

One step closer

CANARY WHARF BECOMES THE PENULTIMATE ELIZABETH LINE STATION TRANSFERRED TO TFL

CANARY Wharf Elizabeth line station has been transferred to TfL, which means the station can be fully integrated with the operational network ahead of the Elizabeth line opening in the coming months. Staff from MTR Elizabeth line, who will operate Canary Wharf, will continue training to familiarise themselves with the station, its procedures, facilities and systems. They will also undertake exercises to replicate scenarios that may occur when the station is open to customers. Canary Wharf Elizabeth line station sits below a five-storey mixed-use development known as Crossrail Place. The new station will connect this key

business district to the City of London, the West End and later directly to Heathrow without customers needing to change trains. Like the nearby Canary Wharf London Underground station, the Elizabeth line station is constructed in a dock, in this case the North Dock of West India Quay. The station box is 256 metres long, which is greater than the height of one of the UK's tallest buildings, the adjacent One Canada Square. The station ticket hall is accessed via escalators and lifts, with entrances at either end of the building on promenade level. There are more than 9,000 square metres of retail and leisure space sitting

above the station, including a roof garden. The fully accessible ticket hall will provide step-free access to the Elizabeth line, and the station features a total of eight lifts and 21 escalators. Andy Byford, London's transport commissioner, said: 'This station handover is another step forward before the railway opens in the first half of the year. Canary Wharf is a thriving area of the capital, not just for business, but for those who live in the area and enjoy the retail and leisure activities. 'This iconic station, sitting below the shopping centre, will be part of the Crossrail place development - a destination in its own right. The Elizabeth line will provide new, much needed, direct transport links across London and beyond.'



Railway on track: Canary Wharf is the ninth station transferred to TfL

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MAJOR MILESTONE

The railway reached another important milestone with the start of Trial Operations in November - larger exercises involving staff, emergency services and partner organisations will take place imminently. This is the last phase of the programme before the Elizabeth line opens for passenger services between Paddington and Abbey Wood later this year. Nine of the ten central section

stations are now the responsibility of TfL, and Crossrail is currently focused on completing works at Bond Street.

This station remains at a less advanced stage than the other Elizabeth line central London stations, but good progress continues to be made, and the team at Bond Street is working hard to open the station as early as possible.

DIRECT TRAVEL

The Elizabeth line will help to transform life and travel in London and the South East by dramatically

improving transport links and accessibility, cutting journey times and providing additional capacity with spacious new stations and walk-through trains.

The railway will provide new journey options and support wider regeneration, creating jobs, business opportunities and providing a huge economic boost. It will also connect the capital's major employment centres and increase central London rail capacity by ten per cent.

To find out more about the Elizabeth line, visit tfl.gov.uk



Transforming travel: The Elizabeth line is set to open in the first half of 2022 CAMILLE WALALA AND CANARY WHARF GROUP

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