



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 25, 2023



City of Salem Strongly Urges Public Transportation for Last Weekend of October and Halloween

Additional MBTA Trains, Larger Ferry Vessels, and Satellite Parking Added to Accommodate Salem Haunted Happenings

SALEM, Mass.— The City of Salem is advising all travelers planning to visit during the last weekend of October through Halloween to take the train, ride the ferry, or use satellite parking. The MBTA has [added extra trains](#) and the [Salem Ferry](#) is running additional vessels for Saturday, October 28, Sunday, October 29, Monday, October 30, and Tuesday, October 31. In addition, the City of Salem will provide [free satellite parking](#) and [shuttle buses](#) for the weekends.

Weekend Shuttle Service for Halloween Weekend

Shuttles run October 28-29 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. between three free satellite parking lots and downtown Salem.

- Free parking at any of the three free satellite parking lots – Salem State University's O'Keefe Center parking lot (225 Canal Street), Salem High School (77 Willson Street), and 108 Jefferson Avenue behind Salem Hospital. Together, the three satellite lots offer more than 1,300 spaces free parking spaces. The downtown pick-up/drop-off location is in Riley Plaza.

- An accessible shuttle is available for those who require stops at the High School and Jefferson Avenue lots, as well as Riley Plaza.

Shuttle Updates for Monday, October 30 and Tuesday, October 31

- Extra Shuttles have been added for this October season on Monday and Tuesday, 10/30 & 10/31. Shuttles will run 10 am to 8 pm both days. **ONLY** at Salem High School for these two days (as opposed to the three satellite lots we usually have been using). There will be one standard and one accessible bus for these two days.

Halloween: Tuesday, October 31:

Halloween events will include multiple road closures and heavy traffic impacts for the entire day and night. Visitors are strongly encouraged to take the commuter rail or ferry to get to Salem. Do not plan to drive into downtown Salem. Expect major traffic impacts on Route 114 and Route 1A. Downtown streets will close to all traffic no later than 4 pm. Road closures include: Essex Street at Crombie Street and Barton Square to Union Street, Washington Street from New Derby Street to Bridge Street, Federal Street from St. Peter's Street to North Street, Washington Square North and West from Essex Street to Brown Street, Hawthorne Boulevard, Derby Street, Route 1A, Congress Street near Pickering Wharf, Charter Street, Central Street, Front Street, and Lafayette Street from New Derby Street to Front Street. Bridge Street at Sgt. James Ayube Memorial Drive will also be close to all traffic between the westerly overpass ramps and Sgt. James Ayube Memorial Drive from 9:30 pm to 11:30 pm for the closing fireworks.

All information above is subject to change. The Salem Police Department will close any street at any time if they determine that a public safety issue exists.

***Please note:** The MBTA Garage will be closed from 6 p.m. until 1 a.m. on Halloween night, and possibly on October 30. Cars will not be permitted to enter or exit between these hours.*

As we approach the witching hour, we have assembled a guide to [Haunted Happenings](#) on our website, filled with invaluable tips and insights, and the Destination Salem app will assist visitors to Salem in navigating the bewitching month-long celebration with ease. To make the most out of the Salem Haunted Happenings experience, visitors should plan ahead by making reservations and purchasing tickets where available. A complete schedule of Haunted Happenings events can be found at hauntedhappenings.org. Download the Destination Salem app for push notifications and navigating your visit.

Mobile App Available to Guide Visitors

Destination Salem's mobile app is designed to assist visitors to Salem in accessing the latest information. This app features news, information on walking tours, educational content, and location-based notifications. The Destination Salem app is available for iOS and Android. The app can be found on the App Stores by searching for Destination Salem, Mass.

About Salem Haunted Happenings

Created in 1982 as a way to extend the tourism season past Labor Day, Salem Haunted Happenings is believed to be one of the largest celebrations of Halloween in the world. More than a half-million people from around the world travel to Salem each October to celebrate Halloween, commemorate the events of the Salem Witch Trials, and immerse themselves in Salem's unique atmosphere. For complete information, visit HauntedHappenings.org.

About Salem, Massachusetts

Salem is a destination recognized worldwide for its rich history, including 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. Approximately 1.8 million people visit Salem annually, generating nearly \$140 million in tourism spending and supporting 1,000 jobs.

About Destination Salem

As the destination marketing organization for the City of Salem, Destination Salem cooperatively markets Salem as one of Massachusetts' best destinations for families, couples, and domestic and international travelers who are seeking an authentic New England experience, cultural enrichment, American history, fine dining, unique shopping, and fun. For more information, visit Salem.org.

High-resolution images are available [HERE](#) and interviews are available upon request.

Image caption: Frankenstein walks down Salem's Essex Street, Photo by Kate Fox.

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