



Visit London What's New Travel Trade

Issue 27, June 2007

Welcome to the June 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

International Group Leisure & Travel Show 20-21 September

Visit London will be exhibiting at the International Group Leisure & Travel Show on 20-21 September at the NEC in Birmingham where we will be launching the new 'London for Groups Guide'. Come and visit us at stand 417 to get you free Groups Guide. Register now online for fast-track entry at www.leisureshow.com

Partner Offers and News

Transport for London confirms coach parking arrangements for Tour de France arrival in London

The confirmed set down and pick up locations are:

- Saturday : Prince Consort Road, Strand, Hanover Square, Eaton Square;
- Sunday: Park Lane, Hanover Square, Berkeley Square, Tower Gateway.

TfL has also secured Battersea Power Station as a central parking area for up to 150 coaches. Those wishing to bring coaches to the event and gain entry to Battersea Power Station will need to register for a separate permit for each day. These are available free of charge from TfL.

For further information, operators can contact the coach team via email at coaches@tfl.gov.uk

Thames Clippers launches The O2 Express Service

Starting on Sunday 24th June 2007, Thames Clippers high speed catamarans will be slicing through the water from Waterloo Pier in the West End to Europe's ultimate entertainment destination The O2 daily from 10am all the way through to 5.30am on Aftershow Party nights! The O2 Express is £4 for a single journey or for those that would like a real treat you can take advantage of our VIP service with it's priority boarding and disembarkation, separate seating area and chilled champagne served on your way to The O2! For more information contact Kate McKeand kate.mckeand@thamesclippers.com or go to: www.thamesclippers.com

New Redemption point for new London Travelcard Vouchers

Luton Airport has now joined the growing list of redemption points for the new London Travelcard Vouchers, joining Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted Airports, plus nearly 300 National Rail stations in Greater London. Launched at the beginning of this year by Groundline and the National Rail Companies, the London Travelcard Vouchers have soared in popularity. Only Travelcards give unlimited travel on all modes within the chosen Zones for a specified period of time. Priced the same as tickets, they offer Trade Terms and Commissions (subject to status) plus discounts at many London Attractions, Theatres, Restaurants and Exhibitions for the consumer. For more details contact groundline@aol.com

New give-aways this summer with London Pass

Great give-aways this Summer with the London Pass which now includes a new free Time Out city guide when visiting the Tate Modern - and heaps more cool deals. From just £12 per day Leisure Pass Group's smart card gives clients access to over 50 top attractions throughout the city.

www.londonpass.com

Back stage tours at Wimbledon Tennis Museum suspended for duration of Championship

With the eyes of the whole world focused on the leafy suburbs of SW 190 the, All England Club is all geared up for its annual influx of 500,000 visitors, many of whom will take the opportunity during any breaks in play due to inclement weather to visit Wimbledon's award winning Museum, tracing the fascinating history of Tennis, as well as showcasing its 200 degree audio visual theatre and ghost of John McEnroe. Back stage tours are suspended for the duration of the championships but begin again on Saturday July 14th, for more information visit www.wimbledon.org/museum.

New Exhibits to open at the Museum in Docklands

Since Museum in Docklands opened in May 2003, it has quickly established itself as part of the pulse of London's cultural scene, gaining a reputation for innovative displays and creative programming. The coming year will see the completion of two ambitious and significant projects, London, Sugar and Slavery (Oct 07), and Jack the Ripper and the East End (May 08). Contact Clea Relly (crelly@museumindocklands.org.uk), or call +44(0)20 7814 5503 for more information.

New Bookable Walking Tours in French

A Nous Deux Londres! (French guided walks and tours in London) has a new programme of special bookable walks, for individuals and agencies: Westminster (21 July, 8 August), Secret Gardens of the City (13 July), the Da Vinci Code (16 August), etc. £8 per person – group discounts. See www.anousdeuxlondres.co.uk

South Bank launch new website

Planning a trip to South Bank? The new web site www.southbanklondon.com is essential viewing. Find out about all the attractions, from the London Eye to the Old Vic Theatre, and now search for up-to-the-minute events listings, from festivals to shows. Also features interactive maps, suggested itineraries and a directory of places to eat and drink.

Zoo Nights at ZSL London Zoo - Enjoy a summer night at ZSL London Zoo

6.30pm to 10pm, Friday 27th July 2007

For a night out with a difference, why not spend a sultry summer evening at ZSL London Zoo in the company of some of the most fascinating animals on earth. Relax and enjoy a drink by the penguin pool, be amazed by a host of flying, leaping and climbing animals showing off their natural skills in our Animals in Action demonstration. Explore Gorilla Kingdom, ZSL London Zoo's newest exhibit, after hours and see our gorillas in their awesome natural habitat. Don't miss this unique opportunity to celebrate the arrival of summer at the Zoo. Book online at www.zsl.org now and save 10% on your ticket price!

