



*Seeing the Capital Differently*

## Time

### 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](http://www.citytheme.co.uk)  
e-mail: [info@citythemes.co.uk](mailto:info@citythemes.co.uk)  
address: CityThemes PO Box 42530, London E1W 3WL

### Enjoy Your Explorations

## Alfred Dunhill Collections

Burlington Arcade, Piccadilly, W1V

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

opening: by appointment 48 hrs prior to visit  
admission free

*display of watches amongst the range of Company Products manufactured over the last 100 years*

## Guildhall Clock Museum

Aldermanbury, EC2P  
020 7332 1868

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

facilities: library; sales desk

opening: Mon-Fri 09.30-16.45  
admission free

*the museum has a collection of 15 marine chronometers including that of 1724 by Henry Sully, a silver deck watch by Thomas Earnshaw, and John Harrison's 5th Marine Timekeeper of 1770*

*it also displays the 700 timepieces of the Company of Clockmakers, a City of London Livery Company. These date from between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries and range from 600 English and European watches to longcase clocks. It is the oldest collection in the world. The Museum also houses the library of the Clockmakers Company with books and manuscripts dating from 1813*

## Science Museum

Exhibition Road, SW7  
020 7942 4455 [www.sciencemuseum.org.uk](http://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); disabled wcs; library; refreshments; shop

opening: daily 10.00-18.00  
admission free

*history of time-keeping and time measurement from water clocks to quartz watches. A medieval mechanism from Wells Cathedral strikes every quarter of an hour*

## Old Royal Observatory

Greenwich Park, Romney Road, Greenwich, SE10  
020 8858 4422 [www.rog.nmm.ac.uk](http://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 17<sup>th</sup> 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*

*another important item is the Shepherd 24-Hour Gate Clock. Installed in 1852 by Charles Shepherd this Galvano-Magnetic clock is known as the Master Clock as it brought coordinated time into existence. Its divisions are marked in Roman numerals*

*the Observatory is the home of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), the Prime 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.*

*outside the Observatory is the 1996 Meridian Sculpture. It has an abstract central tubular shaft with centrally attached circular rim suspended from 4 wires. Made of stainless steel it is set at an angle in line with the Prime Meridian like a gyroscope. The Meridian track running to it has electronic news feed*

## Selfridges

400 Oxford Street, W1  
020 7629 1234

transport: Marble Arch & Bond Street u/g; buses 2,6,7,8,10,12,13,15,23,30,73,74,82,94,98,113,137,139,159,189,274

opening: Mon-Fri 10.00-20.00, Sat 09.30-20.00, Sun noon-18.00

*a world-famous store, it has an art deco clock supported by an allegorical figure of the Queen of Time riding on a ship of commerce. It was sculptured by Gilbert Bayes*

## St Katharines Dock

riverside front of Tower Thistle Hotel, St Katharine-by-the-Tower, E1 [www.stkaths.co.uk](http://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

*'Timepiece' is a 12ft diameter sundial supported by 3 handforged steel chains. It is set at 56 degrees & the pointer is parallel to the earth's axis and pointing true north; by Wendy Taylor 1973*

## Queen's Chapel of the Savoy

Savoy Place, Strand, 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

opening: Tue-Fri 11.30-15.30

*an old hour glass as used by the chaplain has been kept although the pulpit was removed in 1939*

## obelisk

Kew Towpath, Richmond, Surrey,

transport: Kew Bridge rail

*an 18<sup>th</sup> century stone obelisk marks the terrestrial meridian. It was used by Kew Observatory along with movement of the stars to calculate and set the time for Horse Guards Parade and Parliament. Unfortunately it can only be seen from the tow path as it is obscured by scrubwood*

## St Anne and St Agnes Lutheran Church

Gresham Street, EC2  
020 7606 4986

transport: St Paul's & Bank u/g; buses 8,25,56,100,172,242

opening: Mon-Sat 09.00-18.00, Sun 09.00-20.00.

