BEST OF NEW ENGLAND

With an eye on what's new for 2022, Yankee's editors round up recent debuts and refurbished favorites—alongside some perennial don't-miss picks—in our top travel regions. The result: your essential guide for where to eat, stay, and play in New England this summer. Happy travels!
EDITORS' PICKS: BOSTON & CAMBRIDGE

CONTessa
BOSTON
Perched high above Boston's Public Garden at the top of the Newbury Hotel, Contessa radiates big-city glamour, with interiors by bold-name designer Ken Fulk and a menu of Northern Italian–inspired dishes like lobster capellini and Bistecca Fiorentina for two, plus buzzy cocktails. The city sparkles beyond the floor-to-ceiling windows at night, but those views also make it the perfect spot for brunch on a sunny (or snowy) day. contessaarrasoria.com

FOrMAGGIO KITCHEN
CAMBRIDGE
Cheese has always been among the top draws at this Cambridge institution. But while the Formaggio Kitchen Flagship's move down the block to a light-filled space almost twice as large last year made more room for the Instagram-worthy cheese counter—stocked with 300 glorious wheels and wedges—it also allowed owners Ilana and Valerie Cordal to add a butchery and a seafood department, and to bring in even more gourmet foods from around the globe. Yum. formaggiokitchen.com

FRAkKLIN PARK ZOO
BOSTON
There's always something new at the zoo. This spring, the expansive outdoor habitat Gorilla Grove was unveiled, adding some 360,000 cubic feet of climbing, swinging, and exploring space for Franklin Park Zoo's six western lowland gorillas, a critically endangered species. Enclosed walkways traverse Gorilla Grove, allowing visitors to immerse themselves without intruding on the animals' space. Along with its sister facility, Stone Zoo in Stoneham, Franklin Park Zoo saw attendance swell past one million for the first time last year, buoyed in part by the success of Boston Lights, a recently created nighttime event featuring 60 plus large-scale displays made up of hundreds of colorful lanterns. Watch it to return this summer. zoomnewengland.org/franklin-park-zoo

HIGH STREET PLACE FOOD HALL
BOSTON
Boston is now home to several great food halls (including the Time Out Market and Boston Public Market), but High Street Place stands out for its prime location close to the waterfront, the Greenway, and South Station, plus the high wattage of ah-me-separate eateries from celeb-chef Tiffani Thiessen: the champagne bar Bubble Bath, Dive Bar (a raw bar), and Tenderoni's, serving pizza and grinders. Other noteworthy bites include Mamaleh's Delicatessen, Gorgeous Gelato, and Mike & Patty's breakfast sandwiches. highstreetplace.com

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM
BOSTON
If you binge'd the recent Netflix series This Is a Robbery: The World's Biggest Art Heist, or hung on every word of the Boston Globe/WBUR podcast I Was Seen, this is your chance to return