

Boston in 2020 Christmas Worldcon Bid

Who will represent your bid at Smofcon 35?

The usual elves will be there. Alas, our Moral Compass remains...unavailable.

What are the proposed dates for which you are bidding?

Wednesday 12/23/20 - Thursday 12/31/20. We have some **spectacular** plans for the Dead Dog and Old Pharts' Parties!

What is your proposed convention host city?

Boston! Sheesh, y'all ask this every year...

Is your convention site in a city center location or a suburb? If a suburb, what are the transport options into the city center?

We are still focused on the Boston Common Garage. As to transportation options, there's public transit, and unlike DC, it doesn't usually catch on fire.

How far is the site from the city center? We're still trying to figure out how to calculate that in Smoots. Math is hard.

What is the typical current airfare to your closest airport from world cities such as London, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, Melbourne?

It all depends on whether you wish to fly economy, business, or first class. Non-stop or with stops. Checking luggage or carry-on only. Do you have a special credit card that gets you an extra bag? Are you planning for carry-on but end up bringing a Hugo Award so TSA makes you check your bag? Will this be your mileage run to keep frequent flyer status at the end of the year? Honestly, that's a lot of choices and we don't have time to figure it all out. We're very busy fans, you know.

Is your closest airport a hub for a major carrier? Absolutely. SantaAir has hubs at all airports everywhere.

Do international flights as well as domestic fly into your local airport? Yes.

If not, where is the closest international airport? N/A

Which airlines? Many.

Are direct flights from the cities above flown into your local airport? Probably. Have you checked online?

How far is your convention site from the nearest airport/train station and what is the likely cost of getting to the hotels by both public transport and taxi from that airport/train station?

Santa frowns on us lying to you. Not to mention that with Uber and Lyft and Reindeer and public transpo and taxi...well, like we said earlier, it's a lot of choices and we're busy and who knows what the rates will be in 2020 anyway? We're elves, not psychics, Jim!

What hotel(s) are being used for the convention?

We like the Ritz-Carlton at Boston Common, ourselves. Only \$1500 / night for a luxury suite with a park view! Plus, it's right by our parking garage!

Tim continues to advocate for the Red Roof Inn, just outside of town, off I-95 on your way to Maine, but we aren't sure we'd be able to fill the room block. It's still a small committee.

We've heard good things about the Lizzie Borden Bed & Breakfast. You might check them out.

How many rooms? **Many.**

How many Singles/Doubles/Kings? **More than one of each.**

What other types of rooms are available? **Bathrooms.**

How many are handicap accessible? **Some.**

Are there any accessibility issues? **We're hearing that the ADA might not cover reindeer as service animals, which could be problematic. Our attorneys are working on it.**

What are your hotel room rates?

Do these rates include breakfast?

Do they include internet in the room?

These questions are all dependent on what hotel you find. If you get a good deal, let us know, okay?

How firm are these rates?

We sure hope they'll be firm. Very, very firm...

What is the distance from the main hotel(s) to the closest entrance of the convention site?

Haven't we talked about the lying thing? Santa docked our pay that one year when we lied. We're not doing that again. We want to be able to afford presents for our friends and family!

What are the transportation options for those who prefer not to walk or who have mobility difficulties?

Sleigh rides! Flying reindeer!

Please describe your convention site facilities. For example, the quantity and sizes of rooms, tech options, accessibility issues, etc.

There will be rooms. Some have floors, most have walls and ceilings. I mean, we're not in Glasgow.

Where will your large events (for example the Hugo Ceremony and Masquerade) be held?

Either in Boston Common or at the North Pole. Depends on weather. And climate change. We hope the North Pole will still be there in 2020...

Please describe the restaurant scene near your site.

There are many buildings with brightly colored awnings and doors. Some buildings have lots of windows. On the sidewalk there are those chalkboard signs that list daily specials. Looking through the windows, we see tables, chairs, and occasionally a little vase with flowers or a candle.

It smells tasty.

What are the policies/laws regarding smoking in your:

Hotel(s): **You're going outside to smoke.**

Convention Center: **We suggest you bring a jacket.**

City: **It is rather chilly here in December, you know.**

What type of weather can we expect at the time of year your convention is to be held?

Cold. Snowy. Average temperature on December 25th is 32 degrees Fahrenheit.

What are some of the main tourist attractions of your city?

The Berkeley Weather Beacon, The Citgo Sign on Beacon Street, Damnation Alley, the Darth Vader Building, the location of the First UFO Sighting in America, the Giant Tea Kettle, the Pregnant Building, the Sacred Cod, and Smoot's Bridge.
(<http://www.celebrateboston.com/strange.htm>).

We're also really excited to see the Great Boston Molasses Flood Plaque, the Ether Monument (yay, anesthesia!), the Hood Milk Bottle, and Lobster Mickey.
(<http://www.atlasobscura.com/destinations/boston?page=1>)

Plus, there's Ducky Tours!

Who is on your committee?

Bid's Moral Compass: Christopher J. Garcia (Head Muckety Muck)
James Bacon (Reigning Rabble Rouser)
Rick Carson (I'm Batman!)
Norman Cates (Grand Poobah)
Tim Miller (Big Cheese)
Helen Montgomery (Head Honcho)
Jesi Pershing (Top Banana)
Barbara vanTilburg (Kingpin)
Leane Verhulst (Official Guilty Party)

What experience does your committee have in general?

We'd tell you, but Santa made us sign a non-disclosure clause. (Claus, get it? GET IT?)

In running a bid for a convention like this in particular?

How hard could it be?

If known, who will be the chair of the convention? Currently? Art Widner. After this weekend? Could be anyone. You know how we tend to...misplace...our chairs.

What arrangements will be made for evening socializing and party space?

PAAAR-TAY!!! CELEBRATE GOOD TIMES, COME ON!!! GET THIS PARTY STARTED!!!
TONIGHT'S GONNA BE A GOOD NIGHT!!! DRINK ALL DAY; PLAY ALL NIGHT!!! PICK UP
MY GIRLS AND HIT THE PARTY SCENE!!! RIDE THIS BEAT-BEAT-BEAT LIKE A PONY!!!

Plus - PRESENTS!!!

Do you have a corkage waiver and a forkage waiver?

That sounds kinda kinky. We're interested. Tell us more...

Do you currently have a code of conduct in place for your bid/convention? Yes!

If so, what is it? Be excellent to one another.

Are you planning to have any membership discounts for specific groups, such as young adults, military, seniors or families?

No one will buy the reindeer if we give away the coal for free.