



Seeing the Capital Differently

Politics

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

politics are the activities and people associated with government

Trafalgar Square, WC2/SW1

transport: Charing Cross u/g & rail; buses 3,6,9,11,12, 13,15,23,24,29,53,77A,88,91,139,159,176; boat Embankment Pier

this famous square has recently been pedestrianised on the north side with a new staircase giving easy access to the National Gallery. The Square has long been the site in Central London for political demonstrations and rallies and is often the termination point for protest marches

Saddlers Company

Gutter Lane, EC2V 6BR
020 7726 8661 www.saddlersco.co.uk

transport: St Paul's u/g; buses 8,25,56,100,172,242

opening: by prior application to the Company

among the regalia of this City of London livery company is a painted ballot box of 1619 inlaid with the coat of arms of the East India Company

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

in this magnificent cathedral, a fitting venue for Royal events, you will find graves and memorials to politicians, empire builders and prime ministers including Lord Palmerston (1784-1865), George Canning (1770-1827), William Pitt the Elder (1708-78), William Pitt the Younger (1759-1806) and William Gladstone (1809-98)

Madame Tussauds

Marylebone Road, NW1
020 7935 6861 www.madame-tussauds.com

transport: Baker Street & Regent's Park u/g, Marylebone u/g & rail; buses 2,13,18,27,30,74,82,113,139,189,274

facilities: disabled access by prior arrangement but not into the Planetarium; café; shop

opening: June-mid-Sept daily 09.00-17.30; mid-Sept-May Mon-Fri 10.00-17.30, Sat-Sun 09.30-17.30 admission charge - advance booking advisable to avoid queues

one the most visited tourist sites in London this world famous waxworks has figures and tableaux featuring contemporary, rich and famous personalities - from entertainment, sport, royalty, history and politics

Houses of Parliament

Old Palace Yard, Abingdon Street, Westminster, SW1
020 7219 4272 (Commons), 020 7219 3107 (Lords)
www.explore.parliament.uk

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: Aug/Sept tours to be booked 5 days in advance (020 7344 9966)

opening: debates in House of Commons Mon-Wed 14.30-22.00, Thur 11.30-19.30, Fri 09.30-15.00; debates in House of Lords Mon-Wed from 14.30, Thurs from 15.00, Fri from 11.00

between the windows of the House of Lords you can see a statue of the 18 barons who witnessed the signing of Magna Carta by King John in 1215. The 'Great Charter' sought to prohibit arbitrary royal acts by declaring a body of defined law and custom which the king had to respect and follow. It formed the basis for the constitutional development of Britain and many other countries in St Stephen's Hall there are statues of leading statesmen and prime ministers such as Walpole, Chatham, Burke, Fox and Pitt

Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton

Victoria Tower Gardens, SW1

transport: Westminster u/g; buses 3,77A,88,C10; boat Westminster Millennium Pier

erected by his son Charles, this fountain commemorates the emancipation of slaves in 1834 and the anti-slavery campaigner, prison reformer and educationalist Thomas Buxton (1786-1845). A pillared structure with coloured mosaics and spire it has 8 statuettes of British rulers from Caratacus to Victoria. Originally in bronze by S S Teulon they were stolen and have now been replaced by fibreglass replicas. A statue of Buxton is in Westminster Abbey

Bertrand, 3rd Earl Russell

east side of Red Lion Square, WC1

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

this 1980 bust by Marcelle Quinton is of the philosopher, mathematician, lecturer and journalist, Bertrand Russell (1872-1970). Well known as a champion for nuclear disarmament he won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1950

Archibald Fenner, Baron Brockway of Eton and Slough

west side of Red Lion Square, WC1

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

Brockway (1888-1988) was a politician and militant pacifist. Imprisoned during the 1st World War he was a member of parliament between 1929 and 1931 and again between 1950 and 1964. He was the founder of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. This statue of 1985 by Ian Walters shows him standing with one arm raised and the other holding pamphlets

Major John Cartwright

Cartwright Gardens, WC1

transport: Russell Square u/g, Kings Cross/St Pancras & Euston u/g & rail; buses 10,30,59,68,73,91,168

a political reformer, Cartwright (1740-1824) wrote treatises advocating annual parliaments, ballots and manhood suffrage. Besides writing he worked on reforms in farming, the abolition of slavery, national defences and the liberty of Spain and Greece. The statue was erected in 1831 and is by George Clarke

