



Seeing the Capital Differently

Theatre

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

Duke of York's

St Martin's Lane, WC2
020 7369 1771

transport: Covent Garden & Leicester Square u/g; buses 6,9,11,13,15,23,24,29,77A,91,139,176,188

opening: tours: Sat and Thur noon
admission charge for tours

this is one of several London theatres that has a ghost. Here a non-existent iron door slams shut supposedly by the ghost of the woman who ruled the theatre for three decades

tours behind the scenes and underneath the stage are available. Telephone the theatre to find out what days are planned

Crown Tavern

43 Clerkenwell Green, Clerkenwell, EC1
020 7250 0757

transport: Farringdon u/g & rail; buses 55,63
facilities: bar food (Mon-Fri noon-15.00, Sat noon-16.00)
opening: Mon-Fri 11.30-23.00, Sat noon-23.00

the pub walls are covered with playbills from the Apollo Theatre Company who used to perform in an upper room

Sir Henry Irving (originally John Henry Brodribb)

north side of National Portrait Gallery, facing Charing Cross Road, WC2

transport: Leicester Square u/g, 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 statue of the actor and theatre manager Sir Henry Irving (1838-1905) was erected in 1910; sculptor Sir Thomas Brock

Globe

21 New Globe Walk, Bankside, SE1
020 7902 1500 (exhibition), 020 7401 9919 (box office)
www.shakespeares-globe.org

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

facilities: limited disabled access; Globe Café (daily Oct-Apr 10.00-18.00, May-Sept 10.00-15mins after last performance), Globe Restaurant (daily Oct-Apr noon-14.30,17.30-20.00; May-Sept 17.30-23.00); giftshop (Oct-Apr 10.00-18.00, May-Sept 10.00 to end of evening performance); guided tours every half hour except afternoons in summer

opening: exhibition daily 10.00-17.00
admission charge

a replica of the 16th century playhouse rebuilt in 1996 to commemorate Shakespeare and his plays. It was the inspiration of Sam Wanamaker (1919-93), the actor and film director. It is a polygonal structure with a thatched roof, natural light and minimal of scenery. There is an exhibition about the Elizabethan theatre and Shakespeare in the Undercroft of the Theatre. Plays, mainly Shakespearean, are performed regularly.

a tablet on the wall of the old brewery in nearby Park Street marks the site of the original Globe Theatre. A bronze bust of Shakespeare and a panoramic view of the Globe (1598-1613) and the River Thames can be seen in the foyer of the Theatre

alongside the Globe is the Inigo Jones Theatre which was built according to Jones's drawings and is now used for concerts, poetry readings and workshop productions

George Inn

77 Borough High Street, SE1
020 7407 2056

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

facilities: bar snacks (Mon-Fri noon-15.00, Sat-Sun noon-16.00), restaurant (Mon-Sat noon-14.30, 18.00-21.30)

opening: all permitted hours

this 17th century galleried coaching inn has performances of Shakespeare's plays in the courtyard during the summer

Sir Augustus Harris

Drury Lane Theatre, Drury Lane, 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

a bust of this theatre manager is in the centre of a fountain located by the main portico of Drury Lane Theatre; by Sir Thomas Brock

Her Majestys (The King's)

Haymarket, W1
020 7494 5400

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

a pavilioned theatre with a baroque copper dome built in 1897

St Pauls, Covent Garden

Bedford Street, Covent Garden, WC2
020 7836 5221

transport: Covent Garden & Leicester Square u/g, Charing Cross u/g & rail; buses 6,9,11,13,15,23,24,29,77A,91,176

opening: 08.30-16.30

frequently called 'The Actors' Church' this church has a large number of theatrical memorials and graves ranging from Boris Karloff to Gracie Fields. The portico is used as a stage and is a legalised venue for buskers (wandering actors and musicians) who have to audition in advance in order to be allocated a time to perform

Theatre Royal Drury Lane

Catherine Street, WC2
020 7494 5000

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

facilities: no access for wheelchairs to tours

opening: daily for tours: Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri, Sun 14.15 & 16.45; Wed, Sat 10.15, noon
admission charge

a well-known London theatre known for its musicals and hit shows. It is the largest and oldest theatre in London and is said to have its resident ghost (see below)! Join one of the tours 'Through the Stage Door' to learn about its history from characters associated with it and by going behind the scenes

a tradition of the Theatre is the Baddeley Cake that is provided by money left by an 18th century actor, Robert Baddeley, and is cut on stage after a performance of Shakespeare's Twelfth Night. It is said that a ghost emerges from the left circle wall (where a corpse and dagger were found in 19th century) and crosses the auditorium before vanishing!

