Wakefield, MA Travel Information

Venue: Four Points by Sheraton Wakefield Boston Hotel & Conference Center

1 Audubon Rd., Wakefield, MA 01880

Phone: 1-781-245-9300

www.fourpointswakefieldboston.com

The hotel is well located in that it is a short walk from Whole Foods, which is in the middle of a very nice outdoor mall with all kinds of shops, restaurants and even a bowling alley. It is about 25 minutes from the airport, when there is little traffic. (And late afternoon, returning to the airport, most of the traffic should be going the other way.)

Making Hotel Reservations

Students are often able to access a group rate at Four Points by Sheraton if making a reservation before a certain date. Please check the class registration page or confirmation email for details. You don't need to have registered for the class first to make a hotel reservation.

Travel

By Air: Fly into Boston Logan Airport. Then either take a taxi to the hotel (about \$60 +tip) to the hotel), or follow the public transportation option described in detail below, which is not too difficult. For Logan Airport information: http://www.massport.com/Logan/default.aspx If you are going to rent a car, you also have the option of flying into Pease Int'l Airport in Portsmouth New Hampshire (50 miles away), or MHT in Manchester, New Hampshire (45 miles away). Southwest Airlines flies into MHT and Boston Logan Airport.

Taxi: Taxis are the easiest way from airport to hotel. For trips to Wakefield, they will charge by meter rather than a fixed rate. The cost should be somewhere about \$55-\$65, depending on traffic, not including tolls & fees (~\$2.25 airport fee & \$5.25 tolls). Calling a taxi service for a pickup there will not be any cheaper and there may an extra \$3 charge that the airport charges them for doing a pickup there. The more luggage you have, or the longer your flight getting to Boston, the more attractive the taxi option will be. (Note: although very few cab drivers will 'take you for a ride', such drivers do exist. If you feel that you have been overcharged, it is recommended that you ask the taxi driver for a receipt showing the driver's name, the taxi company, the amount paid, and the medallion number. And then call his taxi company and/or the Massport Ground Transportation Unit Manager at 1-617-561-1659.)

For the return trip, you would need to call a local car service, which will charge about \$55 - \$60. You can try one of these: Wakefield Taxi 781-245-1111 // C & A Taxi 978-774-1772 // Danvers Taxi 978-774-8901 // Bostonia Taxi 617-816-9314 // Tri-City Taxi 978-922-6999 // Community Taxi 978-535-1800 // Boston Taxi (a few dollars more) 617-633-8294.

Logan Express – Peabody (Shuttle): This leaves you less than 5 miles from the hotel, so you can call the hotel to have its shuttle pick you up from here. It leaves Logan from 4:15 am to 1:15 am, every hour. That time is for Terminal A. Other terminals will be a few minutes later. Travel time is ~30-45 min, depending upon traffic. You won't find the cost on the Logan Express Website

(http://www.massport.com/logan-airport/to-from-logan/transportation-options/loganexpress/), but calling them indicates it is just \$12 one way, \$22 round-trip, and \$1 savings each way for seniors. It is first come first serve, though, with no reservations. So it is possible that if you arrive at a busy time that you'd need to wait an extra hour for the next bus. In addition, there will be a wait for the hotel shuttle to get to you. So although this is the cheapest transportation option, it may be very slow.

Train: This option is the most complex. For this option, you will take an MBTA subway train from the airport (also called the T), then a regular commuter train, and then call the hotel for its free shuttle to come and get you. Specifically, you take the Blue Line subway train at the airport going into Boston (coming back to the airport you'd take the Blue Line toward Wonderland). You get off either at State and transfer to the Orange Line heading towards Oak Grove, or you can get off at the next stop on the Blue Line, at Government Center, and transfer to the Green Line heading to Lechmere. In either case, you get off at North Station and buy a ticket for the Haverhill Line (Haverhill is its last stop), but you will be getting off at Wakefield. (Note that tickets for the commuter rail can be purchased at the ticket booth or on the train, as the ticket booths may be closed on weekends.) From there, you'd call the hotel for its free shuttle to come pick you up, or you can call a taxi, which will be ~\$12 +tip. Be aware that commuter trains are not well designed to accommodate luggage, but most traincars do have a small area for that. In addition, they are more expensive than the T, and they run frequently on weekdays in the morning and later afternoon, when they are also most crowded, but not so often on weekends and at other times of the day. Returning to the airport is easier because you can time your departure according to the commuter train's schedule.

If you have to arrive at South Station, you would take the Red Line towards Alewife, transfer to a Green Line train at Park St, heading towards Lechmere, and get off at North Station. Another option from South Station, especially on weekends when commuter trains don't run much, is to take the Red Line from the airport all the way to the end, which is Alewife Station, in Cambridge, and then take a taxi from there to the hotel, which should be a much less expensive taxi ride than from South Station.

Bus: Buses from most major northeastern cities will go into South Station.

Car: The hotel is the exit just west of Interstate 95 & Route 1. Coming from the East, get off at exit 42, Salem Rd/Wakefield. As you come off the exit, halfway to the end of the exit, you will see the hotel on the right. At the end of the exit, you go right, and then right again into the hotel. From the West, get off at exit 42, Salem Rd/Wakefield, and make a left at the light at the end of the exit. Make a left at the next light, Pleasure Island Rd / to Audubon Rd. You take that back under the highway, go through another light, and you'll see the hotel on your right.