



*Seeing the Capital Differently*

## Prisons

### 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

## St Martin-in-the-Fields

St Martin's Place, Trafalgar Square, WC2  
020 7766 1100 [www.stmartin-in-the-fields.org](http://www.stmartin-in-the-fields.org)

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: *café in crypt (Mon-Sat 10.00-20.00, Sun noon-20.00); shop*

opening: daily church from 08.00; crypt Mon-Sat 10.00-20.00, Sun noon-18.00; brassrubbing Mon-Sat 10.00-18.00, Sun noon-18.00 (charge for materials)  
admission free

*a memorial to those men who were prisoners of war in the Far East incorporates sleepers from the notorious Burma-Siam railway. It can be found in the Crypt.*

*the railway was a Japanese project built by Commonwealth, Dutch and American prisoners-of-war during 1942-3. It was 264 miles (425 kms) long and 13,000 men died during its construction*

## Clink Prison Museum

1 Clink Street, SE1  
020 7378 1558 [www.clink.co.uk/intro.html](http://www.clink.co.uk/intro.html)

transport: London Bridge u/g & rail; buses 21,35,40,43, 47,48,133,149,343,344,381

facilities: *disabled access & wcs, guided tours*

opening: daily 10.00-18.00  
admission charge

*this museum stands on the site of the Clink Prison in use until 1780 when it was burnt to the ground during the Gordon Riots. It was used to house prostitutes, religious dissenters and debtors and the exhibition illustrates the history of the prison and the Liberty of the Clink (the surrounding area). Displays include examples of the various types of punishment used*

## Hampton Court Palace

East Molesey, Surrey, KT8  
020 8781 9500 [www.hrp.org.uk](http://www.hrp.org.uk)

transport: Richmond u/g, Hampton Court rail; buses 111, 216,411,416,461,513,727,R68; boat Hampton Court Pier

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

*this former Royal palace was the prison of King Charles I in 1647 after he was taken captive by Oliver Cromwell during the English Civil War*

## London Dungeon

28-34 Tooley Street, SE1  
020 7403 7221/inf line 09001 600 066  
[www.thedungeons.com](http://www.thedungeons.com)

transport: Monument u/g, London Bridge u/g & rail; buses 17,21,35,40,43,47,48,133,344,381; boat London Bridge City Pier

facilities: *disabled access & wcs, snacks, tours*

opening: daily Apr-Oct 10.00-17.30, later nights in July & Aug; Nov-Mar 10.00-17.00  
admission charge

*a gruesome yet fascinating museum that looks at scenes of death from disease, torture, execution and early surgery using waxwork tableaux and working models.*

*Included is a reconstruction of the gallows at Tyburn, life in Newgate Prison and the murders of Jack the Ripper. Definitely not for the squeamish or very young children*

## Museum of London

150 London Wall, EC2Y  
020 7600 0807 [www.museumoflondon.org.uk](http://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 largest, most comprehensive city museum in the world, its collection traces the fascinating story of London from prehistoric times to the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> World War. There is a reconstruction of the 18<sup>th</sup> century cells of Newgate Gaol and the doors from the original gaol are preserved*

## Vestry House Museum

Vestry Road, Walthamstow, E17  
020 8509 1917  
[www.lbwf.gov.uk/leisure/intro/vestry\\_intro.stm](http://www.lbwf.gov.uk/leisure/intro/vestry_intro.stm)

transport: Walthamstow Central u/g & rail; buses W12, W16

facilities: *disabled access by prior arrangement; library; sales desk; tours by arrangement*

opening: Mon-Fri 10.00-13.00, 14.00-17.30; Sat 10.00-13.00, 14.00-17.00  
admission free

*here you can see the old 1840s prisoner's cell recalling the use of Vestry House as a local police station*

## William Morris Gallery

Lloyd Park, Forest Road, Walthamstow, E17  
020 8527 3782 [www.lbwf.gov.uk/wmg](http://www.lbwf.gov.uk/wmg)

transport: Walthamstow Central u/g & rail; buses 123, 212,275

facilities: *disabled access to ground floor only; library; refreshments; sales desk; tours by arrangement*

opening: Tue-Sat and the first Sun in the month 10.00-3.00,14.00-17.00  
admission free

