



Seeing the Capital Differently

Railways

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

St Martin-in-the-Fields

St Martin's Place, Trafalgar Square, WC2
020 7766 1100 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

Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood

Cambridge Heath Road, E2
020 8983 5200 www.museumofchildhood.org.uk

transport: Bethnal Green u/g, Cambridge Heath rail; buses 8,106,253,309,D3,D6

facilities: *limited disabled access; library; parking; refreshments; shop; tours by arrangement*

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

one of largest collections in the world devoted entirely to the history of children and all aspects of childhood especially toys. Displayed in a wrought-iron building that was originally at the Victoria and Albert Museum in South Kensington it was established on this site in the 1860s. Among the many exhibits are toy trains and railway models

Docklands Light Rail

020 7363 9700 www.dlr.co.uk

opened in 1987 the DLR uses automatic driverless trains. It runs mainly above ground from Bank or Tower Gateway stations to the Isle of Dogs and either across the River Thames to Greenwich and Lewisham, or further east to Stratford and Beckton. An extension serving City Airport is now open. Take a trip on it for good views of the East End of London and Docklands

British Library

96 Euston Road, NW1
020 7412 7332 www.bl.uk

transport: King's Cross/St Pancras & Euston u/g & rail; buses 10,20,73,91

facilities: *Acousta guides; disabled access & wcs; refreshments; shop; tours (Mon, Wed, Fri, Sun 15.00; Sat 10.30 & 15.00)*

opening: daily Mon,Wed-Fri 09.30-18.00, Tues 09.30-20.00, Sat 09.30-17.00, Sun 11.00-17.00

admission free to Exhibition Galleries, reader's pass required for reading rooms. Charge for tours

the philately collection of this National Library includes the Turner Collection of railway letter stamps

Science Museum

Exhibition Road, SW7
020 7942 4455 www.sciencemuseum.org.uk

transport: South Kensington u/g; buses 9,10,14,45,49,52,74,C1

facilities: *disabled access (helpline 020 7942 4446) & wcs; library; refreshments; shop*

opening: daily 10.00-18.00
admission free

one part of the collection outlines the evolution of transport technology including the development of land

vehicles and the carriage of goods & passengers since 1750. The majority of items about railways have been moved to the National Railway Museum in York but the London museum still displays steam trains such as Puffing Billy (1813) and the Rocket (1829)

Robert Stephenson

Euston Station forecourt, Euston Road, NW1

transport: King's Cross/St Pancras & Euston u/g & rail; buses 10,20,73,91

this civil engineer (1803-59), known mainly for his railway bridges, is commemorated by a statue of 1871 by Baron Carlo Marochetti. It was originally erected inside Euston Station but was moved to the forecourt in 1968

Isambard Kingdom Brunel

Paddington Station, Praed Street, W2

transport: Paddington u/g & rail; buses 1,7,15,23,27,36

a statue of 1982 by John Doubleday shows Brunel seated holding his top hat. Brunel (1806-59) was a well-known engineer, building suspension bridges, steamships (including the SS Great Britain and SS Great Eastern) and docks. He was also engineer to the Great Western Railway, hence the statue at Paddington Station, the London terminus of the GWR

Isambard Kingdom Brunel

corner of Temple Place, 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

another statue of Brunel erected in 1977 shows him holding quill pen and dividers. He and his father Marc Isambard Brunel, were responsible for the construction of the Thames Tunnel from Rotherhithe to Wapping. The world's first underwater tunnel constructed between 1825 and 1843 it was used as a foot tunnel until the 1860s when it was converted into a railway tunnel. It is now used by the East London line underground railway. You will find Wapping Station platforms have drawings of the original Thames Tunnel along with archive illustrations of the station

Brixton Station passengers, SW9

transport: Brixton u/g & rail; buses 2,3,35,37,45,59,109,118,133,159,196,250,322,345,355,P4,P5

this National Rail station has some unusual passengers who never get fed up waiting for a train - these statues of figures, poised on the platform as if the train is just arriving, were erected in 1986 and are by Kevin Atherton