Royal Albert Hall (of the Arts and Sciences)

Kensington Gore, SW7
020 7589 8212 www.royalalberthall.com

transport: High Street Kensington, South Kensington & Knightsbridge u/g; buses 9,10,52,70

facilities: tours Fri-Tue 10.00-15.30 may be booked in advance

built in 1871 this 151ft (46m) high covered amphitheatre can accommodate up to 8000 people for events ranging from the annual classical music Promenade Concerts to the latest pop star concerts, from Christmas carols to the Remembrance Day service

David Garrick

27 Southampton Street, WC2

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

a bronze medallion of a head in olive leaves is a memorial to the actor and theatre manager (1717-79) who lived in this house between 1750-1776; by H.C Fehr 1901

Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park

Inner Circle, NW1
020 7935 5756 (admin), 020 7486 1933 (box office)

transport: Baker Street & Regent's Park u/g; buses 13, 18,27,30,74,82,113,189,274,C2

this open air amphitheatre, seating 1200, was founded in 1972/5 by Sydney Carrol for performing Shakespearean plays. A very lovely venue for a fine summer's evening

Barbican Arts Centre

Silk Street, EC2
020 7628 2326 (box office), 020 7382 7000 (cinema hotline) www.barbican.org.uk

transport: Barbican u/g, Moorgate & Liverpool Street u/g & rail; buses 56,76,100,133,153
facilities: *disabled access with seats for wheelchair users; Searcy's Restaurant (020 7588 3008), Lounge Bar, Balcony Bistro, Waterside Café, Concert Café; Zwemmers bookshops*

opening: Mon-Sat 09.00-23.00, Sun noon-23.00; conservatory open Sats

on 9 levels (3 of them underground) the Barbican has a concert hall, 2 theatres for the London Chapter of the Royal Shakespeare Company, a 3-screen cinema, rooftop garden, public library and exhibition area. It is not the easiest place to find your way around so allow plenty of time if going to a performance

South Bank Arts Centre, SE1

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

the South Bank is an arts complex containing the Royal Festival Hall (music and ballet), Queen Elizabeth Hall (small hall for orchestral & chamber music), Purcell Room (seats 400 for solo recitals & chamber music), Hayward Gallery (5 gallery spaces and 3 open air courts for art & sculpture), National Film Theatre and National Theatre (see below)

Old Vic

Waterloo Road, SE1
020 7928 7616 (box office)

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

the first theatre was built on the site in 1818. Formerly the home of the National Theatre (until 1976) it is now a thriving repertory theatre. At the present time is undergoing refurbishment and will not reopen until 2006

Young Vic

The Cut, Waterloo Road, SE1
020 7633 0133 (admin), 020 7928 6363 (box office)
www.youngvic.org

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

purpose built in the round it is a venue for experimental theatre. It operates separately from the National Theatre (Old Vic). At the present time (2005) it is closed for rebuilding. The original auditorium will be retained and a neighbouring butcher's shop that has acted as a foyer will be incorporated into a ticket office. It is planned to reopen in 2006

St George's-in-the-East

Cannon Street Road, Shadwell, E1
020 7481 1345

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

opening: daily 09.00-17.00

built in 1726 this Nicholas Hawksmoor (1661-1736) church was destroyed during the Blitz and lay ruined until 1960 when the walls and tower were repaired and a smaller church was rebuilt in the eastern part of the nave. The remainder was transformed into a courtyard with the former galleries becoming flats and the vaults now used as a hall and venue for concerts and theatre productions

Shaftesbury Avenue, W1/WC2

transport: Piccadilly Circus, Tottenham Court Road & Leicester Square u/g; buses 14,19,22,24,29,38,94,176
this is at the heart of London theatreland

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

facilities: *disabled access with wheelchairs provided; Admiralty restaurant (bar & grill 020 7845 4646), Summer bar on River Terrace, café, Courtyard refreshments; shops in all galleries; tours about history & architecture (Thur & Sat 13.30 & 15.45 - small charge made)*

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

the 1776 courtyard has recently been relaid with granite setts to match the 18th century ones, and fountains, retractable lighting and subterranean dressing rooms added. It is used for summer open-air theatre and concerts