Richard Cobden

Camden High Street, NW1

transport: Camden Town & Mornington Crescent u/g; buses 24,27,29,88,134,168,214,253,274,C2

this statue of 1868 commemorates the economist Richard Cobden (1804-65) who was known as 'the apostle

of free trade'. In 1838 he helped to found the Ant-Corn Law League and became a member of parliament in 1841

Mohandas Karamchand (Mahatma) Gandhi

centre of Tavistock Square, WC1

transport: Russell Square u/g, Kings Cross/St Pancras & Euston u/g & rail; buses 10,30,59,68,73,91,168

this statue of 1968 has Gandhi (1869-1948) sitting cross-legged. By Fredda Brilliant it celebrates the moral teacher, reformer and dedicated Indian patriot. Between 1888 and 1891 he studied law in Britain and then went to South Africa where he became a political campaigner. In 1914 he took an interest and became involved in Indian independence and repeatedly fasted and was jailed for non-cooperation and civil disobedience until 1944. Gandhi was assassinated in 1948

National Portrait Gallery

St Martin's Place, Trafalgar Square, WC2H
020 7312 2463 (recorded info) www.npg.org.uk

transport: Charing Cross u/g & rail; buses 3,6,9,11,12,13,15,23,24,29,53,77A,88,91,139,159,176; boat Embankment Pier

facilities: disabled access & wcs; guide for visually impaired; rooftop café & restaurant; free tours by arrangement

opening: Mon-Wed, Sat-Sun 10.00-18.00, Thur-Fri 10.00-21.00
admission free

there are several portraits here, by the famous portrait artist Kneller, of members of the Kit Kat Club. Founded in 1700 the Club existed to ensure that there would continue to be a Protestant succession at the end of King William III's reign. Several well-known political figures were members including the Duke of Marlborough, Walpole, Vanbrugh and Congreve. The Club continued until 1720

Robert Stephenson

forecourt of Euston Station, Euston Road, NW1

transport: Euston Square u/g, Euston u/g & rail; buses 10,18,30,59,68,73,91,168,253

a British civil engineer Stephenson (1803-59) was well-known for his designs for the Menai Straits Bridge in Wales (1957) and several other bridges. He became a member of parliament in 1847. This statue by Baron Carlo Marochetti was erected inside Euston Station in 1871 but can now be found in the station forecourt

John Wilkes

corner of Fetter Lane and New Fetter Lane, EC4

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

Wilkes (1727-97) was a journalist who became a member of parliament in 1757. He was imprisoned, released and expelled from parliament several times for libel but was regarded as an upholder of press freedom. He became Lord Mayor of London in 1774 and this statue by James Butler was erected in 1988

Thomas Power O'Connor

opposite old Daily Telegraph building, Fleet Street, EC4

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

another journalist - this time from Ireland - O'Connor (1848-1929) was a member of parliament from 1880-1929 where he actively supported Irish Home Rule. This bust of 1934 is by F Doyle-Jones

Robert Waithman

Salisbury Square, EC4

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

an obelisk of 1833 this time to celebrate Waithman (1764-1833) who was a member of parliament from 1818 to 1820 and 1826 to 1833. He was a good orator and served as Sheriff of London and Middlesex in 1820 and as Lord Mayor of London in 1823

Samuel Plimsoll

Victoria Embankment, WC2

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

this 1929 bronze bust of the Member of Parliament and social reformer (1824-1898) who campaigned for safety at sea is flanked by two supporters. A plaque shows a ship, sailors and the Plimsoll Line that is now found on all shipping to prevent overloading. It indicates the freeboard needed on a ship for safety. The bust is by Ferdinand V Blundstone

Sir Wilfrid Lawson

Victoria Embankment Gardens, SW1

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

a member of parliament between 1859 and 1865 Lawson (1829-1906) was a dedicated temperance leader and was from 1868-1900 Champion and President of the UK Alliance. He also supported the abolition of the House of Lords and disarmament. The statue dates from 1909