Camden Lock, NW1

transport: Camden Town u/g, Camden Road rail; buses 24,27,31,168

opening: Sat-Sun 09.00-18.00

the Camden Catacombs were used in the 19th century for stabling the pit ponies that shunted railway wagons. Nearby where the railway crosses the Regent's Canal you may be able to see ramps under the water. These were built shortly after the railway was opened to allow a barge horse to be rescued from the canal when it had bolted and plunged in when frightened by a steam train. A plaque provides an explanation

Waterloo Station, SE1

transport: Waterloo u/g & rail; buses 1,26,59,68,76,77,168,171,172,176,188,211,211,341,381

this mainline station is a mixture of architecture - part Edwardian (the façade) and part modern (Waterloo International for highspeed Eurostar trains to Paris and Brussels)

Marylebone Station, NW1

transport: Marylebone u/g & rail; buses 2,13,18,27,30,74,82,113,139,189,274

the last mainline terminus to be built in London this is an 1899 Victorian station built for the Great Central Railway (GCR). These initials can be seen throughout the station in the wrought-iron work

St Pancras Station

Euston Road, NW1

transport: King's Cross/St Pancras & Euston u/g & rail; buses 10,17,30,45,46,63,73,91,214,259

another glass and iron monument to Victorian engineering built for the Midlands Railway, this station spans 240ft and is 100ft above the rails at its apex. When completed it was the largest train shed in the world. The capitals of the supporting columns have the railway motif, dragons (also above the main entrance and the window to the right of the Booking Office) and bearded railwaymen (one holding a model train). The platforms had to be raised above the level of Euston Road because the railway needed to cross the Regent's Canal just to the north. The adjoining former Midland Grand Hotel is a wonderful example of ornate high Gothic architecture

Canary Wharf

Isle of Dogs, E14

www.canarywharf.com

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

the Dockland Light Rail and Jubilee Line stations round Canary Wharf are modern wonders of steel and glass. If you like modern railway architecture then seeing these is a must

Paddington Station

Praed Street, W2

transport: Paddington u/g & rail; buses 1,7,15,23,27,36
constructed by Isambard Kingdom Brunel as the terminus of the Great Western Railway, Paddington is one of the world's earliest stations (1851). It is a triple roof construction of wrought-iron and glass supported on cast-iron pillars. The roof and column capitals have ironwork decoration

a war memorial to the 3,312 men & women of the Great Western Railway who served and gave their lives during the two world wars can be found on Platform 1. It shows a soldier in greatcoat and helmet. The same platform has an original large station clock

Round House

Chalk Farm Road, NW1

transport: Chalk Farm u/g; buses 24,27,31,168

built in 1847 to house the turntable at the terminus of the London and Birmingham Railway, it later became a warehouse and factory. There are now plans to turn it into a television, radio & recording studio with theatre spaces and a landscaped garden

Legoland

Windsor, Berkshire

08705 04 04

transport: Windsor rail then shuttlebus from High St
opening: daily mid-Mar-mid-July 10.00-18.00, mid-July-Aug 10.00-20.00, Sept-Oct 10.00-18.00 or dusk admission charge

this very popular theme park has a lego model village, an assortment of rides (including a ghost train), pirate falls, water slides. driving school & road network, boating school and wave surfer. Many of the things to see are made entirely of Lego bricks. Children will love the I-Spy Express train ride round park and the funicular railway. A good day out for the children - allow 6-7 hours for your visit

Blackfriars Bridge, EC4/SE1

transport: Southwark u/g, Blackfriars u/g & rail; buses 45,63,100,381

from Blackfriars road bridge you can see the the cast-iron pillars built between 1862 and 1864 that supported the railway lines from Blackfriars Station for the London, Chatham & Dover Railway. The railway went bankrupt and James Cubbitt's wrought-iron lattice girder bridge was abandoned. Railway insignia are still visible on the stone piers

Phoenix and Firkin

Windsor Walk, Denmark Hill, SE5

020 7701 8282

transport: Denmark Hill rail; buses 40,42,68,176,185,464,468

facilities: meals & snacks lunchtime & evening

opening: all permitted hours

the former ticket office of Denmark Hill Station has been converted into a popular pub retaining the railway theme. A model railway runs round the bar and the double-faced clock originally provided the time on the Welsh station at Llandudno Junction