David Garrick

Ashley Lane and Parson Street, Hendon, NW4

transport: Hendon Central u/g; buses 143,183,240,326
this obelisk marks the connection the actor and theatre manager, David Garrick (1717-79) had with Hendon. It is said that he owned Hendon Hall at one time

Sadlers Wells

Rosebery Avenue, EC1
020 7863 8000 (box office)

transport: Angel u/g, Farringdon u/g & rail; buses 19,30,38,73,153,214,341

facilities: tours covering the control rooms & technical galleries (75 mins prebook 3rd Friday in month at noon) the original theatre was built in 1683 as a side attraction to the medicinal well borehole at the site. Between 1893-1906 it was a skating rink, a pickle factory and a boxing arena, then reverted back to use as a theatre presenting ballet, dance and opera often from visiting companies from abroad. The present building dates from 1931 when it was rebuilt so that a connection could be made from the medicinal well to supply the theatre's water needs. The well can be seen under a trapdoor at the back of the stalls

The Little Angel Puppet Theatre

14 Dagmar Passage, Cross Street, Islington, N1
020 7226 1787

transport: Highbury & Islington u/g, Essex Road rail; buses 4,19,33,38,43,56,73,341

opening: shows Sat-Sun 11.00 and 15.00

specialises in puppet shows for children over 3 years old

Hackney Empire

29 Mare Street, E8
020 8985 2424 (box office)

transport: Hackney Central & Hackney Downs rail; buses 38,48,55,106,236,242,253,277,D6 253,106,D6

one of the last surviving variety theatres - an ornate terracotta theatre built in 1899 with two domes it was originally designed by Frank Matcham for circuses and other spectaculars

Royal National

South Bank, SE1
020 7452 3400

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

facilities: National Theatre Bookshop has scripts of every West End production (Mon-Sat 10.00-22.45)

opening: tours at 10.15, 12.30, 17.30 of 1 hour Mon-Sat (tour itineraries vary depending on availability of each theatre)

admission charge

three theatres under one roof opened in 1976: the Olivier (with an open stage), the Lyttelton and the Cottesloe (a studio theatre). Designed by Sir Denys Lasdun

Jerusalem Tavern

55 Britton Street, Clerkenwell, EC1M
020 7490 4281

transport: Barbican u/g, Farringdon u/g & rail; buses 19,38,55,63,153,341

facilities: bar food noon-19.00

opening: Mon-Fri 11.00-23.00, Sat noon-22.00

one of the pubs frequented by the actor and theatre manager David Garrick (1717-79)

Bull and Bush pub

North End Way, NW3
020 8455 3685

transport: Golders Green & Hampstead u/g, Hampstead Heath rail; buses 210,268

opening: all permitted hours

another of the pubs frequented by the actor and theatre manager David Garrick (1717-79)

Institut Francais

17 Queensberry Place, SW7
020 7838 2144

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

a theatre specialising in French productions

Goethe Institute

Princes Gate, SW7
020 7411 3400

transport: South Kensington & Knightsbridge u/g; buses 9,10,52

this one specialises in German productions

Apollo Victoria

17 Wilton Road, SW1
020 7416 6070

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

a 1929 art deco theatre by William Trent with marine motifs. There are dolphins on the foyer ceiling, mermaids over doors and scallop shell light fittings with fish

Orange Tree pub

45 Kew Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW9

transport Richmond u/g & rail; buses 65,190,371,391,419,490,H22,R68,R70

facilities: meals & snacks all day except Sun evening

opening: all permitted hours

until the 1970s this pub housed the Orange Theatre. It then moved next door to the Comedy Club (open Thur-Sat). Phone 020 8286 9032 for details of productions

Inverness Court Hotel

1 Inverness Terrace, Bayswater, W2
020 7229 1444

transport: Queensway & Bayswater u/g; buses 12,70,94

originally the home of the actress, Lily Langtry, her private theatre is now one of the hotel bars