Exhibitions and Events

Visitlondon.com - What's On

The "What's On" section of the website will give you the latest information on what on in London. Make sure you keep up-to-date with what's happening at visitlondon.com/whats_on/

Dalí & Film, Tate Modern 1 June – 9 September 2007

Exhibition organised by Tate Modern in collaboration with Fundació Gala-Salvador Dalí with support from the Spanish Tourist Office
Admission £11 (concessions £8)

Tate Modern presents a ground breaking exhibition, Dalí & Film, the first ever to focus on the close relationship between the paintings and films of Salvador Dalí (1904 – 1989). Dali & Film is an unprecedented exploration of the central role of cinema in Dalí's art. www.tate.org.uk/modern/

The Tour de France in London 6-8 July 2007

The Opening Ceremony, Prologue and start of Stage 1 of the historic race will all take place in the UK capital from 6-8 July 2007. The legendary cycling event will pass by some of London's most famous sights and attract more than 1 million people to locations throughout the city. The Tour de France weekend will be a fantastic festival of sport and entertainment with events and activities taking place all over the city from world class cycling and cycling stunts, to celebrations of French culture, carnivals and live music. Go to www.tourdefrancelondon.com for more information.

Impressionists by the Sea, Royal Academy of Arts, 7 July – 30 September

This exhibition explores the 19th century representations of the northern coastline of France. Consisting of some 60 paintings, the exhibition will explore the origins and development of the

fashionable contemporary beach scene from the early 1860s to early 1870s, in the work of great artists including Monet, Manet, Renoir and Whistler. It will also look at work of the 1880s, in which the Impressionists turned their backs on the depictions of people and used their approach to painting to capture the effects of weather and light on the coastline. Exhibition tickets available in advance by calling 0870 848 84 84

The First Emperor: China's Terracotta Army, The British Museum 13 Sept-6 Apr 2008

This once-in-a-lifetime exhibition coming to the British Museum, London, in September this year 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 more information and ticket bookings: www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk/firstemperor/

Henry Moore at Kew, 15 Sept 07- 30 Mar 08

The largest ever London exhibition of Moore's work, with 28 monumental bronzes placed on a walk through the heart of Kew Gardens. Groups can book guided tours to learn more about one of Britain's most successful sculptors. For more information call +44 (0)20 8332 5648 or [read more here](#).

Renaissance Siena: Art for a City, National Gallery 24 October 2007 - 13 January 2008

This exhibition offers the first opportunity in the UK to see Siennese Renaissance works of art in the artistic, cultural and political context of the volatile last century of the Siennese Republic. While the painting of Trecento Siena is universally admired, the art produced during the later 15th and early 16th centuries is much less well known, especially outside Italy. For more information [read here](#).

Hotels

Hyatt Regency London - The Churchill refurbishment nearing completion

Hyatt Regency London - The Churchill has now come to the end of its multi-million pound refurbishment of bedrooms, suites, corridors and the Regency Club®. A fresh new look for the hotel has been created, offering an elegant and contemporary atmosphere, keeping true to the classic nature of the hotel and with the distinguished Hyatt Regency brand worldwide. For site inspections, please contact Angela White, Sales Manager on +44 (0)20 7299 2082

New Park Plaza County Hall opens Autumn 2007

The brand new Park Plaza County Hall London opens in Autumn 2007. This 4-star deluxe hotel is within easy reach of some of the capital's most visited attractions such as the London Eye. The contemporary hotel boasts all rooms with kitchenettes and with flat-screen TV. The hotel offers a concept restaurant and bar, WI-FI connectivity throughout. Contact: ppchsales@pphe.com or 0207 769 2477

New Floral Afternoon Teas in The Hamptons Bar at the Crowne Plaza London-St James

Introducing Jing Teas, with more than 20 loose and floral teas to choose from, accompanied by freshly made scones with clotted cream and strawberry jam, light sandwiches and patisseries.
Traditional Afternoon Tea £16.50
Champagne Afternoon Tea £25.50
www.51-buckinghamgate.com

Park Plaza Sherlock Holmes introduces new Middle-Eastern Menu for the Summer

Perfectly located a few minutes walk from Oxford Street, the Park Plaza Sherlock Holmes London offer a wide range of Middle Eastern specials throughout the summer season including a menu featuring a selection of meze, regional sweets and treats, fresh mint tea, specialty coffees and non-alcoholic cocktails as well as TV channel in Arabic and a wide selection of Arabic Newspapers. Perfect for sightseeing and shopping in the heart of London. www.sherlockholmeshotel.com

Theatre and Entertainment

Ballet Boyz Gala: Ballet for the People

Southbank Centre's Royal Festival Hall, 14 – 15 July
The Ballet Boyz bring together the best of British ballet, including The Royal Ballet, English National Ballet, Rambert Dance Company, Birmingham Royal Ballet and Christopher Wheeldon.
www.southbankcentre.co.uk
+44 (0)871 663 2500

General Information

Changing the Guard

The ceremony will take place at 11.30am DAILY from May - 31 July 2007.

Transport Disruptions

A list of planned station closures and track closures for the next six months is now available in PDF format. For this and further information on travel in London go to: www.tfl.gov.uk

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