Parkland Walk

Highgate Wood to Alexandra Palace, via Muswell Hill, N10/N22

transport: Highgate u/g & bus 43,134; Alexandra Palace rail & bus 184,W3

facilities: cafes at Crouch End Hill Old Station and Crouch Hill Community Centre

opening: access at all times

this path follows a disused railway line and you can walk for 1½ miles without using a road. Views of London are frequent. The Old Station at Crouch End is now a café with steps leading to the old platforms

London and Greenwich Railway

Deptford High Street, Deptford, SE8

transport: New Cross u/g & rail, Deptford rail; buses 47,53,177,225

a plaque commemorates the opening in 1836 of the first railway line in London. Deptford Station is the oldest station in London still in use

Surrey Iron Railway

Ram Street, SW18

transport: Wandsworth Town rail; buses 28,44,37,39,77A,156,170,220,270,337

the first public horsedrawn railway in England and possibly in the world was authorised by an Act of

Parliament in 1801. It is commemorated by a plaque that outlines the route and provides details about the Railway

William Huskisson

Pimlico Gardens - east of Vauxhall Bridge, SW1

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

this statue of 1915 by John Gibson commemorates the politician and statesman Huskisson (1770-1830) who was fatally injured at the first opening of the railways

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

the World City Galleries take a look at rail travel between 1789 and 1914

The Vestry

All Hallows by the Tower, Byward Street, Tower Hill, EC3

020 7488 4933

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

opening: Mon-Fri 11.30-17.30, Thur 11.30-21.00; afternoon tea 15.00-17.00

this restaurant's antique oak tables were made from 200 year old French railway carriage floors

Earl's Court Underground Station

Earl's Court Road, SW5

transport: Earl's Court u/g; buses 74,328,C1,C3

of Victorian and Edwardian design, this underground railway station retains the 1930s wooden seats and end of the 19th century indicator boards. It was the first station to have escalators installed in 1911

James Greathead

Cornhill, EC3

transport: Bank u/g & DLR; buses 8,11,15,26,76,100, 133,172,242

a bronze statue of 1993 of Greathead (1844-1896) who was engineer for the City and South London Railway. He invented the Greathead Cylindrical Tunnelling Shield used to dig, in 1869, the Bermondsey to Tower Hill foot tunnel (now used for water mains). The statue's plinth is an air vent for Bank underground station

North Greenwich Station

Millennium Way, SE10

transport: North Greenwich u/g; buses 108,161,188,422, 472,486

finished in 2000 to serve visitors to the Millennium Dome this station has diagonal struts covered in blue mosaic to carry the roof structure and is decorated with blue glass panels

Blackfriars Station, EC4

transport: Blackfriars u/g & rail; buses 45,63,100, 381

stonework from the former station's (St Paul's) doorways is inscribed with the names of European places once served by the station - Brindisi, Marseilles, St Petersburg

Euston Station, NW1

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

a 30ft high obelisk in the centre of the forecourt commemorates the men and women of the London, Midland and Scottish Railways who lost their lives during the 2nd World War. Bronze figures of soldiers, each in a different uniform, stand guard at each corner

in the gardens outside the station there is a tree growing as a memorial to the travelling public and railway workers who have lost their lives or been injured whilst travelling on the railways or working in the railway industry. It was planted on the 29 March 2001 by the Rail Unions (ASLEF,RMT,TSSA) for International Rail Safety Day

Brookwood Cemetery

Cemetery Pales, off A322, Woking, Surrey,
www.surreyweb.org.uk/bcs

transport: Brookwood Station rail with exit into grounds
facilities: guided walks for a small donation

the cemetery was opened in 1854 and, being the largest in the United Kingdom, was served by special funeral trains from London until the London terminus was bombed during the 2nd World War. There were two stations at the Cemetery - one for Anglican burials, the other for Nonconformist - and the original station platforms and part of the trackbed can still be seen. The London station entrance at 121 Westminster Bridge Road still survives.

