



Seeing the Capital Differently

Money, Coins & Finance

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
address: CityThemes PO Box 42530, London E1W 3WL

Enjoy Your Explorations

Museum of the Order of St John

St John's Gate, St John's Lane, Clerkenwell, EC1M
020 7253 6644

transport: Farringdon u/g & rail; buses 55,63,153
facilities: disabled access to ground floor only & disabled
wc; library by appointment only; giftshop; tours for large
groups by arrangement only

opening: Mon-Fri 10.00-17.00, Sat 10.00-16.00 Tours of
16th century gatehouse & crypt 11.00 & 14.30 Tues, Fri,
Sat

admission free. Donation welcome for tour

*the collection has coins and other artefacts of the Order of
St John dating from its foundation during the Crusades.
The Order issued its own coinage in Rhodes and Malta*

Gunnersbury Park Museum

Pope's Lane, Gunnersbury Park, W3
020 8992 1612

transport: Acton Town u/g; bus E3
facilities: disabled access; parking; snack refreshments;
sales desk; tours by arrangement

opening: daily. Museum: Apr-Oct Mon-Fri 13.00-17.00,
Sat-Sun 13.00-18.00; Nov-Mar Mon-Fri 13.00-16.00, Sat-
Sun 14.00-17.00. Park: 07.30-dusk

admission free

*home of the banking and financier Rothschild family from
1836-1925, it was designed by Sidney Smirke. It is now
home to the social and local history collections of Ealing
and Hounslow Councils*

Bank of England Museum

Bartholomew Lane, EC2R
020 7601 5545 www.bankofengland.co.uk

transport: Bank u/g, Liverpool Street u/g & rail,
Fenchurch Street rail; buses 8,11,21,26,35,47,48,76,133,
149,242,344

facilities: audio guide; disabled access with prior notice if
possible; shop; group tours

opening: daily 10.00-17.00

admission free

*Illustrates the history of the Bank of England. This unique
collection includes bank notes, gold bars from Roman
times and original Bank documents including the Royal
Charter of 1694. Interactive videos allow visitors to see
how the modern Bank functions. A Back Stock Office has
interactive systems showing bank note design, stock and
share dealing and foreign currency markets*

*of slightly different interest is the collection of pikes and
muskets used to defend the Bank during the Gordon Riots
of 1780. These anti-Catholic riots caused a breakdown of
law and order in parts of London for several days*

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
*the Money Gallery has a collection of over 1 million items
ranging from cunneform tablets of Mesopotamia and 7th
century BC coins from Turkey and China to paper*

*denominations of various currencies and electronic
transfer techniques*

*over 500,000 coins and medals show the history of
money with examples from China, prehistory Europe and
Asia, and among the antiquities of Islam and Rome. The
display changes every 4 months*

Sir Thomas Gresham

On the campanile of the Royal Exchange, Cornhill, EC3

transport: Bank u/g; buses 8,11,26,76,133,242

*portrait statue of the financier who built the Royal
Exchange; by William Behnes and Sir Richard
Westmacott 1845*

King's Head pub

115 Upper Street, N1
020 7226 1916

transport: Angel & Highbury & Islington u/g; buses 4,19,
30,43

facilities: snacks at lunchtime; evening meals for theatre
goers only

opening: Mon-Thur 11.00-midnight, Fri-Sat 11.00-01.00,
Sun noon-midnight

*a pre-decimal cash till is kept at the bar of this Supper
Theatre where you can eat supper while watching a play*

Kensington Palace

Kensington Gardens, W8
020 7937 9561 www.hrp.org.uk

transport: Queensway, Notting Hill Gate & High Street
Kensington u/g; buses 9,10,12,49,52,70,94
facilities: multi-language audio guides; refreshments in
The Orangery - morning coffee, light lunches & afternoon
tea; gift and souvenir shop; tours

opening: daily 10.00-17.00 summer; 10.00-16.00 winter
admission charge

*the portrait of Queen Anne by Godfrey Kneller was used
as a model for striking coins and notes*

