



Seeing the Capital Differently

The Sea

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

Cutty Sark

King William Walk, Greenwich, SE10
020 8858 3445 www.cuttysark.org.uk

transport: Cutty Sark DLR, Greenwich DLR & rail; buses 177,180,188,199,286,386; boat Greenwich Pier
facilities: *limited disabled access; shop*

opening: daily Apr-Sept 10.00-18.00, Oct-Mar 10.00-17.00
admission charge

the World's last surviving tea clipper, Cutty Sark, was launched in 1869. In 1871 she made the fastest voyage for that era from China to England. The boat's figurehead shows Nannie clutching the tail hair of Tam's horse. The name of the ship came from Robbie Burns poem 'Tam O'Shanter', in which Tam on his horse is chased by the witch Nannie who is wearing a short linen dress, known in Scotland as a 'cutty sark'. On board there is an interesting museum of mementoes connected with the sea and a collection of figureheads, many of them outstanding examples of woodcarving

incidentally 'Cutty Sark' is the name of a make of whisky branded by Berry Bros & Rudd of St James's

Museum of Garden History (formerly St Mary-at-Lambeth)

Lambeth Palace Road, Lambeth, SE1
020 7401 8865 www.museumgardenhistory.org

transport: Lambeth North u/g, Victoria, Waterloo & Vauxhall u/g & rail; buses 3,77,344,C10
facilities: *disabled access; light lunches & teas; shop for seeds & plants, books & prints; tours*

opening: Mon-Fri, Sun, mid Feb-Dec 10.30-17.00
admission free

the grave of Captain William Bligh (c.1753-1817), captain of the 'Bounty', is in the garden. On the Bounty's return voyage from Tahiti the sailors mutinied after harsh treatment and Captain Bligh and 18 men were cast adrift in an open boat. Three months and 3,500 miles later they reached Timor, near Java

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

a fascinating museum and art gallery dedicated entirely to maritime history and life at sea. The display has many examples, models and artefacts of the sea. Amongst the collection can be found paintings of naval battles; model sailing ships from 1650 to 1815; displays showing the 20th century role of the Royal Navy & Merchant Navy; and items connected with the explorations of the navigator and explorer, Captain James Cook (1728-79). Captain Cook was an explorer of New Zealand, Australia, Antarctica and the Pacific and was killed by natives on Hawaii

as may be expected there is an interesting collection of memorabilia about the life and battles (including the Battle of Trafalgar) of Admiral Lord Horatio Nelson (1758-1805) (also remembered in Nelson's Column and Trafalgar Square). The museum does have a model for Nelson's Column that was made in 1839 when a competition was held for ideas on how to redesign Trafalgar Square

the Explorers' Gallery looks at pioneering sea travel while the Passengers' Gallery looks at the reasons people travel. Children have a hands-on section where they can find out about life at sea over the last 1000 years. Go to the Cargoes Gallery to find out about shipping routes, nationalities of seafarers, homes of national fleets and flags of convenience. Other galleries look at passengers and life on passenger liners; environmental issues and the key problems facing the future of the marine environment; trade including the development of the British Empire and the role of the Royal Navy; the history of the River Thames - a great deal to see so allow plenty of time

outside you will find the Titanic Memorial Garden. A bronze plate on a granite column was placed on the 15th April 1995 in the garden 'to commemorate the sinking of RMS Titanic 15 April 1912 & all those who were lost with her'. The garden has been planted with remembrance plants - rosemary, sage and peace roses. The Titanic sank, with great loss of life, on her maiden voyage after hitting an iceberg

St Paul's, Shadwell

298 The Highway, Shadwell, E1
020 7488 4633

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

known as the 'Sea Captains' Church', the Registers record over 175 names of Commanders and their wives, associated with the Church between 1730 and 1790. Included is the name of the explorer and navigator Captain James Cook (1728-79) whose son was baptised in the church in 1763

