

# Discover London...

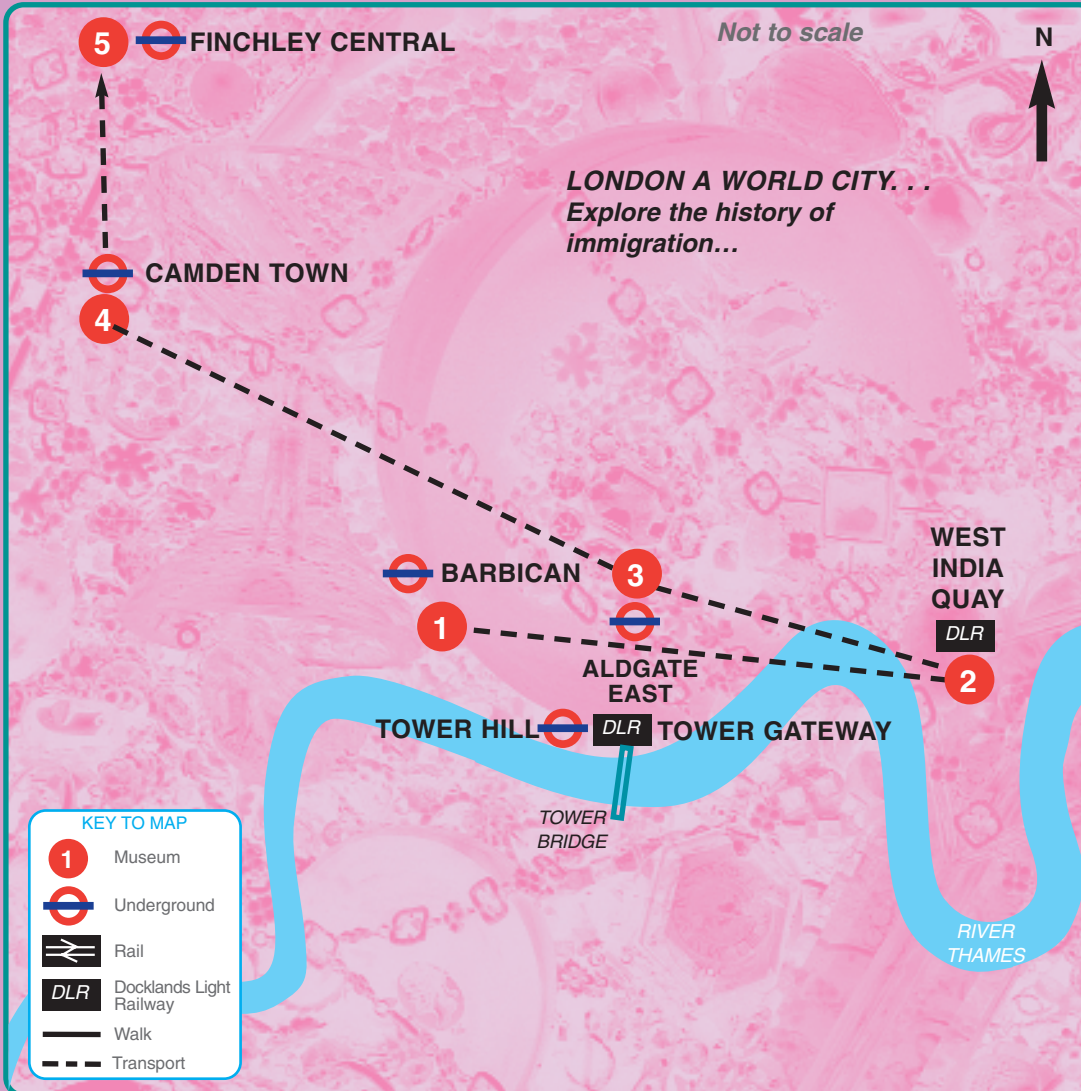
## trail 6

### map & introduction

#### LONDON A WORLD CITY. . .

##### Full day

It is often said that London is a melting pot, indisputably one of the most cosmopolitan and diverse cities in the world. And it has been like that for two millennia! This trail takes you through its oldest part, the City of London, to Docklands, once the heart of the largest port in the world, via Brick Lane in the East End - possibly the most multi-cultural part of this multi-cultural city - to the remarkable Jewish Museum.



Discover London Trails have been produced by the Campaign for Museums, a registered charity, in support of London's Smaller Museums and Galleries with funding from the Mayor of London and ALM London.

