



## Leave the broom at home, take the train to the final weekend of Salem Haunted Happenings

### Locals and visitors agree, the scariest part of October in Salem is the traffic

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Salem, MA... The City of Salem is offering a word to the wise for visitors planning to attend the final weekend of Salem Haunted Happenings: Choose public transportation! Salem has welcomed a record number of visitors this October, and the fair-weather forecast combined with a weekend full of programming for all ages indicates October 25-27 could be the busiest on record.

Visitors are strongly encouraged to take public transportation to Salem this weekend. Keolis is running expanded MBTA Commuter Rail service to Salem, and the \$10 unlimited weekend fare is in effect. While service on the Newburyport/Rockport lines is out of Boston's North Station, driving to the MBTA depots in Beverly or Lynn and riding the train one or two stops into Salem will save visitors time lost in traffic. Parking in MBTA garages in Lynn and Beverly is an affordable \$2 per day.

The City of Salem will be providing free satellite parking and shuttle service from lots at Salem Hospital, Salem State University O'Keefe Center, and a North Shore Medical Center lot on Jefferson Avenue. The Salem Ferry from Boston's Long Wharf to Salem's Blaney Wharf is another great option for getting to Salem.

"We love welcoming visitors to Salem, but you'll have a pretty unpleasant time if you're spending hours in traffic and looking for parking," says Salem Mayor Kim Driscoll. "Plan ahead and take the train or use the free satellite parking lots this weekend. You'll save lots of time, money, and aggravation!"

Public safety officials plan to close Washington Street between Front Street and Church Street and Essex Street between Washington Street and North Street at 11:00 AM on both Saturday and Sunday, October 26 and 27. Essex Street between Hawthorne Boulevard and New Liberty Street will be closed from 8:00 AM – 10:00 PM on both days.

Parking in City lots and garages will cost \$30 for the day, and private lots are charging a daily rate of \$30+. Vehicles parked in a resident parking zone will be subject to a \$50 ticket and may be towed.

Complete information on satellite lots and shuttles as well as links to the MBTA Commuter Rail schedules can be found at [HauntedHappenings.org](http://HauntedHappenings.org).

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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**About Salem Haunted Happenings:** A month-long celebration of Halloween and fall in New England, more than 500,000 people travel from around the world to visit Salem during October. Celebrating its 37<sup>th</sup> year, the festival features hundreds of special events in addition to attractions, museums and tours that are in Salem throughout the year. For complete information visit [HauntedHappenings.org](http://HauntedHappenings.org).

**About Salem:** Salem, Massachusetts, is a destination recognized around the world for its rich history, which includes the tragic Salem Witch Trials of 1692, the glorious maritime era that left its indelible mark on Salem through architecture, museums, and artifacts, and for its month-long celebration of Halloween. Located on the Massachusetts coast just 15 miles north of Boston, Salem is accessible by car, train, and seasonal ferry. For more information, visit [Salem.org](http://Salem.org).