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Visit London What's New Travel Trade

September 2007

Welcome to the September Travel Trade newsletter. Keep up to date with all that's happening in London by reading the latest travel trade updates.

If you need any further information about the news below or have a specific enquiry please email trade@visitlondon.com or dial the travel trade helpline: +44 (0)20 7234 5821.



Visit London News

London named Best UK City in Group Leisure Industry Awards

London was named Best UK City in the Group Leisure Industry Awards on Thursday 20 September. The awards were handed out at a glitzy ceremony at the Hilton Birmingham Metropole Hotel, in front of 400 guests from the travel and tourism industry.

The winners were nominated by group travel organisers from organisations such as major sports and social clubs, retired groups, community associations and schools. The awards have been running since 1997 and this is the sixth time London has been voted Best UK City.

For more information on the awards see www.groupleisure.com/vote

Partner Offers and News

Heathrow Express announces T5 Services

Heathrow Express has announced how they will continue to provide passengers with the fastest, most frequent and reliable way to get to and from Heathrow airport when Terminal 5 opens in March 2008.

Departing from London's Paddington station every 15 minutes, passengers will arrive into the heart of Heathrow airport after 15 minutes; stopping for a short period of time at Terminals 1, 2 and 3 before continuing their journey to arrive at Terminal 5 eight minutes later. Passengers wishing to travel to Terminal 4 can change at Terminals 1,2,3 and then board the free inter terminal transfer service.

More information: www.heathrowexpress.com

Maritime Greenwich Christmas village 2007-2008

Maritime Greenwich, London's Christmas Village, has an exciting programme of festive activities, exhibitions and events running through December into New Year 2008. This beautiful corner of south east London will take on a special festive atmosphere with open-air ice skating, shopping, twinkling fairy lights, decorations, a giant Christmas tree and visit by Santa Claus.

For details call +44 (0) 870 608 2000 or visit www.greenwichwhs.org.uk

New website for London Eastside

London Eastside, the team behind the award-winning Essential Venue Guide for London Eastside have launched a brand new website that sees the venue guide move into the digital area. The website offers users enhanced search options to find the perfect venues for their events, an interactive map, events calendar, newsletters and more!

Visit www.londoneastside.co.uk for more details.

New London present at Excursions 2008

Visit the New London stand at Excursions 2008 to find out about the:

- ? opening of The London Bridge Experience
- ? re-opening of Southwark Playhouse and The Fashion and Textile Museum
- ? King Tutankhamen exhibition at The O2
- ? new galleries at the Museum in Docklands: London, Sugar and Slavery and Jack the Ripper and the East End
- ? hidden gem of Bankside?s past opening its doors to the public
- ? Bankside Frost Fair 2008.

Contact Valentina Diamanti-Fox, New London Partnership, +44 (0)20 7928 4015

Dot2dot: New Airport Shuttle Service

Travelling to the airport is about to get easier and cheaper from 1 November 2007 thanks to the National Express Group?s new large-scale airport transfer service, dot2dot (formerly known as Hotelink), running between Heathrow and Gatwick and Central London Hotels.

With a maximum of four stops on any route for each shuttle, at half the price of a taxi, the service allows travellers to travel in comfort with less hassle than many other routes into central London.

More information: www.dot2.com

Hotel Offers

Radisson Edwardian New Providence Wharf now open

Radisson Edwardian New Providence Wharf opened on the 10th of September in a stunning waterside location, bringing a new brand of contemporary luxury to the Canary Wharf area. The 169-bedroom, four-star deluxe new-build property occupies a prime riverside spot, boasting panoramic views of the river.

Bookings and information: visit www.radissonedwardian.com or call +44 (0)20 7987 2050

Christmas Celebrations at the Hilton London Heathrow Airport

A wide range of Christmas events have been designed by Hilton London Heathrow Airport to get guests into the swing of the season including Festive Party Nights, Private Party Nights and a traditional Christmas Day Lunch; all perfect and designed for fun loving, like minded people to get together and create a unique party atmosphere! Party Nights commence 30th November through 21st December, from ?39.50 per person.

To book call the Christmas Co-ordinator on +44 (0)208 750 0645

Exhibitions and Events

The First Emperor: China?s Terracotta Army

13 September 2007 - 6 April 2008

This once-in-a-lifetime exhibition has recently opened at the British Museum in London. It will explore one of the greatest archaeological discoveries of the 20th century and provide an insight into China?s First Emperor, Qin Shihungdi, and his legacy. Objects featured will also include the world-famous terracotta warriors from Xi?an, China which were buried alongside the First Emperor in readiness for the afterlife.-

For contact and bookings: 0870 066 1562 / +44 (0)20 7323 8181 or www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk/firstemperor

Richard Meier at Louise T. Blouin Institute

The solo exhibition presents Meier?s extraordinary versatility as artist, designer and architect and comprises an overview of Meier?s outstanding international architectural creations together with an exploration of his sculpture, collages, drawings, photographs, furniture and product design over 45 years. Opens 12 October 2007.

More information and bookings call +44 (0)20 7985 9600 or visit www.ltbfoundation.org

Slavery Exhibition at Docklands Museum

On 10 November, Museum in Docklands will open ?London, Sugar & Slavery?, the only permanent gallery in London to examine the city?s involvement in transatlantic slavery and its

legacy on the capital. Discover how the English sweet tooth, consumer boycotts and the Notting Hill Carnival are linked by one of the great crimes against humanity.

More information www.museumindocklands.org.uk/slavery

Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs

15 November 2007 ? 30 August 2008

London prepares to welcome the treasures of the world's most famous pharaoh. Tutankhamun's tomb was discovered in Egypt in 1922. In 1972, 1.7 million guests visited the London Tutankhamun exhibition. This is a spellbinding exhibition featuring over 130 Ancient Egyptian treasures.

Booking and information: www.visitlondon.com/tutankhamun

General Information

Tube Works

The Victoria line will be closing early Mondays to Thursdays from 23 July to 22 November to allow line upgrade works. For more information, also on other tube works, visit www.tfl.gov.uk

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