The Bull

68 High Street, Barnet, Hertfordshire
020 8449 0048

transport: High Barnet u/g; buses 34,84,107,184,234,263,307,326,384

a theatre that specialises in children's shows

Jongleurs

1. 221 Grove Road, E3
2. 11 East Yard, Camden Lock, NW1
3. 49 Lavendar Gardens, Battersea SW11
0870 7870707 www.jongleurs.com

transport: 1. Mile End u/g; buses 8,277,D6;
2. Camden Town u/g, Camden Road rail; buses 24,27,31,168;
3. Clapham Junction u/g & rail; buses 35,37,77,77A,319,345,G1

facilities: free membership needed in order to book; food served

opening: Fri-Sat 19.15-01.00

well-known comedy clubs where you can also eat

Royal Court

Sloane Square, SW1
020 7565 5000(box office) 020 7565 5050 (admin)
transport: Sloane Square u/g; buses 11,19,22,137,211,
319,360,C1
*vermillion wall paintings by Antoni Malinowski decorate
this theatre*

Theatre Museum

Russell Street, Covent Garden, WC2E
020 7943 4700 www.theatremuseum.org
transport: Covent Garden & Leicester Square u/g,
Charing Cross u/g & rail; buses 1,6,9,11,13,15,23,59,68,
77A,91,168,171,176,188
*facilities: disabled access, library with research room by
appointment; shop for theatrical books and children's
novelties; tours (daily 11.00,14.00,16.00 of 30mins
duration); booking service for West End shows; costume
workshops for children; theatre make-up demonstrations
(daily 11.30,13.00,14.30,15.30,16.30, of 30 mins.
duration)*
opening: Tue-Sun 10.00-18.00 (last admission 17.30)
admission charge
*this is Britain's National Museum of the Performing Arts
existing to increase the enjoyment, understanding and
study of the history, craft and practice of performing arts
in Britain. Material dates from the 16th century to the
present and there is a semi-permanent exhibition on the
history of theatre with other changing exhibitions devoted
to all aspects of entertainment - theatre, opera, ballet,
pantomime, music hall, variety, circus, rock and pop
music.*
*specialist collections include: theatre architecture; the
National Video Archive of Stage Performance (begun in
1992 it has archive recordings of live performances and is
available to groups and individuals for research and
education); Black theatre; musical theatre; contemporary
dance; and a specialist library of 60,000 performance
texts and books from the British Theatre
Association, together with the archives of the Arts Council
of Great Britain. This last collection documents the
subsidised arts in postwar Britain*
*material collected includes posters, programmes &
playbills (over 1 million dating from 1704), 18th century
cartoons, engravings, Victorian advertisements, theatrical
costumes and portraits of celebrities*

Polka Theatre

240 The Broadway, SW19
020 8543 4888
transport: South Wimbledon u/g, Wimbledon u/g & rail;
buses 57,93,131,156,163,164,219; Croydon Tramlink
theatre for children up to 12 years old

Victoria pub

10A Strathearn Place, Bayswater, W2
020 7724 1191
transport: Lancaster Gate u/g; buses 12,94
*facilities: bar food (Mon-Sat noon-14.30,18.00-21.45;
Sun noon-15.30,18.00-21.15)*
opening: Mon-Fri 11.00-23.00, Sat noon-23.00, Sun
noon-22.30
*a Dickensian pub with a bar, reconstructed on the 1st
floor, that came from the demolished Gaiety Theatre in
the Strand*

Unicorn Arts Theatre

6-7 Great Newport Street, WC2
020 7836 3334 (box office)

transport: Leicester Square u/g; buses 24,29,176
opening: Sat, Sun except July/Aug 11.00 & 14.30 +
extras in school holidays
*this theatre has a section producing children's shows
including mime and puppetry. Most of these productions
are held at the Pleasance Theatre in N7 (see separate
entry)*

Golden Lion pub

25 King Street, SW1
020 7930 7227
transport: Green Park u/g; buses 3,6,8,9,12,13,14,15,
19,22,23,38,53,88,139,159
*the memorabilia in this pub relates to the demolished St
James's Theatre that was famous for the playwright,
novelist and poet Oscar Wilde's 'Importance of Being
Earnest. The theatre was originally in King Street*

Angel Court

SW1
transport: Green Park u/g; buses 3,6,8,9,12,13,14,15,19,
22,23,38,53,88,139,159
*the court has four tableaux that decorated the balconies
of the demolished St James's Theatre. The centre tableau
has the face of the playwright, novelist and poet, Oscar
Wilde (1854-1900)*

Southwark Playhouse

62 Southwark Bridge Road, SE1
020 7620 3494
transport: Borough u/g, London Bridge u/g & rail; buses
21,35,40,133,343,344,381
*this theatre, in an old warehouse, devotes itself to new
writing, directing and acting*

