

**the unlike guide to**

# **london**

Anika Lori

custom tour  
compiled by  
**Unlike Media, Ltd.**

# Anika Lori

Sometimes it rains in April...but London will always have a very special place in my heart.

Living there back in 1994, enjoying every beating minute of this vibrating city. I was 18, and every time I turned the corner I was like ... wow!

The humour, the Guinness, the intense vibe, the food, the pubs on every corner, the hustle and bustle of London's streets as well as the fact that all the cultures of the world exists side by side in this truly cosmopolitan city has also always been a huge inspiration to me.

These are the things that make me go back for more, again and again.

# Portobello Road Market

And on down the road ...



Internationally recognized for its role in the film Notting Hill, Portobello Road Market is much less offensive in real life—actually quite charming. Virtually 300 years of existence means that each week brings new goods and curios to be discovered by new visitors and regulars alike.

During the week, the local community gathers for the mix of fruit and vegetable stands, prepared goods and hot food stalls. On Fridays the secondhand market opens, and on Saturday the famous antiques market is held towards the Southern end of Portobello Road, near Notting Hill Gate. Permanent antique shops, grocers, clothing boutiques and butcher shops also line Portobello Road, adding extra options for your shopping pleasure.

A recent addition to the Saturday market is the Arts & Crafts section, which is located just off Portobello Road on the Tavistock Piazza. Here's where the fashion flaneur get their cop on.

# Escapism | Kensington and Chelsea

Hours Vary According To Sellers

“Searching, searching, searching...”

**Portobello Road Market**  
 Portobello Road, W11 London  
 W. [www.portobelloroad.co.uk/...](http://www.portobelloroad.co.uk/)

Transport:  
 [Circle] [Central] [District] at  
 Notting Hill Gate; [U] at Ladbroke  
 Grove

market  
 antiques  
 vegetables  
 fruits  
 vintage  
 secondhand

photo © Kishu Chand

# Hummingbird bakery

## Flitting fancies



The smallest bird on the planet, some hummingbirds grow to only reach the size of a pencil eraser tip. This expertly run and classically outfitted American bakery follows suit by preparing those small goodies—cupcakes, cookies and brownies—that leave us blissfully buzzing in a big way.

Since the bakery's opening in 2004 the Hummingbird empire has spread across London with shops now in South Kensington's Old Brompton Rd, Soho's Wardour St and East London's Frying Pan Alley. The smallest of the fleet, the original Notting Hill bakery is just as sweet as the cupcakes it sells.

With a range of delectable treats—in particular a sinfully good red velvet cake lathered with cream cheese frosting—the only shame in the experience is for our waist sizes, as these generously portioned cakes are more the size of plump toads.

