



Seeing the Capital Differently

Eagles & Other Birds of Prey

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

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Enjoy Your Explorations

Victoria Memorial Gardens

front of Buckingham Palace, The Mall, SW1

transport: Victoria u/g & rail, St James's Park & Green Park u/g; buses 2,8,9,14,19,22,26,36,38,52,73,82

3 ornamental gateways presented by Canada, West and South Africa and Australia. The one to the East onto Constitution Hill has a leopard & eagle (West Africa) and an ostrich & monkey (South Africa)

Orme Square Column

Bayswater Road, W2

transport: Queensway & Notting Hill Gate u/g; buses 12, 70,94

the Square is dominated by a double column supporting a stone eagle. It was erected to commemorate a visit of the Russian Tsar and other allied sovereigns to England in 1815 after the Emperor Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo

Eagle Tavern

2 Shepherdess Walk, City Road, N1

020 7253 4715

transport: Old Street u/g & rail; buses 43,76,141,214, 271,394

opening: all permitted hours

this pub is famous for its mention in the nursery rhyme 'Half a Pound of Tupenny Rice'. The lines "up and down the City Road, in and out the Eagle, that's the way the money goes, pop goes the weasel" refer to a local saddler who pawned (popped) his weasel (tool used in leatherworking) to pay for beer at the Eagle. They can be seen painted on the outside

St Mary-le-Strand

Strand, WC2

020 7836 3126

transport: Temple, Embankment & Covent Garden u/g, Charing Cross & Waterloo u/g & rail; buses 1,6,9,11,13, 15,23,26,59,68,76,77A,91,168,171,172,176, 188,341; boat Savoy & Embankment Piers

opening: Mon-Fri 11.00-15.30; recitals Weds 13.00

this church has a carved wooden lectern in the shape of an eagle

Plashet Zoo and Park

Shrewsbury Road, Forest Gate, E7

020 8503 5994

transport: East Ham u/g, Woodgrange Park & Manor Park rail; buses 101,104,147,238,300,325,376

opening: Tue-Sun Mar-Oct 10.00-17.00, Nov-Feb 10.00-16.00

this small zoo is home to several falcons

St Margaret's, Lothbury

Lothbury, EC2

020 7606 8330

transport: Bank, St Pauls & Moorgate u/g; buses 8,56,76, 100,133,242

opening: Mon-Fri 09.15-17.15

the screen here is divided into four by intertwining spiral columns either side of a segmental pediment. It is decorated by an eagle and the coat of arms of King William and Queen Mary. The carving is by Sir Christopher Wren

St James the Less

Sussex Gardens, Bayswater, W2

020 7262 9976

transport: Lancaster Gate u/g, Paddington u/g & rail; buses 7,12,15,23,27,36,94

another eagle lectern

Crown Jewels

Tower of London, Tower Hill, EC3N

020 7680 9004

www.hrp.org.uk

transport: Tower Hill u/g, Tower Gateway DLR, Fenchurch Street rail; buses 15,42,78,100; boat Tower Millennium & St Katharines Piers

facilities: limited disabled access; sales desk & gift shop

opening: Mar-Oct Mon-Sat 09.00-17.00, Sun 10.00-17.00; Nov-Feb Tue-Sat 09.00-16.00, Sun-Mon 10.00-16.00

admission charge

a magnificent display of the Crown Jewels of the British monarchy include St Edward's Crown (worn only at Coronations) and the Imperial State Crown made for Queen Victoria and worn on state occasions. Among the precious objects used at the Coronation of a new monarch are an anointing spoon and an ampula in the shape of an eagle that would contain the anointing oil

Pitshanger Manor Museum

Mattock Lane, W5

020 8567 1227

www.ealing.gov.uk/pitshanger

transport: Ealing Broadway u/g; buses 65,83,112,207, 297,E1,E2,E7,E8

facilities: disabled parking; hot & cold drinks; shop; group tours by arrangement

opening: Tues-Sat 10.00-17.00

admission free

this manor house was originally built in 1770 and was the home of Sir John Soane, architect of the Bank of England between 1801 and 1803. It has Ionic pillars and is decorated with eagles & wreathes and roundels with lions and a cherub