Hoxton Hall

128A Hoxton Street, N1
020 7739 5431
transport: Old Street u/g & rail; buses 26,48,55,67,149,
242,243
you can see experimental productions at this theatre

Wilton's Music Hall

Grace's Alley, Wellclose Square, E1
020 7702 9555
transport: Tower Hill & Shadwell u/g, Tower Gateway &
Shadwell DLR; buses 100
*originally built in 1858 as an East End music hall, this
theatre fell into neglect. In 1999 it was restored and
reopened by Broomhill Opera for staging musical theatre
and opera*

Drayton Court pub

2 The Avenue, W13
020 8997 1019
transport: West Ealing rail; buses E1,E7,E11
*fringe theatre productions take place in the basement of
this pub*

Wimbledon Theatre

The Broadway, SW19
020 8540 0362 (box office), 020 8543 4549 (admin)
transport: Wimbledon u/g & rail; buses 57,93,131,156,
219
*a 1910 Edwardian theatre with Adam-style three-tier
auditorium which seats 1,665*

Corpus Christi

Maiden Lane, WC2
020 7836 4700

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

*known as the Catholic 'Actors Church' this is the home of
the Catholic Stage Guild. There is a statue of St
Genesius, the patron saint of the acting profession*

Rose Theatre Exhibition

56 Park Street, Southwark, SE1
020 7902 1500 www.rosetheatre.org.uk

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

opening: guided tours for 15+ groups only
admission charge

*exposed foundations (discovered 1989) mark the spot of
the Rose Theatre, the first theatre built 1586/7 by Philip
Henslowe on Bankside. It was octagonal of wood and
plaster. An exhibition uses light and sound to illustrate the
its history but the remains are covered in water until
funds can be raised to preserve them and put them on
show to the public. Occasional weekend opening may be
introduced during 2004 - check by telephone or on their
website*

Pleasance

Carpenters Mews, North Road, N7
020 7609 1800 (box office) www.pleasance.co.uk

transport: Caledonian Road u/g; buses 10,17,91,259,274
facilities: disabled access; bar

opening: please ring box office for performance times
*sit on bench seats and enjoy comedy and drama. The
Unicorn Arts Theatre for Children use space here for its
productions of mime and puppetry. The foyer has art
exhibitions*

Leicester Square, WC2

transport: Leicester Square & Piccadilly Circus u/g; buses
14,19,24,29,38,176

*panels in the Square tell its history from being Leicester
Fields, a piece of common ground where washing was
dried, to the building of 4 theatres - the Alhambra (1858)
now the Odeon (1937), the Empire (1884) which became
a cinema in 1928, the Dalys (1893) now Warner West End
(1938) and the Hippodrome (1900) now a nightclub
in the pavement by the south west corner of the garden
railing are handprints of famous actors and other
celebrities*

Players' Theatre

The Arches, 14 Villiers Street, Strand, WC2
020 7839 1134 (box office)

transport: Charing Cross u/g & rail; buses 6,9,11,13,
15,23,77A,91,176

*originally a Victorian music hall, this small theatre
underneath the railway arches has theatre memorabilia
including playbills, photographs of actors and a Rex
Whistler backcloth*

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 'At the Theatre' (1876/7) by Pierre-
Auguste Renoir (1841-1919)*

Tricycle

269 Kilburn High Road, NW6
020 7328 1000

transport: Kilburn u/g, Kilburn High Road & Brondesbury
rail; buses 16,32,98,189,206,316

opening: Sats 11.30 & 14.00

performances for children, drama and dance workshops

Park Street, Southwark, SE1

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

*123 Park Street has the preserved site of the original
Globe Theatre with display panels outlining its history and
construction. No.56 has the Rose Theatre Exhibition (see
separate entry)*

Theatre Royal (Haymarket)

Haymarket, SW1 transport: Piccadilly & Charing Cross
u/g; buses 3,6,9,12,13,15,22,23,29,53,88,91,94,139,159

*this 1821 theatre has a pedimented portico and a deep
blue, gold & white interior*

Sundial

Savoy Gardens, WC2

transport: Temple & Embankment 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

*a sundial of 1989 commemorates the theatrical
impresario, Richard D'Oyly Carte (1889-1901) and other
members of the Cartes family and Chairmen of the
Savoy Theatre. D'Oyly Carte produced the first operettas
by 'Gilbert and Sullivan' and in 1881 built the nearby
Savoy Theatre*

