



*Seeing the Capital Differently*

## Unicorns

### 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

## **Apothecaries Company of London**

Blackfriars Lane, EC4

020 7236 1189 [www.apothecaries.org.uk](http://www.apothecaries.org.uk)

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

*facilities: steps to entrance, otherwise wheelchair access throughout; gift and publications shop; tours by prior arrangement*

opening: courtyard Mon-Fri; Hall by appointment  
small admission charge for tours of the Hall

*this City Livery Company's coat of arms is surmounted by a rhinoceros and supported by two unicorns*

## **Hampton Court Palace**

East Molesey, Surrey, KT8

020 8781 9500 [www.hrp.org.uk](http://www.hrp.org.uk)

transport: Richmond u/g, Hampton Court rail; buses 111,

216,411,416,461,513,727,R68; boat Hampton Court

*facilities: audio guides in 6 languages; disabled access (wheelchairs available); disabled wcs; parking; Tiltyard Tearoom or Privy Kitchen Coffee Shop, ice cream kiosks; 4 themed shops (Base Court, Garden, Tudor Kitchen, Barrack Block); costumed guides and family trails; free group tours (choose from daily programme)*

opening: daily mid Mar-Oct Mon 10.15-18.00, Tue-Sun 09.30-18.00 (last admission 17.15); Nov-mid Mar Mon 10.15-16.30, Tue-Sun 09.30-16.30 (last admission 15.45)  
admission charge

*the Trophy Gates are decorated with a lion and unicorn*

## **Royal Mews**

Buckingham Palace Road, SW1A

020 7839 1377 [www.royalresidences.com](http://www.royalresidences.com)

transport: St James's Park & Green Park u/g, Victoria u/g & rail; buses 2,8,11,16,24,36,38,52,73,74,82,185,211, 239,C1,C10

*facilities: disabled access & wcs; shop*

opening: daily April-Oct 11.00-16.00 (last admission 15.30)

admission charge

*entrance to the Mews is through lion and unicorn gates*

## **Tate Britain**

Millbank, SW1P

020 7887 8000 (recorded info. 020 7887 8008)

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

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

catamaran boat service 'Tate to Tate' between Tate & Tate Modern via London Eye (40 mins, charge made)

*facilities: audio self-tour guides; disabled access (4 wheelchairs are available on request); special touch tours by arrangement; disabled wcs; library; 6 disabled parking spaces; Tate café (daily 10.30-17.30, Espresso Bar (daily 10.00-16.30), Tate Restaurant (daily for lunch noon-15.00, Sun noon-16.00 (reservations 020 7887 8877)); Tate Shop (daily Mon-Sat 10.30-16.40, Sun 10.00-16.40), Clore Shop (daily noon-17.30) for books & posters; tours*

opening: daily 10.00-17.50

admission free

*a sculpture of 1897 of Britannia with a lion and unicorn is over the portico. The lion is holding the Royal coat of arms*

## **Queen Elizabeth Gate**

near Aspley Gate, Hyde Park, W1

transport: Hyde Park Corner & Marble Arch u/g; buses 2,8,9,10,14,16,19,22,36,38,52,73,74,82,137

*this attractive stainless steel gate has a red lion and a white unicorn supporting a tree with tendrils of plants, flowers & leaves. Sculptured by David Wyne the gates were designed by Guiseppi Lund and erected in 1993 to celebrate the 90th birthday of the late Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother*

## **Christ Church, Spitalfield**

Commercial Street, Spitalfields, E1

020 7247 7202

transport: Shoreditch, Aldgate & Aldate East u/g, Liverpool Street u/g & rail; buses 8,11,15,26,35,42,47,48, 67,78,100,133,149,153,214,242,344

opening: Mon-Fri noon-13.00, Suns for services

*sculptures of unicorns can be found on this church's chancel beams*

## **Queen's Chapel of the Savoy**

Savoy Place, Strand, WC2

020 7836 7221

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

*a needlework panel of 1600 shows the Garden of Eden with a camel, an elephant and a unicorn. The background has a castle, a windmill and other buildings, It was presented to the Chapel by Sir Harold Wernher of Luton Hoo*

## **St Anne and St Agnes Lutheran**

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 unicorn is by the lectern*

## **Royal Institute of British Architects**

66 Portland Place, W1

020 7580 5533

transport: Oxford Circus, Great Portland Street &

Regent's Park u/g; buses 18,27,30,88,C2

*facilities: café (Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat 08.00-18.00, Tue & Thur 08.00-21.00); bookshop*

opening: Mon-Fri 09.30-17.30, Sat 10.00-17.00

*these magnificent cast bronze entry doors each weigh 1.5 tons and are engraved with various London scenes. The handles are columns surmounted with a lion and unicorn while the plates are shields. They are the work of James Woodford (1893-1976)*

## **St Margaret Pattens**

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

*the choirstalls nearest the nave have painted & gilt wooden carvings of a lion and unicorn sitting on them. Made in 1998 these replace the original 17<sup>th</sup> century ones that 'ran away'!*

