



Seeing the Capital Differently

Porcelain & China

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

porcelain is fine earthenware, often white, thin and transparent

china is any article of porcelain - originally brought from China in the 16th century or an imitation of it

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
pottery from Central and South America, prehistory Europe, Near East, Africa, Japan; Islamic Iznik blue, green and red ceramics; china from China and Korea

Grocers Company

Princes Street, EC2R
020 7606 3113 www.grocershall.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

admission by prior application

this City of London livery company has a beautiful collection of china

Clothworkers Company

Dunster Court, Mincing Lane, EC3R
020 7623 7041 www.clothworkers.co.uk

transport: Tower Hill & Monument u/g, Tower Gateway DLR, Fenchurch Street rail; buses 8,15,35,40,47,48,149, 344

admission by prior application

cup, rose-water dish & ewer presented by Samuel Pepys when Master of the Company 1677-78

Croydon Clock Tower

Katharine Street, Croydon, Surrey, CR1
020 8253 1030 www.croydon.gov.uk/clocktower

transport: East & West Croydon rail, Tramlink George Street & Wellesley Road; buses to West Croydon bus station

facilities: restaurant; shop

opening: Mon-Sat 09.00-23.00, Sun noon-23.00

admission charge

collection includes over 200 pieces of Chinese pottery and porcelain dating from 2500BC to 19thC

Hampton Court Palace

East Molesey, Surrey, KT8
020 8781 9500 www.hrp.org.uk

transport: Hampton Court rail; buses 111,216,267,411, 416,726,R68; boat Hampton Court Pier; Green Line coach 718 from Victoria

facilities: audio guides in 6 languages; disabled access (wheelchairs available); disabled wcs; parking; Tiltyard Tearoom or Privy Kitchen Coffee Shop, ice cream kiosks; 4 themed shops (Base Court, Garden, Tudor Kitchen,

Barrack Block); costumed guides and family trails; free group tours (choose from daily programme)

opening: daily mid Mar-Oct Mon 10.15-18.00, Tue-Sun 09.30-18.00 (last admission 17.15); Nov-mid Mar Mon 10.15-16.30, Tue-Sun 09.30-16.30 (last admission 15.45) admission charge

there is a display of William and Mary Delftware and examples of Chinese and Japanese porcelain collected by Queen Mary II

Dr Johnson's House

17 Gough Square, EC4
020 7353 3745

transport: Chancery Lane u/g, Blackfriars u/g & rail, City Thameslink rail; buses 8,11,15,25,26,45,63,76,100,172, 341

facilities: sales desk, tours by arrangement

opening: Mon-Sat May-Sept 11.00-17.30, Oct-Apr 11.00-17.00

admission charge

china tea caddy, dish and saucer that belonged to the artist, Sir Joshua Reynolds

Percival David Foundation of Chinese Art

53 Gordon Square, WC1H
020 7387 3909

transport: Goodge Street, Euston Square & Russell Square u/g, Euston u/g & rail; buses 10,24,29,59,68,73, 91,134,168

facilities: library by application; sales desk; tours by arrangement

opening: Mon-Fri 10.30-17.00

admission free

1400 pieces of Chinese ceramics and porcelain collected & bequeathed by Sir Perceval David in 1950. The collection exists to promote the appreciation, study and teaching of the art and culture of China and the surrounding regions

Regimental Museum of the Royal Fusiliers

Tower of London, Tower Hill, EC3N
020 7709 0765

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

facilities: sales desk

opening: daily Apr-Oct 10.00-17.30, Nov-Mar 10.00-16.45

admission charge

includes collection of china relating to the Royal Fusiliers

Mander and Mitchenson Theatre Collection

The Mansion, Beckenham Place Park, Beckenham, Kent, BR3

020 8658 7725 www.mander-and-mitchenson.co.uk

transport: Beckenham Junction, Ravensbourne & Beckenham Hill rail, Croydon Tramlink; buses 54,162, 227,367

opening: Mon-Fri 10.00-16.00 by prior application admission free

over 500 pieces of ceramics relating to the theatre (plates, jugs, tiles) and Staffordshire & porcelain figurines

Thomas Goode and Co

19 South Audley Street, W1
020 7499 2823 www.thomasgoode.co.uk

transport: Bond Street & Hyde Park Corner u/g; buses 2, 10,16,36,73,74,82,137

this china shop, established in 1827, designs and manufactures fine bone china and claims to be the largest in the world. It has a small museum with cabinets displaying pieces made for the world's royal families while the walls are decorated with original William Goode designs that were taken to the Imperial Court of Russia in 1878.