Joseph Rene Bellot

Riverfront near Greenwich Pier, SE10

transport: Greenwich DLR & rail, Cutty Sark DLR; buses 177,180,188,199,286,386; boat Greenwich Pier
a red Aberdeen obelisk memorial of 1855 to the distinguished French sailor; by Philip Hardwick

London Aquarium

Westminster Bridge Road, SE1
020 7967 8000 www.londonaquarium.co.uk

transport: Westminster u/g, Waterloo u/g & rail; buses 12,53,76,77,159,211,341,381; boat Waterloo Millennium Pier
facilities: *disabled access and hearing loop*

opening: daily 10.00-17.00
admission charge

a collection of over 300,000 specimens of fish and invertebrates on three floors. Part of the attraction is a Touchpool where it is possible to touch rays and handle hermit crabs and starfish

Old Royal Observatory

Greenwich Park, Romney Road, Greenwich, SE10
020 8858 4422 www.rog.nmm.ac.uk

transport: Greenwich DLR & rail, Cutty Sark DLR; buses 177,180,188,199,286,386; boat Greenwich Pier
opening: daily 10.00-17.00
admission charge

the precision clocks in the Octagon Room and Chronometer Gallery are replicas of the 17th century ones made by the horologist John Harrison (1693-1776) for telling the time at sea. On the exterior of the building is a ball that slides down a mast at exactly 13.00 hours. Occurring since 1833 it enables seamen on the River Thames to set their clocks accurately.

the Observatory is the home of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), the Meridian Line (Longitude Zero) which is a brass strip in the floor, and Airy's Transit Circle where crossed hairs determine the meridian. The Prime Meridian was adopted in 1852 by Britain, in 1883 by USA and internationally in 1884. The brass strip can also be seen outside the Observatory where it is possible to stand with a foot in both east and west hemispheres at the same time

Captain's Cabin

4 Norris Street, Haymarket, SW1
020 7930 4767

transport: Piccadilly Circus u/g, Charing Cross u/g & rail; buses 3,6,9,12,13,14,15,19,22,23,29,38,53, 88,91,139, 159

a pub frequented by Allied Mariners during the 2nd World War, who recorded their comments about the pub in the Allied Mariners' Captain's log. Downstairs is the Captain's Cabin complete with portholes while on the ground floor there are bits and pieces relating to the sea including a diver's helmet and a ship's figurehead

Trafalgar Tavern

Park Row, Greenwich, SE10
020 8858 2437

transport: Cutty Sark DLR, Greenwich DLR & rail; buses 177,180, 188,199,286,386; boat Greenwich Pier

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

this 1837 riverside pub, with bow windows and wrought-iron balconies, has a collection of seascape paintings in the bars

Cutty Sark Tavern

Ballast Quay, Greenwich, SE10
020 8858 3146

transport: Cutty Sark DLR, Greenwich DLR & rail; buses 177,180,188,199,286,386; boat Greenwich Pier

named after the nearby Cutty Sark tea clipper this early 19th century tavern is supposed to be haunted. The ghost is a seaman who unscrews the lids of jars and distributes their contents around the bar!

paintings, coils of rope and brass lanterns decorate the interior and the mantelpiece is made from ship's timber

Nelson's Column

Trafalgar Square, WC2

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 185ft (56.5m) column of Devon granite with bronze capital was designed by William Railton and erected in Trafalgar Square in 1843 to commemorate Admiral Lord Horatio Nelson (1758-1805). The statue of Nelson on the top of the Column is 18ft (5.5m) high and was sculptured by Edward Hodges Baily

four lions flank the column; made of bronze they are 20ft (6m) long and 11ft (3.5m) high and were made by Sir Edwin Landseer in 1868

Sir Walter Raleigh

Raleigh Green, In front of the Ministry of Defence, Whitehall, SW1

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

courtier, navigator and author, Sir Walter Raleigh (1552-16) is commemorated in this statue by William Macmillan. Erected in 1959 it was donated by Anglo-American interests. As a favourite of Queen Elizabeth I he made

three expeditions to America. Imprisoned in the Tower of London by King James I he wrote, in 1614, his 'History of the World'

