



Seeing the Capital Differently

Flags & Banners

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
e-mail: info@citythemes.co.uk
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Enjoy Your Explorations

Guards Chapel & Museum

Birdcage Walk, SW1W
020 7414 3271

transport: St James's Park & Westminster u/g; buses 3, 11,12,24,53,77A,88,159,211

facilities: book & gift shop (09.00-16.00); tours by arrangement

opening: daily except Jan 10.00-16.00 (last admission 15.30)

admission charge

the walls of the Chapel are hung with the regimental colours of Brigade of Guards Regiments

Apsley House: The Wellington Museum

Hyde Park Corner, W1V
020 7499 5676

www.vam.ac.uk/vastatic/microsites/apsley

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

facilities: disabled access & wcs; sales desk; guided tours on application

opening: Tue-Sun 11.00-17.00

admission charge

originally known as No.1 London Apsley House was built by Robert Adam between 1771 and 1778 for Baron Apsley. It was the home from 1817 to 1852 of Arthur Wellesley, 1st Duke of Wellington, the hero of the Peninsular War & Waterloo and a leading British statesman and Prime Minister. The museum has a collection of 85 tricolour flags that were paraded in Paris in 1815

Buckingham Palace

Buckingham Palace Road, SW1A
020 7930 4832

www.royalresidences.com

transport: Victoria, Green Park & St James's u/g; buses 2,8,9,10,11,14,16,19,22,24,36,38,52,73,74,82,137,185, 211,239,507,C1,C10

facilities: disabled access but prior application needed for wheelchairs; shop

opening: daily Aug-Sept 09.30-16.15

admission charge

London home of British monarchs since 1837 the flagpole flies the Royal Standard when the Queen is in residence and the Union Jack flag at other times

Museum of the Order of St John

St John's Gate, St John's Lane, Clerkenwell, EC1M
020 7324 4070

www.sja.org.uk/history

transport: Farringdon u/g & rail; buses 55,56,153

facilities: disabled access by appointment to ground floor only; giftshop; tours of gatehouse & crypt (Tue, Fri, Sat 11.00 & 14.30)

opening: Mon-Fri 10.00-17.00, Sat 10.00-16.00

admission free but a donation for the tour of the Gatehouse & Crypt is welcome

the Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem was founded in the 11th century as a military and religious order (The Hospitallers) initially to care for pilgrims in the Holy Land. They had headquarters in Malta between 1530 and 1798. This museum looks at the history of the Order and among its treasures are several banners dating from the period in Malta

St Mary Aldermary

Watling Street, EC4
020 7248 4906

transport: Mansion House u/g, Cannon Street u/g & rail; buses 8,11,26,76,100,172,242

opening: Mon,Thur 11.00-15.00

the White Ensign is the flag of the Royal Navy. It is a white flag with the Union Jack in the top corner near the flagstaff. Here in this church the White Ensign Association's flag is kept on the south wall of the sanctuary

Women's Library (formerly The Fawcett Library)

Old Castle Street, E1

020 7320 2222

www.thewomenslibrary.ac.uk

transport: Aldgate East & Aldgate u/g, Fenchurch Street & Liverpool Street u/g & rail; buses 15,25,40,42,67,78, 100,253

facilities: disabled access & wcs; library; Wash Houses Café; sales desk

opening: Reading Room Tue, Wed, Fri 09.30-17.00, Thur 09.30-20.00, Sat 10.00-16.00; Exhibition Mon-Wed, Fri 09.30-17.30, Thur 09.30-20.00, Sat 10.00-16.00

here is a library dedicated to the documentation and exploration of women's lives in the past, present and future. Besides books, journal, photographs, autograph letters, campaign badges and posters there is a collection of banners from the 1908 suffrage march

St Katharine Cree

86 Leadenhall Street, EC3

020 7283 5733

transport: Aldgate & Bank u/g, Fenchurch Street rail; buses 8,26,35,47,48,149,242,344

opening: church Mon-Fri 10.30-16.00

two standards of the London Insurance Companies branch of the British Legion are kept in this church

