

BRIDE & GROOM™

Winter 2013

Magazine

Glow for it

*The power of
custom lighting*

Here comes the bride... and groom

*Unique entrances by carriage,
trolley and more*

A toast!

*Finding the right wine for
your function*

Let them eat... pie?

*Delicious nuptial desserts that
really take the cake!*





Boys Night Out

Boston boasts a plethora of locales for a fun guys-only night out

by Andrea E. McHugh

*Bachelor parties have long had a reputation for inviting a barrage of high-octane hijinks, and the blockbuster film *The Hangover* (and its sequels) helped solidify their mischievous reputation. But not all “say-goodbye-to-singlehood” soirées need to be scandalous. Good friends, good food and good drinks can guarantee a great time—and with these sophisticated spots, what could be an “ordinary” bachelor party will, instead, be an extraordinary one.*

Where to Stay

Because a few drinks might be in the night’s mix, being walking distance to some key points of interest is imperative, and staying in style is the way to send your best bud off to a life of marital bliss. The **Hotel Commonwealth**, nestled in the heart of Boston’s Back Bay, is just steps from the country’s oldest and this region’s most beloved ballpark, Fenway Park. And it was certainly apropos when the hotel introduced a luxury baseball suite just two years ago.

A nostalgic look back at America’s favorite pastime, rare collectibles that depict baseball greats such as Babe Ruth, Ted Williams, Lou Gehrig and Jackie Robinson pepper the posh suite (including a 1967 World Series program when the Boston Red Sox took on the St. Louis Cardinals at Fenway, and a collection of vintage



trading cards). The suite features a living room with masculine, vintage-style furniture evocative of the 1930s and 1940s, plus a 50-inch plasma TV and a DVD library of more than 40 classic baseball films. Toast the party at hand with one of the hotel's custom crafted, baseball-inspired cocktails, like the Big Papi or the Green Monster. Best of all, the hotel concierge can arrange for guests to tour Fenway and secure game-day tickets.

For the scholarly groom to be, the hotel's new Reading Suite is dedicated to Beantown's rich literary history. A local-author library contains more than 50 titles from celebrated authors, including Dennis Lehane, whose best-sellers *Gone Baby Gone*, *Mystic River* and *Shutter Island* were all made into blockbuster films; a cushy reading nook and window seat with a view of the iconic glowing "Citgo" sign overlooking Fenway Park; and mementos such as a letter written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, author of the Sherlock Holmes series.

Where to Dine

Kick off the nighttime festivities with a big-boy-style dinner. Prime steaks, market-fresh seafood and a newly-launched list of classic cocktails are just some of the amenities that make **Abe & Louie's** an iconic Boston steakhouse. Exclusively featuring USDA Prime beef sourced from Nebraska, this dimly-lit eatery offers a warm, comfortable space with oversized leather chairs and Hollywood-style booths in the dining room—perfect for a group of celebratory men to feast.

Belly Wine Bar + Charcuterie, a new restaurant in Cambridge, offers a particularly carnivorous dining option perfect for a barrage of ravenous bachelors. Belly's "Arm + A Leg" dinner, offered to groups of four to 12, is four courses of family-style dining featuring various parts of a whole animal with seasonal accompaniments. Whole animal selections could run the gamut from goat to lamb to pork to beef. While the restaurant does not accept reservations for nightly dining, Arm + A Leg dinners require a 48-hour notice.

Where to Drink

The newest Boston hotspot is **The Hawthorne**, home to one of the country's top master mixologists, Jackson Cannon. Channeling the geniality of a by-gone era, The Hawthorne offers a highly curated selection of the rarest cognacs, tequilas, whiskeys and well-aged rums in a chic, intimate lounge setting where you can kick it old-school style with a Manhattan or Old Fashioned. Mix

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cocktails with competition at **Jillian's Boston/Lucky Strike Lanes**, where you can organize a private party with pool tables or bowling lanes all to yourself.

Where to Hang

What man doesn't love the movie *Scarface*? The bachelor party can channel their inner Tony Montana at a Boston cigar bar such as **Stanza dei Sigari**, **Churchill's Lounge** at **David P. Ehrlich Company** (est. 1868) or **Cigar Masters**, which also has a location in Worcester. Secure a private room and swap

some stories of days gone by, all while trying premiere cigars from around the world.

If the bachelor is more of a sports fanatic, you're in the right place. Take in a Red Sox game (plan your outing around a day or night game), a Celtics match-up at the TD Garden, a Patriots game at Foxboro (easy-in/easy-out via the game day MBTA train) or one of the many college games—there's some form of heart-pumping action almost any time of year.



The Morning After

Homeruns might be hit just steps away, but there's a chance not everyone is going to feel like they knocked one out of the park the morning after the big party. A recovery brunch at the **Eastern Standard**, also steps from Fenway Park, may be just what the (hangover) doctor ordered. Start on the veranda for a dose of fresh air and order made-from-scratch Bloody Marys or classic Harvey Wallbangers. Next, go the traditional breakfast route with eggs benedict, or skip ahead directly to lunch and sink your teeth into a house-made pastrami on pumpernickel. **B&G**

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