



Preparations under way: New escalators and lifts will link to the new line in 2022

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MAYOR OF LONDON



Whitechapel station enjoys an upgrade

HISTORIC STATION TRANSFORMED AHEAD OF THE OPENING OF THE ELIZABETH LINE

CUSTOMERS at Whitechapel station are benefiting from a range of improvements after Whitechapel Elizabeth line station was officially transferred to London Underground on Monday.

The station now boasts a brand-new modern ticket hall and offers step-free access with new lifts that serve the District and Hammersmith & City lines, as well as London Overground platforms.

There is also a new public footway directly through the station connecting Whitechapel Road to a new entrance on Durward Street, which does not require customers to go through the gateline. The temporary station entrance, which has been in use on Court Street since 2016, has now closed and will be removed next year.

The area that lies between the London Underground platforms has been resurfaced and hoardings removed. This has opened up space on the platforms, providing more room for customers, while new benches and help points have also been introduced.

New escalators have been built at the station down to the Elizabeth line, and step-free access from the street to Elizabeth line trains will be available at Whitechapel when it opens in the first half of 2022.

STATION IMPROVEMENTS

The upgraded ticket hall, which sits in a concourse built on a bridge running above the London Underground and London Overground tracks, is more spacious, with a longer gateline. It replaces the cramped Victorian ticket hall that was previously used to access the station from Whitechapel Road.

In addition, there are four new ticket vending machines and information screens, providing a better customer experience for those using the station.

The glass above the concourse allows daylight into the station and down to the London Overground

platforms, providing a calm, open environment similar in design to the new Paddington Elizabeth line station, which has also transferred to TfL.

The concourse features a distinctive green sedum roof. This provides a range of environmental benefits, including improvements to air quality, water absorption and drainage, and noise reduction, as well as improving conservation and biodiversity.

On the platforms, there are a series of large-scale collage artworks – inspired by the vibrant diversity of the local community in Whitechapel – produced by artist Chantal Joffe as part of the Crossrail Art Programme.

The station will eventually offer an interchange between the Elizabeth line, the District and

Hammersmith & City lines and London Overground services.

Heidi Alexander, deputy mayor for transport, said: 'I'm delighted that the impressive Victorian entrance at Whitechapel station has reopened with a more spacious ticket hall and step-free access. These upgrades will make a real difference to passengers using the station ahead of the opening of the Elizabeth line next year.'

Andy Lord, London Underground's managing director, added: 'This really is a stunning station and incorporates a renovated Victorian entrance and a green roof to boost biodiversity. I hope the local community will be as impressed with the station as I am.'

For more information on the opening of the Elizabeth line, visit tfl.gov.uk/elizabeth-line



Green and spacious: (From top) The green sedum roof improves air quality and water absorption, while the new interior is bright and airy

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