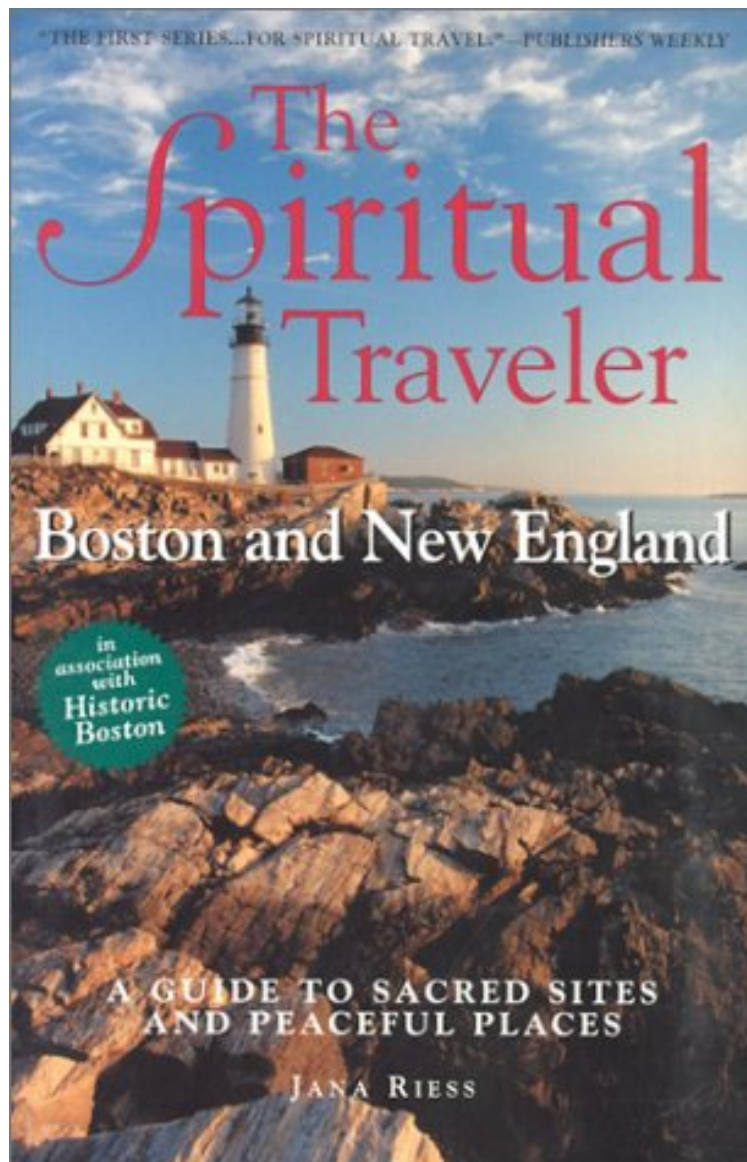


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## **Boston and New England: A Guide to Sacred Sites and Peaceful Places (Spiritual Traveler)**

*Jana Riess PH.D.*

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**Jana Riess PH.D. : Boston and New England: A Guide to Sacred Sites and Peaceful Places (Spiritual Traveler)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Boston and New England: A Guide to Sacred Sites and Peaceful Places (Spiritual Traveler):

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The Spiritual Traveler: Boston and New England provides peaceful, restful places so that you have a balance between hectic and serene on your trip. The author has divided the book into chapters for each of the New England states, as well as Boston and Cape Cod. She provides a comprehensive index and glossary. The author's writing style makes New England's spiritual past come alive, and the present intriguing. Bottom Line: If you are visiting New England, make sure you have a copy of this book!  
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I bought 2 copies, one for myself and one for my sister-in-law who lives in the Northeast. This is a great present. Jana does a great job! I can't wait for her next publication.

Takes readers on a spiritual journey across the rural and urban landscapes of New England and helps them to discover and explore a multitude of sacred and spiritual sites.

From Publishers Weekly  
Part history and part travel guide, this book provides a fascinating look at both past and present as it describes churches, synagogues and other religious sites throughout New England. Beginning with an overview of the various religions and their sanctuaries, Riess, PW's religion book review editor, describes various houses of worship and their unique features. For example, the shape of a church is related to the congregation's beliefs; a round church was a place where Christians of various denominations would be welcome. In addition to the churches for which New England is best known, Riess also includes synagogues such as Newport's Touro Synagogue, as well as Buddhist, Russian Orthodox and other temples. In addition to standard travel guide fare such as hours, location and nearby attractions, there are "focus boxes" that offer interesting definitions or information. Riess's writing is always direct and particularly vibrant when she's offering a historical perspective-perhaps not surprising since she holds a doctorate in American religious history. She explains the origins of Thanksgiving: "...it's not quite the case that Thanksgiving immediately sprang into fame as a new American holiday.... In the late eighteenth century, George Washington tried to institute Thanksgiving as a late-November holiday, but Thomas Jefferson thought this smacked of 'kingly' arrogance and abolished the official practice when he became president." Anyone with spiritual interests who lives in or plans to visit New England will benefit from this smart and useful book.  
Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc. A more thorough guide to sacred places is hard to imagine....indispensable... -- The Cape Cod Times  
Anyone with spiritual interests who plans to visit New England will benefit from this smart and useful book. -- Publishers Weekly  
Travelers looking for getaways that soothe the soul have a new guide that seems perfect for troubled times. -- Philadelphia Inquirer  
About the Author  
Jana Riess earned a PhD in American religious history from Columbia University and a master of divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary. She is the religion book review editor for Publishers Weekly. She is also the author of The Spiritual Traveler: Boston and New England and What Would Buffy Do? The Vampire Slayer as Spiritual Guide.