

*Thursday 13 August 2020*

## **London Transport Museum in Covent Garden reopening 7 September 2020**



- **London Transport Museum in Covent Garden is reopening its doors on 7 September 2020**
- **Open daily from 11:00 to 19:00, except Thursdays and Sundays when the Museum will close at 18:00**
- **Existing annual tickets extended by up to 5 months to enjoy missed visits**
- **Blue Light Card holders and local residents enjoy £5 off annual tickets**
- **Adults can explore the Museum and its shop after dark during special late opening events every Thursday in September and October**
- **Tickets and timed entry slots must be booked in advance at [www.ltmuseum.co.uk](http://www.ltmuseum.co.uk)**

Next stop Covent Garden as London Transport Museum reopens its doors to visitors on 7 September after closing temporarily for an unprecedented 173 days due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Families, culture lovers and transport fans will once again be able to enjoy the Museum's stunning exhibits, historic vehicles and world-famous posters, which together reveal how public transport has shaped life in London over the last 220 years.

The Museum's popular five-star Hidden London exhibition in the Global Gallery will also be back open for people to discover the mysteries of London's 'abandoned' Underground stations, from the secret wartime uses of Down Street and Clapham South to the creative ways forgotten subterranean spaces are being adapted for today's world.

The Museum, including its much-loved shop and café Canteen, will reopen daily between 11:00 and 19:00, except for Thursdays and Sundays when it will close at 18:00. Adult tickets cost £18.50 and allow free daytime entry to the Museum for a whole year - kids aged 17 and under go free. Timed entry slots must be booked online in advance of all visits.

Current annual ticket holders will have their passes automatically extended by up to 5 months from the date their pass was due to expire when the Museum closed, allowing people to make up for missed visits during the lockdown.

A new sealed activity pack for children aged 4 to 11 will also be available to purchase online for £7.50 to help kids get the most out of their time exploring the Museum. This specially designed pack, which will be available to pick-up on arrival, includes a craft-kit and activity to complete during the visit as well as a fun take-home activity.

The Museum is offering £5 off to Blue Light Card holders when booking daytime tickets to say thank you to key workers who have helped keep the Capital moving during the pandemic. Local residents in Westminster, Holborn, Bloomsbury, Kings Cross, Waterloo, Vauxhall, Borough and Bermondsey will also enjoy £5 off and are encouraged to walk where possible.

Every Thursday in September and October, the Museum will close at 18:00 and reopen between 18:30 and 21:00 for a special ticketed evening opening for adults keen to get out and meet up with friends after a day of working from home.

Tickets for these special evening openings are £15 and will give people the chance to enjoy a 'private view' experience free from crowds as they explore the Museum after dark with a complimentary drink in hand before showing off their trivia skills in a pub-style quiz.

The Museum's shop will be open daily between 11:00 and 19:00, and stay open late on Thursdays until 21:00, for shoppers to browse the stunning offering of vintage transport posters, exclusive moquette inspired gifts and accessories, as well as toys and books.

Canteen, the Museum's café bar decked out with original vintage 'railwayana' from the London Underground, will also be back open run by high-street favourite, Benugo.

Keeping its visitors, staff and volunteers safe is the Museum's top priority. London Transport Museum will reopen with Visit Britain's 'We're Good to Go' standard and has measures in place to keep people safe during their visit. These include:

- New pre-visit information to help people plan ahead
- New one-way routes to explore the galleries with updated signage
- Queuing systems to help people social distance while they enjoy interactive displays
- Hand sanitiser stations throughout the galleries
- Enhanced cleaning regimes with anti-viral disinfectant that protects for up to 30 days
- Cash-free contactless payments
- PPE for staff – including face visors

The Museum will open with the majority of its vehicles and interactives accessible for people to enjoy. To ensure people's safety, the All Aboard play zones and stamper trail will not be in use, and access to some vehicles will be limited. Face coverings must be worn at all times by children and adults aged 11 and above when exploring the Museum and browsing the shop.

When the coronavirus pandemic and lockdown forced London Transport Museum to close in March 2020, 80% of its income was cut off. The Museum has since lost £1.5m and counting. In July, the heritage charity launched an appeal and is asking its loyal visitors, supporters and the public to donate towards its future.

**Sam Mullins OBE, Director of London Transport Museum** said: "During this time of such great uncertainty, we are so keen to reopen our doors and welcome visitors back to our Museum; safe, clean and socially distanced. But the future remains full of big financial challenges. Visiting in itself will help to ensure we can continue sharing our wonderful Museum with people and we are incredibly grateful to everyone who has kindly donated, or plans donate to our public appeal. It has been touching to see so many people showing their support for London Transport Museum in recent weeks.'

London Transport Museum's Depot in Acton Town, West London is also reopening to visitors with a brand new summer season designed especially for families between Wednesday 19 and Sunday 23 and Wednesday 26 and Sunday 30 August. Timed tickets to visit the Museum Depot can be booked online in advance at

<https://www.ltmuseum.co.uk/whats-on/depot-summer>

Tickets and timed entry slots to visit London Transport Museum in Covent Garden can be booked online at [www.ltmuseum.co.uk](http://www.ltmuseum.co.uk)

To donate to London Transport Museum visit [www.ltmuseum.co.uk/appeal](http://www.ltmuseum.co.uk/appeal).

## Ends

For media enquiries, images and interviews contact:

- [press.office@ltmuseum.co.uk](mailto:press.office@ltmuseum.co.uk)

In social media posts please tag:

- Twitter: [@ltmuseum](https://twitter.com/ltmuseum)
- Instagram: [@ltmuseum](https://www.instagram.com/ltmuseum)
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ltmuseum>

## About London Transport Museum

- London Transport Museum's purpose is to ignite curiosity to shape the future. The Museum is situated in the heart of Covent Garden and filled with stunning exhibits; the Museum explores the powerful link between transport and the growth of modern London, culture and society since 1800. Historic vehicles, world-famous posters and the very best objects from the Museum's extraordinary collection are brought together to tell the story of London's development and the part transport played in defining the unique identity of the city
- The Museum is a charity and the world's leading museum of urban transport and a place for everyone to come to understand and enjoy the story of London's journey. No other capital city is defined and shaped so much by its transport as London. Yet the scale of influence of transport can be invisible to those who use it every day. The Museum's collections, together with its lively events and learning programme are a window into the past, present and future of how transport keeps London moving, working and growing, and makes life in our city better. The Museum's charity number is 1123122
- London Transport Museum is supported by public funding from Arts Council England

## Travel to London Transport Museum:

- Address: Covent Garden Piazza, WC2E 7BB
  - **Walking:** Use TfL's walking guides to help you plan your journey.
- Visitors travelling by public transport must wear a face covering. The nearest stations to London Transport Museum are:
  - **Underground:** Leicester Square, Charing Cross, Embankment, Holborn
  - **National Rail:** Charing Cross and Waterloo
  - **Boat:** Embankment or Westminster pier
  - **Bus:** Strand or Aldwych

**Tickets for London Transport Museum:**

- Adult tickets include free entry to enjoy the Museum for a whole year – kids go free!
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- Timed entry must be booked in advance online

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