



*Seeing the Capital Differently*

## The Blitz

### Welcome to *CityThemes*

By printing this leaflet you have decided to discover, or rediscover, the sights and delights of **London** in a different way. We hope that you enjoy your explorations of our fascinating and historical capital city.

This leaflet has been designed to allow you to explore as the mood takes you. Both well-known and lesser-known attractions are included and they are randomly listed so that you plan your own itinerary and visit as many or as few as you wish.

Please note:- some places restrict entry and ask for prior application either in writing or by telephone. This is indicated where known. Others may change opening days and hours with little warning – it may be worth checking by phone if they are off the beaten track.

A very brief description of the reason for the choice of site is given but because of space it is not possible to include much detail. Again a telephone call to the site may help you to decide on whether a visit is worthwhile. Remember there may be other items that interest you at the same site.

Themes are constantly being updated and new titles added so please keep looking at our website or get in touch with us by e-mail or letter. We welcome your comments especially if you feel that some site should be included or details are incorrect/inaccurate. Contact details are

website: [www.citytheme.co.uk](http://www.citytheme.co.uk)  
e-mail: [info@citythemes.co.uk](mailto:info@citythemes.co.uk)  
address: CityThemes PO Box 42530, London E1W 3WL

### Enjoy Your Explorations

*The Blitz describes the period during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War between 1940-41 when London and other major British cities were heavily bombed and severely damaged by German air raids. The sites in this Theme help to recall what life in the city was like during that time. Many of the historic City churches were damaged and some still remain in ruins - remaining walls and towers serving as a memorial to those who were killed*

### **London Fire Brigade Museum**

94A Southwark Bridge Road, SE1  
020 7587 2894 [www.london-fire.gov.uk](http://www.london-fire.gov.uk)  
transport: Borough & Southwark u/g, Elephant & Castle & London Bridge u/g & rail; buses 344,381  
*facilities: souvenirs & giftshop with exclusive London Fire Brigade items*  
opening: Mon-Fri for pre-booked tours 10.30 & 14.00  
admission charge  
*the collection includes a section illustrating the fire-fighting challenges faced by firemen during the Blitz*

### **Salter's Hall**

Fore Street, EC2Y  
transport: Moorgate u/g & rail; buses 56,76,100,133  
*close by Salter's Hall is a plaque marking the place where the first bomb fell on the City at the beginning of the Blitz*

### **Imperial War Museum**

Lambeth Road, SE1  
020 7416 5320 [www.iwm.org.uk](http://www.iwm.org.uk)  
transport: Lambeth North & Elephant & Castle u/g; buses 1,12,45,53,59,63,68,100,159,168,171,172,176,188,344, C10  
*facilities: disabled access; licensed café; book shop*  
opening: daily 10.00-18.00  
admission free  
*one of the 'living' experiences of the museum is the recreation of the scene during a London air raid*

### **Museum of London**

150 London Wall, EC2Y  
020 7600 0807 [www.museumoflondon.org.uk](http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk)  
transport: Barbican, St Paul's & Moorgate u/g, Liverpool Street u/g & rail, City Thameslink rail; buses 8,56,100, 172,242  
*facilities: audio tapes and braille sheets; disabled access via ramps; disabled wcs; library; restaurant and snacks; shop*  
opening: Mon-Sat 10.00-17.50, Sun noon-17.50 (last admission 17.30)  
admission free  
*a vivid account of the Blitz includes an Anderson shelter and gas masks together with photographs and paintings*

### **Britain at War Museum**

64-66 Tooley Street, SE1  
020 7403 3171 [www.britainatwar.co.uk](http://www.britainatwar.co.uk)  
transport: London Bridge u/g & rail; buses 21,35,40,43, 47,48,133,149,343,381  
opening: daily April-Sept 10.00-17.30, Oct-Mar 10.00-16.30  
admission charge  
*presents the sights, sounds and smells of the London Blitz with an underground air raid shelter, underground cinema BBC radio studio and Rainbow Corner, a club with jukebox to entertain the GIs*

### **St James's**

197 Piccadilly, W1  
020 7734 4511 [www.st-james-piccadilly.org](http://www.st-james-piccadilly.org)  
transport: Piccadilly Circus u/g; buses 3,6,9,12,13,14,15, 19,22,23,38,53,88,139,159  
*facilities: Aroma café (Mon-Sat 08.00-.19.00, Sun 10.00-19.00)*  
opening: daily. Market Tue 10.00-18.00 (antiques), Wed-Sat 10.00-18.00 (crafts only)  
*the churchyard was laid out after the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War as a Garden of Remembrance to commemorate the courage of Londoners during the Blitz*

### **St Dunstan & All Saints**

Stepney High Street, Stepney, E1  
020 7791 3545  
transport: Stepney Green & Whitechapel u/g; buses 25, 309  
opening: for services Mon-Fri 08.00, 17.30; Wed.19.30; Thur 11.00; Sat 09.00, 18.00; Sun 08.00, 10.00, 18.00, 18.30. Other times by appointment only  
*included among the interesting stained glass is a mural of the Blitz by Hugh Easton*