International Memorial to Seafarers

4 Albert Embankment, SE1

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

added to the building in 2001 by the sculptor Michael Sandle this 10 tonnes memorial commemorates all mercantile mariners lost at sea. It depicts the prow of a bronze cargo ship bursting through the front wall of the office block

Captain James Cook

by Admiralty Arch, The Mall, 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

a 1914 statue of the explorer and navigator by Sir Thomas Brock shows Captain Cook (1728-79) with his foot resting on a coil of rope. Captain Cook was an explorer of New Zealand, Australia, Antarctica and the Pacific and was killed by natives on Hawaii

Captain John Smith

St Mary-le-Bow churchyard, Cheapside, EC2

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

this statue of the adventurer and geographer Captain Smith (1580-1631) is a 1960 replica of one by William Couper in Virginia; this version is by Charles Rennick and was presented by the Jamestown Foundation of the Commonwealth. It shows him in Elizabethan dress with a book in one hand and a sword in the other. On an expedition to colonize Virginia, USA, in 1607 John Smith was saved from death by the Indian princess, Pocahontas. Because of his subsequent work with the Indians he was made President of Virginia and Admiral of New England in 1608.

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

the John Smith Window shows, in stained glass, Captain John Smith with a navigational instrument. He is surrounded by patrons, coats of arms and the three ships in which he crossed the Atlantic. A brass plate describes who he was and is a copy of the plaque that was originally on his tomb destroyed in the Great Fire of London 1666

Cow Saloon and Dining Rooms

89 Westbourne Park Road, W2

020 7221 0021

transport: Royal Oak & Westbourne Park u/g; buses 7,28, 31,70,328

facilities: bar food (12.20-13.30, 18.30-23.00), restaurant (12.30-15.30, 19.00-midnight)

opening: Mon-Sun noon-23.00

celebrated for its fresh seafood especially oysters

King's Reach Memorial

riverside of Victoria Embankment, east of Temple Station, WC2

transport: Temple u/g; buses 1,6,9,11,13,15,23,26,59, 68,76,77A,91,168,171,172,176,188,341; boat Savoy Pier
the bronze head of Poseidon commemorates the naming of King's Reach, the stretch of the River Thames between London Bridge and Westminster. The 1935 plaque, placed by the Port of London Authority, has King George V's coat of arms and two cherubs. One holds Poseidon's spear while the other stands on a boat with the prow of a seahorse. Above are heads of the winds. The plaque commemorates the 25th anniversary of the ascension of King George V

Mayflower pub

117 Rotherhithe Street, Rotherhithe, SE16
020 7237 4088

transport: Rotherhithe & Bermondsey u/g; buses 47, 188,225,P11

opening: Mon-Sat noon-23.00, Sun noon-22.30
this riverside pub was the mooring in 1620 of the 'Mayflower', the ship in which the Pilgrim Fathers sailed to America. Bits from the ship are incorporated in the building and Captain Christopher Jones is buried in the churchyard of St Mary's Rotherhithe
in honour of its connections with the USA it is the only pub in Britain licensed to sell both British and American postage stamps

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

Merchant Seamen's War Memorial/Mercantile Marine Memorial

Trinity Square Gardens, Tower Hill, EC3

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

this war memorial commemorates both World Wars. The Merchant Seamen's War Memorial is the temple-shaped structure nearest the road and was sculptured after the 1st World War by Sir Edwin Lutyens; the sunken garden behind was added in 1955 to commemorate the 2nd World War and is known as the Mercantile Marine Memorial. It is by Sir Edward Maufe with sculpture by Sir Charles Wheeler.

statues of fishermen in sou'westers stand next to merchant seamen in uniform while panels show gods & other sea-related deities. Both memorials have the names of those who died listed under the names of the ships - the first section lists ships of the Merchant Navy, the second the boats of the Fishing Fleets. Bronzes of dolphins with conch shells add decoration