Westminster Abbey

Deans' Yard, Parliament Square, SW1

020 7222 5152

www.westminster-abbey.org

transport: Westminster & St James's Park u/g, Victoria & Waterloo u/g & rail; buses 3,11,12,24,53,77A,88,109, 159,211; boat Westminster Millennium Pier

facilities: audio guide & leaflets in 7 languages; guided tours (Apr-Oct Mon-Fri 10.00, 10.30, 11.00, 14.00, 15.00, Sat 10.00, 11.00, 12.30; Nov-Mar Mon-Fri 10.00, 11.00, 14.00, 15.00, Sat 10.00, 11.00, 12.30)

opening: Mon-Fri 09.00-16.45 (last admission 15.45);

Sat 09.00-14.45 (last admission 13.45); closed Sun

except for worship; Cloister daily 08.00-18.00; Chapter

House daily 10.00-17.30 Apr-Oct, 10.00-16.00 Nov-Mar

admission charge

the Royal Air Forces' Chapel has stained glass windows that show the flags of New Zealand, Canada, Australia, South Africa, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Belgium and the USA. The Lady Chapel is decorated with the banners and standards of the Knights of the Order of the Bath

National Maritime Museum

Romney Road, Greenwich, SE10

020 8858 4422

www.nmm.ac.uk

transport: Greenwich DLR & rail, Cutty Sark DLR; buses 177,180,188,199,286,386; boat Greenwich Pier

facilities: disabled access to all levels & galleries; Caird Library (open Mon-Fri 10.00-16.45 by arrangement 020 8312 6607); restaurant; bookshop; tours by arrangement

opening: daily 10.00-17.00 (last admission 16.30)

admission free

this interesting museum traces the development of Britain's might as a sea power from King Henry VIII's Tudor fleet through voyages of discovery to 20th century naval warfare in the Falklands and the Gulf. Special attention is paid to the impact of modern life on the sea.

A display in the Cargoes Gallery shows today's shipping routes, nationalities of seafarers, the homes of national fleets and the flags of convenience

Goldsmiths Company

Foster Lane, EC2V
020 7606 7010 www.thegoldsmiths.co.uk

transport: St Paul's & Mansion House u/g, City Thameslink, Farringdon rail; buses 8,56,100,172,242
opening: by prior application

this City of London Livery Company has a banner embroidered with the Goldsmiths' Company arms

St Sepulchre-without-Newgate (now known as Church of Holy Sepulchre Holborn)

Holborn Viaduct, EC1
020 7248 3826

transport: St Paul's u/g, City Thameslink rail; buses 8, 25,45,56,63,242

opening: Tue & Thur noon-14.00, Wed 11.00-15.00

a well-preserved flag of 1790 is the Kings Colour of the Royal Fusiliers. It is kept in a glass case but other Regimental flags hang along the aisle

Polish Institute and Sikorski Museum

20 Princes Gate, SW7
020 7598 9249

transport: South Kensington & Knightsbridge u/g; buses 9,10,52,70

facilities: library; tours

opening: museum: Mon-Fri 14.00-16.00, 1st Sat each month 10.00-16.00; archives Tue-Fri 09.30-16.00
admission free

a collection of war standards includes the Polish national flag that was flown over the monastery at Monte Cassino, Italy in 1944. The monastery was used as a German garrison to try to stop the Allied troops advancing to Rome towards the end of the 2nd World War. The British and American forces were unsuccessful in displacing the Germans and the Polish army replaced them. They captured the monastery after three weeks of heavy fighting and considerable loss of life

St Bartholomew-the-Great

Cloth Fair, West Smithfield, EC1
020 7606 5171

transport: Barbican & St Paul's u/g, City Thameslink rail; buses 8,25,56,242

opening: Tue-Fri 08.30-17.00, Sat 10.30-13.30, Sun 08.00-13.00, 14.30-20.00

the Livery Church of the Company of Butchers is located close to the meat market at Smithfields. The Company's banner hangs in the north aisle and their annual service takes place in the church in June

the Lady Chapel has colours including a banner embroidered with areas of conflict, an RAF flag and a monument dedicated to the 600 City of London Air Force Squadron, Royal Auxiliary Airforce

Apothecaries Company of London

Blackfriars Lane, EC4
020 7236 1189 www.apothecaries.org.uk

transport: Blackfriars u/g & rail, City Thameslink rail; buses 11,15,26,45,63,76,100,172

facilities: steps to entrance, otherwise wheelchair access throughout; gift and publications shop; tours by prior arrangement

opening: courtyard Mon-Fri; Hall by appointment
small admission charge for tours of the Hall

the banners from a former state barge are proudly displayed by this City of London Livery Company

