

Gifts with a transport twist

Looking for something unusual to buy your loved ones this Christmas?

HERE'S MetroTravel's top pick of gifts for the home, for art lovers and items with the personal touch from London Transport Museum in Covent Garden.

Gifts for the home

For those who like a cuppa in the morning, there's a huge selection of mugs.

Choose a stylised Trooping the Colour mug, taken from an old London Transport poster or a bright, vibrant contemporary version featuring all the colours of the Underground (from £9.99).

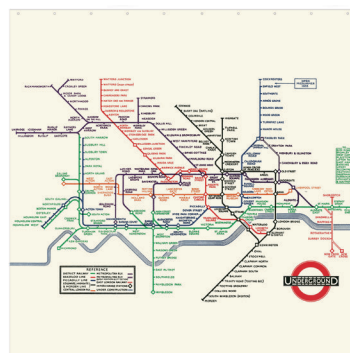


There's even a set of four smart espresso cups and saucers to match in the same range, as well as a tray and cylindrical storage tin (left, centre and right, from £9.99).

Cushions add comfort to every home and here you will be spoilt for choice.

There are cushions with logos, slogans and images, Tube tile patterns, plus a special striking Wallace Sewell celebration cushion in modern lamb's wool fabric. As a tribute to the 150th anniversary of London Underground (LU), it features the 11 colours of the Tube lines and is crossed by the orange house colour of London Overground. Prices start at £30.

With a Tube map shower curtain, you can plan your journey around London from the comfort of your bathroom. Printed on 100 per cent PEVA, the curtain doesn't carry the usual smell of plastic (right, £31.99).



workshop run by London Transport Museum, which takes in scenic locations including LU's headquarters and the Bank of England. Workshops take place on various dates in 2016, book at www.ltmuseum.co.uk/whats-on/events-calendar.

Personalised gifts

Add a playful touch to your present by applying a message from one of TfL's world-famous signs to your gift.



There are more than 30 slogans to choose from. This quirky 'Lost & found' hoody (left, £29.99) will stand out in any room, chefs may like the 'CAUTION Work in progress' apron (16.99) and, if your loved one has a good sense of humour, they may enjoy a 'DANGER Tunnel mouth' mug (£9.99).

Alternatively, you could add the roundel from your favourite Tube station to a T-shirt, mug or coaster (from £6.99).

If you're looking for something a little more stylish, jewellers 'Tatty Devine' has created a range of transport-inspired necklaces, bracelets and earrings. These 'Push once' earrings (above, £30) make a bold statement.

■ **Gifts are available from the London Transport Museum shop in Covent Garden or from www.ltmuseum.co.uk**

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Ian, Transport for London Traffic Control Centre



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MAYOR OF LONDON



For art lovers

There are posters galore on sale, both past and present, classic and contemporary – many iconic.

Choose from the 700 designs, whether you prefer a vintage 'Wimbledon' 1931 tennis or 1924 'Cup Final' football poster (above) or modern versions of the London skyline (around £10).

Creative folk might prefer to make their own prints at a night photography

Late night shopping at the museum

On December 17 and 18, and December 22 and 23, the museum shop will be open until 8pm. As well as picking up quirky stocking fillers, between 6pm and 8pm visitors will be treated to a free cocktail and mince pie on arrival and can admire TfL's new Fender Stratocaster®, based on the classic Tube map, which will be on display.

Travel for free this New Year's Eve

LONDON revellers will be able to get home safely for free on New Year's Eve thanks to a deal between travel search engine KAYAK and TfL.

The sponsorship will mean that people heading home after welcoming in 2016 can travel for free on London's buses,

Tubes, trams, DLR, TfL Rail and London Overground.

TfL has been providing free travel for partygoers on New Year's Eve since 2001. The sponsorship part of TfL's wider plans to generate £3.4billion in non-fare revenue by 2020/21 to reinvest in the transport network.

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

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