



*Seeing the Capital Differently*

## Herb Gardens

### 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

## All Hallows by the Tower Church and Undercroft

Byward Street, Tower Hill, EC3R  
020 7481 2928 [www.allhallowsbythetower.org.uk](http://www.allhallowsbythetower.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: audio tours (daily 11.00-16.00); disabled access to Church but not Undercroft; restaurant (Mon-Fri 10.00-22.30); bookshop; group tours by arrangement (10.30-16.00); Queen Mother Centre has herb garden; brass rubbing centre*  
opening: Mon-Fri 09.00-18.00, Sat-Sun 10.00-17.00  
free admission to church  
*the Queen Mother Visitor Centre was opened in 2000 and features a sunken herb garden*

## Grange Museum of Community History

Neasden Lane, NW10  
020 8452 8311  
transport: Neasden u/g; buses 83,112,182,232,245,297,302,316  
*facilities: limited disabled access; parking; sales desk*  
opening: Mon-Fri 11.00-17.00, Sat 10.00-17.00  
admission free  
*this museum has a Victorian herb garden, an old well and a conservatory*

## Chelsea Physic Garden

66 Royal Hospital Road, SW3  
020 7352 5646 [www.cpgarden.demon.co.uk](http://www.cpgarden.demon.co.uk)  
transport: Sloane Square u/g; buses 11,19,22,137,211,239,319  
*facilities: disabled access via 66 Royal Hospital Road; disabled wcs; library by arrangement; home-made teas; gift & plant shops; tours by arrangement*  
opening: Apr-Oct, Wed noon-17.00, Sun 14.00-18.00  
admission charge  
*an unusual garden founded in 1673 by the Royal Society of Apothecaries, it has a world-wide collection of herbs and medicinal plants. First planted with cedars in 1683, the gardeners exported cotton seed to America in 1732 and established the first rock garden in 1773. The olive tree in the walled garden is the oldest one in Britain.*

## Kew Palace (Dutch House)

Kew Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW9  
020 8332 5655/recorded information 020 8940 1171  
[www.rbgkew.org.uk](http://www.rbgkew.org.uk)  
transport: Kew Gardens u/g & rail; buses 65,235,267,391,485; boat Kew Pier  
*facilities: disabled access; restaurant and snacks; shop; tours (daily 11.00, 14.00)*  
opening: Museums daily summer 09.30-17.30, weekends 09.30-18.30, winter 09.30-14.30; Gardens: daily summer 09.30-18.30, weekends 09.30-19.30, winter 09.30-15.30  
admission charge  
*the Queen's Garden, opened in 1969, has displays of nosegays and herbs with appropriate 17<sup>th</sup> century medical tips for their usage. The garden remains open during renovations to the interior*

## Fulham Palace and Museum

Bishops Avenue, Fulham, SW6  
020 7736 3233  
transport: Putney Bridge u/g, Putney rail; buses 14,22,39,74,85,93,220,265,270,C4

*facilities: audiotour guide for outside & garden; disabled access; shop; tours on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun in month at 14.00 or by arrangement*

opening: Mar-Oct Wed-Sun 14.00-17.00, Nov-Feb Thurs-Sun 13.00-16.00  
admission charge for Palace; gardens free daily 08.00-dusk

*the attractive gardens attached to the Palace include an 18<sup>th</sup> century herb and knot garden*

## Geffrye Museum

136 Kingsland Road, Shoreditch, E2  
020 7739 9893 [www.geffrye-museum.org.uk](http://www.geffrye-museum.org.uk)  
transport: Liverpool Street & Old Street u/g & rail; buses 26,48,55,67,149,242,243  
*facilities: disabled access; library & furniture trade archive; coffee bar & light meals until 4.45; tours by arrangement*  
opening: Tue-Sat 10.00-17.00, Sun noon-17.00  
admission free  
*a feature of this old almshouse museum is the walled herb garden arranged according to historic domestic use. Inside the museum you will find a 'garden' room showing the changes in horticulture over the past 400 years*

## Epping Forest District Museum

39-41 Sun Street, Waltham Abbey, EN9  
01992 716882  
[www.leevalley.org.uk/html/heritage/waltham.htm](http://www.leevalley.org.uk/html/heritage/waltham.htm)  
transport: Waltham Cross rail; bus 505  
*facilities: wheelchair access to ground floor; disabled wcs; shop*  
opening: Mon & Fri 14.00-17.00, Tue noon-17.00, Sat 10.00-17.00, Sun (May-Sept) 14.00-17.00  
*a local history museum with a herb garden*

## 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: church daily. Market Tue 10.00-18.00 (antiques), Wed-Sat 10.00-18.00 (crafts only)  
*this churchyard known as 'God's Garden' is dedicated as a Remembrance Garden. It commemorates the fortitude of Londoners during the Blitz and the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. It has biblical plants, herbs and wild flowers and includes a catalpa tree from Georgia in the USA*

