

Keep your cycle safe – beat the bike thieves



Around 20,000 cycles are stolen every year in Greater London. Don't let yours be next.

To protect your bike and increase the chances of having it returned if stolen, follow our top tips.

Lock up your bike

Get a decent lock of gold 'Sold Secure' standard – preferably two. Expect to pay at least £40 for a good quality one.

When parking:

- Lock both wheels and the frame to a cycle stand or other immovable object
- Make sure the lock includes the frame as well as both wheels and the post, or a thief may steal the bike and leave the wheels behind
- Make sure the post cannot be cut through, or the bike lifted off it
- Make it impossible for a thief to smash the lock open. Never leave the lock lying on the pavement, where it can be easily broken

For recommended locks, visit the London Cycling Campaign website, www.lcc.org.uk

Get insurance

One easy solution is to extend your home contents insurance to include your bike and make sure it covers you for thefts outside the home too. If your bicycle is particularly valuable you may need to insure it separately.

Security mark it

A number of bike-marking schemes are available. Always ensure you use an approved marking scheme such as BikeRegister.

If you are marking your bike (pictured below right), make sure the security mark is visible but difficult for a thief to remove.

For details of free security marking events, visit the BikeRegister website, www.bikeregister.com, or contact the Metropolitan Police Safer Transport Team through their website, www.met.police.uk

Extra points to remember

- Park your bicycle where it can be seen, and use designated parking areas
- Do not leave it in the same place every day
- Take any quick-release items that can be removed without tools with you (wheels, lights, seat post and saddle)

Follow the three Rs

Record – keep a record of the

frame number, make and any other marks that can identify your bike if it is stolen. If you cannot find your bike frame number, look near the handlebars, below the seat post, underneath the pedals and towards the back wheel.

Register – register your bike details onto online property databases such as BikeRegister. This will help the police return any to their rightful owners.

Report – if your bike is stolen in London, report it online at www.online.met.police.uk or call 101. If stolen at a Tube or rail station, call the British Transport Police on 0800 40 50 40.

If you are a victim of bike theft and suspect your bike is being sold, never arrange to meet the seller. Contact the police, quoting your crime reference number.

■ For more information on how to protect your bike, visit our cycling pages at tfl.gov.uk/cycling



Traffic information for the capital

Edgware Road Until October 31, 6am

Temporary traffic signals in place between St. John's Wood Road and Marble Arch with local side road closures and traffic diversions for carriageway resurfacing works.

Abingdon Street Until October 11, 6pm

Closed southbound between Parliament Square and Horseferry Road for roadworks.

Regent Street October 5, 10am to October 6, 5pm

Lane restrictions in place southbound between Air Street and Piccadilly for works by Thames Water.

Westminster area October 6, 6am to 1pm

Various road closures will be in place for the Royal Parks Half Marathon. Starting in Hyde Park the route includes Hyde Park Corner, St. James's Park, Parliament Square and Victoria Embankment.

Great West Road A4 October 7, midnight to October 11, 6am

Closed eastbound between Lionel Road North and Chiswick Roundabout for resurfacing works.

■ For a full list of traffic information, go to tfl.gov.uk/trafficnews

London travel advice: plan your journey now



tfl.gov.uk



24 hour travel information
0343 222 1234*



tfl.gov.uk/socialmedia

London Travelwatch

London's transport watchdog
call 020 3176 2999, or visit
www.londontravelwatch.org.uk

*Service and network charges apply.
See tfl.gov.uk/terms for details.



Newspapers left on the Tube can jam doors and cause delays to your journey.
Take your newspaper with you or put it in a recycling bin.