American Eagle Squadrons' Memorial

Grosvenor Square, W1

transport: Marble Arch & Bond Street u/g; buses 2,6,7,8, 10,12,13,15,23,30,73,74,82,94,98,113,137,139,159, 189,274

this war memorial, erected in 1986, commemorates those Americans who fought for Britain in the months before the United States officially joined the 2nd World War

Royal Air Force Memorial

Victoria Embankment between Westminster & Embankment, SW1

transport: Westminster u/g; buses 3,11,12,24,53,77A, 88,159,211; boat Westminster Millennium Pier

the eagle is the symbol of the RAF and can be found on this memorial of 1923 to the men of the Royal Naval Air Squadron, the Royal Flying Corps & the RAF. It was designed by Sir Reginald Blomfield and sculptured by Sir William Reid Dick

United States Embassy

Grosvenor Square, W1

020 7499 9000

transport: Marble Arch & Bond Street u/g; buses 2,6,7,8, 10,12,13,15,23,30,73,74,82,94,98,113,137,139,159, 189,274

a gilded eagle, 8ft high with a wing span of 35ft, sits on top of the Embassy. It is by Theodor Roszak, 1960

St Clement Danes

Strand, WC2
020 7242 8282

transport: Temple & Holborn u/g, Waterloo u/g & rail; buses 1,6,9,11,13,15,23,26,59,68,76,77A,91,168,171,172,176,188,341

opening: daily 08.30-14.30

the eagle symbol of this Royal Air Force Church can be found above the Remembrance bookcases, on the choirstalls and in the floor at the entrance where the brass, copper, white bronze and marble symbol is surrounded by the crests of eight Commonwealth airforces. The 1956 organ also incorporates the RAF eagle and was a gift from the American Air Force

Tower Hill, EC3

transport: Tower Hill u/g, Tower Gateway DLR, Fenchurch Street rail; buses 15,42,78,100; boat Tower Millennium & St Katharines Piers

there is an eagle sculpture above The Liberty Bounds pub on the corner of Byward Street

Lombard Street, EC3

transport: Monument u/g, Bank u/g & DLR, Cannon Street u/g & rail; buses 8,11,26,35,47,48,133,149,242,344

this City of London street is home to some of best known banking names. The original sign of Barclays Bank - the stone eagle - is one of several banking signs that can be found here

Kew Gardens/Royal Botanic Gardens & Museums

Kew Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW9
020 8332 5655/information 020 8940 1171
www.rbgekew.org.uk

transport: Kew Gardens u/g & rail, Kew Bridge rail; buses 65,237,267,391,419; boat Kew Pier

facilities: disabled access; Orangery, White Peaks, Pavilion & Victoria Gate restaurants & snacks (10.00-one hour before closing); shops; tours from Victoria Gate Visitors' Centre (daily 11.00, 14.00 no charge)

opening: March-Aug Mon-Fri 09.30-18.30, Sat-Sun 09.30-19.30; Sept-Oct daily 09.30-18.00; Oct-Feb daily 09.30-16.15; Feb-Mar daily 09.30-17.30 (last admission and closure of glasshouses is 30 mins before closing time) admission charge

the nature reserve near Queen Charlotte's Cottage is managed using traditional methods such as coppicing. It supports a wide variety of wildlife including insects and birds such as tawny owls, blue & great tits, sparrowhawks and woodpeckers

London Zoological Gardens Collection

Outer Circle, Regent's Park, NW1
020 7722 3333 www.londonzoo.co.uk

transport: Regent's Park, Baker Street & Chalk Farm u/g; buses 18,27,30,274,C2

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

opening: daily Mar-Oct 10.00-17.30, Nov-Feb 10.00-16.00
admission charge

the zoo has collections of owls, predatory birds (birds of prey), cranes, water birds, pelicans, penguins, parrots, flamingos, hornbills and toucans