Samuel Pepys

Seething Lane, 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

this bust of 1983 by Karin Jonzen, was presented by the Samuel Pepys Memorial Trust and stands in a small garden on Seething Lane where Pepys (1633-1703) lived at one time. Well known as the diarist who recorded details of everyday London life including the Fire of London in 1666, he was also a naval administrator, Secretary to the Admiralty (1672-9, 1684-6) and President of the Royal Society (1684)

Politicos

8 Artillery Row, SW1

020 7828 0010

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

as the name suggests this bookshop is well-stocked with political works

Sir Robert Clayton

2 Lambeth Palace Road, SE1

transport: Lambeth North u/g, Waterloo u/g & rail; buses 3,77,344,C10

this is one of the examples in London of Grinling Gibbons' skill as a stone carver. The statue of 1702 is of Clayton (1629-1707) who was a Whig member of parliament, Lord Mayor of London and founder of the city bank Clayton, Morris and Co.

Nelson Mandela

riverside walkway between Hungerford Bridge and Royal Festival Hall, SE1

transport: Embankment u/g, Waterloo u/g & rail; buses 76,77,211,341,381; boat Festival Pier

the African nationalist leader and Nobel Prize winner Mandela (1918 -), is honoured in a statue by Ian Walters. In 1944 Mandela joined the African National Congress and directed a campaign of defiance against the South African government and its racist policies. He spent between 1964 and 1990 imprisoned and then became President of the African National Congress in 1991

George Lansbury

Serpentine Pavilion, Hyde Park, W2

transport: Hyde Park Corner & Knightsbridge u/g; buses 9,10,14,19,22,52,74,137,C1

Lansbury (1859-1940) became a member of parliament in 1910 but resigned two years later to support women's suffrage. He founded and edited the Daily Herald newspaper from 1912 to 1922 and then was re-elected to parliament. Between 1931 and 1935 he was leader of the Labour Party. This medallion of 1953 is by H Wilson Palmer

Grosvenor Chapel

24 South Audley Street, W1
020 7499 1684

Marble Arch, Hyde Park Corner, Bond Street & Green Park u/g; buses 2,8,9,10,14,16,19,22,36,38,73,74,82,137

opening: Mon-Fri 09.00-17.00, Sun for services

the politician and journalist John Wilkes (1727-97) was buried in the Chapel in a sealed vault. Unfortunately the exact location is not known

Church House

Dean's Yard, Parliament Square, SW1
020 7460 7500

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

on the side of this building there is a plaque noting that this was the scene of the preparatory conference of the United Nations in 1945

Red Lion pub

48 Parliament Street, SW1
020 7930 5826

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

facilities: meals and snacks lunchtime; restaurant

opening: Mon-Sat 11.00-23.00, Sun noon-19.00

a Division Bell in the bar is used to summon Members of Parliament to the House to vote. The bar walls display a variety of politically related prints and the silent televisions are permanently tuned to the BBC parliamentary channel

Bookmarks

1 Bloomsbury Street, WC1
020 7637 1848

transport: Tottenham Court Road u/g; buses 1,7,8,10,19, 24,25,29,38,55,73,98,134,242

opening: Mon noon-19.00, Tue-Fri 10.00-19.00, Sat 10.00-18.00

this bookshop's main stock is Socialist and Marxist literature and its main customer is the Trades Union Congress

Dr Salter's Daydream

Cherry Garden Pier, Bermondsey, SE16

transport: Bermondsey u/g; buses 47,188,381

this bronze statue of 1990 shows Alfred Salter (1873-1945), Quaker, local doctor and labour MP for Bermondsey, sitting on a bench and waving to his daughter who is leaning against the Thames Wall. Her cat sits on the wall. Both Dr Salter and his daughter worked to alleviate poverty and disease in the area. A plaque(2002) commemorating his work can be found in the ticket office of Bermondsey underground station - the station stands on the site of Dr. Salter's surgery

St George's Town Hall

Cable Street, Shadwell, E1

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

a mural on the exterior wall commemorates Oswald Mosley's Fascist Blackshirts' attempt to march down Cable Street in October 1936. The Facists planned to march through the East End but local inhabitants and left-wing parties were determined to stop them. Barricades were erected in Cable Street and fighting broke out. The march was eventually cancelled by the Home Office but during the next week all Jewish shops in Mile End Road had windows smashed