Captain Charles Algernon Fryatt

forecourt of Liverpool Street Station, Liverpool Street, EC2

transport: Liverpool Street u/g & rail; buses 8,11,26,35, 42,47,48,78,100,133,149,153,214,242,344

the medallion to Captain Fryatt (1872-1916) was placed in 1922 below the War Memorial to those who worked for the Great Eastern Railway. Fryatt was master of the railway steamer SS Brussels during the 1st World War. In 1915 he had refused to stop when challenged by a German submarine who believed he was spying. The ship was captured later that year and Fryatt was tried and shot at Bruges in 1916

National Gallery

Trafalgar Square, WC2N

020 7747 2885 www.nationalgallery.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. Free bus service between National Gallery, Tate & Tate Modern every 30mins

facilities: gallery soundtrack in 5 languages; tape guide for visually-impaired; sign language tours; large print labels; disabled access (wheelchairs on request); disabled wcs; library by arrangement; restaurant & snacks; shop; tours (daily 11.30 & 14.30 plus 18.30 Weds)

opening: daily 10.00-18.00 Weds 10.00-21.00
admission free

amongst the collection is a painting by J M W Turner entitled 'Rain, Steam and Speed: the Great Western Railway' (1844)

King's Cross Station, N1

transport: Kings Cross & St Pancras u/g & rail; buses 10, 17,30,45,46,63,73,91,214,259

the station tower built in 1852 has a clock that was displayed in 1851 Great Exhibition. When the station was originally built there was a 6-storey corn granary with a hydraulic haulage system using water tanks on the top storey. Under the goods platform was stabling for 300 horses and room for coal storage

Victoria Line (underground)

each station has own identity with decorated platform walls: - Stockwell recalls the Swan public house; Brixton has a 'ton of bricks'; Oxford St has snakes & ladders depicting the complexities of the interconnecting passageways; Finsbury Park has hot air balloons (at one time they flew from the Park); Blackhorse Road has a fibreglass relief of a black horse with mosaic surround; Tottenham Court Road has mosaics by the artist Eduardo Paolozzi

Northern Line (underground)

gradually the platforms on this line are being refurbished. The station at Embankment has murals

Bakerloo Line (underground)

at Charing Cross Station you will find images from the National Gallery and the National Portrait Gallery

Piccadilly Line (underground)

Holborn station has enamel panels with images from the British Museum collection while Heathrow Central has aircraft-based images

The Archway

Highgate Hill and Holloway Road, N19
020 7272 2840 www.the-archway.co.uk

transport: Archway u/g, Upper Holloway Road rail; buses 4,10,17,43,134,143,210,271,C5,C11
facilities: meals Mon-Fri noon-20.00; live bands nightly (21.45-midnight)

the Tube (Underground) Bar is modern retro using stainless steel, granite & Mediterranean style furniture. The Tram Bar reflects the era of the tram with tram rails in the floor and a miniature railway running on a metal beam

Railway Tavern

15 Liverpool Street, EC2

transport: Liverpool Street u/g & rail; buses 8,11,26,35, 47,48,78,100,133,149,153,214,242

opening: Mon-Fri 11.00-23.00

this pub is decorated with the crests of the 25 railway companies that amalgamated to form the Great Eastern Railway, and then part of London and North Eastern Railway in 1923

Harry Beck

Court House Gardens, Finchley, N3

transport: West Finchley u/g; buses 82,125,260,326

a blue plaque was placed here in 2003 in memory of Harry Beck, the designer of the underground map that we all know so well