St Margaret's

Parliament Square, Westminster, SW1
020 7222 6382

transport: Westminster u/g; buses 3,11,12,24,53,77A,88,159,211; boat Westminster Millennium Pier

opening: Mon-Sat 09.30-17.30, Sun 13.00-17.30
admission free

the brass lectern is an eagle with outstretched wings. The bird is the symbol of St John the Evangelist. This is a memorial to Thomas and Mary Vacher and is dated 1878

Gilbert Collection

Somerset House, Strand, WC2R
020 7420 9400 www.gilbert-collection.org.uk

transport: Temple, Embankment & Covent Garden u/g, Charing Cross & Waterloo u/g & rail; buses 1,6,9,11,13,15,23,26,59,68,76,77A,91,168,171,172,176,188,341; boat Savoy & Embankment Piers

facilities: audio guide plus special one for children & families; disabled access & wheelchair hire (please book in advance); Summer Café & bar & restaurant; shop for gifts, silverware & jewellery; tours on Thur & Sat 14.30 (booking 020 7420 9410)

opening: daily 10.00-18.00, (last admission 17.15)
admission charge includes free audio guide & magnifying glass. Free after 16.30

the Jewish Torah Crown of gold is decorated with precious stones and gold eagles holding bells in their beaks. It is one of only two existing in the world. The Torah Crown motive is used to adorn sacred teaching scrolls of Judaic worship

St Margaret Pattens

Rood Lane, Eastcheap, EC3
020 7623 6630

transport: Monument u/g, Fenchurch Street rail; buses 15,35,40,47,48,133,149,344

opening: Mon-Fri 10.00-16.00

this church's lectern has an eagle with a viper gripped in its talons

British Museum

Great Russell Street, WC1B
020 7323 8000 www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk

transport: Russell Square & Tottenham Court Road u/g; buses 10,24,29,73,134

facilities: audio guides for certain displays including the Parthenon Sculptures (6 languages); disabled access & wcs; licensed restaurant (self-service) and snacks (daily Mon-Sat 10.00-16.30, Sun noon-17.30); shop selling books, postcards, posters and replicas; eyeOpener gallery tours of 50mins +Spotlight talks of 20mins

opening: daily Sat-Wed 10.00-17.30, Thur-Fri 10.00-20.30. Great Court Mon-Wed 09.00-21.00, Thur-Sat 09.00-23.00, Sun 09.00-18.00. Clearance 10mins before closing

admission free except for some tours - donation welcomed
amongst the collection of Egyptian antiquities are mummies of falcons

Battle of Britain Memorial

Purley Way, Croydon, Surrey

transport: Waddon rail; buses 119,289

this 1991 23ft obelisk is topped with a bronze eagle and commemorates the Fighter Command Squadrons, WAAFs, Royal Observer Corps, medical staff and police who were all involved in the Battle of Britain

Polish Pilots Memorial

on the A40 western Avenue, near Northolt Airport, Middlesex

transport: South Ruislip u/g & rail; bus E7

this 1948 column with its spread eagle and battle honours is dedicated to the Polish pilots who died serving with the Royal Air Force during the 2nd World War. Their names are inscribed on the wall behind

Osterley Park House

Jersey Road, Isleworth, Middlesex, TW7

01494 755566 (infoline) www.osterleypark.org.uk

transport: Osterley u/g ½ mile; Syon Lane rail 1½ miles; buses H28, H91

facilities: parking; refreshments; shop; tours by arrangement

opening: house 1 April-end Oct Wed-Sun 13.00-16.00;

park daily 09.00-19.30 or dusk

admission charge to house; park free

above the chimney in the State Bed Chamber the mirror is surmounted by the Child family crest of an eagle with an adder in its beak. The same crest is also woven into the valance of the bed

St Paul's Cathedral

St Paul's Churchyard, EC4

020 7263 4128

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

the American Memorial Chapel was dedicated in the 1958 to honour the 28,000 Americans based in Britain who lost their lives during the 2nd World War. The crimson velvet altar cloth is embroidered with a dove while a carved gilded eagle stands above the altar

William Henry Hudson Memorial ('Rima')