two 7ft tall richly decorated china elephants in the window were made by Minton and shown at the Paris Exhibition of 1889. Regrettably they are not for sale. There is also a fine bone china dolls house dining service dated 1920

Hope and Glory

131A Kensington Church Street, W8
020 7727 8424

transport: Notting Hill Gate & High Street Kensington u/g; buses 9,10,12,27,28,49,52,70,94,328

opening: Mon-Sat

a shop selling commemorative china and glass from 1887 to the present

Nag's Head pub

53 Kinnerton Street, SW1
020 7235 1135

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

facilities: meals & snacks lunchtime & evening

opening: Mon-Sat 11.00-23.00, Sun noon-22.30

this pub has Chelsea china beer pulls behind the bar

Fox and Grapes pub

Camp Road, Wimbledon Common, SW19

transport: Wimbledon u/g & rail; bus 200

facilities: meals & snacks lunchtime & evening

opening: all permitted hours

attractive display of china in niches throughout the pub

Radio Days

87 Lower Marsh Street, SE1
020 7928 0800

transport: Lambeth North u/g, Waterloo u/g & rail; buses 12,53,59,76,77,159,211,341,381

opening: Mon-Fri 10.30-17.00, Sat 11.00-16.00

a fascinating shop selling vintage clothing (1920 to 1960), posters, sheet music, vintage magazines & radios, jukeboxes and china bric-a-brac from 1920s to 1950s

Gilbert Collection

Somerset House, Strand, WC2R
020 7420 9400 www.somerset-house.org.uk

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

facilities: Summer Café and bar/restaurant; 3 gift and book shops

opening: Mon-Sat 10.00-18.00, Sun noon-18.00 (last admission 17.15)
admission charge

collection includes 13 heavy silver dinner plates with rococo borders from 1815. They were part of the collection of Arthur Gilbert

Engineers Company

Wax Chandlers' Hall, Gresham Street, EC2V
020 7726 4830 www.engineerscompany.org.uk

transport: St Paul's & Bank u/g, Moorgate u/g & rail; buses 8,56,76,100,133,242

opening: occasional open days - telephone the number above to check details

this City of London Livery Company has a Victorian china loving cup and tea service in its collection

Ranger's House

Chesterfield Walk, Blackheath, SE10
020 8853 0035
www.greenwichletting.co.uk/rangershouse.html

transport: Cutty Sark DLR, Blackheath & Maze Hull rail; buses 53,54,202,380

facilities: disabled access with chairlift to 1st floor; disabled wcs; limited parking; shop; tours by appointment

opening: daily Apr-Sept 10.00-18.00 or dusk; Wed-Sun Oct-Mar 10.00-16.00

the House now houses the interesting collection of Sir Julius Werner, a diamond millionaire & philanthropist (1850-1912). Among the 650 pieces are jewels, paintings, ivories, ceramics (including Maiolica ware), silverware, bronzes, porcelain, furniture and tapestries

Fenton House

Windmill Hill, Hampstead Grove, Hampstead, NW3
020 7435 3471 (office), 01494 755563 (infoline)
www.nationaltrust.org.uk

transport: Hampstead u/g, Hampstead Heath rail; buses 46,268

facilities: disabled access to ground floor only

opening: Mar Sat-Sun 14.00-17.00, Apr-Oct Wed-Fri 14.00-17.00, Sat-Sun 11.00-17.00 (last admission 30 mins before closing)
admission charge

the private home of Lady Katherine Binning between 1936 and 1956 bequeathed to the National Trust. She inherited furniture, pictures and 18th century porcelain from her uncle, the collector George Salting and continued adding to the collection. There is porcelain from Chelsea, Bow, Worcester, Bristol and Plymouth factories and from four German manufacturers. There are also some interesting blue and white Chinese porcelain and Staffordshire figurines

All Hallows By the Tower and Undercroft

Byward Street, Tower Hill, EC3R
020 7481 2928 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

two porcelain relief plates show the Virgin & Child and angels, and the visitation of angels to Mary

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. Many of the items on display were collected by the Duke and there are good examples of painted Meissen, 1819 Prussian, Saxon and Austrian porcelain.

there is also a Sevres Egyptian service originally made for Empress Josephine by Napoleon as a divorce present but she rejected it. It was then presented to Wellington by King Louis XVIII in 1818. Another 400 piece Sevres dinner service is decorated with scenes of Wellington's life and was presented by the King of Prussia. Further pieces are painted with topographical views showing Robert Adam's ideas for Apsley House

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

among the lovely items in this royal home are china services from Sevres, Meissen, Copenhagen, Naples, Rockingham and Worcester. There is also a collection of Chinese porcelain in the King's Drawing Room

