

A royal occasion

A GLIMPSE INTO THE PAST

TODAY marks 180 years since Queen Victoria's coronation in 1838. To celebrate, MetroTravel explores some of London's most notable buildings and landmarks that date back to the Victorian era, with advice on how to get there.

WILTON'S MUSIC HALL

This Grade II-listed building in Hackney is London's last surviving music hall. There has been an ale house on the site since the 1700s, but it was taken over by John Wilton in 1850.

He created the music hall that is still much loved today. It continues to host concerts, plays, workshops and other arts-based events.

How to get there: The nearest stations are Tower Gateway (DLR), Shadwell (London Overground), Tower Hill (Circle and District lines), and Aldgate East (District and Hammersmith & City lines).



Take a tour: Go behind the scenes at The Royal Albert Hall DAVID ILIFF

ROYAL ALBERT HALL

Opened in 1871, the original name was supposed to be The Central Hall of Arts and Sciences, but Queen Victoria renamed it in honour of her late husband, who died in 1861.

It is home to the Proms, pop concerts, film screenings and other events. Guided tours also offer an insight into this fascinating venue.

How to get there: The Royal Albert Hall is a ten-minute walk from either South Kensington (Circle, District and Piccadilly lines) or High Street Kensington (Circle and District lines) Tube stations. Bus routes 9, 10, 52, 70, 360, 452 and 702 stop near to the hall.

CRYSTAL PALACE PARK

The Victorians were keen on creating pleasure gardens. Victoria Park was built in 1845 to bring fresh air and open space to the impoverished East End. Few original features remain, but you'll find some curiosities from the period in south London's Crystal Palace Park.

These include life-size replicas of dinosaurs – or what Victorians imagined they would look like. At the time of their construction in 1854, fossils had only recently been identified as originating from prehistoric creatures.

How to get there: Crystal Palace station is on the London Overground. A number of buses stop near the park.

THE WILLIAM MORRIS GALLERY

The name William Morris is synonymous with the Victorian arts and crafts movement. Morris was a textile designer, poet, novelist and socialist activist.

He lived in this impressive Georgian house from 1848 to 1856. The museum – crowned small museum of the year in 2013 – displays much of his work, including ceramics, tiles, rugs, carpets and furniture.

How to get there: It's a 15-minute walk or a short bus ride from Walthamstow Central station (Victoria line and London Overground). Bus route 123 stops outside the entrance.

LEIGHTON HOUSE MUSEUM

Victorian painter Frederick Leighton commissioned an architect to design a combined house and studio in the mid-1800s.

The Holland Park residence includes rooms with some stunningly ornate interiors, including an 'Arab Hall' featuring tiles Leighton collected in the Middle East. It's been open as a museum since 1929.

How to get there: Kensington Olympia (London Overground) is a five-minute walk away, while High Street Kensington (Circle and District lines) is about a ten-minute stroll. Bus routes 9, 10, 27, 28, 49 and 328 stop nearby.

HIGHGATE CEMETERY

Given the UK's first crematorium wasn't built until 1878, the Victorians were noted for constructing large cemeteries.

London's 'Magnificent Seven' refer to: Kensal Green Cemetery; West Norwood Cemetery; Highgate Cemetery; Abney Park Cemetery; Nunhead Cemetery; Brompton Cemetery and Tower Hamlets Cemetery.

Highgate is the most famous, and features the graves of 19th century figures such as Karl Marx, George Eliot and William Makepeace Thackeray, among many others.

How to get there: Bus route C11 stops directly on Swain's Lane, while the 214 and 217 stop near the northern edge of the cemetery, which is also a short walk from Archway station (Northern line).

To plan your journey to any of these Victorian destinations, visit tfl.gov.uk/plan-a-journey



Listed building: Wilton's Music Hall is the last venue of its kind in London

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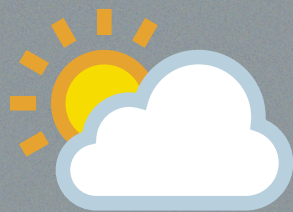
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