# Food | Kensington and Chelsea

Mon Fri, 10:00 18:00; Sat, 9:00 18:30; Sun, 11:00 17:00

*“My sweet lord...”*

**Hummingbird bakery**  
 133 Portobello Road , W11 2DY  
 London  
 T. +442073614795  
 W. www.hummingbirdbakery.com

Transport:  
 [Piccadilly] [Central] [District] at  
 South Kensington

**cupcake**  
**sweet**  
**tooth**  
**dessert**  
**sweet**

photo © youyoung Lee

# TopShop

Pleb to Celeb in sixty seconds

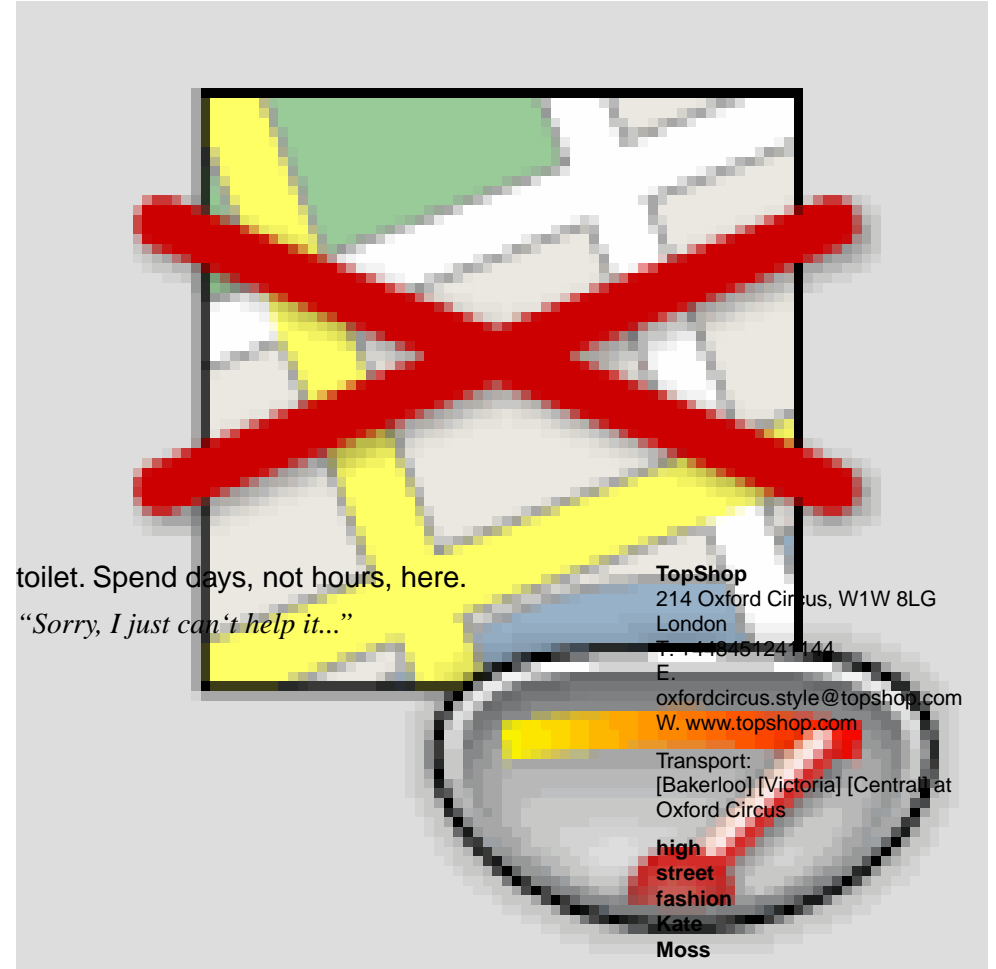


The flagship TopShop location on Oxford Circus is a pure mecca for all women on a shopping pilgrimage. This shop is the world's largest fashion store, with 90,000 square ft, over 200 changing rooms and 1,000 staff on duty at any time—making the hectic environment (get this!) actually somewhat pleasant with no-wait changing room lines and friendly assistants. Adored by high street shoppers and respected by fashionistas on the hunt for an affordable piece of the next must-have item, TopShop's stock consistently reflects the newest trends. A range of well-chosen vintage items and concessions by emerging young designers—from silk screen printers on Brick Lane to Berlin's Star Styling—add exclusivity and fashion-forward panache.

Spread over three palatial floors (with an impressive three stock deliveries a day), TopShop Oxford Circus more resembles a full-on lifestyle treatment, with a nail bar, café, VIP room, hairdressers, style advisers and, gratefully, a customer

## Shop | City of Westminster

Mon Wed & Fri Sat, 9:00 20:00; Thu, 9:00 21:00; Sun, 12:00 18:00



toilet. Spend days, not hours, here.

*"Sorry, I just can't help it..."*

**TopShop**  
214 Oxford Circus, W1W 8LG  
London  
T. +44 1845 124 1144  
E.  
oxfordcircus.style@topshop.com  
W. www.topshop.com

