



Green dream: Westminster Bridge will be bathed in soft waves of green LEO VILLAREAL

Lighting up London

MORE BRIDGES GET THE BRIGHT LIGHTS TREATMENT AS PART OF AN ART PROJECT

LONDONERS and visitors alike will soon be able to enjoy a further five bridges spanning the Thames in a new light as the second phase of the Illuminated River scheme starts.

By spring 2021, the light artwork will extend from Blackfriars in the east to Lambeth Bridge in the west, transforming nocturnal views of the capital and celebrating the bridges as historical, architectural and social landmarks.

The bridges will join London Bridge, Cannon Street, Southwark and Millennium bridges, which have all been lit up since last summer and have subsequently been viewed more than 20 million times.

The five new bridges are located close to sites of significant cultural and historic importance including Lambeth Palace and the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Palace of Westminster, as well as contemporary landmarks such as the London Eye and the Southbank complex.

A RAINBOW OF BRIDGES

The intricately vaulted underside of Westminster Bridge, central London's oldest bridge built in 1862, will be celebrated for the first time in shifting waves of soft green light, echoing the colour of the benches in the historic debating chambers of the Houses of Commons and Lords.

Lambeth Bridge will be bathed in red light, while the contemporary spans of the Golden Jubilee footbridges will have subtly moving monochromatic lighting. In contrast, Waterloo Bridge, which was opened in 1942, will feature washes of different colours used in paintings of the Thames by American artist Whistler and impressionist and English romantic artists including Claude Monet.

The wrought-iron arches of the 1869 Blackfriars Road Bridge will be lightly accented in a palette of warm colours.

GETTING THE GREEN LIGHT

The project has gained praise for its focus on sustainability and the ecology of the Thames. By using a combination of LED light fittings and reduced hours of lighting, the first phase showed a significant drop in energy use compared to



Waterloo after sunset: The colours used at Waterloo Bridge echo those to be seen in paintings of the Thames by the Impressionists LEO VILLAREAL

previous bridge lighting. To cut pollution through vehicle emissions and to minimise road congestion, during the second construction phase deliveries to the bridge sites will be made by cargo delivery bikes.

Justine Simons OBE, Deputy Mayor for Culture and the Creative Industries, said: 'The Illuminated River has been a fantastic addition to our city's rich history of free and accessible public art.'

'It has helped Londoners and visitors to the capital to see the river in a new way, lighting up our unique bridges and celebrating its huge impact on our lives. It's great news that work is now beginning on lighting up more bridges for everyone to enjoy.'

To find out more, visit www.illuminatedriver.com

Vauxhall Bridge closing

VAUXHALL Bridge will be closed to general traffic in both directions from 8pm on Sunday until November while TfL carries out critical safety work.

Pedestrians, cyclists and southbound buses, taxis and coaches will still be able to use the bridge. Buses, taxis and coaches heading northbound towards Victoria will be diverted. Some weekend and evening closures of the bridge to all traffic will be required.

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