St Clement Danes

Strand, WC2
020 7242 8282

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: daily 08.30-16.30

the interior plasterwork shows the anchor symbol of St Clement, patron saint of sailors. He was martyred by being tied onto an anchor and thrown into the sea. The symbol can also be found on boundary markers in the neighbourhood

St Paul's Cathedral

St Paul's Churchyard, EC4
020 7263 4128 www.stpauls.co.uk

transport: St Pauls & Mansion House u/g, Blackfriars & Cannon Street u/g & rail, City Thameslink rail; buses 8,11, 15,26,56,76,172,100,172,242; boat Blackfriars Millennium Pier

facilities: café in crypt (09.00-17.30 Mon-Sat, 10.30-17.00 Sun); shop in crypt (09.00-17.30 Mon-Sat, 10.30-17.00 Sun)

opening: Mon-Sat 08.30-16.00 (restricted during services); Crypt 10.00-16.15 Mon-Fri, 11.00-16.15 Sat
admission charge includes entry to galleries

monuments to various military commanders include John Flaxman's Nelson (Admiral Lord Horatio 1758-1805) complete with seasick lion. It can be found in the South Transept

Old Royal Naval College

King William Walk, Greenwich, SE10
020 8331 7897 www.greenwichfoundation.org.uk

transport: Greenwich DLR & rail, Cutty Sark DLR; buses 177,180,188,199,286,386; boat Greenwich Pier
facilities: disabled access

opening: Mon-Sat 10.00-16.15, Sun 12.30-17.00
admission charge but free after 15.30 & on Sundays

started by John Webb in the 1660s and completed by Christopher Wren, Nicholas Hawksmoor and Sir John Vanbrugh, the College was formerly a hospital for disabled seamen (1705-1869), then a Naval College (1873-2000) and is now part of the University of Greenwich. Emblems of the sea can be found in the Chapel and include a anchor inside a compass rose in the floor. The Painted Hall has a magnificent painted ceiling. Outside wrought iron railings have a black and gold relief of Poseidon showing him crowned, with a mermaid tail

Somerset House

Strand & Embankment, WC2
020 7845 4600 www.somerset-house.org.uk

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: daily to Courtyard, Seamen's Waiting Hall & River Terrace 07.30-23.00 (19.00 in winter); Collections 10.00-18.00

admission free to Courtyard and River Terrace. There is a charge for exhibitions

this 18th century building has keystone sculptures of the ocean & eight English rivers on the front facing the Strand in the old Seamen's Waiting Hall there is an exhibit of some of the former Ship Model Museum's collection of 300 19th century model ships

Port of London Authority (former)

Trinity Square Gardens, 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 striking Edwardian building has a sculpture of Neptune on its main tower

Trinity Almshouses

Mile End Waste, Mile End Road, E1

transport: Whitechapel u/g; buses 25,106,253

these courtyard cottages and almshouses with a chapel were originally built for "28 decayed [naval] masters and commanders and widows of such". They now provide homes for the disabled

Narrow Street

Limehouse, E14

transport: West Ferry & Limehouse DLR

a modern sculpture of a giant herring gull is conveniently situated near to interesting riverside pubs

Natural History Museum

Cromwell Road, SW7

020 7942 5000

www.nhm.ac.uk

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

facilities: disabled access & wcs; library; refreshments; shop; tours by arrangement

opening: Mon-Sat 10.00-17.50, Sun 11.00-17.50

admission free

the collection of animals of the sea includes whales, porpoises and dolphins. There are models of a blue whale and a giant squid in the Life Galleries. Examples of marine invertebrates include corals, crabs, sponges, shells and squid

