

# BIZBASH

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# National

# Venue &

# Supplier Guide

## 704 Locations & 86 Ideas for Events & Meetings

Atlanta, Atlantic City, Austin, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Miami/South Florida, New York, Orlando, Philadelphia, Phoenix/Scottsdale, San Diego, San Francisco, Washington & Toronto

# Outdoor Entertaining

**1** New barbecue restaurant **Back Deck** opened in Downtown Crossing in June. Two deck spaces can be rented for private events: The Upper deck accommodates 60 for cocktails or 40 for dinner meetings, while the Washington Street deck holds 35 for cocktails and 30 for seated functions. Indoors, the venue holds 128 for meetings in the dining room and 178 for cocktails. An event menu offers barbecue favorites with a twist, such as Greek-style lamb kefta skewers and muffaletta sliders. (2 West St., 617.670.0320, backdeckboston.com)

**2** Chef Tiffani Faison's Southern-inspired restaurant **Sweet Cheeks** added a beer garden adjacent to the dining room in June. The space holds 50 for receptions and 30 seated. The garden is decorated with Berkshire Mountain Distillery whiskey barrels and has a retractable roof. The restaurant is also available for buyout and accommodates 130 seated and 200 for cocktails. The space is outfitted with six flat-screen TVs. (1381 Boylston St., 617.266.1300, sweetcheeksq.com)

**3** The Fenway flagship location of **Jerry Remy's Sports Bar & Grill** now has a temperature-

controlled roof deck with 15 50-inch high-definition TVs, a roof-deck menu, more than 20 kinds of draft beer, and views of Fenway Park. The roof deck accommodates 200 people. (1265 Boylston St., 617.236.7369, jerryremys.com)

**4. Tavern on the Water** opened a sand bar—a pier covered with seven tons of sand—in May. It accommodates 100 seated or 200 for receptions and offers a view of the Boston skyline as well as the waterfront. Additionally, the pier can accommodate 50 for semi-private events in sectioned-off spaces. Menu options include beach-themed meals such as crawfish

boils, clambakes, and barbecues. (1 8th St., Pier 6, 617.242.8040, tavernonthe water.com)

**5.** In Sharon, about 20 miles south of Boston, **Sapphire Estate** hosts alfresco events at its lakefront property. The estate opened in 2006 and was renovated in February 2012. An open-air courtyard surrounded by lush gardens is available for receptions. It accommodates 300 for cocktails or seats 160. The menu offers eclectic fare such as lobster pot pie and Israeli chopped salad with falafel croutons. Full audiovisual capabilities are offered. (164 Massapoag Ave., Sharon, 781.784.2400, sapphireeventgroup.com)



## Salon

Blow-dry salon **Blo** opened a Boston outpost in July. The sunny space can host small groups; it can provide eight services at a time. Staffers can serve appetizers and champagne, or outside catering can be arranged. "Blo on the Go" can bring services off-site. (437 Columbus Ave., 617.262.0105, blowmedry.com)



## ENTERTAINMENT

### Body of Work

**Gin C Productions** (781.286.5513, gincproductions.com) provides airbrush face painting and tattoos, living art statues, and body painting for corporate and nonprofit events. As roving entertainment, the company can body paint models or waitstaff with custom stencils, and jewelry embellishments and custom headpieces are also available.



## In the Works

- Jason Santos, the edgy chef known for his stint on *Hell's Kitchen*, his wild blue hair, and the experimental fare he serves at his other local restaurant, Blue Inc., had a new spot in the works at press time. Called **Abby Lane**, the restaurant was slated to open on Tremont Street in late 2012. The 200-seat space will be geared to both visitors and

locals, serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Expect casual menu items like lobster rolls and pizza.

- Another big-name chef, Ming Tsai, also began working on a new venue this fall. Though the name and exact location of **Tsai's restaurant project** have yet to be released, the Chinese restaurant will open in the Fort Point neighborhood, which already boasts restaurants from food-world luminaries such as

Barbara Lynch.

- In spring 2013, Faneuil Hall will welcome Boston's first venue made entirely of ice. Dubbed **Frost Ice Bar**, the quirky spot for group entertaining will offer music and cocktails to ward off the chill of the 24-degree interior.
- For something a bit more traditional and meeting-friendly, the classic **Palm Steakhouse** will reopen this spring in the lobby of One International Place.

With an outdoor dining deck and more than 300 seats, the venue will be larger than Boston's former, recently shuttered Palm location.

- **Liberal Servings**, a mixed-use venue with a performance space, restaurant, and bar, is slated to open in Harvard Square in the spring. From the owners of Beehive, the space will have a bohemian vibe and offer live jazz and more than 300 seats.

PHOTOS: BRIAN SAMUELS (BACK DECK), COURTESY OF SWEET CHEEKS; TOMASA MCDANIEL (JERRY REMY'S), SONYA KOVACIC (BLO), AVIRAN (GIN C)