Transport:  
[Bakerloo] [Victoria] [Central] at  
Oxford Circus

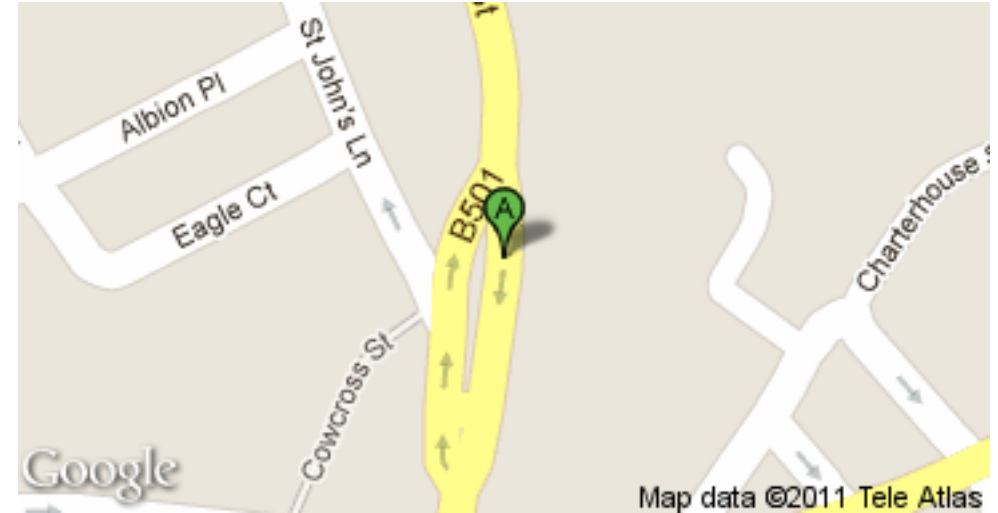
**high  
street  
fashion  
Kate  
Moss  
menswear  
womenswear**

photo © eddie otchere

# St. John Bar and Restaurant

Waste not, want not

Food | Islington



Vegetarians, read no further. Same goes for anyone who senses an unsettled stomach at the mere thought of chowing down on a plate of giblets. St. John's philosophy concerns the meat, the whole meat and nothing but the meat. Restaurateur Fergus Henderson opened this establishment in 1994—set in a former smokehouse near Smithfield meat market—as London's coolest place to fill your boots on a menu of 'nose to tail' delicacies. To those uninitiated amongst us, this type of dining refers to dishes utilising every part of the animal. Choose between roast bone marrow, blood cake and chitterlings—just a couple of items on the menu. For those of you who don't want to go the whole hog (apologies for the terrible pun), we highly recommend the traditional British offerings of eccles cakes and cheeses.

At times, dining in St. John's feels like taking part in a conceptual art show, not least because London art celebs like Gavin Turk and Sarah Lucas are among the regular clientele.

It's also supposedly popular with tweed-wearing exponents of faux rural living such as Madonna and Bryan Ferry, and as 'nose to tail' dining is a standard of thrifty rustic British cuisine, this is a glowing endorsement indeed. The restaurant itself is modern and stylish, with the super white walls you would normally expect to see in a trendy East London gallery, and polite and attentive service. St John's is an adventure in cuisine, and one that must be tried should you find yourself within oinking distance of Smithfield's market.

*“One big crunchy fish with a bowl of boiled eggs and some fine wine — blows me away every time.”*

**St. John Bar and Restaurant**  
26 St John Street, EC1M 4AY  
London

T: +442033018069

E.  
reservations@stjohnrestaurant.com  
W. www.stjohnrestaurant.co.uk

Transport:  
[U] at Farringdon

**meat  
nose  
to  
tail**

# Les Trois Garçons

That's amore




An occasion restaurant, if ever there was one, Les Trois Garçons has all the vital embellishments to ensure that your night is a memorable one. Owned by an international male threesome—Hassan Abdullah, Michel Lasserre and Stefan Karlsson, Les Trois is too opulent to work as a convincing daytime venue, but after twilight sets in, the whole place glimmers with seduction. With glamour, a lavish storybook interior and an A-list celeb following, there's no wonder its become one of London's sexiest venues. The dark wood interior is lit by candlelight and glistens with chandeliers while displays of designer handbags, playful taxidermy, jewelled surfaces and mirrors compete for your attention.

Elegant and typical French dishes consistently please, but are slightly over-priced—la carte meals clock in at 42.50 for two courses and 49.50 for three courses. A small price to pay for the tres romantique kaleidoscope of dazzling touches, all of them weapons for mass seduction.

## Food | Tower Hamlets

Lunch: Mon Fri, 12:00 14:30; Sun, 12:00 15:30 Dinner: Mon Sat, 18:00 00:00;  
Last Order At 22:00



Flirtation and frisson: oh-so-perfect for anniversaries, romantic meals, marriage proposals and intimate first dates. Men, thank us later.