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

*the home from 1800-1810 of Sir John Soane, architect of
the Bank of England who also remodelled this original
1770 manor house. The collection includes architectural
drawings for the Bank of England and other Soane-
designed buildings*

Charing Cross Collector's Fair

Charing Cross, WC2
020 8398 8065

transport: Charing Cross u/g & rail; buses 6,9,11,13,
15,23,77A,91,176

opening: Sat 08.30-16.00

an opportunity to buy coins

Sir John Soane

North side of Bank of England at the corner with Lothbury,
Threadneedle Street, EC2

transport: Bank u/g, Moorgate & Liverpool Street u/g &
rail, Fenchurch Street rail; buses 8,11,21,26,35,47,48,76,
133,149,242,344

statue of the architect who designed the Bank of England;
by Sir William Dick Reid 1937

Spink and Son

69 Southampton Row, Bloomsbury, WC1
020 7563 4000 www.spinkandson.com

transport: Holborn & Russell Square u/g; buses 1,8,
19,25,38,55,59,68,91,98,168,171,188,242,243

dealers and auctioneers since 1660s specialising in rare
bank notes, coins, tokens, commemorative medals and
stamps. They also have branches in Singapore

Versace

113 New Bond Street, W1
020 7355 2700

transport: Bond Street & Oxford Circus u/g; buses 3,6,7,
8,10,12,13,15,23,25,53,55,73,94,98,113,137,139,
159,176,189

opening: Mon-Sat 09.00-17.00

modern shop designed to make use of old banking
premises

Coutts and Co.

440 Strand, WC2
020 7753 1000

transport: Charing Cross u/g & rail; buses 6,9,11,13,15,
23,77A,91,176

opening: banking hours

the Bank houses a model of the original premises founded
in 1692 by Scottish goldsmith, John Campbell. The bank
employees still wear tail-coated suits

this bank has a collection of interesting material including
a model of the original premises, scales, taper holder,
account book and other archives. The model of the
original 17th century goldsmith's shop shows Campbell
sitting at his desk talking to the Duke of Argyll; the figure
of Andrew Dicke, the first clerk to become a partner, is
dressed in the fashions of the 1820s

St Dunstan-in-the-West

Fleet Street, EC4
020 7248 6233

transport: Temple u/g, Blackfriars u/g & rail; buses 11,
15,26,45,63,76,100,172,341

opening: Tue & Fri 09.30-15.00

amongst several interesting monuments in this church is
a tablet and sarcophagus (1725 & 1754) to the Hoare
Family, city bankers and goldsmiths

Hoare's Bank

37 Fleet Street, EC4
020 7353 4522

transport: Temple u/g, Blackfriars u/g & rail; buses 11,
15,26,45,63,76,100,172,341

opening: banking hours

the only independent private bank in The City. Founded in
1672 the doormen continue to wear top hats and tail-
coated suits. The interior has flagstone floors and
mahogany woodwork

Child and Co

1 Fleet Street, EC4

transport: Temple u/g, Blackfriars u/g & rail; buses 11,
15,26,45,63,76,100,172,341

the first bank in Britain founded in 1671. Its symbol, the
marigold flower, can be seen carved in the stonework and
above the windows

Bank of England

Threadneedle Street, EC2
020 7601 4444 www.bankofengland.co.uk

transport: Bank u/g, Moorgate & Liverpool Street u/g &
rail, Fenchurch Street rail; buses 8,11,21,26,35,47,48,
76,133,149,242,344

on the corner of Princes Street and Lothbury stands The
Temple, a circular domed pavilion crowned with a gilt
bronze entitled 'Ariel: The Spirit of the Winds'. Ariel was
the patron saint of bankers and represents the dynamic
spirit of the Bank; by Sir Charles Wheeler 1934-6. The
curtain wall erected 1734 is all that remains of the original
building of Sir John Soane

the façade sculpture on the pediment of the Bank is
known as The Old Lady of Threadneedle Street and is by
Sir Charles Wheeler. It represents Britannia with six
bearers and guardians of wealth and shows her holding a
model of the old Bank on her knees and a pile of coins at
her side