...go to next page for addresses & summary

# Discover London...

trail **6**

addresses & summary

## Museum of London

London Wall, EC2

[www.museumoflondon.org.uk](http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk)

Open: 1000-1750 Mon-Sat; 1200-1750 Sun

Admission charge

Tel: 0870 444 3851

An illustration of over 2000 years of British history

## Museum in Docklands

1 Warehouse, West India Quay, E14

[www.museumindocklands.org.uk](http://www.museumindocklands.org.uk)

Open: 1000-1800 daily

Admission charge

Tel: 0870 444 3857

The 2000-year old story of London's river, port and people

## Museum of Immigration

19 Princelet Street, E1

[www.19princeletstreet.org.uk](http://www.19princeletstreet.org.uk)

Open: By appointment in advance for groups only, except on open days (call for dates)

Tel: 020 7247 5352

A dedicated museum celebrating the contribution of immigrants

## Jewish Museum, Camden

129/131 Albert Street, NW1

[www.jewishmuseum.org.uk](http://www.jewishmuseum.org.uk)

Open: 1000-1700 Sun; 1000-1600

Mon-Thu; closed Jewish holidays

Admission charge

Tel: 020 7284 1997

An exploration of the history and religious life of the Jewish community

## Jewish Museum, Finchley

The Sternberg Centre;

[www.jewishmuseum.org.uk](http://www.jewishmuseum.org.uk)

80 East End Road, N3

Open: 1030-1700 Mon-Thu; 1030-1830

Sun; closed public and Jewish holidays

Admission charge

Tel: 020 8349 1143

An exploration of the history and religious life of the Jewish community

## CHILDREN'S/FAMILY ACTIVITIES

**Museum of London** – regular family events.

**Museum in Docklands** - free entry for under 16s, children's gallery with hands-on interactive exhibits, regular family events.

**Jewish Museum** - entertainment and craft workshops explore Jewish life in a fun and informative way.

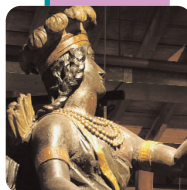
Images

*Jewish Museum - Last Goodbye*

*Jewish Museum - Holocaust Exhibition*

*Pocahontus figurehead at Museum in Docklands*

*Cheapside Hoard, Museum of London*



LONDON A WORLD CITY . . .

## TRAIL SUMMARY

This trail explores the history of immigration, beginning at the **Museum of London**, close to Barbican or St Paul's Underground stations. This is the world's largest urban history museum. The seven permanent galleries offer comprehensive and fascinating displays of all aspects of London life, from pre-history to the present day.

From Barbican station, travel to West India Quay by changing at Tower Hill/Tower Gateway for the Docklands Light Railway. Here, the **Museum in Docklands** is located in an old warehouse, dwarfed among the huge 21<sup>st</sup> century buildings of London's new financial centre. The museum explores the fascinating 2,000-year story of London's river, port and people, from Roman settlement to the recent regeneration of London's former Docklands.

Travelling back to Tower Hill, take the District Line to Aldgate East for Spitalfields, an area that has been home to Huguenots, Jews and Bengalis – among others – over the centuries. The **Museum of Immigration** celebrates the contribution of immigrants to the nation. It is the former home of a Huguenot silk merchant and the site of a concealed synagogue.

To find out about the history and religious life of the Jewish community in Britain and beyond, visit the **Jewish Museum**, which is based at two sites – one in Camden Town and the other in Finchley (both Underground stations are on the Northern line).

See end of 'trail in detail' for additional information sources.

Plan your own journey by visiting Transport for London's website [www.tfl.gov.uk](http://www.tfl.gov.uk).

# Discover London...



the trail in detail

## LONDON A WORLD CITY. . .

The first stop on this trail is the **Museum of London**, the main entrance of which is located on a pedestrian walkway accessed from Aldersgate Street, London Wall or St Martins-Le-Grand. Barbican and St Paul's are the nearest Underground stations.

This museum is the world's largest urban history museum with permanent galleries telling the story of London from prehistoric times to the present.

The early collections cover the period from the first human occupation of the Lower Thames Valley in about 500,000 BC right up to AD 1700. They are divided into four key periods: prehistoric (500,000 BC – AD 43), Roman (AD 43 - 410), Saxon & medieval (AD 410 - 1485), and Tudor & Stuart (AD 1485 - 1700).

The collections from 1700 to today currently comprise almost half a million objects, images and digital recordings. The World City Gallery (1789-1914) - the largest of all the galleries - describes how London became the world's first metropolis. During this time, the city's population increased sevenfold – from one million to around seven million (not much less than it is today). Two current collecting themes cover London's diversity and the impact of the 2012 Olympic Games. There is a café within the museum.

From Barbican station, take the Circle Line to Tower Hill and change to the Docklands Light Railway at Tower Gateway for West India Quay in the Canary Wharf district. Here, the **Museum in Docklands** is located within a splendid late Georgian warehouse. Several major galleries explore the history of London's river, port and people - from the founding of the Roman port through to the recent regeneration of London's former Docklands. Centuries of social and economic change of the area are shown within the galleries and there are also stories of the people who arrived to help build and shape the city - and those who continue to do so, including the Irish who built and worked in the docks, the Scandinavians who sailed here and the Chinese who created the first Chinatown at Limehouse.