Museum of London

150 London Wall, EC2Y
020 7600 0807 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. There are
costumes and accessories associated with the theatre and
other performing arts from the late 18th century till 1970;
displays about Tudor and 18th century theatres together
with printed papers and archives; and a model of the
Rose Theatre based on evidence from the excavations at
Park Street, Southwark.*

National Film

Belvedere Road, SE1

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

this theatre opened in 1951 and was enlarged in 1970 into two cinemas where the latest technical developments in the film world are demonstrated. It organises the London Festival each November and is the only location where films are not subjected to censorship rules

Adelphi

Strand, WC2
020 7344 0055

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 attractive theatre was built in 1806 by the merchant John Scott in order to launch his daughter as an actress. It was formerly called the Sans Pareil

Lyceum

21 Wellington Street, WC2
020 7420 8100 (stage door)

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

built in 1834 this building has a striking portico. The interior was restored in the 1990s

Palace

Cambridge Circus, WC2
020 7434 0904

transport: Leicester Square & Tottenham Court Road u/g; buses 14,19,22,24,38,40,176

built in 1890 the exterior has bands of pale faience separating red brick. The interior is rich with marble - in the foyer and stalls, and on the staircase where pillars extend three storeys to the top. The architect was Thomas Colcutt

St Mark's, Myddleton Square

Myddleton Square, N1

transport: Angel u/g; buses 4,19,30,38,43,56,73,153,214,274,341

stained glass in this church shows the nearby Sadler's Wells Theatre

Canal Café Theatre

Delamere Terrace, Little Venice, W2
020 7289 6054 www.newsrevue.com

transport: Royal Oak & Warwick Avenue u/g; buses 6,18,36,46,187

here you can watch comedy and cabaret in an informal atmosphere

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, WC2
020 7836 8591

transport: Charing Cross u/g & rail; buses 6,9,11,13,15,23,77A,91,176

the Trust exists to provide information on theatre buildings - history, design, ownership etc.

Half Moon Young People's Theatre

43 White Horse Road, E1
020 2209 8900 www.halfmoon.org.uk

transport: Limehouse DLR & rail; buses 15,D3

this theatre offers studios, training schemes and workshops for young people along with professional theatrical productions

Comedy Café

66-68 Rivington Street, EC2
020 7739 5706 www.comedycafe.co.uk

transport: Old Street & Liverpool Street u/g & rail; buses 26,35,47,48,55,67,78,149,242,243

opening: Wed-Sat, shows at 20.30

a purpose-built comedy club, with a bar and after-show disco

Peacock

Portugal Street, WC2
020 7863 8222 www.sadlers-wells.com

transport: Holborn & Temple u/g; buses 1,6,9,11,13,15,23,26,68,76,77A,91,168,171,172,188,243,241

this unusual theatre is a lecture theatre by day for the London School of Economics and the west end home of the Sadlers Wells Company in the evening with a programme of music and dance. The stained glass mural in the Circle Bar shows the original 1960s décor

Bridewell

Bride Lane, EC4
020 7936 3456 www.bridewelltheatre.co.uk

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

in 1994 this disused Victorian swimming pool and laundry was converted into a theatre for music and drama in the evenings, and short shows & workshops at lunchtimes

Albery

St Martin's Lane, WC2
020 7369 1730

transport: Covent Garden & Leicester Square u/g; buses 6,9,11,13,15,23,24,29,77A,91,139,176,188

a lovely example of Edwardian architecture built in 1903 by W G R Sprague

Criterion

Piccadilly Circus, W1
020 7369 1737

transport: Piccadilly Circus u/g; buses 3,6,9,12,13,14,15,19,22,23,29,38,53,88,91,94,139,159

an art nouveau basement theatre of the 1870s

Globe

Shaftesbury Avenue, W1

transport: Piccadilly Circus u/g; buses 3,6,9,12,13,14,15,19,22,23,29,38,53,88,91,94,139,159

an example of Regency interior design built in 1906

London Palladium

Argyll Street, W1
020 7404 5454

transport: Oxford Circus u/g; buses 3,6,10,12,13,15,23,25,53,55,73,78,88,94,98,139,159,176

here you will find a mosaic floor with marble columns, arches and staircases. Built 1910 it was designed by Frank Matcham