*"Kissing Tomas..."*

**Les Trois Garçons**  
1 Club Row, E1 6JX London  
T: +442076131924  
E: info@lestroigarcons.com  
W: www.lestroigarcons.com

Transport:  
[Northern] at Old Street

french  
sexy  
intimate  
pricey  
date  
spot  
fancy

photo © Lwan-M via flickr

# Victoria Miro Gallery

Upper room

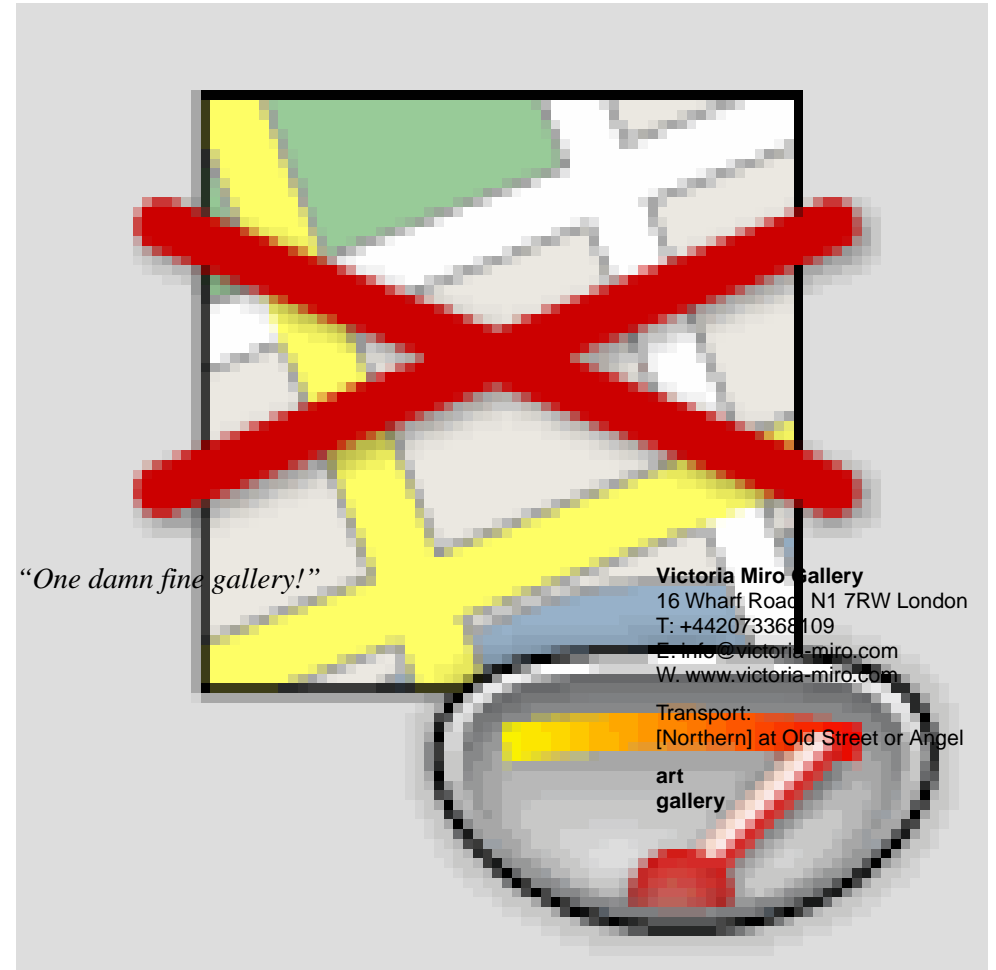


Run by Victoria Miro, one of the "grandest dames of the Britart scene", this influential art space exhibits established names with younger artists. Geographically the gallery is slightly off-the-beaten-gallery-track but consistently comes through: Miro has an acclaimed eye for innovative talent while also consistently showcasing the most exciting new artstars.

Whether your visit encompasses an exhibition by a household name of the international art scene or the next big art thing, one thing is made perfectly evident after repeat visits here: you will bear witness to artistic and curatorial greatness at Victoria Miro.