A lively mix of traditional displays and multi-media technology animates the 2000-year storyline. Artefacts, engravings, paintings, testimonies and photos drawn from the outstanding collections of the Museum of London and Port of London Authority emphasise the skills and ingenuity of the Docklands community. Temporary exhibitions and events showcase the region's rich cultural heritage.

The area around the museum in West India Quay has been completely transformed and you can now enjoy refreshment at one of the cafes and

restaurants overlooking the river as well as in the Museum in Docklands.

Return to Tower Hill, take the District Line to Aldgate East, cross Whitechapel and walk up Brick Lane to the **Museum of Immigration** at 19 Princelet Street in Spitalfields. Built in 1719, this house became the home of a Huguenot family who had escaped from persecution in France but prospered after entering the silk weaving trade in

London. After the Huguenots, the Irish came, and later the Jewish emigrants from Eastern Europe.

One small group of arrivals, mostly from Poland, formed the Loyal United Friends Friendly Society to help newcomers, just as the Huguenots had pioneered such self-help groups in the late 17th and 18th centuries. This group took a lease on 19 Princelet Street and erected a synagogue in the garden in 1869. Underneath the synagogue, a place was created where people came together, and - much later - prepared to resist intolerance and fascism.

There is a site-specific exhibition 'Suitcases and Sanctuary' exploring the history of the waves of immigration that shaped Spitalfields, seen through the eyes of today's children. It is the story of one area, the story of London, and the story of the making of multicultural Britain.

# Discover London...



*the trail in detail*

## LONDON A WORLD CITY . . .

For an in-depth understanding of Jewish history, culture and religious life, as part of Britain's diverse heritage, visit the **Jewish Museum** based across two sites, one in Camden Town and one in Finchley. Together, the two museums explore the diversity of Jewish life in Britain and beyond, through permanent displays and changing exhibitions.

From Tower Hill Underground station, take the District Line to Embankment and change to the Northern Line for Camden Town. Walk along Parkway, turn left into Albert Street and the Jewish Museum Camden is located in an elegant early Victorian listed building on the right hand side.

From Camden Town Underground station, travel northwards on the Northern Line to Finchley Central, walk down Station Road, left into Manor View and the Jewish Museum, Finchley is in East End Road opposite the end of Manor View.

At Camden, you can see one of the world's finest collections of Jewish Ceremonial Art. The History Gallery traces Jewish history in Britain from the Norman Conquest to recent times. From 7 June – October 2006, a specially created multi-media exhibition 'Identities' uses elements of filmed interviews and photographs to explore contemporary Jewish identities, 350 years after their readmission to Britain.

The site in Finchley explores the history of Jewish immigration and settlement in London. You can step back in time to follow the footsteps of Jewish immigrants from Eastern Europe and learn about the experiences of refugees from Nazi Europe. The moving story of Leon Greenman, a London-born Auschwitz survivor is told in the museum's Holocaust Educational Gallery.

Further information on the history of immigration can be found at the **Family Records Centre**, 1 Myddleton Street, London EC1, tel 020 8392 5300, [www.familyrecords.gov.uk](http://www.familyrecords.gov.uk). This aims to help visitors find the government records and other sources needed for family history research. The website [www.movinghere.org.uk](http://www.movinghere.org.uk) explores, records and illustrates why people - mainly the Caribbean, Irish, Jewish and South Asian communities - came to England over the last 200 years, and what their experiences were and continue to be. The Society of Genealogists at 14 Charterhouse Buildings EC1, tel 020 7251 8799, [www.sog.org.uk](http://www.sog.org.uk) has the largest family history library in the UK.

**London Metropolitan Archives** (LMA) is the largest local authority record office in the United Kingdom. It has 72KM of archives, modern records, plans, audio-visual and printed material about the capital and its people with material dating from 1067 to 2006. The British Jewish

community and its worldwide influence are well represented. Other sources within the collection have been successfully analysed for evidence of Black and Asian presence. LMA is at 40 Northampton Road, Clerkenwell EC1, tel 020 7332 3820, [www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/lma](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/lma).

**The British Library's** India Records Office is a primary source for the study of British families in South Asia and related areas from early 17<sup>th</sup> to mid 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The British Library is at 96 Euston Road NW1, tel 0870 444 1500, [www.bl.uk](http://www.bl.uk).

**The Black Cultural Archives and Museum**, recording the history of London's black community, is at 378 Coldharbour Lane, Brixton SW9. Tel 020 7738 4591 for an appointment to see the archives. There are also occasional exhibitions. The website [www.black-history-month.co.uk](http://www.black-history-month.co.uk) promotes the knowledge of black history and experience and celebrates Black History Month (October) all year round. The month of October is marked with events and exhibitions in many museums and galleries.

Details of archive events and family history workshops can be found at [www.archiveawareness.com](http://www.archiveawareness.com).