## A Walk through Boston Common

Boston Common is a public park located in the center of Boston, Massachusetts. Almost 50 acres in size, it became the first American public park in 1634 and was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1987. The Common is part of the Freedom Trail, a path through downtown Boston that leads to 16 significant historic sites.



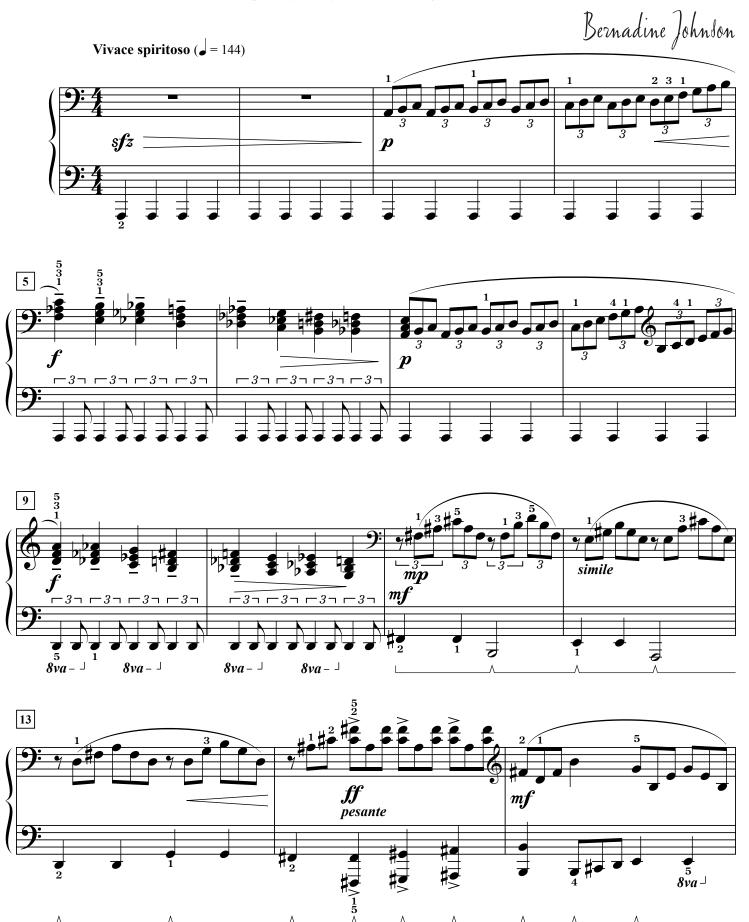
## Nantucket Nocturne

Nantucket is an historic island located 30 miles off the coast of Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Although it is only 14 miles long and 3.5 miles wide, Nantucket has over 80 miles of beaches. During the summer, the population of the island swells from 10,000 to 50,000 due to tourists and summer residents who enjoy its beautiful sunsets, landscapes, harbors, and historic homes.



## The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere

Paul Revere (1734–1818) was a prosperous and important Boston silversmith. He is famous for his midnight ride from Charlestown to Lexington in April of 1775 to alert the Colonial army about the approaching British forces. His ride was later dramatized in the well-known poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807–1882), Paul Revere's Ride.



## All Aboard

Massachusetts has made several major contributions to the advancement of the railway system. The first commercial railway in the United States was constructed in Quincy in 1826 to carry the granite used to erect the Bunker Hill Monument in Charleston. The Boston & West Worcester Railroad was the first to charge commuter fares beginning in 1938. The first subway system in the United States was built in 1897 in Boston.

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