Hyde Park, W1/W2

020 7298 2100 www.open.gov.uk/rp/rphome.htm

transport: Knightsbridge, Hyde Park Corner, Marble Arch & Lancaster Gate u/g; buses 2,8,9,10,14,16,19, 22,36,38, 52,73,74,82,137

facilities: Old Police Station sells books, postcards & maps about the Royal Parks & guides to trees & monuments

opening: daily 05.00-24.00

this modern, concrete slab is engraved with a naked woman feeding birds including an eagle. This is 'Rima' the Spirit of Nature that appears in the book 'Green Mansions' written by the field naturalist and author William Hudson (1841-1922). This memorial to Hudson was erected in 1925 when the Bird Sanctuary in which it stands was created. 'Rima' is by the sculptor Sir Jacob Epstein

Zurich Financial Services

22 Arlington Street, SW1

transport: Green Park u/g; buses 8,9,14,19,22,38

a pair of gilded eagles stand on the gateposts of the entrance to this building

Queen Mary's Gardens

Inner Circle, Regent's Park,NW1

transport: Baker Street & Regent's Park u/g; buses 13, 18,27,30,74, 82,113,189,274,C2

opening: 07.00-dusk

a small lake with a waterfall & rockery water garden provide an attractive feature of these gardens. Stocked with large carp the lake is the appropriate place to have a bronze sculpture of an eagle poised with wings spread as if about to catch fish

St Michaels Cornhill

St Michael's Alley, Cornhill, EC3

020 7248 3826

transport: Bank u/g, Cannon Street u/g & rail; buses 8, 11,26,35,47,48,76,133,149,242,344

opening: Mon-Fri 08.30-17.00

this lectern of an eagle perched on a globe won a prize at Great Exhibition of 1851 exhibition. It is by William Gibbs Roger

152 King's Road, SW3

transport: Sloane Square u/g; buses 11,19,22,211,319

The Phaesantry has a free-standing gateway into a courtyard. Two Roman caryatids support a pediment with a chariot & charioteer on top. A pair of eagles stand on the outer ends of the front wall

Croydon Parish Church of St John the Baptist

Church Street, Croydon, Surrey

transport: West Croydon rail; Croydon tramlink; buses 64, 109,154,166,194,198, 250,264,289,367,403,405,412, 450,494

opening: Mon-Wed, Fri 10.00-16.00, Sat 10.00-20.00

this church dates from 15th century but was rebuilt in 1867 by Sir Gilbert Scott. It is the burial place of six Archbishops of Canterbury. The 15th century brass lectern is of an eagle with small lions at its feet

Further Afield

Eagle Heights Bird of Prey Centre

Lullingstone Lane, Eynsford, Kent, DA4

01322 866466

www.eagleheights.co.uk

transport: M25 Junction 3, M20 Junction 1, Eynsford rail 1½miles

facilities: flying displays Mar-Oct noon & 15.30, winter weekends noon & 15.00; Indoor demos daily reptiles 13.45, owls 14.15

opening: Mar-Oct daily 10.30-17.00, Nov-Feb

weekends 11.00-16.00

admission charge

if you like to learn about the conservation and rehabilitation birds of prey (eagles, falcons, vultures, owls) and on certain days to watch flying displays and to have hands-on experience then this centre is well worth the effort

Bird of Prey and Conservation Centre

Old Warden Park, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, SG18
01767 627527

transport: road A1 Biggleswade North roundabout & 2
miles west; Biggleswade rail + 3 miles

opening: daily Feb-Oct 10.00-17.00
admission charge

*another conservation centre for birds-of-prey. Over 300
birds of various species can be seen*

Raptor Foundation

The Heath, St Ives Road, Woodhurst, Cambs, PE28
01487 741140

transport: car A14 St Ives exit, A1 Huntingdon exit for St
Ives

*facilities: tea room; gift shop; guided tours; camp site;
flying displays noon, 14.00 & 16.00; adoption, hunting
days and meet the bird days available on request*

opening: daily 10.30-17.00
admission charge

*here 300 raptors and 25 species including owls, falcons,
hawks and buzzards receive sanctuary, medical care, and
rehabilitation to the wild. Where a bird is permanently
injured it is housed and where possible used for breeding
purposes. The Foundation also conducts vital research
into environmental problems*

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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