

# NY DAILY NEWS

## Halloween spirit is alive at Boston's Charles Street Jail, Salem's Witch Museum, and in New Orleans

BY [Michael Nassar](#)

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Jim McElholm

Hysteria lesson: The Salem Witch Museum recalls the Massachusetts town's infamous 17th-century trials.

Hankering for a haunting on All Hallows' Eve? Visit the hotel where guests checked out long ago - but still refuse to leave. How about dabbling in the delightfully dark arts? Scare up a supernatural secret or two practicing witchcraft or voodoo.

For grisly good times, head for a night in the slammer or tempt fate with a famous poltergeist. Or, for freaky family fun, you can keep your Halloween vacation spook-free with a one-of-a-kind pumpkin-carving extravaganza.

Any way you pick it, a ghoulishly good time awaits at these Halloween-themed haunts:

### **Lady of the lake**

With its location on scenic [Lake George](#) in the [Adirondack Mountains](#), it's no wonder certain past guests return to the beauty of the Sagamore.

One of the resort hotel's restaurants, Mr. Brown's, has been visited by an apparition of a tall woman dressed in long, white evening attire with flowing blond hair. One night the woman spoke to a prep cook, proceeded to walk toward him, then through him, and disappeared. The cook abruptly packed his things, quit his job and never returned to the resort. From \$179 a night midweek and \$209 weekends. (thesagamore.com)

### **Ominous apparitions**

After the frame for the 1886 [Crescent Hotel](#) and Spa in Eureka Springs, Ark., was erected, one of the Irish stonemasons plunged to his death in what is now Room 218 - which might explain why it's the most spiritually active spot in the hotel.

For decades, television and film crews have been attracted to the Crescent for the quantity and quality of reported sightings. Guests have witnessed hands coming out of the bathroom mirror, cries of a falling man in the ceiling, doors opening and then slamming shut, unable to be opened again.

The intrigue of all this activity, which has been classified as the work of a poltergeist, has drawn guests to request Room 218 for the chance of experiencing a supernatural visit. Rates from \$189 per night - if you dare - include breakfast for two and tickets for a ghost tour led by a medium. (crescent-hotel.com)

### **Cool off in the clink**

Get spooked in [Boston](#) by spending the night in the lockup. The city's storied Charles Street Jail was once a temporary home to some of the city's legendary characters, including [Mayor James Michael Curley](#) and con man [Frank Abagnale Jr.](#), of "Catch Me If You Can" fame.

Closed by court order as being unfit for prisoners, it's reopened - after a renovation, natch - as the ironically named [Liberty Hotel](#), with 18 brick-walled former cells and a fleet of neighboring suites for the timid.

A Fright Night Halloween Package includes an overnight stay in a luxurious cell, two tickets for the hotel's Halloween party, two Scream Cocktails at Alibi (the old "drunk tank" turned modern

speakeasy) and breakfast for two in the Clink restaurant. From \$375, based on double occupancy. (libertyhotel.com)

### **Ghosts' whispers**

Anyone fascinated by paranormal powers can spend the night in a haunted guest room thanks to the Ghost Package at the Carriage House Inn in [Lynchburg](#), Va.

Nonbelievers, beware: You'll also get a copy of a July 2009 report by Afterlife Investigations, which includes ghostly voice recordings in several of the Inn's rooms - though "Inn" is really a misnomer for this grand 1878 Italianate mansion.

Visit this month and you'll also get a candlelit tour of the Old City Cemetery. Rates from \$190 per night include breakfast and are valid through Dec. 31. (lynchburgbandb.com)

### **Which witch?**

Immerse yourself in the infamous witch trials of the 1690s at the Salem Inn in the heart of [Salem, Mass.](#) See a reenactment of a witch trial, visit the dungeons where the accused were held, hear the pleas of the innocent and learn how witchcraft remains alive and well in the town.

A two-night stay includes passes to the [Salem Witch Museum](#), [Witch Dungeon Museum](#), [New England Pirate Museum](#) and the [Witch History Museum](#), as well as continental breakfast and a copy of the book "Hunting for Witches." Priced at \$425 for two. (saleminnma.com)

### **Do that voodoo**

Considered one of [America's](#) most haunted cities, [New Orleans](#) embraces Halloween big-time. Take in the annual Krewe of Boo parade, join one of the many voodoo history tours, or venture after dark into one of New Orleans' famous cemeteries.

The aptly named [Voodoo Experience](#) blankets the city's Halloween weekend, featuring concerts by Kiss, [Jane's Addiction](#) and [Eminem](#) - perfect for releasing your inner demons.

Stay at the New Orleans Marriott, where rates start at \$189 per night. If you trick-or-treat your way to the hotel's 5 Fifty 5 restaurant, order off the Dessert First Menu and you'll get 20% off your meal. And that's no trick. (neworleansmarriott.com)

### **A whale of a fright**

Bunk up with the ghost of a whaling captain in Room 223 at [Nantucket's Jared Coffin House](#) for an experience you probably can't get at the nearby [Whaling Museum](#). In addition, Room 609 has been known to host nightly apparitions of a little girl. Even more ghosts have been known to roam the halls and rooms, but then again, would you expect anything less from a house with the macabre name of Coffin?

If you're still skeptical, just ask the innkeeper, who has had a few run-ins with said spirits, including being pushed from behind while working the front desk alone. Rates start at \$125 per night through Nov. 1. (jaredcoffinhouse.com)

### **Spectral sightings**

[Charleston, S.C.](#), abounds with supernatural activity. Its history of piracy has helped see to that, not to mention the catastrophic blows of war, fire, plague and hurricane that have befallen the city.

Several spectral sights - like the headless torso of a Civil War soldier and the so-called "gentleman ghost" - have led the Battery Carriage House Inn to be called the city's most haunted inn. Spend two nights mingling with the spirits by reserving the Ghost Adventures package. Priced at \$550 for two people, it includes a two-night stay, tickets to the Ghosts of Charleston walking tour, a bottle of Champagne to calm the nerves, a private carriage tour of the city in the safety of sunlight and a copy of the book "The Ghosts of Charleston." (batterycarriagehouse.com)

### **Spectacularly spooky jack-o'-lanterns**

Light up at the sight of thousands of glowing pumpkins as part of the Jack-o'-Lantern Spectacular at the [Roger Williams Park Zoo](#) in [Providence, R.I.](#), through Nov. 1. From 6 to 11 p.m., the night burns bright with carved and illuminated pumpkins depicting people, places and pop-culture scenes in amazing detail. (rwpzoo.org)

During weekend afternoons, the Spooky Zoo is full of treats for little ones, with creepy-crawly animal encounters, costumed characters and wild prizes.

A Family Getaway Package at [Hampton Inn](#) & Suites in downtown Providence includes an overnight stay plus two passes to the zoo in addition to the IMAX Theatre at Providence Place Mall. Available from \$169 per night, through December. (hamptoninn.com)

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