Art & Culture | Islington

Tue Sat, 10:00 18:00



# Bellamy's

## Crustacea mania!

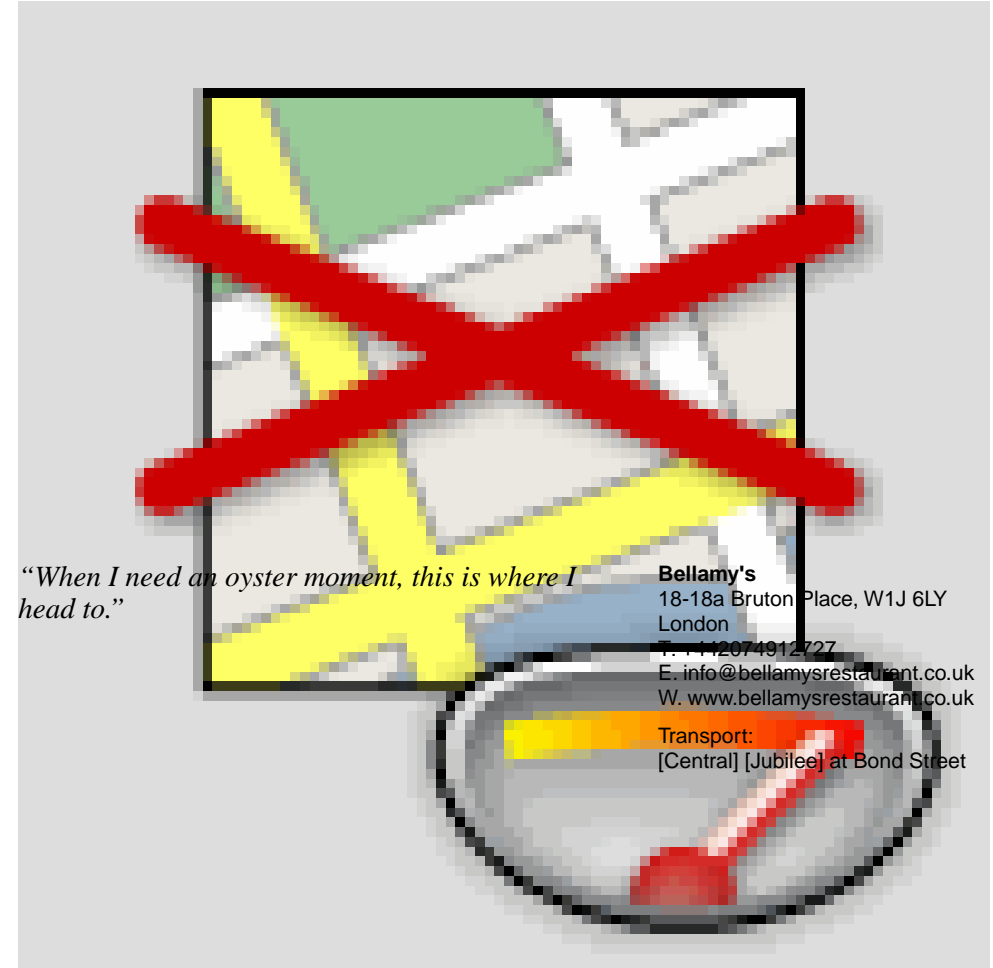


This shop, restaurant and oyster bar is so ideally couched by essential Mayfair boutiques—Matthew Williamson and Stella McCartney, for example—that drifting from retail therapy to apres-shopping dining becomes a no-brainer transition.

It's hard to deny the lively brasserie welcoming lovers of classic French fare to indulge in savory smoked eel mousse or fillet of sole. Or, its accompanying bar where patrons pick at delicate Irish rock oysters with a glass from a choice selection of champagnes for an aphrodisiac pick-me-up. The cheekiest light lunch in W1 and a convivial spot for gossiping also holds one more damnably persuasive draw: the entrance doubles as a shop specialising in culinary luxuries like caviar, smoked salmon, fromages and other delights, so you can whisk away some of the indulgence home.

## Food | City of Westminster

Mon Sat, 12:00 14:30 (Except For Saturdays) And 19:00 22:30



*“When I need an oyster moment, this is where I head to.”*

**Bellamy's**  
18-18a Bruton Place, W1J 6LY  
London  
T. +442074912727  
E. [info@bellamysrestaurant.co.uk](mailto:info@bellamysrestaurant.co.uk)  
W. [www.bellamysrestaurant.co.uk](http://www.bellamysrestaurant.co.uk)

Transport:  
[Central] [Jubilee] at Bond Street

# Prince Charles Cinema

Cheap as chips



The Prince Charles Cinema—once a specialist porn cinema—is now the place to go for well-priced film screenings in the West End. This independent movie house has established an army of supporters for its low priced ticket policy and its screening of films in a variety of formats. The programme is constantly reviewed to ensure that there is something to tempt every kind of film fan, helping lure cinephiles from the multiplexes on Leicester Square.