St Mary's, Rotherhithe

St Marychurch Street, SE16

020 7231 2465

transport: Rotherhithe & Canada Water u/g; buses 1,47,188,199,381

opening: Mon-Thur 07.00-18.00, Sat-Sun 08.00-18.00

monuments commemorating the maritime past of Rotherhithe includes one to Captain Anthony Wood that shows in high relief a ship similar to the Mayflower. There is also a plaque to Prince Lee Boo, a Pacific Island prince who befriended shipwrecked sailors, came to Britain in 1783 and died here of smallpox

in the chapel the altar table and sanctuary chairs are made from timber from HMS Temeraire, a ship that fought alongside Lord Nelson's ship 'Victory' at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805. She was made famous by Turner's 1838 painting 'The Fighting Temeraire' that he composed as she was being taken up river to Rotherhithe to be broken up

St Edmund, King and Martyr

Lombard Street, EC3

020 7623 6970

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: Mon-Fri 10.00-16.00

the bracketed clock on this City church is shaped like a lighthouse and reflects the merger of St Nicholas Acons parish with St Edmund. St Nicholas is the patron saint of seamen and children

King Edward VII Memorial Park

The Highway, Limehouse, E1

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

standing alongside the ventilation shaft for the Rotherhithe Tunnel, a ceramic tablet of 1922 commemorates the navigator, Sir Hugh Willoughby, who

with other explorers left from here in 1553 to explore Northern seas. Their aim was to find a north-eastern passage to Cathay and India and by the winter two of the three ships had reached Lapland. Unfortunately the expedition ended there as Willoughby and all the crew died of starvation in January 1554

Prospect of Whitby pub

57 Wapping Wall, Wapping, E1

020 7481 1095

transport: Wapping u/g; buses 100,D3

facilities: restaurant

opening: Mon-Fri 11.30-15.00, 18.00-23.00, Sat 11.30-23.00, Sun noon-22.30

said to be in the oldest pub on the riverside the Prospect has a ship's foghorn on a shelf by the bar

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

King Charles Street, SW1A

020 7270 1500

www.fco.gov.uk

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

opening: special open days . Ring number above to check

a marble chimneypiece and overmantle of 1730 in the India Office Council Chambers depicts Britannia receiving the riches of the East Indies. Behind Britannia are two females symbolising Asia (with camel) and Africa (with lion). To the right is the River God (River Thames) and in the background ships go to sea. The piece is by John Michael Rysback

Admiralty

Whitehall, 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 1726 building stands behind a screen added by Robert Adam in 1760. The screen shows a Roman prow on one side and a British Man-of-War bow on the other and has carvings of seahorses on the top

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

a lovely seascape painting by Van der Velde can be found in the Picture Gallery

Public Record Office

Ruskin Avenue, Kew, Surrey, TW9

020 8876 3444

www.pro.gov.uk

transport: Kew Gardens u/g & rail; buses 65,391; boat Kew, Richmond and Hampton

facilities: disabled access & wcs; parking; restaurant & snacks; sales desk; tours by arrangement

opening: Mon, Wed, Fri 09.00-17.00; Sat 09.30-17.00; Tue 10.00-19.00; Thur 09.00-19.00; closed first 2 weeks Oct

admission free

this national archive preserves the records of central government and the central courts of England and Wales. Among its fascinating items are the navigation charts of

Captain Cook and Captain Bligh's account of the famous Mutiny on the Bounty

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 Pier

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

this church has always been closely connected with the sea and shipping. It has stained glass windows to Edward Grosse, a 1278 shipowner and to John Rolfe, a 1432 shipwright and shows them holding models of ships. There are actual models of masted schooners, the tea clipper Cutty Sark and a pleasure steamer. Dedications of the British Maritime Foundation in the Mariners' Chapel includes an entry for Lord Kitchener of Khartoum who was drowned off the Orkney Isles on his way to Russia in 1916 when HMS Hampshire was struck by mine. The crucifix in the Chapel is made of wood from the Cutty Sark