### **Blitz (Firefighters Memorial)**

Old Change Court, Distaff Lane, EC4  
transport: Mansion House u/g, Blackfriars u/g & rail; buses 11,15,26,76,100,172  
*a memorial of 1991 by John W Mills to the 1002 firefighters who died fighting fires in London during the Blitz. It shows three firefighters - two holding a hose and one directing operations*

### **Pumphouse Educational Museum**

Lavender Road, Rotherhithe, SE16  
020 7231 2976  
[www.nafso.org.uk/directory/pumphouse.html](http://www.nafso.org.uk/directory/pumphouse.html)  
transport: Rotherhithe u/g; buses 225,381  
*facilities: small library; drinks*  
opening: Mon-Fri 09.30-15.30  
admission free  
*there is an interesting display showing life in Rotherhithe*

### **St Mary-Le-Bow**

Cheapside, EC2  
020 7248 5139  
transport: Bank & St Paul's u/g; buses 8,11,26,76,100, 172,242  
*facilities: Bell Tower open Mon-Fri by appointment; The Place Below vegetarian restaurant (daily 07.30-14.30, 020 7329 0789)*  
opening: Mon-Thur 06.30-18.00, Fri 06.30-16.00  
*one of the stained glass windows on the north side of the church shows St Paul with his Epistles, surrounded by bombed City of London churches*

### **Bethnal Green Underground Station, E 2**

transport: Bethnal Green u/g; buses 8,309,D6  
*a memorial of 1993 commemorates the 73 people killed during a stampede to seek shelter in the underground station during an air raid*

### **Museum in Docklands**

No.1 Warehouse, West India Quay, Hertsmere Road, Isle of Dogs, E14  
020 7001 9800 [www.museumindocklands.org.uk](http://www.museumindocklands.org.uk)

transport: Canary Wharf u/g & DLR, West India Quay  
DLR; buses 277,D3,D7,D8  
facilities: disabled access; bar & restaurant, café; shop  
(Mon-Sat 10.00-18.00, Sun noon-18.00)

opening: daily 10.00-18.00

admission charge allows as many visits for one year as wish

*part of the Museum of London this museum opened in 2003. On 5 floors with 12 galleries it looks at 2000 years of life in the docklands that were once the hub of London trade. It traces the history from 43AD to the present time. The Docklands at War Gallery uses touchscreens to provide reminiscences of the Blitz and a video shows the preparations for the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War that were made by the docks*

## **St Paul's Cathedral**

St Paul's Churchyard, EC4

020 7263 4128

[www.stpauls.co.uk](http://www.stpauls.co.uk)

transport: St Pauls & Mansion House u/g, Blackfriars & Cannon Street u/g & rail, City Thameslink rail; buses 8,11,15,26,56,76,172,100,172,242; boat Blackfriars Millennium Pier

facilities: café in crypt (09.00-17.30 Mon-Sat, 10.30-17.00 Sun); shop in crypt (09.00-17.30 Mon-Sat, 10.30-17.00 Sun)

opening: Mon-Sat 08.30-16.00 (restricted during services); Crypt 10.00-16.15 Mon-Fri, 11.00-16.15 Sat  
admission charge includes entry to galleries

*in the churchyard there is a Night Watch memorial stone commemorating those people who acted as cathedral guardians during the Blitz and spent long nights watching for bombs, extinguishing fires and generally safeguarding the Cathedral*

## **Young Vic Theatre**

The Cut, Waterloo Road, SE1

020 7633 0133 (admin), 7928 6363 (box office)

[www.youngvic.org/](http://www.youngvic.org/)

transport: Southwark u/g, Waterloo u/g & rail; buses 45, 63,100

opening: CLOSED July 2004 for rebuilding - due to reopen 2006

*a memorial in this theatre's auditorium commemorates the 54 people killed whilst sheltering in the cellars during the Blitz (1941)*

## **Londoners Killed in the Blitz Memorial**

St Paul's Churchyard, EC4

transport: St Pauls & Mansion House u/g, Blackfriars & Cannon Street u/g & rail, City Thameslink rail; buses 8,11,15,26,56,76,172,100,172,242; boat Blackfriars Millennium Pier

*placed in the churchyard in 1999 a low circular stone by Richard Kindersley remembers the 30,000 Londoners who died in air raids during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. The inscription round the side reads 'remember before God the people of London 1939-45' while the centre has 'In war, resolution: in defeat, defiance: in victory, magnanimity: in peace, goodwill'*

A great deal of care has been taken in collecting the information in this leaflet but *CityThemes* cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of that information. It can cover only a few of the many interesting sites to be found in London and therefore must not be considered a definitive guide.

© CityThemes 2006