St John's, Clerkenwell

St John's Square, Clerkenwell Road, EC1

transport: Farringdon u/g & rail; buses 55,63

St John's is the Grand Priory Church of the Order of St John of Jerusalem and hangs the banners of the Order of St John and Commonwealth priories connected to the Order

Kew Gardens/Royal Botanic Gardens and Museums

Kew Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW9

020 8332 5655/recorded 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 229ft (70m) flagpole carved from a 370 year old Douglas Fir was presented by British Columbia, Canada, to commemorate the centenary of the Province (1958) and the bicentenary of Kew Gardens (1959)

St Clement Danes

Strand, WC2
020 7242 8282

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: daily 08.30-16.30

St Clement is the memorial church of the Royal Air Force (RAF) and has mementoes, badges and record books of names of those airmen who died during the 2nd World War. There are also standards of the various RAF squadrons

Thames Police Museum

98 Wapping High Street, Wapping, E1
020 7275 4421

transport: Wapping u/g; buses 100,D3

opening: by arrangement

the River Police are a division of the Metropolitan Police and the museum traces the history of the Force since its establishment in 1798. Amongst items of interest is the flag from the pleasure steamer 'Princess Alice' that sank in September 1878 on the River Thames with the loss of 631 lives, many caused by the polluted river. The disaster led to the development of sewage treatment plants and changes in Thames' navigation rules

Cenotaph

Whitehall, SW1

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

flags of the Army, Royal Air Force, Royal Navy and Merchant Navy fly from this well-known 1920 war memorial that commemorates both the 1st and 2nd World Wars

St Pauls (The Actors Church)

Bedford Street, Covent Garden, WC2
020 7836 5221

transport: Covent Garden & Leicester Square u/g, Charing Cross u/g & rail; buses 6,9,11,13,15,23,24,29,77A,91,176
opening: Mon -Fri 09.00-16.30, Sun 09.00-12.30

the northeast chapel displays the Regimental colours of the Royal Naval Division

Anchor Brewhouse

Shad Thames, Tower Bridge, SE1

transport: Tower Hill & Bermondsey u/g, Tower Gateway DLR; buses 42,47,78,188,381

this one-time brewery (now luxury apartments) has a weathervane in the shape of a flag with an anchor on it

St Mary's

St Marychurch Street, Rotherhithe, SE16
020 7231 2465

transport: Rotherhithe & Canada Water u/g; buses 1,47, 188,199,381

opening: Mon-Thur 07.00-18.00, Sat-Sun 08.00-18.00

the White Ensign is the flag of the Royal Navy and because of this church's long association with the Navy it is permitted to fly it from the tower

Marx Memorial Library

37a Clerkenwell Green, EC1R
020 7253 1485 www.marxmemoriallibrary.sageweb.co.uk

transport: Farringdon u/g & rail; buses 55,63
facilities: disabled access to ground floor; library; sales desk; tours by arrangement

opening: Mon 13.00-18.00, Tue-Thur 13.00-20.00, Sat 10.00-13.00 (best to check prior to visit)
admission free, small charge for groups

hanging in the ground floor hall you will find a banner made for the Hammersmith Socialist Society by the artist, craftsman, poet and political activist, William Morris (1834-96)

St Olav's Norwegian Church

St Olav's Square, Albion Street, Rotherhithe, SE16
020 7740 3900

transport: Rotherhithe u/g; buses 1,47,188,199,225,381
facilities: shop selling Norwegian goods

one of the few places where a Norwegian flag can be seen flying

Brompton Cemetery

Fulham Road, SW10
020 7352 1201 www.open.gov.uk/rp/rphome.htm

transport: West Brompton u/g & rail; buses 14,74,190, 211,328,C3

opening: daily 09.00-dusk
admission free

one of the monuments was erected to honour the 2625 Chelsea pensioners buried in the Cemetery between 1855 and 1893. Battles from Mysore to Crimea are listed and at each corner is a roaring bronze lion with a stack of cannon balls. The monument is surmounted by a trophy of flags

St Benet's Paul's Wharf (now Metropolitan Welsh Church)

Paul's Wharf, St Benet's Hill, Upper Thames Street, EC4
020 7489 8754

transport: Mansion House u/g, Blackfriars u/g & rail; buses 11,15,26,45,63,76,100,172

opening: 1st Monday in the month 11.00-15.30; Sunday for services only 11.00 & 14.30 (Welsh-language service).
By arrangement at other times

this church has been used by the College of Arms since 1555 and a complete set of College banners can be found there