Ye Grapes pub

16 Shepherd Market, W1
020 7499 1563

transport: Green Park u/g; buses 8,9,14,19,22,38
facilities: *meals and snacks lunchtime & evening*

opening: all permitted hours

this pub has a collection of porcelain figurines

Meissen of Kensington

81 Walton Street, Kensington, SW3
020 7589 0128 www.meissen-porcelain.co.uk

transport: South Kensington & Knightsbridge u/g; buses 14,49,74,345,C1

this specialist china shop stocks Meissen porcelain. It also offers a mail order service

White Hart pub

89 Whitechapel High Street, E1
020 7247 1546

transport: Aldgate East u/g; buses 25,253

opening: all permitted hours

in this pub you will find a collection of china plates

Agnes Wilton (shop)

3 Camden Passage, N1
020 7226 5679

transport: Angel u/g; buses 4,19,30,38,43,56,73,153,274,341

if you collect Staffordshire figurines from the 18th to 20th century then this shop is worth a visit

Japanese Gallery

23 Camden Passage, N1
020 7226 3347

transport: Angel u/g; buses 4,19,30,38,43,56,73,153,274,341

opening: Mon-Sat 10.00-18.00

among the Japanese antiques for sale here in this shop are dolls, porcelain, woodcut prints and art of all types

Sekmet Galleries

47 Camden Passage, N1
020 7354 2308

transport: Angel u/g; buses 4,19,30,38,43,56,73,153,274,341

an antique shop specialising in Georgian and Victorian items especially porcelain

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

this famous palace serves as the office and official home of Her Majesty the Queen. Its 19 staterooms, which form a backdrop to the pageantry of court ceremonial and official entertaining, are open to the public during August and September. Amongst its priceless treasures is porcelain from Bow; a table made for Napoleon from Sevres porcelain (in the Blue Drawing Room); a Sevres vase in the shape of a boat that belonged to Madame de Pompadour (in the Green Drawing Room); a punch bowl of blue and white Lambeth delftware that belonged to the artist William Hogarth

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: *limited disabled access to Dress Collection & The Orangery only; multi-language audio guides; refreshments in The Orangery - morning coffee, light lunches & afternoon tea (Mar-Oct 10.00-18.00, Nov-Feb 10.00-17.00); jewellery, china & souvenirs shop (Mar-Oct 10.00-18.00, Nov-Feb 10.00-17.00 (Suns opens at 09.30)); tours*

opening: daily Mar-Oct 10.00-18.00 (last admission 17.00); Nov-Feb 10.00-17.00 (last admission 16.00)
admission charge

another royal palace with a collection of 17th and 18th century Oriental porcelain in Queen Mary's Drawing Room and 17th and 18th century Chinese in Queen Mary's Dining Room

Jewish Museum - Camden Town

129-131 Albert Street, Camden, NW1
020 7284 1997 www.jewishmuseum.org

transport: Camden Town u/g; buses 24,27,29,31,88,134,168,214,253,274,C2

facilities: *audio guide; disabled access & wcs; refreshments; shop selling books; souvenirs & replicas; group tours by arrangement*

opening: Mon, Thur 10.00-16.00, Sun 10.00-17.00;
closed Bank Holidays & Jewish Festivals
admission charge

this museum covers the history and culture of the Jews especially the community in London and the Jewish

religion. An unusual set of painted porcelain figures illustrate the sights and character of the rag trader. Made by Bow, Minton, Derby and Rockingham factories

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

this Museum traces the fascinating story of London from prehistoric times to the end of World War 1. It is the largest, most comprehensive city museum in the world. Amongst its collection is a set of 1760 porcelain figures including the soldier, General Wolfe (1727-59)

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

in this fascinating museum that looks at the development of Britain's might as a sea power there is a collection of decorated memorabilia (including china) of Admiral Lord Nelson's military campaigns

Newham Museum Service

Romford Road, Manor Park, E12
020 8514 0274

transport: Manor Park & Woodgrange Park rail; buses 25,86,101,104

facilities: disabled access to ground floor; sales desk

opening: Tue 10.00-17.00, Thur noon-20.00, Fri-Sat 10.00-17.00
admission free

here in this small local museum you can find a collection of Bow porcelain

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

the Dressing Room has a display of 18th century Chinese porcelain

Queen's Gallery

Buckingham Palace Road, SW1A
020 7839 1377 www.royalresidences.com

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

facilities: no access for wheelchairs; sales desk; group tours in evenings by arrangement

opening: daily 10.00-17.30 (last admission 17.00) entry by timed ticket
admission charge

among the items of china and porcelain displayed here are Chinese pagodas for holding flowers, a porcelain sunflower clock of 1752 and items made at the world famous Worcester factory

