



*Seeing the Capital Differently*

## All Sorts of Bears

### 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)  
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### Enjoy Your Explorations

## 1. Bears

### Natural History Museum

Cromwell Road, SW7 5BD

020 7942 5000 [www.nhm.ac.uk](http://www.nhm.ac.uk)

transport: South Kensington u/g; buses 14,49,70,74,345, C1

*facilities: disabled access via Earth Galleries entrance; disabled wcs; library; Waterhouse Café (10.00-17.00), Life Galleries Restaurant (10.00-17.00), Globe Fast Food (11.00-16.00), Snack Bar & Picnic area (11.00-16.30); Gallery Bookshop, British Geological Survey Information Office, Gallery Gifts, Earth Gallery Shop & Selection Shop; guided tours by arrangement (noon and 15.00 - ring 020 7942 5011)*

opening: Mon-Sat 10.00-17.50, Sun 11.00-17.50;

Wildlife Garden May-Sept noon-17.00

admission free

*a collection of preserved modern mammals and their fossil ancestors ranges from whales to bears to shrews*

### London Zoological Gardens Collection

Outer Circle, Regent's Park, NW1

020 7722 3333 [www.londonzoo.co.uk](http://www.londonzoo.co.uk)

transport: Regent's Park, Baker Street & Chalk Farm u/g; buses 18,27,30,274,C2; waterbus Camden Lock, Little Venice & The Zoo (020 7482 2550)

*facilities: large print guide; disabled access & wcs; parking and pay & display; 4 restaurants and cafes*

opening: daily Mar-Sept 10.00-17.30, Oct-Feb 10.00-16.00 (last admission 1 hour before closing)

admission charge

*this 36 acre zoo is dedicated to the conservation of, and education, about rare breeds.*

*there is a bronze statue of the famous bear, Winnie the Pooh, behind the Reptile House. The bear is shown with Lt Harry Colebourn who had a black Canadian bear pet that was left in the care of the Zoo while he served in France during the 1<sup>st</sup> World War. Colebourn later left the bear to the Zoo where it died in 1934. It became famous after A A Milne named 'Winnie the Pooh' in his famous books after it. The statue was erected in 1992 and is by Bill Epp*

*another statue has two boys on a bear and was erected in memory of Sigismund Christian Hubert Goetze (1866-1939) an artist who, amongst other works, painted the murals on the staircase of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. It stands at the entrance to the Children's Zoo the 1997 Bear Mountain (a modification of the original 1914 Maplin Terraces) houses sloth bears that are part of an important conservation and breeding programme. All other bears are now housed at Whipsnade Wild Animal Park*

### Kensington Gardens

Marlborough Gate, Bayswater Road, W2

transport: Queensway, Lancaster Gate & High Street Kensington u/g; buses 9,10,12,49,52,70,94

opening: daily 05.00am - dusk

*a fountain erected in 1939 shows two bears wrestling*

### Paddington Station

Praed Street, W2

transport: Paddington u/g & rail; buses 1,7,15,23,27,36

*this railway station is well-known because of the children's author Michael Bond's creation of Paddington Bear. There is a lovely statue on the concourse of Paddington Bear with his floppy hat sitting on a suitcase with a label round his neck saying 'please look after this*

*bear'. It was erected to acknowledge the pleasure given to children & adults throughout the world since the first book was published in 1958. Designed by Marcus Cornish the statue is from an illustration by Peggy Fortnum.*

*also on the concourse is a Paddington Bear stall that sells teddy bears, books and other souvenirs about this famous bear*

### Whipsnade Wild Animal Park

Dunstable, Beds, LU6

01582 872171

transport: best by car although a Green Line coach runs from Victoria Station during the summer only. Luton & Hemel Hempstead rail station is 10 miles from the park

opening: Mon-Sat 10.00-18.00, Sun 10.00-19.00 (last admission 1 hour before closing)

admission charge

*this other half to London Zoo is out in the Bedfordshire countryside and really needs a car for ease of access. With over 2,500 animals it is well worth a visit. Here you will be able to see elephants, giraffes, tigers, rhinos, hippos and brown bears*