Guildhall Clock Museum

Guildhall, Aldermanbury, EC2P
020 7332 1868

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

facilities: library; sales desk

opening: Mon-Fri 09.30-16.45
admission free

there are 700 timepieces in this museum dating between the 15th and 20th centuries. Besides 600 European and English watches there are 15 marine chronometers including John Harrison's 5th Marine Timekeeper of 1770, a chronometer of 1724 by Henry Sully and a silver deck watch by Thomas Earnshaw

Guildhall Library

Aldermanbury, EC2P
020 7332 1868

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

facilities: shop (Mon-Fri)

opening: Mon-Sat 09.30-16.45
admission free

here you will find the Lloyds of London Collection of books and manuscripts on shipping history. If you are interested in the details of shipping movements, registrations and accidents then it is well worth a visit

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 has an 8-day marine chronometer made in the late 18th century by Thomas Madge

St Katharines Dock

St Katharine-by-the-Tower, E1
www.stkaths.co.uk

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

slightly away from the Dock (at the end of the Ornamental Canal on Vaughan Way) is a sculpture called the 'Bronze Knot'. It is a ship's rope, coiled and covered in bronze and serves as a reminder of the docks that once could be found on this part of Wapping

Trinity House

Trinity Square, Tower Hill, EC3
020 7481 6900

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

opening: occasional open days. Worth enquiring

this is the home of the maritime organisation dedicated to the safety of shipping and the welfare of seafarers and their dependents - the General Lighthouse Authority Responsible for lighthouses throughout Britain, the Channel Islands and Gibraltar it looks after 72 lighthouses, 11 light vessels and 500 navigational aids. A plaque on the outside of the building is inscribed 'in 1982 Trinity House commenced the lighthouse automation programme which culminated on Trafalgar Day 1998 in the conversion to automatic operation of North Foreland light in Kent, the last manned lighthouse in the United Kingdom Thus ended 400 years of steadfast service to the mariner by the lighthouse keepers of the Corporation. This Memorial was erected in honour of their work'

on the top of this attractive Georgian building stands a weathervane in the shape of a golden galleon while inside there are many treasures relating to the sea - paintings of famous ships such as HMS Victory; models of ships including the tea clipper Cutty Sark now in dry dock in Greenwich; portraits of masters and politicians; medals; silverware (including an 1880 silver saltcellar in the shape of Eddystone Lighthouse); the bell of the former Royal Yacht Britannia. The building itself has interesting stained glass, ceiling paintings and carpets all with sea-related themes

Trinity Buoy Wharf

64 Orchard Place, E14
020 7515 7153 www.trinitybuoy-wharf.com

transport: East India DLR; buses 277

opening: 1st weekend of month 11.00-17.00

built in the 1850s this is London's only lighthouse. It can be found in an area devoted to the arts and cultural enterprise. Many of the studios are in a shipping container village - cargo containers piled on each other to create self-contained studios

Woolwich Town Hall

Wellington Street, SE18
020 8854 8888

transport: Woolwich Arsenal rail; buses 51,53,54,96,99,122,161,178,244,291,380,386

Edwardian baroque stained glass windows in various parts of this Town Hall outline the history of Woolwich and the area using notable residents and events. By Geoffrey Webb you can see King Charles I being presented in 1637 with the plans of his ship 'The Sovereign of the Sea' (north window above staircase); Queen Elizabeth I with a medallion of the ship 'The Elizabeth', and King Henry VIII with medallion of the ship 'Great Harry' (Henri Grace de Dieu) (both in Council Chamber)