*one of the watercolours in this interesting collection created by the artist, craftsman and poet, William Morris (1834-1896) is 'Jacopo Foscari in Prison' by Ford Madox Brown*

## Temple Church

Inner Temple, King's Bench Walk, EC4  
020 7353 8559

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: 10.00-16.00

*Knights Templars belonged to a religious-military order founded in 1130 chiefly to protect pilgrims in the Holy Lands. They were subject to monastic vows and here in this church disobedient Knights Templar were confined in a 'Penitential' cell below the choir. It is less than 5ft (1.5m) long!*

## Central Criminal Court (Old Bailey)

Old Bailey, EC4  
020 7248 3277

transport: St Paul's u/g, Blackfriars u/g & rail, City Thameslink rail; buses 8,11,15,25,26,56,76,100,172,242  
opening: Mon-Fri 10.30-13.00, 14.00-16.00 (noone under the age of 14 years)  
admission free

*standing partly on the site of Newgate Prison this court was built in 1902 to hear criminal court cases and is open to the public. There is a 1910 statue of the prison reformer, Elizabeth Fry (1780-1845) in the main foyer dressed in Quaker fashion with muslin bonnet. Relief round the statue shows scenes of her with female prisoners in Newgate Pirosn*

## Houses of Parliament

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

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

*in the Victoria Tower is a small prison in which the British suffragette, Emmeline Pankhurst was detained in 1902. She was arrested on several occasions after using violence while fighting for women's rights and sometimes ended her protests by going on hunger strike*

## Viaduct Tavern

126 Newgate Street, EC1  
020 7606 8476

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

*the cellar of this pub has remains of the cells of Newgate Prison which was demolished in 1902*

## Emmeline Pankhurst

Victoria Tower Gardens, SW1

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

*a statue of 1930 by Arthur George Walker commemorates the leader of the women's suffrage movement. Mrs Pankhurst (1857-1928) was frequently arrested and imprisoned for her beliefs. On one side of the statue is a bronze medallion (added 1959) of her daughter, Dame Christabel Pankhurst (1880-1958), also a suffragette. On the other side another plaque shows the badge of WSPU (Women's Social Political Union) prisoners 1905-14*

## Suffragette Fellowship

Christchurch Gardens, Victoria Street, SW1

transport: Westminster & St James's Park u/g; buses 11, 24,88,211

*an upright bronze scroll erected in 1970 and by Edwin Russell is inscribed with the symbol of WSPU (Women's Social Political Union) prisoners (1905-14) and the words 'to commemorate the courage & perserverance of all those men & women who, in the long struggle for votes for women, selflessly braved derision, opposition & ostracism, many enduring physical violence and suffering'*

## Millbank Prison Transportation Bollard

Millbank, SW1

transport: Pimlico u/g & Vauxhall u/g & rail; buses 2,36, 77A,88,185,C10

*this bollard was used for tying up the barges used to take prisoners to boats at London Bridge for transportation to Australia between 1788 and 1840*

## Elizabeth Fry

Wormwood Scrubs Prison, Du Cane Road, W12

transport: East Acton u/g; buses 7,70,72,272,283

*a medallion on the entrance to the prison commemorates the Quaker prison reformer, Elizabeth Fry (1780-1845), who devoted her life to prison reform both at home and abroad*

## John Howard

Wormwood Schrubs Prison, Du Cane Road, W12

transport: East Acton u/g; buses 7,70,72,272,283

*another medallion dated 1874 - also on the entrance to the prison. This time to John Howard (1726-90). After spending some time in a French prison he devoted himself to investigating the condition of prisons in Britain. His investigations led to the passing of two Acts, one providing fixed salaries for jailers and the other enforcing cleanliness in prisons. The Howard League for Penal Reform, founded in 1866, is named after him*

## St Sepulchre-without-Newgate

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

*this was the nearest church to Newgate prison where prisoners were kept before being hanged. The Old Bailey Law Courts now stand on the site of the prison*

*at one time the condemned were hung outside the prison but during the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries they left from outside the church in a wagon to be taken to the gallows at Tyburn (at the west end of Oxford Street). The church sexton was able to go direct to the prison by an underground passage from the church to pray for the prisoners. In the church you can see a handbell that was tolled outside the condemned cell on the eve of execution. While it tolled the Newgate verse was recited:*