### **St Mary at Hill**

Lovat Lane, Eastcheap, EC3  
020 7626 4184

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

opening: Mon-Fri 11.00-16.00

*the dark woodcarving of the organ (restored after a fire in 1988) shows the Royal coat of arms, musical instruments and lions and unicorns at the corners. A clock completes this detailed piece of work*

### **St Peter upon Cornhill, EC3**

020 7283 2231

transport: Bank & Monument u/g, Cannon Street u/g & rail, Fenchurch Street rail; buses 8,11,21,26,35,47,48, 76,133,149,242,344

opening: admission by prior arrangement with St Helens Church (020 7283 2231)

*the oak chancel-screen is the only one by Sir Christopher Wren in its original setting. It has the coat of arms of King Charles II on the front and central pillars support a lion and unicorn*

### **Jubilee (Silver Jubilee Fountain)**

New Palace Yard, Westminster, SW1

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

*made of black painted galvanised steel strips and rotating on an axis, it is decorated with animals representing the continents - unicorn (Europe), lion (Africa), tiger (Asia), kangaroo (Australia), penguin (Antarctica): constructed by Walenty Pytel, 1977*

### **St James's Garlickhythe**

Upper Thames Street, EC4  
020 7236 1719

transport: Mansion House u/g, Cannon Street u/g & rail; buses 11,15,26,76,344

opening: Mon-Fri 10.00-16.00

*there are six Lord Mayors' sword rests decorated with unicorns*

### **King's Arms pub**

Newcomen Street, SE1

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

*this pub has a coat of arms of King George II with a painted lion and unicorn. The arms had originally decorated the south gatehouse of old London Bridge*

### **Goldsmiths Company**

Foster Lane, EC2V  
020 7606 7010 [www.thegoldsmiths.co.uk](http://www.thegoldsmiths.co.uk)

transport: St Paul's & Mansion House u/g, City Thameslink, Farringdon rail; buses 8,56,100,172,242

opening: by prior application

*the 17<sup>th</sup> century ceiling in the Court Room has foliage, fruit, unicorns and cups decorating the silver and gold cornice while in the fireplace is a firebasket of steel and polished bronze with gilded brass firedogs of rearing unicorns*

### **Kew Gardens/Royal Botanic Gardens and Museums**

Kew Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW9  
020 8332 5655/recorded information 020 8940 1171  
[www.rbgekew.org.uk](http://www.rbgekew.org.uk)

transport: Kew Gardens u/g & rail, Kew Bridge rail; buses 65,237,267,391,419; boat Kew Pier

*facilities: disabled access; Orangery, White Peaks, Pavilion & Victoria Gate restaurants & snacks (10.00-one hour before closing); shops; tours from Victoria Gate Visitors' Centre (daily 11.00, 14.00 no charge)*

opening: March-Aug Mon-Fri 09.30-18.30, Sat-Sun 09.30-19.30; Sept-Oct daily 09.30-18.00; Oct-Feb daily 09.30-16.15; Feb-Mar daily 09.30-17.30 (last admission and closure of glasshouses is 30 mins before closing time) admission charge

*the main gates of 1848 were designed with lion and unicorn by Decimus Burton. The figures have now been moved to above the entrance gates in the Kew Road*

### **St Alfege's, Greenwich**

Greenwich Church Street, SE10  
020 8293 5595 [www.st-alfege.org.uk](http://www.st-alfege.org.uk)

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

opening: Mon-Sat 10.00-16.00, Sun 13.00-16.00

*a little of the original 17<sup>th</sup> century woodcarving of Grinling Gibbons can be found in the church - on the posts under the galleries and in the lion and unicorn on the Royal Pew. The beasts are shown with fish tails to emphasise the nautical associations of the church*

### **National Maritime Museum**

Romney Road, Greenwich, SE10  
020 8858 4422 [www.nmm.ac.uk](http://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

*this fascinating museum traces the development of Britain's might as a sea power from King Henry VIII's Tudor fleet through voyages of discovery to 20<sup>th</sup> century naval warfare in the Falklands and the Gulf. On the outside of King William building, in high relief round an oval window, are a winged lion (on the left side) and a unicorn (on the right). Below are two dolphins and foliage. Four cherubs representing the four winds and other sea and marine symbols complete the decoration*

### **Wax Chandlers Hall**

Gresham Street, EC2

transport: St Paul's & Mansion House u/g, City Thameslink, Farringdon rail; buses 8,56,100,172,242

*the coat of arms of this city livery company is inscribed 'Truth is the Light' and incorporates two unicorns*

### **Kensington Gardens**

Palace Green Gate, Kensington Gore, W8

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

opening: daily 05.00am - dusk

*one of original metalwork gates giving entrance to the Gardens has a lion and unicorn facing across the gate and supporting a coat of arms*

### **Kensington Public Library North Façade**

Phillimore Walk, W8

transport: High Street Kensington u/g; buses 9,10,27,28,49,52,70,328

*a lion at the west end, a unicorn at the east. Each holding a coat of arms and seated on a fur tuft, they are by William Macmillan*

### **St George's Hospital**

Blackshaw Road, SW17

transport: Tooting Broadway u/g, Haydons Road rail; buses 155,280,493

*another crowned heraldic lion and unicorn of stone holding coat of arms. These date from 1953*

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