Lord Nelson pub

230 Commercial Road, E1
020 7790 6148

transport: Aldgate East u/g; buses 15,115

opening: all permitted hours

this pub has prints of Napoleonic sea battles on the walls

Old Ship pub

17 Barnes Street, E14
020 7790 4082

transport: Limehouse DLR & rail; buses 15,D3

opening: Mon-Thur 11.00-14.30, 19.00-23.00, Fri-Sat 11.00-23.00

another pub with prints of old sea battles on the walls

Kenwood House

Hampstead Lane, NW3
020 8348 1286 www.english-heritage.org.uk

transport: Archway or Golders Green u/g then bus 210 to Highgate 1 mile; Hampstead Heath rail 1 mile

facilities: audio guides; disabled access & wcs; wheelchair hire available; cotton gloves supplied for visually impaired visitors to touch cornices, fire surrounds etc; parking; Brew House Café; gift & bookshop; tours by arrangement

opening: daily Apr-Sept 10.00-18.00, Oct 10.00-17.00, Nov-Mar 10.00-16.00

admission free

among the English, French & Dutch fine arts collection in this 17th century house are seascapes by Van de Velde and 'The Iveagh Seapiece' by J M W Turner

St Dunstan & All Saints, Stepney

Stepney High Street, E1
020 7791 3545

transport: Stepney Green & Whitechapel u/g; buses 25, 309

opening: for services Mon-Fri 08.00, 17.30; Wed.19.30; Thur 11.00; Sat 09.00, 18.00; Sun 08.00, 10.00, 18.00, 18.30. Other times by appointment only

this Church is known as Church of the High Seas because anyone who is born at sea is registered here and becomes of member of this parish

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 Sea Containers building (it stands on the south bank of the River Thames near to Blackfriars Bridge) and ships; another lightermen, who worked the barges on the river, and the City of London

Institution of Civil Engineers

Great George Street, SW1
020 7222 7722 www.ice.org.uk

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

facilities: bookshop

opening: Mon-Fri 09.00-17.00 by arrangement

etched glass panels in the entrance were executed between 1992 and 1996 by M Taylor and show civil

engineering activities in the fields of Energy, Building, Water, Land, Maritime and Air & Space

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

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; bookshop; tours (daily 11.30 & 14.30 plus 18.30 Wed)

opening: daily 10.00-18.00, Wed 10.00-20.00
admission free

among the masterpieces in the collection of this well-known Art Gallery is 'A Seaport' painted in 1639 by Claude (1604-82)

Museum in Docklands

No.1 Warehouse, West India Quay, Hertsmere Road, Isle of Dogs, E14

020 7001 9800 www.museumindocklands.org.uk

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

facilities: disabled access; bar & restaurant, café; shop (Mon-Sat 10.00-18.00, Sun noon-18.00)

opening: daily 10.00-18.00

admission charge allows as many visits for one year as wish

this Grade 1 listed Georgian warehouse has five floors of exhibits illustrating 2000 years of Docklands history from 43AD to the present time. Using interactive techniques, paintings, photographs, models and artefacts you can trace the history of the ports, the warehouses and the trades and companies associated with them and, through a recreation of the cobbled streets and alleys of 19th century Wapping, the working and social life of the sailors

Guildhall

Aldermanbury, EC2
020 7606 3030

transport: Bank & Mansion House u/g, Moorgate u/g & rail; buses 8,56,76,100,133,242

opening: daily May-Sept 10.00-17.00; Mon-Sat Oct-Apr 10.00-17.00 (advisable to check opening as often closed for events)

admission free

various monuments with lions, cherubs and allegorical figures are dotted throughout. The statue of Lord Nelson in the Main Hall incorporates Britannia, a lion, fish, women writing and his battles

Tobacco Dock

The Highway, Wapping, E1

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

built in 1814 with timber and cast-iron framing supporting a timber-framed roof, this warehouse is set on a brick and stone system of wine cellars where tobacco and wine were once stored. Converted into a shopping complex in the late 1980s it was never successful and although other schemes were attempted nothing materialised. As a result the warehouse is rather deserted but worth looking at to get some idea of its former use and to see the interesting sculptures depicting by-gone local life and the people to be found in 'Sailor Town'