Sir William Walworth

25 Holborn Viaduct, EC4

transport: Chancery Lane u/g, Farringdon u/g & rail; buses 8,25,45,63,242

this statue shows Sir William Walworth, Prime Warden of the City of London Livery Company of Fishmongers and Mayor of London. In 1381 he killed Wat Tyler, the leader of the Kentish rebels during the Peasants revolt. The dagger used is displayed in the Fishmongers Hall on the north side of London Bridge

Linley Sambourne House

18 Stafford Terrace, W8

020 7602 3316 ext.205

www.rbkc.gov.uk/linleysambournehouse

transport: High Street Kensington u/g; buses 9,10,27, 28,49,328,C1

facilities: shop; tours

opening: Sat-Sun: guided tours only at 10.00, 11.15, 13.00, 14.14, 15.30. Pre-booking advisable

admission charge

the home of Edward Linley Sambourne - artist, book illustrator and political cartoonist for the Punch magazine. He died in 1910. This Victorian townhouse displays many of the cartoons of Sambourne and his contemporaries

St Anne's Tower

St Anne's Churchyard, Wardour Street, W1

transport: Piccadilly Circus & Leicester Square u/g; buses 14,19,38

2003 memorial to William Hazlitt (1778-1830) critic & political essayist. The epitaph comes from the original gravestone

London School of Economics & Political Science Library

10 Portugal Street, WC2

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 09.00-17.00

LSE Library was founded in 1896 as the British Library of Political Science. It has 90,000 pamphlets on political economic, social and international history and public affairs; 3000 e-journals; the largest collection in Britain of UK government and US federal government publications; and is a depository for all United Nations publications. Its archives cover British political, economic and social history, social anthropology and the history of philosophy incidentally the building is also noteworthy. Built by Foster and Partners behind the 1916 preserved shell is an impressive 2001 interior with central atrium, spiral staircase and partially-glazed dome

Sun Yat Sen

4 Warwick Court, WC1

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

a bronze relief portrait of the revolutionary leader Sun Yat Sen (1866-1925) is inscribed 'Father of the Chinese Revolution' and marks the house where he lived whilst in exile

Giuseppe Mazzini

10 Laystall Street, EC1

transport: Chancery Lane u/g; buses 19,38,55

a decorative bronze plaque of 1922 shows a sculptured relief bust of Mazzini (1805-72) and marks the house where he lived. Decorated with a laurel wreath and a symbolic device of clasped hands it commemorates the Italian nationalist who was a key figure in the resurgence movement. The inscription reads 'Dio Popolo Pensiero ... apostle of modern democracy. Inspired Young Italy with the ideal of the independence, unity and regeneration of his country'

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

in 2000 a black and white pebble mosaic was laid out on a pathway in the north east part of the park near to Marble Arch. This is the Reformers' Tree that commemorates the struggle for political enfranchisement in the 19th century. The inscription round the edge gives an explanation while pointer markers incorporated in the design direct the visitor to various parts of the park.

the original tree was burnt down in 1866 during the Reform League riots and the stump became a notice board for political demonstrations and a gathering point for meetings. In 1872 Speakers' Corner was designated for this purpose and has remained one of three places in London where public speaking is allowed (if you like to hear both speakers and hecklers on almost every imaginable subject then Sunday afternoon is best!) . A new Reformers' Tree was planted on the spot of the original tree by the Prime Minister James Callaghan in 1977

Freedom Book Shop

Angel Alley, 84B Whitechapel High Street, E1

transport: Aldgate East & Aldgate u/g; buses 15,40,42,67,78,100,115,205,254

opening: Mon-Fri 11.00-18.00, Sat 11.00-17.00

this bookshop sells left wing and anarchist literature. The alley in which it stands has a mural with portraits of prominent anarchists

Lambeth Bridge, SW1/SE1

transport: Lambeth North u/g, Victoria u/g & rail; buses 3,77,77A,344,C10

this bridge to the west of the Houses of Parliament is painted red to echo the colour of the House of Lords benches in Parliament while Westminster Bridge is painted green after the colour of the House of Commons benches

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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