line the pathways, displaying a diverse selection of acts and music to accompany the lively atmosphere of this historic city.