

Robb Report

March 29, 2016

The Best Hotel Suite for Red Sox Fans

Larry Bean



Baseball season is about to begin, and if you're planning a visit to Boston to catch a Red Sox game, **Hotel Commonwealth** in the city's Kenmore Square, has just the room for you. The **Fenway Park Suite** is about 500 feet from the **Green Monster**. The suite offers a direct view of the park and is filled with Red Sox-related memorabilia, art, and furnishings. Located on the top floor of a new 96-room wing, it was part of the hotel's \$50 million expansion and renovation project. Rates for the Fenway Park Suite start at \$1,000 per night.

(hotelcommonwealth.com)

The Balcony



The suite's balcony is furnished with four seats from Fenway Park. A yellow foul pole (not visible) is attached to the hotel wall, and like the right-field facade at Fenway, the glass wall surrounding the balcony displays retired Red Sox numbers. Also part of the decor is a glove signed by **Fred Lynn**, a member of the Red Sox Hall of Fame. You won't catch any home runs with the glove, but you are close enough to the park to hear the crowd roar.

Wall of Fame



A mural on a wall of the suite's living room depicts the Green Monster's scoreboard, and the outcome that it displays—a triumph for **Pedro Martinez** and Boston over **Andy Pettitte** and the **Yankees**—makes the artwork especially attractive to Red Sox fans. The coffee table was shipped in the Red Sox equipment truck to the team's spring-training facility in Florida so that some of the players could sign it. And the hotel plans to have any former Red Sox players who stay in the suite add their signatures to the table as well.

The Artwork



On another wall of the suite's living room hangs *A Brief History of Baseball at Fenway Park*, a mixed-media piece by the Boston photographer and artist **Stephen Sheffield**. Sheffield created the artwork for the park's centennial in 2012. Its focal point is an image of **Carlton Fisk** as he wills his game-winning home run to stay fair in game 6 of the 1975 World Series.

The Bedroom



The bedroom is decorated with vintage pennants, baseball cards, and contemporary bobbleheads. Instead of mints on the pillow, you'll find two small plastic bags filled with soil—excavated from the ballpark's infield. "So when you stay here," says Hotel Commonwealth general manager Adam Sperling, "you can take home some authentic Fenway Park dirt."