

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**8 September 2020**

## **London Transport Museum reopens its Covent Garden doors with the chance to explore after dark**



- **London Transport Museum has reopened its Covent Garden doors for the first time after closing 173 days ago due to the coronavirus lockdown**
- **Adults wanting to enjoy an evening out after working from home can now explore the Museum after dark every Thursday in September and October**
- **After dark visitors on Thursday 10 September can test their transport trivia knowledge in a Hidden London themed pub style quiz with broadcaster and self-confessed Tube geek, Alex Grundon**
- **Tickets, which cost £15 and include a complimentary drink, must be booked in advance online at [www.ltmuseum.co.uk](http://www.ltmuseum.co.uk)**

London Transport Museum has reopened its Covent Garden doors for the first time after closing temporarily for an unprecedented 173 days due to the coronavirus pandemic. Families, culture lovers and transport fans can once more enjoy the Museum's stunning exhibits, historic vehicles and world-famous posters as they discover how life in London has been shaped by public transport over the last 220 years.

The Museum's popular five-star Hidden London exhibition in the Global Gallery is also back open. Revealing the mysteries of the Capital's 'abandoned' Underground stations, this atmospheric exhibition delves into the secret wartime histories of Down Street and Clapham

South as well as the creative ways forgotten subterranean spaces are being adapted for today's world.



New opening hours will see the Museum, its shop and café Canteen open daily between 11:00 and 19:00, except for Thursdays and Sundays when the Museum will close at 18:00.

Although London Transport Museum's much-loved Friday Lates won't be back in full swing for a while, every Thursday in September and October the Museum will reopen after dark between 18.30 and 21:00 for adults who are keen to get out and meet up with friends after a day of working from home.

Tickets are £15 and will give people a 'private view' experience free from crowds as they explore the Museum's galleries and the Hidden London exhibition before enjoying a complimentary drink. Each after dark opening will feature a special themed pub-style quiz exploring film, music, art and design - all with a transport twist.

The first after dark event is set to take place on Thursday 10 September where guests can win coveted prizes from the London Transport Museum shop and show off their knowledge of London's 'abandoned' Underground stations as broadcaster, self-confessed Tube geek and Hidden London Hangout host, Alex Grundon steps into the role of quizmaster. The quiz will run twice throughout the evening at 19:15 and 20:15.

Tickets to explore London Transport Museum after dark are available to over 18s only and must be booked online in advance at: [www.ltmuseum.co.uk/afterdark](http://www.ltmuseum.co.uk/afterdark)

Tickets for general adult admission to the Museum cost £18.50 and allow free entry to the Museum and its galleries and exhibitions for a whole year. Kids aged 17 and under go free! To guarantee entry, timed admission tickets must also be booked online in advance of all visits [www.ltmuseum.co.uk](http://www.ltmuseum.co.uk)

Keeping its visitors, staff and volunteers safe is the Museum's top priority. London Transport Museum has reopened with Visit Britain's '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

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

## **Ends**

## **Notes to editors**

- 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.
- 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, Bermondsey and Elephant & Castle, will also enjoy £5 off and are encouraged to walk to the Museum where possible.
- Face coverings must be worn at all times by children and adults aged 11 and above when exploring the Museum and browsing the shop.

- The Museum will open with the majority of its interactive exhibits accessible for people to enjoy, but to ensure people's safety access to a number of vehicles will be limited and the stamper trail will not be in use.

**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:** Covent Garden, 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!
- Museum open daily from 11:00 to 19:00 except Thursdays and Sundays when the Museum closes at 18:00

- Timed entry must be booked in advance online

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