Check their website to see what's showing each week, or pick up a leaflet from outside the cinema. The schedule specialises in classics and selected favourites from the best of the year's releases. The Prince Charles also regularly hosts audience sing-a-longs to the likes of *The Sound of Music* and *Rocky Horror Picture Show*. This venue has a huge fan base of dedicated film buffs—Quentin Tarantino said of his film *Kill Bill* that it was designed for the Prince Charles. Praise indeed.

*"My first Rocky Horror Picture Show experience: fierce!"*

**Prince Charles Cinema**  
7 Leicester Place, WC2H 7BY  
London  
T: +442074943654  
E:  
web@princecharlescinema.com  
W:  
www.princecharlescinema.com

Transport:  
[Piccadilly] [Northern] at Leicester Square

**cinema**  
independent  
cheap

# London Basics

## All You Need To Survive

### WELCOME

...to London, the once Roman settlement turned setting for Sherlock Holmes, home of Shakespeare and the Sex Pistols, site of the Great Plague and the Great Fire, the Peasant's Revolt and today's finance driven pride of the Pound, originator of the metro system, bomb basin of the German Blitz and subsequent architectural chimera, epicentre of the truth-obsessed Renaissance, and subject of Dicken's musings on the Industrial Revolution and white-lace Victorian Era.

London surges with culture. Countless immigrants add flavour to the 32 boroughs shared between 8 million people of colourful backgrounds, from the posh West London neighbourhoods to the developing East. Welcome to the most populous city and metropolitan area of the EU, one of the world's most expensive destinations, and the capital of much more than just an island.

### FACTS & FIGURES

Population: 7.5 million ( city ); 13.9 million ( metropolitan )

Average Temperature: January 6C/43F; July 19C/66F

Currency: British

Pound

Time zone: GMT

Electricity: 240 volts AC, 50Hz; square three-pin plugs are standard

Country dialing code: +44

Areacode: 20

Spoken languages in London: 300

Licensed taxis: 18,000

Website: <http://www.visitlondon.com/>

### ARRIVING

Heathrow Airport is the world's busiest international airport. It is considered the hub of the aviation world and is the base for over 90 airlines. Gatwick Airport and Stansted Airport are also major ports carrying similar airlines.

From Heathrow:

Public Transport:

The London underground system is conveniently linked to Heathrow Airport, with stops at terminals 1-4. Tickets can be purchased at the terminals.

Taxi:

The following cab companies will take you from the airport to all city points:

London Black Cabs ( +44 795 769 6673 /

<http://www.londonblackcabs.co.uk/> )

London Taxi Cabs ( <http://www.londontaxicabs.net/> )

Bus:

Use Megabus ( +44 0900 160 0900 / <http://www.megabus.com/uk/> ) for discounted fares to destinations throughout

# London Basics

## All You Need To Survive

England.

First Bus Service ( +44 20 7291 0505 / <http://www.firstgroup.com/index.php/> ) provides transit to Acton, Greenford, Uxbridge, Northumberland Park, Alperton, Westbourne Park, Hackney, Rainham and Orpington.

Heathrow Airport  
Tel: +44 (0)844 335 1801  
<http://www.heathrowairport.com/>

From Stansted:

Train:  
The Stansted Express runs every 15 minutes and reaches London Liverpool Street in 45 minutes. Alternatively, National Express East Anglia trains run to Stratford (east London) via the Lea Valley. All trains depart from Stansted Airport rail station, situated directly below the terminal. London Underground connections are available at Liverpool Street, Stratford and Tottenham Hale (on the Stansted Express line).

Bus:  
Fast, frequent coaches run from Stansted to London destinations including Liverpool Street, Victoria, Stratford, Baker Street and Kings Cross. With fares starting at just a few pounds, this can be a really cost-effective way to travel. All services

call at the airport coach station, directly opposite the terminal.

Stansted Airport  
Tel: +44 (0)844 335 1803  
<http://www.stanstedairport.com/>

From Gatwick:

Train:  
Gatwick Express is the fastest rail link between the airport and central London. Non-stop trains run to and from London Victoria every 15 minutes and the journey takes 30 minutes (35 minutes on Sundays). A standard single ticket costs 16.90 and a standard return is 28.80. Tickets can be bought on board at no extra cost.