Old Bank of England pub

194 Fleet Street, EC4
020 7430 2255

transport: Temple u/g, Blackfriars u/g & rail; buses 11,
15,26,45,63,76,100,172,341

opening: Mon-Fri 11.00-23.00

former Victorian banking hall now converted into a pub

The Counting House

50 Cornhill, EC2
020 7283 7123

transport: Bank u/g; buses 8,11,26,76,133,242

opening: Mon-Fri 11.00-23.00

this pub was a former bank with the high ceilings, glass
dome and chandeliers unchanged

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 has several interesting monuments including
one to Sir Peter Delme (d.1728) who was a governor of
the Bank of England and a Lord Mayor of London, by John
Michael Rysback

The French House

49 Dean Street, W1
020 4437 2477

transport: Tottenham Court Road & Leicester Square u/g;
buses 7,8,10,14,19,24,25,29,38,55,73,98,176

opening: Mon-Sat noon-23.00

the original pre-decimal 10/- and £1 cashdrawers can be
seen behind the bar

Samuel Gurney

Stratford Broadway, Stratford, E15

transport: Stratford u/g, rail & DLR; buses 25,69,86,
104,108,158,238,241,257,262,308,473, D8,S2

obelisk erected in 1861 to the Quaker banker &
philanthropist (1786-1856)

Just St James

12 St James Street, SW1
020 7976 2222

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

opening: lunch Mon-Fri noon-15.00; evenings Mon-Thur 18.00-23.00, Fri-Sat 18.00-midnight

a restaurant in a former banking hall complete with marble columns and glass lifts

Sir John Soane's Museum

13 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2A

020 7405 2107 www.soane.org

transport: Holborn u/g; buses 1,8,25,38,59,68,91,98, 168,171,188,242

facilities: *library, sales desk, tours (Sats 14.30)*

opening: Tue-Sat 10.00-17.00

admission free

architectural drawings of the Bank of England by the architect Sir John Soane are on show in the Picture Room

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. Several of the banks display original signs outside and here can be seen the three crowns of Coutts at No.15, the crown and anchor of Nat West, the anchor of William and Glyn (now the Royal Bank of Scotland), the stone eagle of Barclays and the horse of Lloyds which dates from 1677

Barclays Bank

160 Piccadilly, W1

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

opening: banking hours

this 1922 building was originally a car show rooms before being transformed into a banking hall with red, black & gold interior

Grays Market

38 Davies Street, W1

020 7629 7034

transport: Bond Street u/g; buses 6,7,8,10,12,13,15,23, 73,94,98,113,137,139,159,189

facilities: *Victory Café for snacks*

opening: Mon-Fri 10.00-18.00

you will find coins being sold on this market

Castle pub

34 Cowcross Street, EC1

020 7553 7621

transport: Farringdon rail; buses 55,63,153

opening: Mon-Fri 11.30-23.00

a sign of three balls hangs outside this pub after King George IV granted rights as a pawnbroker to the publican after he was loaned money for a bet at a cockfight. A painting of the visit can be found inside

Michael von Clemm

15 Cabot Square, Isle of Dogs, E14

transport: Canary Wharf u/g & DLR, West India Quay DLR; buses 277,D3,D7,D8

a 1998 bronze bas-relief by Gerald Lang of the investment banker and pioneer of euromarkets, Michael von Clemm (1935-97)

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 oldest altar in the Abbey can be found in the Pyx Chamber, formerly used as the Royal Treasury (note the stout doors and locks). This room was originally the home of wooden boxes, 'Pyxes', in which samples of coinage were kept while awaiting the 'Trial of Pyx'. This 'Trial' was a public demonstration to show the purity of the coinage; samples were 'tried', that is melted down, to measure silver content. The tradition still takes place in the Goldsmiths Hall