### Tobacco Dock

The Highway, Wapping, E1

transport: Wapping u/g, Shadwell u/g & DLR; buses 100, D3

*built in 1814 this timber and cast-iron framed warehouse was originally a system of wine cellars storing tobacco and wine, then sheepskins & furs. In the 1980s it was being converted into a shopping complex when it went bust and is now a rather deserted place. There are however a few lovely pieces of sculpture dotted about including one of a bear standing upright on hind legs. It commemorates Charles Jamrach (1815-91) an importer and dealer in wild animals who ran an emporium close by*

### Les Trois Garçons

1 Club Row, E1

020 7613 1924 [www.lestroisgarcons.com](http://www.lestroisgarcons.com)

transport: Shoreditch u/g; buses 8,26,35,47,48,55,67, 78,149,242,243

opening: Mon-Thur 19.00-22.00, Fri-Sat 19.00-22.30

*the restaurant décor includes stuffed birds, antelopes, a ram, a bear, a shark, a swordfish and a dolphin*

## 2. Teddy Bears

### Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood

Cambridge Heath Road, E2

020 8983 5200 [www.museumofchildhood.org.uk](http://www.museumofchildhood.org.uk)

transport: Bethnal Green u/g, Cambridge Heath rail; buses 8,106,253,309,D3,D6

*facilities: limited disabled access; library; parking; refreshments; shop; tours by arrangement*

opening: Mon-Thur, Sat-Sun 10.00-17.00

admission free

*one of largest collections in the world devoted entirely to the history of children and all aspects of childhood especially toys. Displayed in a wrought-iron building that was originally at the Victoria and Albert Museum in South Kensington. it was established on this site in the 1860s. Besides toys and dolls (Victorian, rag, Barbie) there are exhibits of nursery furniture and child and teenage clothes. And of course a lovely collection of teddy bears*

## Pollocks Toy Museum

1 Scala Street, W1P  
020 7636 3452 [www.pollocksmuseum.co.uk](http://www.pollocksmuseum.co.uk)

transport: Goodge Street u/g; buses 10,24,29,73,134  
facilities: library by arrangement; toy theatre shows are arranged in the school holidays

opening: Mon-Sat 10.00-17.00 UNDER THREAT OF CLOSURE MARCH 2004 - PLEASE CHECK admission charge

*Benjamin Pollock (1856-1937) owned a shop selling toy theatres. The museum was established in 1956 from his collection of toy theatres, mechanical and constructional toys (including a 1907 Meccano set), dolls and pre-1910 teddy bears*

## English Teddy Bear Company, The

153 Regent's Street, W1  
020 7287 3273

transport: Piccadilly Circus u/g; buses 3,6,9,12,13,14, 15,19,22,23,38,53,88,139,159

*if you love teddy bears then you will love this shop. Other branches are at 41,Piccadilly and 425,Oxford Street W1*

## Hamleys

188 Regent Street, W1  
020 7494 2000

transport: Oxford Circus u/g; buses 3,6,12,13,15,23, 53,88,94,159

opening: Mon-Fri 10.00-19.00, Thur 10.00-20.00, Sat 09.30-19.00, Sun noon-18.00

*this well-known toy and game shop was established in 1760. It has a selection of 40,000 toys on 5 floors. Formerly known as Noah's Ark, it is fascinating for children and adults alike at any time but especially near to Christmas (be warned - it can get very crowded then)*

## Benjamin Pollock's Toy Shop

44 The Market, Covent Garden, WC2  
020 7379 7866

transport: Covent Garden & Leicester Square u/g; buses 1,6,9,11,13,15,24,59,68,77A,91,168,171,176,188

opening: Mon-Sat 10.30-18.00

*named after Benjamin Pollock (1856-1937) who had a shop selling toy theatres, this toyshop sells a variety of toys including dolls, teddies, puppets and, of course, model theatres*