Gatwick Airport  
Tel: +44 (0)844 335 1802  
<http://www.gatwickairport.com/>

For details of special offers and to book in advance, visit the Gatwick Express website or ring +44 (0)845 850 1530 (UK only).

## TRANSPORTATION

Public Transport

Underground:  
London's Tube ( <http://tube.tfl.gov.uk/> ) will get you anywhere you need to go. There are 12 underground Tube lines. Underground trains on all lines run every few minutes between 5:30a-12:30a Monday to Saturday, and between 7:30a-11:30p on

# London Basics

## All You Need To Survive

Sundays.

While single fares are available on most forms of transit, visitors are advised to purchase a Travel Card or use Oyster to pay as you go. Oyster ( <http://tfl.gov.uk/oyster/> ) is London's Smart Card; users can put Travel cards or bus pass season tickets on their Oyster cards, add cash to pay as you go, or have a combination of both. Oyster cards are reusable, and cash can be added to an already existing balance. Although Oyster is not valid on National Rail services, Oyster users still pay considerably less on the tube, bus, DLR and tram services. Visitors from within and outside of the UK should visit these sites to purchase their Travel Cards in advance: <http://www.ticket-on-line.com/>.

Bus:

The public bus system in London is one of the world's largest transportation services in the world. Over 6,500 buses carry around 5.4 million passengers every week. Routes 9 and 15 are especially good for sightseeing. The most convenient way to travel via the bus is to purchase a Bus

Pass or Travel Card from an underground ticket office, travel information center, or ticket stop. Please remember that bus tickets used for travel in Central London ( zone 1 ) cannot be purchased on board. A valid ticket or Oyster Card is needed prior to boarding. Tickets are also available for purchase at bus stops.

Train

There are a number of overland rail lines that cover London. The North London Line provides the only east-west rail link bypassing the middle of town, linking stations in east London through north London over to Kew in the west.

The Docklands Light Railway ( +44 20 7222 1234 / <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/dlr/> ) covers a large segment of east London and Docklands, intersecting with the Tube network at Bank, Tower Hill and Stratford. This line contains a useful link to Maritime Greenwich, and there is also a new link to the London City Airport. Services operate from 5:30a to 12:30a and tickets must be purchased prior to entering the system.

BritRail ( +44 845 711

# London Basics

## All You Need To Survive

4141, +44 845 748 4950 /

<http://www.networkrail.co.uk/> ) has stops in Kings Cross, Cambridge, and Euston or take the Network Rail.

First Capital Connect ( <http://www.firstcapitalconnect.co.uk/> ) runs the Thameslink and East Coast Main Line.

Tramlink ( +44 20 8681 8300 / <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/trams/> ) runs approximately every 15 minutes and covers suburban south London linking Wimbledon, Croydon, New Addington and Beckenham.

National Rail ( +44 845 748 4950, +44 20 7278 5240 / <http://nationalrail.co.uk/> ) operates in the same zone system as the London Underground, but is also able to reach areas outside of this region such as Hampton Court and Windsor. Oyster Card readers are not available at all stations and holders should check their validity prior to using National Rail services.

### Boat

You can also get around with the London River Services ( <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/river/> ), which provide a great way to view London day or night by traveling on the Thames river. Services

head east towards Greenwich, The O2 and the Thames Barrier, and travel west towards Richmond and Hampton Court. Tickets can be purchased at one of several boarding piers, and, in some cases, on the boat. Travel Card holders can receive a one-third discount off most river services.

### Coach

Coaches ( +44 870 608 2608 ) have the virtue of serving some locations that are inaccessible by other modes of transportation. They cater to many popular destinations including Oxford, Windsor ( for Windsor Castle and Legoland ), Leeds Castle, Lakeside Shopping Centre, and Southend-on-sea.

The London Travel Information Call Centre is open 24 hours, 7 days a week and offers a multitude of comprehensive travel information. It can be accessed by calling +44 20 722 1234.

# Notes



- A) Union Gallery
- B) Portobello Road Market
- C) Hummingbird bakery
- D) TopShop
- E) St. John Bar and Restaurant
- F) Les Trois Garçons
- G) Victoria Miro Gallery
- H) Bellamy's
- I) Prince Charles Cinema