'Sailor Town' is the title of a 1990 series of sculptures by Laura Carey that was inspired by the people working in

the docks and living among the barges, boats and wharves in the 19th century. There is 'Chaunter', a man in an overcoat & bowler hat playing a violin; 'Crossing Sweeper'; 'Street Boy Hawking Matchboxes'; 'Ropemaker', 'Shipwright', 'Sailors Pet', a monkey on a barrel; 'Flower Seller'; 'Mudlark' searching the River Thames at low tide; 'Young Girl Mudlarking'; 'Young Apprentice Sailor', a barefooted boy in sailor clothes sitting on drum with rope; 'Sailmaker'; 'Sailor'

another sculpture called 'Ragamuffins' is by Pam Taylor and shows a barefoot girl with shawl seated next to a boy in breeches and braces

Apollo Victoria Theatre

17 Wilton Road, SW1
020 7416 6070

transport: Victoria u/g & rail; buses 2,8,11,16,24,36,38, 52,73,82,148,185,211,239,436,C1,C10

William Trent designed this 1929 theatre and decorated it with marine motifs. There are dolphins on the ceiling of the foyer, mermaids over doors and scallop shell light fittings with fish

Victoria Station, SW1

transport: Victoria u/g & rail; buses 2,8,11,16,24,36,38, 52,73,82,148,185,211,239,436,C1,C10

the 1898 façade of this mainline station is made up of three buildings. The left has 2 mermaids with flowing hair and double tails entwined, the centre one has 2 reclining figures either side of a clock, while the 3rd has figures, portrait busts and foliage

Maritime History of Greenwich

former Greenwich Hospital grounds, Woolwich Road, SE10

transport: Maze Hill & Westcombe Park rail; buses 177, 180,286,422

a mural of ceramic tiles, stones and pebbles shows figures, ships and rigging against the Greenwich riverside. It is by Philippa Threlfall

Clipper Ship

Spindrift Avenue, E14

transport: Mudchute DLR; buses D3

now in the midst of modern residential housing this 1989 bronze of a 3-masted sailing ship within an oval rope frame celebrates the opening of the quay where ships offloaded the first of the season's China tea

Deptford Town Hall

New Cross Road, New Cross, SE14

transport: New Cross & New Cross Gate u/g & rail; buses 21,47,136,177,225,321,436,P13

this 1903-5 Edwardian Baroque style town hall has a central doorway with carvings of Tritons and statues of admirals between the 1st floor windows. The tympanium sculpture is of a sea battle and a sailing ship weathervane tops the building. The interior has marble columns and a staircase with domed lantern

Langfords

The Plaza, 535 King's Road, SW10

020 7351 4881 www.langfords.co.uk

transport: Fulham Broadway & Sloane Square u/g; buses 11,19,22,49,211,319,328,345

opening: Mon-Fri 10.00-17.30, Sat by appointment

here you will find antique candelabra, barometers, maps, scientific and marine instruments

Slightly Further Afield

Historic Dockyard Chatham

Chatham, Kent,

01634 823800/823807(info) www.chdt.org.uk

transport: M2 motorway Junction 1,3 or 4; Chatham rail; buses Stop B

facilities: disabled access to most places except on ships

opening: Feb-Oct 10.00-18.00, Nov weekends

admission charge

the museum looks at the story of the Royal Dockyard from the Spanish Armada to its closure in 1984. There are walls covered with ships' badges and plaques; a Wooden Walls exhibition that explores life and characters in the dockyard in 1758 when ships were made of wood; a collection of naval ordnance; the Ropery where, in a ¼ mile long building, you can watch ropemaking demonstrations (they still make rope for sailing ships); a display of 15 lifeboats telling the story of the lifeboat and the Royal National Lifeboat Institution; a model of Lord Nelson's ship HMS Victory; and outside in the dock are three real warships to explore on a guided tour - HMS Cavalier, the last 2nd World War Royal Navy destroyer in service, HM Submarine Ocelot and HMS Gannet a warship of 1878 powered by both sail and steam and at present under restoration - and much, much more

allow a full day - the Dockyard is also home to a Paddle Steamer and a Police Museum

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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