## London Zoological Gardens Collection

Outer Circle, Regent's Park, NW1  
020 7722 3333 [www.londonzoo.co.uk](http://www.londonzoo.co.uk)

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facilities: disabled access; parking and pay& display; 4 restaurants & cafes

opening: daily Mar-Sept 10.00-17.30, Oct-Feb 10.00-16.00 (last admission 1 hour before closing)  
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*this 36 acre zoo is dedicated to the conservation of and education about rare breeds*

*there is a bronze statue of the famous bear, Winnie the Pooh, behind the Reptile House. The bear is shown with Lt Harry Colebourn who had a black Canadian bear pet that was left in the care of the Zoo while he served in France during the 1<sup>st</sup> World War. Colebourn later left the bear to the Zoo where it died in 1934. It became famous after A A Milne named 'Winnie the Pooh' in his famous books after it. The statue was erected in 1992 and is by Bill Epp*

## Important Collections Outside the London Area

*Britain is famous for its Teddy Bears: Winnie-the-Pooh, Paddington and Rupert Bear and there are many places outside London that have displays of bears. A good guide can be found on the internet at*

*[www.travelbritain.org/newhome/insidebrit/Ibseedo/bears.htm](http://www.travelbritain.org/newhome/insidebrit/Ibseedo/bears.htm). A couple are worth mentioning as they are within a day trip from London:*

### The Bear Museum

38 Dragon Street, Petersfield, Hampshire, GU31  
01730 265108

opening: Mon-Sat 10.00-17.00

*housed in an Edwardian shop this is Britain's first teddy bear museum with one of the largest collections of teddy bears on public display. Occasionally closed so telephone first to check*

### Canterbury Heritage Museum, Rupert Gallery

Poor Priests Hospital, Stour Street, Canterbury, Kent  
01227 452747

*this collection is dedicated to Rupert the Bear*

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*If you want to discover more about Winnie the Pooh then a trip to the **Ashdown Forest** in East Sussex is a must. Here A A Milne lived with his son Christopher Robin and wrote his famous books. It is possible to find Poohsticks Bridge, the Hundred Acre Wood and other locations on 'The Enchanted Places' trail through the forest. Maps are available from this specialist shop housed in a 1690s building*

### Pooh Corner

High Street, Hartfield, East Sussex TN7  
01892 770456 [www.poohcorner.net](http://www.poohcorner.net)

opening: Mon-Sat 09.00-17.00, Sun 11.00-17.00

## Important Teddy Bear Events

### Battersea Park and Zoo

Albert Bridge Road, SW11  
020 8871 7540 (zoo) or 020 8871 6374 (playground)  
[www.wandsworth.gov.uk](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk)

transport: Sloane Square u/g, Battersea Park & Queenstown Road rail; buses 19,44,45,49,137,140, 239,319,344,345

opening: park - daily dawn to dusk; zoo - daily Easter-Sept 10.00-17.00; Sat-Sun Oct-Easter 11.00-15.00; playground term time Tue-Fri 15.30-19.00, holidays & weekends 11.00-18.00

admission free to park and playground. Admission charge to zoo

*one of the annual events held in the Park is the 'Teddy Bears' Picnic' in August. Children come to enjoy a free picnic in the park but one of the criteria for admittance is that teddy must come too!*

### Hugglets Festivals

*held twice a year (usually February & August) in Kensington Town Hall, Hornton Street, W8 (transport: High Street Kensington u/g; buses 9,10,27,28,49,52, 70,328). Lots of stalls with thousands of bears on sale.*

## Essential Reference Book

**The UK Teddy Bear Guide** - *published annually by Hugglets, PO Box 290, Brighton, BN2 (telephone: 01273 697974) this book lists shops, bear makers, repairers, museums, clubs etc etc and free tickets to the Hugglets Festivals*

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.

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