Services in Swahili 1<sup>st</sup> Sun in month (14.00), in Estonian on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun (14.30), in Latvian 4<sup>th</sup> Sun (14.30)

*a doorcase has an 1682-3 figure of Father Time with gilded wings, sickle and hourglass*

## St Margaret Pattens Church

Rood Lane, Eastcheap, EC3  
020 7623 6630

transport: Monument u/g, Fenchurch Street rail; buses  
15,35,40,47,48,133,149,344

opening: Mon-Fri 10.00-16.00

*an hour-glass of 18<sup>th</sup> century wrought iron*

## All Hallows, North Twickenham

Chertsey Road, Twickenham, Middlesex,

transport: Twickenham rail; bus 281

*inside the tower is a porch which originally led from Lombard Street to All Hallows church in the City of London. It is decorated with emblems of death including skulls, hour glass, skeleton & Father Time. The porch and tower were brought to Twickenham when All Hallows was pulled down*

## 5b Urban Bar (formerly Five Bells & Bladebone)

23 Three Colt Street, Limehouse, E14  
020 7537 1601

transport: West Ferry DLR; buses 15,277,D3,D6,D7

opening: all permitted hours

*the décor of this pub reflects the docks and includes a bell. The name refers to the site formerly being an abbatoir (bladebone) and the 5 bells which indicated the end of lunchtime in docks*

## Kensington Gardens

Bayswater Road & Kensington Gore Road, Bayswater, W8  
020 7298 2100

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

opening: daily 05.00 - dusk

*the 'Time Flies' clock and fountain of 1909 is near the playground. It has a columned roof and clock tower with golden bird weathervane. Under the clocks on each side of the tower there is the inscription 'Time Flies'*

## Horniman Museum and Gardens

100 London Road, SE23

020 8699 1872 [www.horniman.demon.co.uk](http://www.horniman.demon.co.uk)

transport: Forest Hill & West Dulwich rail; buses 63,122,  
176,185,312,P4,P13

*facilities: disabled access & wcs; library (Tue-Sun 14.00-17.30); snacks; shop*

opening: museum daily 10.30-17.30; gardens Mon-Sat  
07.15-dusk, Sun 08.00-dusk

admission free

*an analemmatic sundial lets you tell the time by using your own shadow*

## Lords Cricket Ground/MCC Museum

St John's Wood Road, St John's Wood, NW8

020 7432 1033 [www.lords.org](http://www.lords.org)

transport: St John's Wood u/g (10mins walk), Marylebone  
rail (15mins walk); buses 13,46,82,113,139,187,189,274

*facilities: limited disabled access; library; restaurant and snacks nearby; shop for prints, books, souvenirs and cricket equipment; tours by arrangement*

opening: daily except match days. Tours at noon &  
14.00 (extra tour at 10.00 during summer) It is advisable  
to phone to check opening times

admission charge

*the Father Time weathervane dates from 1926. The museum covers the history and equipment of the sport of*

*cricket. Amongst the memorabilia are bats, balls, bails, an urn containing the Ashes, portraits of famous members and Staffordshire pottery figurines of cricketers.*

## National Gallery

Trafalgar Square, WC2N

020 7747 2885

[www.nationalgallery.org.uk/](http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/)

transport: Charing Cross u/g & rail; buses 3,6,9,11,12,  
13,15,23,24,39,53,77A,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, bookshop, tours (daily 11.30 & 14.30 plus 18.30 Weds)*

opening: daily 10.00-18.00 Weds 10.00-20.00

admission free

*two paintings in the collection show Time as an allegorical figure. 'Venus, Cupid, Folly and Time' is by Bronzino (1503-72) and 'Allegory with Venus and Time' is by Tiepolo (1696-1770)*

## Boston Manor House

Boston Manor Road, Brentford, Middlesex, TW8

020 8583 4463

[www.cip.org.uk/heritage/boston](http://www.cip.org.uk/heritage/boston)

transport: Boston Manor u/g, Brentford rail; bus E8

opening: Sat-Sun Apr-Oct 14.30-17.00 CLOSED APRIL

2004 (enquire 0846 456 2800)

admission free

*nineteen allegorical figures can be found on the ceiling in the Drawing Room - five Senses, four Elements, three Virtues, Peace & Plenty, War & Peace and Father Time who is flanked by two cherubs*

