

London Museum Docklands – a visual story for schools



There is a sign on the building that says London Museum Docklands.

Our museum is in an old Georgian warehouse that was used to store goods from all over the world. It is on the edge of a large dock filled with water.

The museum is open from **10am-5pm** every day of the week. The galleries close at **4.40pm**.

People you will meet



Hosts

Hosts wear purple t-shirts and they are very friendly.

They know lots about the history of London's Docklands. You can ask them any questions about London's Docklands or the museum.



Duty Managers

Duty Managers wear earpieces and a badge with their name.

They know a lot about the museum.

You can ask them any questions about the museum.

Entrance Hall



You will see the entrance hall as soon as you come into the museum. The entrance hall has old wooden pillars and wooden floorboards.

There may be loud tannoy announcements in the museum letting you know when talks and activities are about to begin.

If you'd like some ear defenders to take round the museum please ask a Host or the Duty Manager.



How to get around



The museum explores the history of London's Docklands. This is the area of London where the docks used to be.

The museum galleries are on four floors: Floor 3, Floor 2, Floor 1 and Ground Floor (Entrance Hall). You should begin on Floor 3.

There is a main staircase and two lifts on the left of the Entrance Hall.

There are toilets on this floor, opposite the lifts.



Useful places



When you arrive your class can leave their coats and bags on a coat rack in the Lee Boo room in the basement. If your teacher has booked lunch tables you can eat your lunch here.



There are toilets in the basement near the Lee Boo room. If these are too busy, you can find more on the ground floor and on Floor 3. If you need a Changing Places toilet with a hoist, you can find this on Floor 1.

Activity Spaces



There are two classrooms in the basement. They are called the Jack Petchey Activity Space and the Pocahontas Activity Space. They are at the far end of the basement, at the opposite end from the Lee Boo room.



If your teacher has booked a learning session for your class then it might happen in one of our classrooms.

Shop and cafe



The museum shop is open from **10am** to **5pm** and is at the front of the entrance hall near the doors. You can buy toys, books and souvenirs about London and its history at the museum shop.



At the back of the entrance hall there is a cafe. The cafe can become noisy and busy between **12pm** and **2pm**.

No. 1 Warehouse

This gallery looks at the history of the building our museum is in.

Here you can find out about the different people who worked in London's docks.

There are two videos playing in the gallery that show people working in London's docks. These videos have heavy, rhythmic music in the background.



Trade Expansion



This gallery looks at the history of London's Docklands from 1600-1800.

You will walk through an area called Legal Quay which shows you what the East End was like before the docks were built. As you walk through you will hear what it sounded like to be in a working quay.

There is also a video of people in a coffee house. If someone walks past this video, it will start to play.



London, Sugar & Slavery



This gallery explores the British trade in enslaved Africans and its connections to London and this warehouse.

There are interactive screens around the gallery that tell you more information. Some of these have sounds played through headphones which are attached to the screen.



London, Sugar & Slavery



You can use these stairs to continue your journey down to the Floor 2 galleries.

At the back of the gallery are two mobility lifts which will take you down to the next gallery.

City and River



This gallery looks at the history of London's Docklands from 1800 to 1840.

You can find out about how and why the docks were built in London.

This gallery can be very quiet and doesn't have any videos playing. There is a drawing table in the corner of the gallery where you can draw a picture to take home or add to our wall.



Sailortown



This gallery shows you what a street would have been like in London's Docklands in the 1840s. It is dark and can be smelly in here.

You can walk through narrow, dark streets and listen to the sounds of 1840s London.

If you would rather not walk through Sailortown, let a Host know and they will take you on a different route to avoid the gallery.



First Port of Empire



This gallery looks at the history of London and its port from 1840-1880.

You can find out about the different jobs people had in London's port.

There is an interactive screen in this gallery which tells you about the Dockers' Strike of 1889. When no one is using this interactive screen you will hear a voice calling out to try and get your attention.



Warehouse of the World



This gallery includes different items that were kept in warehouses in London's Docklands from 1880 to 1939.

You can find out about the different spices that were brought to London. There are boxes of spices and other goods that you can smell.

There is a video showing how tea was brought to London from China on clipper ships. There is music playing in the background of this video.

Docklands at War



This gallery looks at the history of London's Docklands during the Second World War.

There is a video about the Blitz. This video plays every 10 minutes and begins with the sound of a loud air-raid siren.

You can find out about the secret work that took place in London's Docklands during the war. As you walk around you will hear voices reminding you how important it was not to tell anyone what this secret work was.

There are videos playing in this gallery which have music in the background.



New Port, New City



This gallery looks at the closure of London's docks and the building of Canary Wharf.

You can find out about the building of the Docklands Light Railway.

There are two videos playing in the gallery. When you enter the gallery you will see a video about people coming to London from around the world.

There is another video near the end of the gallery about the building of Canary Wharf. If someone walks near this video it will start to play.



Changing Places accessible toilet



On this floor there is a Changing Places accessible toilet with a hoist for visitors who need it. This toilet is behind the Staff Only door, and is locked to the public. You will need to ask a Host if you would like to use this toilet.

This area is quite bright, and there is a wooden play shop nearby, so it can be loud if children are playing with it.

On this floor you will also find the entrance to the Sainsbury Study Centre.

Sainsbury Study Centre



This gallery explains the history of the supermarket Sainsbury's from when it was founded in 1869 to today.

You can look at how packaging has changed from 1869 to today. There are computers with more pictures you can look at.

This gallery is usually very quiet. There are sofas in the middle of the gallery and books you can look at.

Thames Life



This gallery looks at London's Docklands in the 1930s and the people who lived there.

You can look at shops showing what you could buy in London in the 1930s.

This gallery is very quiet and there are no videos playing. The back of this gallery is quite dark.

You will need to exit this gallery the same way you came in.

Mudlarks



Mudlarks is our gallery for children up to eight years old.

It has different activities you can do to find out about the history of London's Docklands.

Mudlarks is free for schools to visit, but has to be booked in advance by your teacher.



Evacuation – what to do if we need to leave the building



If you hear a loud voice telling you to leave the museum, you will need to leave the building quickly and calmly by the nearest fire escape.

Follow the instructions of the hosts in purple t-shirts and do not use the lifts or the main staircase.

LONDON MUSEUM DOCKLANDS

We look forward to meeting you soon and
we hope you have a great visit!

If you have any more questions about your
visit email us at:

learning@londonmuseum.org.uk