Brunel Engine House Museum

Tunnel Road, Rotherhithe, SE16
020 7231 3314 www.brunelenginehouse.org.uk/

transport: Rotherhithe u/g; buses 225,381

facilities: gift shop

opening: 1st Sun in month noon-16.00

admission charge

this 1842 (restored) boiler house was used during the construction of the world's first and oldest under-river tunnel that runs from Wapping on the north bank of the River Thames to Rotherhithe in the south. Nicknamed by the Press as the 'Great Bore' it was built by the engineers Brunel and was opened in 1843 to pedestrians. It had originally been planned for horse drawn vehicles but no spiral access ramp could be built because of lack of money. In 1869 it became part of the East London Line underground railway

the museum tells the history of the project and the tunnelling techniques used

London Transport Museum

Covent Garden, WC2E
020 7379 6344 www.ltmuseum.co.uk

transport: Covent Garden, Leicester Square & Holborn u/g; buses 1,6,9,11,13,15,23,24,29,59, 68,77A,91,168, 171,172,176,188,341

facilities: disabled access & wcs; library; snacks and drinks; shop for posters, postcards, books, models, gifts & souvenirs

opening: daily 10.00-18.00, Fri 11.00-18.00 (last admission 17.15)

admission charge

the history of transport in London includes video and working displays about underground railways, the L23 steam locomotive used on the first underground railway in 1863 and a wide-ranging collection of other items relating to the railways

North Woolwich Old Railway Station Museum

Pier Road, Woolwich, E16
020 7474 7244

www.newham.gov.uk/leisure/museums/moldstn

transport: North Woolwich rail; buses 101,473,474

facilities: disabled access

opening: Jan-Nov Sat-Sun 13.00-17.00; plus Mon-Wed during school holidays

admission free

features historical displays about the railways in London's East End and their impact on the area. Outlined is the development of the Great Eastern Railway included the North Woolwich Railway using photographs, models, timetables, tickets, posters, station furniture and a booking office

Richmond Railway Bridge, Surrey

transport: Richmond rail; buses 33,49,H22,H37,R68,R70

this bridge was the first railway crossing of the River Thames. It was opened in 1848

Railway Tree

Broadway, Stratford, E15

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

this 1996 sculpture is a reminder of this area's link with the Victorian railway system and acts as the present focal of East London's transport network. Seven upright girders of steel looking like railway tracks are fixed in groups of three and branch out above the stem. Set in the pavement are points of the compass and a variety of motifs such as a star, an umbrella, leaves and birds

GE Club

40 Liverpool Street, EC2
020 7618 7076

transport: Liverpool Street u/g & rail; buses 8,11,26,35,
42,47,48,78,100,133,149,153,214,242,344

opening: Mon-Fri 11.00-18.00 (members only Mon-Fri
18.00-02.00, Sats 20.00-02.00)

*part of the art deco Great Eastern Hotel this Club reflects
the romance of 1930s railway travel with its red bar and
steam age prints*

Clapham South Underground Station, SW14

transport: Clapham South u/g; buses 155,255,355,G1

*this art deco station has a façade featuring several
examples of the underground's logo*

Arnos Grove Underground Station, N14

transport: Arnos Grove u/g; buses 34,184,232,251,298,
382

*a drum-shaped art deco ticket hall with curved purchasing
and collecting booth (passimeter) has floodlights to light
the interior at night*

Southgate Underground Station, N14

transport: Southgate u/g; buses 121,125,298,299,382,
W6,W9

*another station with a heritage listed escalator and art
deco lights*

Hounslow West Underground Station

Hounslow, Middlesex

transport: Hounslow West u/g

this heptagonal ticket hall displays an art deco chandelier

Further Afield

Didcot Railway Centre

on the A4130 from A34 & M4, Didcot, Oxon,
01235 817200

transport: Didcot Parkway rail

opening: daily April-Sept 10.00-17.00; weekends Oct-
March 11.00-16.00

*a collection of steam locomotives, station and signalling
running on Isambard Kingdom Brunel's broad gauge
trackwork*

Sittingbourne & Kemsley Light Railway

Viaduct Station, Sittingbourne, Kent,
0871 222 1568

transport: Sittingbourne rail

facilities: special events (ring above number for details)

opening: April-Sept Suns either 11.00-16.00 or 13.00
-16.00 (please ring above number for details)

admission charge

*here you will be able to see running steam trains and
learn about the history of the railway from 1900 to its
preservation in 1969. The museum shows items of the
original rolling stock used to convey finished paper
products from Bowater Factory at Sittingbourne &
Kemsley to the docks at Ridham*

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. 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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