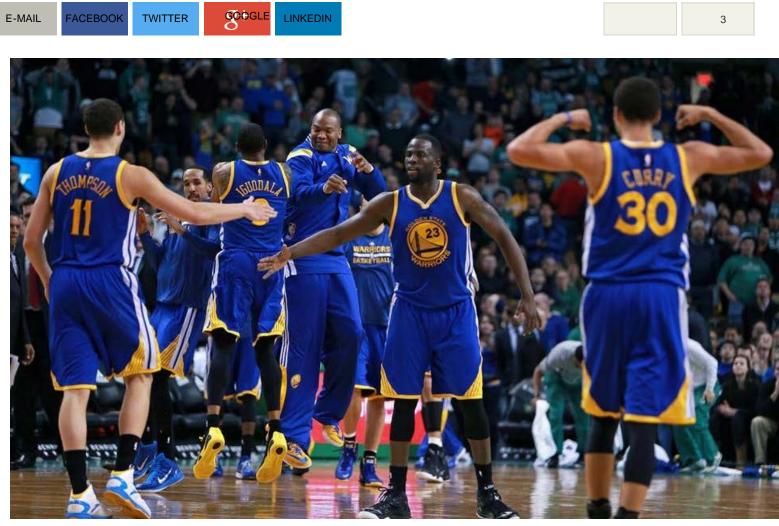
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WARRIORS AT CELTICS, 7:30 P.M., CSN

Tickets for Celtics-Warriors priciest home game in 3 years



JIM DAVIS/GLOBE STAFF/FILE

The Warriors played the Celtics in March.

By Matt Rocheleau

GLOBE STAFF DECEMBER 11, 2015

The average price for a seat at Friday night's Boston Celtics game at TD Garden is the highest for a Celtics regular-season home game in about three years.

The Celtics <u>will host the Golden State Warriors</u>, the league's defending champions, who are off to the best start in NBA history.

The Warriors have won all 23 games this season (25 straight regular-season wins if you go back into last season) and have a shot at breaking the NBA's longest winning streak of 33 games and the best single-season record of 72-10.

Data analyzed by <u>SeatGeek</u>, a search engine for tickets to live events, shows that tickets on the resale market for Friday's game had sold for \$216 on average as of Friday afternoon.



That's the highest average resale price per ticket for a non-playoff Celtics game at TD Garden since a January 2013 visit from the Miami Heat, when LeBron James was on the Heat and tickets sold for \$222 on average, the company said.



Celtics-Warriors is the hottest ticket in town

The buzz is heightened by the belief that the Celtics have a good chance of ending the Warriors' record win streak. "Demand for tickets to tonight's game has steadily climbed throughout the season, as the Warriors have gone on their magical run," said an e-mail from SeatGeek spokesman Chris Leyden.

He said that when the Warriors visited Boston last season, the average resale price per ticket was \$96.

"This is the highest demand regular season Celtics game we've seen in three years," said Jim Holzman, founder and chief executive of Boston-based ticket broker <u>AceTicket</u>.

He said that not only are the Warriors chasing history but it's also a Friday night and unseasonably warm.

Plus, "[The Celtics] have a chance tonight, and to even say we have a chance makes it exciting," he said. "It's kind of the perfect storm."

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Officials from ticket resale company <u>StubHub</u> said they expect only one other Celtics home game this year will command a higher average resale price — the Dec. 30 matchup against the Lakers.

"We're definitely seeing a lot of demand for the game tonight," said StubHub spokesman Cameron Papp.

The average price of tickets sold through the website was \$220 as of Friday afternoon.

"The normal average ticket price sold for a Celtics home game on StubHub is around \$79," said Papp.

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