Museum of London

150 London Wall, EC2Y

020 7600 0807

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

Celtic and Saxon coins are among the Museum's treasures. There is also a display of seven 'angels' - gold coins from the Tudor King Henry VIII's reign that show the archangel St Michael defeating the Devil

The Liffe Trader

south end of Walbrook, EC4

transport: Mansion House u/g, Cannon Street u/g & rail; buses 11,15,17,21,26,76,133,141,344,388

this 1997 bronze figure by Stephen Melton is of a futures trader with identification tags in his lapels, dealing slips poking from his pocket and shouting into a mobile phone. The right lapel tag has the name of the sculptor, the left the date of the work

Threadneedles, The City's Boutique Hotel

5 Threadneedle Street, EC2

020 7657 8080

transport: Bank u/g, Moorgate & Liverpool Street u/g & rail, Fenchurch Street rail; buses 8,11,21,26,35,47,48,76, 133,149,242,344

opening: restaurant Mon-Fri 19.00-22.30, bar Mon-Fri 11.00-23.00

this 1865 former banking hall with the original oak doors, marble columns and hand-painted glass dome is now a modern Eastern European restaurant called Bonds, part of the hotel

Financial World Bookshop

90 Bishopsgate, EC2

020 7444 7118

transport: Liverpool Street u/g & rail; buses 8,11,26,35, 42,47,48,78,100,133,149,214,242

opening: Mon-Fri 09.00-18.00

a specialist bookshop covering all aspects of finance and money

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 arrangement

here you can see some of the wooden boxes, 'Pyxes', in which samples of coinage were kept while awaiting the 'Trial of Pyx'. This 'Trial' was a public demonstration to show the purity of the coinage; samples were 'tried', that is melted down, to measure their silver content. The tradition still takes place in the Goldsmiths Hall in February each year. See entry under Westminster Abbey for the original Pyx Chamber

Christ Church, Southwark

27 Blackfriars Road, SE1
020 7928 4707

transport: Southwark u/g & DLR; buses 45,63,100
opening: telephone the above number for admission
modern stained glass windows (1957/59 and 1984/5) illustrate local life and trades since the church's founding in 1670. Others show changes in the last 25 years. One of the windows shows the Lloyds Bank building and their black horse symbol

St John Bread & Wine

94-96 Commercial Street, E1
020 7247 8724

transport: Aldgate East u/g; buses 15,25,67,253
this former banking hall is now a bakery and bar

Institute of Chartered Accountants

Moorgate Place, Great Swan Alley, Cophthall Avenue, EC2
transport: Bank & St Pauls u/g, Moorgate u/g & rail;
buses 8,56,76,100,133,242

this professional Institute has reliefs round its exterior walls depicting the arts, sciences and crafts. Moorgate Place show figures representing education, commerce, manufacturing, agriculture, mining and accountancy (on the corner, blindfolded with sword and scales). Great Swan Alley has railways, shipping and Indian colonies. A large frieze for building has sixteen craftsmen and thirty-two representations of architecture from the stone age to the present. A smaller one shows Egyptian architecture. Bays along the front have male and female figures of queens, muses, Mercury and demons. A relief of the Institute's Arms is supported by two male figures dressed in loincloths

All Saints, Carshalton

High Street, Carshalton, Surrey

transport: Carshalton Beeches rail

here you will find a monument to Sir John Fellowes, sub-governor of the South Sea Company. He was deeply involved in the South Sea Bubble incident in the early 18th century

Stephen Kalms Antiques

Vault 31/2 London Silver Vaults, 53/65 Chancery Lane, WC2
020 7430 1254

transport: Chancery Lane u/g; buses 8,17,25,45,46,242, 341

opening: Mon-Fri 09.00-17.30, Sat 09.00-13.00

this antique shops has candlesticks, candelabra, coins and medals

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