Richmond Theatre

Little Green, Richmond, Surrey, TW9
020 8940 0844 www.theambassadors.com/richmond
transport: Richmond u/g & rail; buses 33,65,190,290,
337,371,391,419,490,H22,H37,R68,R70
facilities: *disabled access & wcs*

*another Frank Matcham theatre of terracotta and brick
with a statue above the door and a balustraded roof. Built
1899*

Victoria Palace

Victoria Street, SW1
020 7834 1317 (box office)
transport: Victoria u/g & rail; buses 2,11,24,36,185,211
*this theatre 1911 was built as a music hall by Frank
Matcham*

Savoy Theatre

Strand, WC2
020 7836 8888 (box office). 020 7836 8117 (admin)
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
*originally built in 1881 by the theatre impresario Richard
D'Oyly Carte (1844-1901) to stage the light operas of
Gilbert and Sullivan, this theatre was transformed into an
interesting example of art deco work in the 1930s. It was
the first London theatre to be lit by electricity*

Puppet Theatre Barge

Blomfield Road, Little Venice, W9
020 7249 6876 or 97836 202 745
transport: Warwick Avenue u/g, Paddington u/g & rail;
buses 6,18,46,187
facilities: *disabled access*
opening: moored Little Venice Nov-June. Shows
weekends & daily during school holidays. Prior booking
essential
admission charge

Sir Noel Coward

Catherine Street, WC2
transport: Temple, Embankment & Covent Garden u/g,
Charing Cross & Waterloo u/g & rail; buses 1,6,9,11,13,
15,23,26,59,68,76,77A,91,168,171,172,176,188,341;
boat Savoy & Embankment Piers
*this 1998 statue was erected to celebrate the centenary of
the birth of the playwright, actor and film maker Noel
Coward (1899-1973)*

Latchmere Theatre

503 Battersea Park Road, SW11
020 7978 7040
transport: Clapham Junction rail; buses 44,49,319,344,
345
opening: Mon-Sat opens 20.00, Sun 17.00
*a fringe theatre above a pub. You get your drinks
downstairs from the bar*

Holland Park House and Park, W8/W14

transport: High Street Kensington, Holland Park u/g;
buses 9,10,27,28,49,94,328,C1
opening: park: daily 07.30-dusk
*the house provides a lovely backdrop to the open-air
theatre that opened in 1979*

National Portrait Gallery

St Martin's Place, Trafalgar Square, WC2H
020 7312 2463 (recorded info) www.npg.org.uk
transport: Charing Cross u/g & rail; buses 3,6,9,11,12,
13,15,23,24,29,53,77A,88,91,139,159,176; boat
Embankment Pier
facilities: *disabled access & wcs; guide for visually
impaired; rooftop café & restaurant; free tours by
arrangement*
opening: Mon-Wed, Sat-Sun 10.00-18.00, Thur-Fri
10.00-21.00
admission free
*this outstanding collection of portraits includes one of the
actor and theatre manager, David Garrick, and his wife*

Verulamium Museum and Roman Town

St Michael's Street, St Albans, Herts, AL3
01727 854051 (theat), 751810 (mus)
transport: St Albans City rail
facilities: *touch screens and hands-on. Set in 100 acres
parkland with cafes, toilets, football and paddling pool*
opening: Mon-Sat 10.00-17.30, Sun 14.00-17.30 (last
admission 17.00)
admission charge
*this is the best preserved example of a Roman theatre in
Britain. Dating from about AD 130 it was used for bear
baiting, cock fighting & musical/dramatic performances.
Close by are the foundations of a Roman Town House, a
sacred shrine and a row of Roman shops. The Museum
has a display of mosaics and has recreated rooms to show
the life and times of a major Roman city*

Important Collections Outside the London Area

University of Bristol Theatre Collection

Dept of Drama, Cantocks Close, Bristol BS8
0117 928 7836 [www.bris.ac.uk/theatre collection](http://www.bris.ac.uk/theatre%20collection)
opening: Mon-Fri 09.15-16.45
admission free
*this museum and research centre is dedicated to the
study of British theatre history and has a collection of
original documents, photographs and artefacts of
theatres, actors and designers. It has several important
collections including the Women's Theatre Collection
showing the influence of women in the theatre through
typescripts, programmes, photographs etc. An important
archive is the Old Vic Archive that provides an historical
record of the Old Vic Theatre in London through
documents and personal collections of those involved with
the Theatre*

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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