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, small charge)

opening: Tue-Sat 10.00-17.00. 1st Tues of every month 18.00-21.00 when parts lit by candle
admission free except for tours

this museum was the home of the architect Sir John Soane (1753-1837) who designed the house not just to live in but also to provide a setting for his extraordinary collection of antiquities and works of art. Among the items in this extraordinary collection is a Nankin Chinese dinner service of 200-300 pieces

Victoria and Albert Museum

Cromwell Road, SW7
020 7942 2000/0870 442 0808 24hr information
www.vam.ac.uk

transport: South Kensington u/g; buses 14,49,70,74,345, C1

facilities: disabled access and wcs; library; café and restaurant; shop; tours

opening: daily 10.00-17.45, Wed 10.00-22.00
admission free

Britain's National Museum of Art and Design has the best collection of British china and porcelain in the world and includes the Screiber Collection and lovely examples of Chelsea, Minton, Wedgwood, Worcester, Royal Doulton, Susie Cooper, Bow, Derby and Staffordshire

there is also white porcelain from the Tang Period (618-906) in China; examples of the goods made by Chinese manufacturers for European markets (the Gerard Godfrey Gallery of Chinese Export Art); a lifesize porcelain Goat of Kaendler; items illustrating the development of the European china industry from the Renaissance to the 18th century including the Meissen and Sevres factories; pieces from the Far East especially Japan. There are many more lovely pieces in the different galleries of the museum so allow plenty of time for a visit

Wallace Collection

Hertford House, Manchester Square, W1M
020 7563 9500 www.the-wallace-collection.org.uk

transport: Bond Street u/g; buses 2,13,30,74,82,113, 139,189,274

facilities: disabled access; library; shop; tours

opening: Mon-Sat 10.00-17.00, Sun noon-17.00
admission free

this collection is considered one of the best in the world for French 18th century paintings, porcelain and furniture. Here you will find Limoges, Vincennes and Sevres pieces. The Sevres is the finest museum collection in the world. There is also a pair of Meissen ewers and cups. Other pairs can be found in Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle & Waddesdon Manor

The Doll Makers Studio

17 Station Road, Chingford, E4
020 8523 9293

transport: Chingford rail; buses 97,179,212,313,379,444
facilities: holds doll making courses (ring number above for information)

opening: Tue-Sat 10.00-17.00

something slightly different - this studio makes, for sale, modern and reproduction porcelain dolls

Garrard and Co

112 Regent Street, W1
020 7734 7020

transport: Oxford Circus & Piccadilly Circus u/g; buses 3,6, 9,12,13,14,15,19,22,23,38,53,88,94,139,159

this shop has been selling beautiful porcelain and china since 1735

Frogmore House

Windsor Great Park, Windsor, Berkshire
01753 743900 Visitor Office, Windsor Castle

transport: Windsor rail, Green Line coach from Victoria
facilities: pre-booked private tours for groups Tue, Wed, Thur Aug-Sept (enquiries 01753 869898); no children under 8 and not suitable for wheelchairs

opening: 3 days in May and few days in Aug (enquire 020 7799 2331) 10.00-18.00

admission charge

this 1680 house was converted into a royal residence in the 1790s and was a great favourite of King George III and Queen Charlotte as it lies in the private Home Park of Windsor Castle. Among its treasures is a collection of porcelain hand painted by Princess Charlotte, the daughter of King George III

Alexandra Alfandary

9 The Mall, 359 Upper Street, N1
020 7354 9762 www.alfandaryantiques.com

transport: Angel u/g; buses 4,19,30,38,43,56,73,341, 476

opening: Wed 08.30-17.00, Sat 10.00-17.00, or by appointment

a shop selling Meissen and other European porcelain

Solveig and Anita Gray Antiques

Grays Antique Market, 58 Davies Street, W1
020 7408 1638

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

here you can buy antique Chinese and Japanese porcelain and works of art

Further Afield

National Railway Museum

Leeman Road, York, YO26
01904 621261 www.nrm.org.uk

opening: daily 10.00-18.00

admission free

this national collection tells the railway story from the Rocket to Eurostar including the ways in which Royalty travelled - the 'Palaces on Wheels'. It has 103 locomotives and 177 other items of rolling stock, 3300 models, 300

nameplates, 6500 items of silver and china, tickets, photographs, engineering drawings, posters and art. The Reference Library and Archive are open Monday to Friday by appointment

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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