## Abbey Garden

Broad Sanctuary, SW1  
transport: Westminster u/g; buses 3,11,12,24,53,77A,88,159,211; boat Westminster Millennium Pier  
opening: Tue-Thur April-Sept 10.00-18.00, Oct-Mar 10.00-16.00  
admission free if via Deans Yard & Cloister; donation welcome  
*the gardens that now serve as a retreat and croquet lawn for the pupils of Westminster School were established 900 years old as herb gardens. There are five magnificent plane trees dating from 1850. The gardens are used for brassband concerts during the summer months*

## Hatfield House

Hatfield, Herts, AL9  
01707 287010 [www.hatfield-house.co.uk](http://www.hatfield-house.co.uk)

transport: Hatfield rail  
*facilities: licensed restaurant & tea room (11.00-17.30); gifts and garden shop (11.00-17.30); guided tours*  
opening: house daily March-Sept noon-16.00 (guided tours only), Sat-Sun 13.00-16.30 (no guided tours); park and West Gardens daily 11.00-17.30  
admission charge

*this 13<sup>th</sup> century castle was the childhood home of Anne Boleyn, the 2<sup>nd</sup> wife of King Henry VIII. The 40 acre grounds have an Italian garden, two mazes and a herb garden*

### **Valence House Museum and Art Gallery**

Becontree Avenue, Dagenham, Essex, RM8 3HT  
020 8270 6865

transport: Becontree u/g, Chadwell Heath rail; buses 5, 62,87,128,129,364,368

*facilities: disabled access; small café; souvenir & local history bookshop; tours by arrangement*

opening: Mon-Fri 09.00-16.30, Sat 10.00-16.00  
admission free

*a herb garden was established in 1992 and is open between April and October*

### **Hever Castle**

Edenbridge, Kent  
01732 865224

transport: Hever rail (1mile)

*facilities: parking; Moat Restaurant (Mar-Nov 11.00-18.00) & Pavilion Restaurant (daily 11.00-18.00); gift, book & garden shop*

opening: house daily Mar-Nov noon-18.00; gardens daily March 11.00-16.00, April-Oct 11.00-18.00, Nov 11.00-17.00  
admission charge

*a Tudor herb garden opened in 1994*

### **Hackney City Farm**

1A Goldsmith's Row, Hackney, E2  
020 7729 6381

transport: Bethnal Green u/g, Cambridge Heath rail; buses 26,48,55

*facilities: café; farm shop*

opening: Tue-Sun 10.00-16.30  
admission free but donations welcome

*in this organic garden visitors can help plant and grow herbs, fruit trees and flowers. Any excess produced is sold for the benefits of the farm*

### **Southwark Cathedral**

Montague Close, Borough High Street, SE1  
020 7367 6700 [www.dswark.org.uk](http://www.dswark.org.uk)

transport: Southwark u/g, London Bridge u/g & rail; buses 21,35,40,43,47,48,133,149,343,381; boat Bankside & London Bridge City Piers

*facilities: audio guide*

opening: Mon-Sat 10.00-18.00, Sun 11.00 - 17.30  
(advisable to phone before visiting)

*the East Churchyard herb garden recalls the Cathedral's past as a monastic foundation and its connections with The Old Operating Theatre and Herb Garret*

### **Old Operating Theatre, Museum and Herb Garret**

9A St Thomas Street, SE1  
020 7955 4791 [www.thegarret.org.uk](http://www.thegarret.org.uk)

transport: London Bridge u/g & rail; buses 21,35,40,43, 47,48,133,343,381; boat London Bridge City

*facilities: no wheelchair access; shop*

opening: daily 10.30-17.00 (may close on Mondays so please check on the telephone number above)  
admission charge

*this 19<sup>th</sup> century operating theatre In the loft of St Thomas' Parish Church was last used in 1862. As well as an operating theatre the room was also used to dry medicinal herbs. An exhibition shows the activities that took place here so there are herbs hanging from the ceiling, pill-making equipment, specimen jars and surgical paraphernalia. Florence Nightingale started her nursing school here in 1860*

### **Greenwich Park, SE10**

020 8858 2608 [www.open.gov.uk/rp/rphome.htm](http://www.open.gov.uk/rp/rphome.htm)

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

*facilities: Park Café*

opening: daily 06.00-dusk  
admission free

*there is a small herb garden at the bottom of this lovely park near St Mary's Gate*

### **Battersea Park and Zoo**

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

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

*facilities: disabled access & wcs; zoo has otter feeding at 11.00 & 16.00*

opening: park: daily dawn-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: park & playground free, zoo has admission charge

*here in this herb garden the culinary and medicinal herbs are planted in alphabetical order. Surrounded by a small stream a further garden is planted to attract butterflies and birds*

### **Bexley Museum**

Hall Place, Bourne Road, Bexley, Kent, DA5  
01322 526574

transport: Bexley & Crayford rail; buses 96,132,229,492  
*facilities: disabled access to ground floor of house only; restaurant and snacks; shop,*

opening: summer Mon-Sat 10.00-17.00, Sun 14.00-18.00; winter Mon-Sat 10.00-dusk  
admission free

*Hall Place Gardens on the banks of the River Cray have 18<sup>th</sup> century gates, a topiary of chess pieces and twelve heraldic animals known as the 'Queen's Beasts', a herb garden for the blind and a Tudor-style rose garden*

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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