Windsor Castle

Windsor, Berks, SL4
01753 831118 www.the-royal-collection.org.uk

transport: Windsor rail, Green Line coach from Victoria
facilities: audio guide; disabled visitors should contact visitors' office; shop for books, postcards & gifts; pre-arranged tours for groups

opening: daily Mar-Oct 09.45-17.15 (last admission 16.00); Nov-Feb 09.45-16.15 (last admission 15.00)
admission charge

on the oldest royal residence to have remained in constant use by reigning monarchs, the Round Tower flagpole flies the Royal Standard when the Queen is in residence and the Union Jack at other times

Parliament Square, SW1

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

various nations' flags fly round the grassed centre of the Square

St Giles-in-the-Fields

St Giles High Street, WC2
020 7240 2532

transport: Tottenham Court Road u/g; buses 1,8,10,14, 19,24,25,29,38,55,73,98,134,176,242

opening: Mon-Fri 09.00-16.00

the south porch displays the White Ensign from the Royal Navy's ship HMS Indefatigable that was flown at the Japanese surrender in Tokyo Bay in 1945

St Luke's

185 Charlton Church Lane, Charlton Village, SE7
020 8858 8175

transport: Charlton rail; buses 53,54,380,422,486

opening: Tue, Thur 10.00-14.00, Sat 10.00-noon

authorised to fly the White Ensign flag on St George's Day and St Luke's Day the tower was used as a navigational aid by naval cadets and for Admiral chartings in the early 18th century

St Nicholas's

Deptford Green, SE8

transport: Deptford Bridge DLR, Deptford rail; buses 47, 188,199

another church that, because of its long association with the Royal Navy, is allowed to fly the White Ensign flag

Museum of London

150 London Wall, EC2Y
020 7600 3699 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

the museum houses the Suffragette Fellowship Archive, a collection of printed, archival material relating to women's suffrage. There are posters, newspapers, photographs, costumes, banners and personal memorabilia

St Andrew's

St Andrew Street, Holborn, EC4
020 7353 3544

transport: Chancery Lane u/g, Farringdon u/g & rail, City Thameslink rail; buses 8,17,25,45,46,63,242,341

opening: Mon-Fri 08.00-17.30, Wed 08.00-14.00, 18.00-21.00

the banner of the crucifixion was embroidered by a parishioner, Molly Arnold

Jubilee Gardens

Belvedere Road, SE1

transport: Westminster & Embankment u/g, Charing Cross & Waterloo u/g & rail; buses 53,76,77,112,159, 211,341,381; boat Waterloo Millennium Pier

the former site of the 1951 Festival of Britain was opened as gardens in celebration of Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977. Incorporated into the gardens is a flagpole presented by British Columbia, Canada

6th Dragoon Guards (the Carabiniers)

opposite Chelsea Bridge, SW3

transport: Sloane Square u/g; buses 24,137,C10

this 1905 bronze plaque is a memorial to those who died in South African Boer War. It shows a mounted officer and three troopers, a trophy of flags and a regimental badge surmounted by a plumed helmet

St Lawrence Jewry

Gresham Street, EC2
020 7600 9478

transport: Bank & St Pauls u/g; buses 8,56,76,100,133, 172,242

opening: Mon-Thur 07.30-14.00

this church displays Commonwealth flags and Armed Service standards

St Andrew-by-the-Wardrobe

St Andrew's Hill, Queen Victoria Street, EC4
020 7248 7546

transport: Mansion House u/g, Blackfriars u/g & rail; buses 11,15,26,45,63,76,100,172

opening: Mon-Fri 10.00-16.00

this is the Livery Church of the City of London Companies of Mercers, Blacksmiths, Parish Clerks and the Society of Apothecaries. All their banners hang there

Guildhall

Aldermanbury, EC2
020 7606 3030

transport: Bank & Mansion House u/g, Moorgate u/g & rail; buses 8,56,76,100,133,242

opening: daily May-Sept 10.00-17.00; Mon-Sat Oct-Apr 10.00-17.00 (advisable to check opening as often closed for events)

admission free

this third largest civic hall in England is used for City of London ceremonies and banquets. On display are the banners and shields of 100 City Livery Companies and 12 major City companies

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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