*all you that in the condemned hole do lie  
prepare you for tomorrow you shall die  
watch all and pray the hour is drawing near  
that you before the Almighty must appear  
examine well yourselves in time repent  
that you may not to eternal flames be sent  
and when St Sepulchre's bell in the morning tolls  
the Lord above have mercy on your souls  
Past twelve o'clock*

*the St Sepulchre's bell referred to is one of the twelve working bells in the tower. Known as 'The Great Bell of Old Bailey' it tolled the condemned to the scaffold at 08.00 precisely. It is remembered in the nursery rhyme 'Oranges and Lemons'*

## Tower of London

Tower Hill, EC3

020 7709 0765

www.hrp.org.uk

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

opening: Mar-Oct Mon-Sat 09.00-17.00, Sun 10.00-17.00; Nov-Feb Tue-Sat 09.00-16.00, Sun-Mon 10.00-16.00

admission charge

*this medieval fortress is famous as a prison and place of execution but it was also used as a royal residence, an armoury, the mint, a menagerie, an observatory and a place for safe keeping both of people and objects such as the Crown Jewels*

*the Traitors' Gate brought prisoners into the Tower after their journey by boat from the Courts held at Westminster Hall. The first prisoner kept in the Tower was the Bishop of Durham in 1101 and many famous people followed him including Sir Thomas More (1478-1535) Chancellor to King Henry VIII, two wives of Henry VIII (Anne Boleyn and Catherine Howard) and Sir Walter Raleigh (1552-1618) who was imprisoned in the Bloody Tower on three different occasions (1592, 1603-16 and 1618)*

*another tower, Beauchamp, was also used as a prison and has graffiti left by prisoners on the walls*

### **St George the Martyr, Southwark**

Borough High Street, SE1

transport: Borough u/g; buses 21,35,40,133,343, 344

facilities: induction loop, guide book

opening: Wed noon-13.30, Thur noon-14.00, Sun 10.00-16.00

*in a small garden behind the church you will find part of the wall of the Marshalsea Debtors' Prison. It was in that prison that Charles Dicken's father was imprisoned for six months in 1824 and which provided Dickens some of the background for his writings*

### **St James's Clerkenwell**

Clerkenwell Green, Clerkenwell, EC1

020 7251 1190

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

opening: Mon-Fri 11.00-15.00

*this church has a memorial to the victims of Irish Fenians (forerunners of the IRA) who attempted to free prisoners from Clerkenwell Prison in 1867. Noone was freed but the exploit left 15 people dead and 40 injured*

### **Cannon Hall**

Cannon Place, Cannon Lane, Hampstead, NW3

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

*this listed hall was previously a court room and the building in the east wall of the grounds was the parish lockup - built in 1730 and used until the 1830s.*

### **Windsor Castle**

Windsor, Berks, SL4

01753 831118 [www.the-royal-collection.org.uk](http://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

*this Royal Palace in constant use by the Royal Family, has a Round Tower constructed in 1170 that has at various times been used as a prison*

### **Anchor pub**

34 Park Street, Bankside, SE1

020 7407 1577

transport: Southwark & Mansion House u/g, London Bridge & Blackfriars u/g & rail; buses 344,381; boat Bankside Pier

facilities: meals & snacks lunch

opening: all permitted hours

*this pub has, in one of its bars, artefacts associated with the nearby Clink prison - truncheons, manacles etc.*

### **Wood Street, EC2**

transport: Bank & St Paul's u/g; buses 8,11,26,76,100, 172,242

*here, in Mitre Court, you will find the Wood Street Comptor - a former prison now used to store wine*

### **Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre**

Broad Sanctuary, SW1

020 7222 5000

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

*the stone gateway resited at the side of the Conference Centre in 1969 is all that remains of the 17<sup>th</sup> century Westminster House of Correction or Bridewell, later known as Tothill Fields Prison*

### **Elizabeth Fry**

High Street South, East Ham, E6

transport: East Ham u/g; buses 58,101,104,115,300,474

*this bust of 1903 by H A Pegram is another memorial to the Quaker prison reformer (1780-1845), who devoted her life to prison reform*

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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