## Museum of London

150 London Wall, EC2Y

020 7600 0807

[www.museumoflondon.org.uk](http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk)

transport: Barbican, St Paul's & Moorgate u/g, Liverpool  
Street u/g & rail, City Thameslink rail; buses 8,56,100,  
172,242

*facilities: audio tapes and braille sheets; disabled access via ramps; disabled wcs; library; restaurant and snacks; shop*

opening: Mon-Sat 10.00-17.50, Sun noon-17.50. (last  
admission 17.30)

admission free

*the collection includes a 1760 musical clock that plays music at 4-hourly intervals while figures move in a painted landscape. Another clock shown at the Great Exhibition of 1851 has the date and time in London and eight other cities*

## British Museum

Great Russell Street, WC1B

020 7323 8000

[www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk](http://www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk)

transport: Russell Square & Tottenham Court Road u/g;  
buses 10,24,29,73,134

*facilities: audio guides for certain displays including the Parthenon Sculptures (6 languages); disabled access & wcs; licensed restaurant (self-service) and snacks (daily Mon-Sat 10.00-16.30, Sun noon-17.30); shop selling books, postcards, posters and replicas; eyeOpener gallery tours of 50mins +Spotlight talks of 20mins*

opening: daily Sat-Wed 10.00-17.30, Thur-Fri 10.00-  
20.30. Great Court Mon-Wed 09.00-21.00, Thur-Sat  
09.00-23.00, Sun 09.00-18.00. Clearance 10mins before  
closing

admission free except for some tours - donation welcomed

amongst the collection in this national museum are precision regulators

### **Sir John Soane's Museum**

13 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2A

020 7405 2107 [www.soane.org](http://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

here you will find 11 timepieces including a calendar watch presented by Queen Anne to Christopher Wren in the 18<sup>th</sup> century

### **Victoria and Albert Museum**

Cromwell Road, SW7

020 7942 2000/0870 442 0808 24hr information

[www.vam.ac.uk](http://www.vam.ac.uk)

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

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

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

this museum's fine and applied art collection is one of the best in the world and it is a fitting place to display a collection of clocks, watches and sundials

### **Waltham Abbey Church**

Greenyard, Waltham Abbey, Essex, EN9

01992 767897 (Parish Office)

[www.walthamabbeychurch.co.uk](http://www.walthamabbeychurch.co.uk)

transport: Waltham Cross rail; bus 505

facilities: disabled access to Church and Abbey Gardens

opening: daily 10.00-16.00 winter; 10.00-18.00 summer; (except Wed when open at 11.00 and Sun when open at noon)

close to the Abbey in Sun Street is a tablet in the pavement marking where the Meridian Line goes through the town

### **Greenwich Park**

north side of Boating Lake, Park Row Gate, Greenwich, SE10

020 8858 2608 [www.open.gov.uk/rp/rphome.htm](http://www.open.gov.uk/rp/rphome.htm)

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

facilities: sports pitches; tennis & putting; playground, parking; Café

opening: daily 06.00-dusk

the Millennium Sundial is a triangular bronze gnomon set in a stone and marble circle. It stands on the Prime Meridian that is marked by a bronze strip running to the edge of the circle dial - a circle of stone slabs with Roman numeral hours. Eventually it will be surrounded by 12 small 'human' sundials showing the time in 12 cities in 12 different time zones. The shadow of the human will tell the time

### **Pickering Place**

St James's Street, SW1

transport: Green Park u/g; buses 8,9,14,19,22,38

a small gaslit court of 18<sup>th</sup> century houses has an astrolabe sundial in its centre

### **Time Spiral**

Meridian Square, Stratford, E15

transport: Stratford u/g, DLR & Rail; buses 25,69,86,104,108,158,238,241,257,262,308,473,D8,S2

this 1996 piece of sculpture by Malcolm Robertson is a three-faced spiral of stainless steel with a clock face on each of the three sides. It is set in a circle with compass points, gold lettering and signs of the zodiac emphasising the themes of time, travel & transport

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.

© CityThemes 2006