

here & there



Salem, Massachusetts, The Witch City

Salem, Mass, is a destination recognized around the world for its rich history, which includes the tragic Salem Witch Trials of 1692, the glorious maritime era that left its indelible mark on Salem through architecture, museums, and artifacts, and for its month-long celebration of Halloween.

With a permanent population of only 41,000, more than 900,000 visitors come to Salem annually, generating more than \$65.5 million in tourism spending. Approximately one-quarter of Salem's annual visitation happens in October, when tourism spending is estimated at more than \$9.5 million.

Salem Haunted Happenings is a month-long celebration of Halloween and fall in New England where an estimated 200,000 visitors visit Salem during October. Celebrating its 30th year, the festival features dozens of events and special programming, which complement the attractions, museums and tours that are in Salem throughout the year.

The top tourist destination is The Haunted Neighborhood that includes the Salem Wax Museum of Witches & Seafarers, Salem Witch Village and Within the Witching Hour, where visitors can experience a live spell casting presentation by a practicing witch.

In the early 1990's, when Salem's historic buildings were threatened with demolition, city leaders developed a strategic plan to save the structures and preserve their architectural integrity for future generations. Salem Commons, in the city's core, is now a popular destination for visitors from around the world.

The cost of living index in Salem is 137.4, way above the national average compared to Decatur's affordable 84.

HERE Decatur, IL



526 Bradley Court
Price: \$199,900

Square Feet	3667
Bedrooms	4
Baths	2.5
Garage	2 car
Style	3-story traditional
Year Built	1930

Two fireplaces, game room in lower level, Master suite, office, porch overlooks treed lot.

Median HH income	\$37,132
Median home value	\$80,400
Average rent/mo.	\$528

THERE Salem, MA



14 Burnside Street
Price: \$199,900

Square Feet	925
Bedrooms	3
Baths	1
Garage	off street parking
Style	2-story cottage
Year Built	1850

Wood floors, skylight in master, hot water heat, close to public transit, fence.

Median HH income	\$55,639
Median home value	\$326,577
Average rent/mo.	\$1006

Here & There is sponsored by the Economic Development Corporation of Macon County. City information provided by the Salem Chamber of Commerce. Real estate listings provided by Realtor.com. For more cost of living comparisons, go to www.decaturmagazine.com and click on Here & There.