

Travel advice for 'Run to the Beat' half-marathon

RUN to the Beat, London's largest and arguably most unusual half-marathon, takes place on Sunday. More than 19,000 runners will make their way around the 13.1-mile course which starts and finishes in Greenwich Park, while DJs play motivational tunes.

All those travelling to the area are advised to avoid driving if possible and use public transport instead.

Roads

A large number of roads in the Blackheath, Charlton, Greenwich and Woolwich areas will be closed to traffic on Sunday. Streets on and near the race route will close from 5am, with the last roads due to reopen by 3pm. Parking restrictions will be in place from 6am. If you live in the affected area, visit the residents' section of www.runtothebeat.co.uk/faq

for advice about the road access arrangements.

Buses

Bus routes affected are 53, 54, 108, 122, 129, 132, 161, 177, 178, 180, 188, 202, 244, 286, 291, 380, 386, 422, 469, 472, 486, with all route alterations starting at 8.30am (except a part of route 53, which will start from 5.30am). Route 53 will not serve Woolwich town centre towards Plumstead. Route 129 will not run until roads reopen.

The Woolwich Ferry will be suspended while the road closures are in place. There are no planned Tube or rail closures in the Greenwich area.

■ Visit tfl.gov.uk/runtothebeat for travel advice. To find out more about the event, go to www.runtothebeat.co.uk

New trams for the network

FOUR new trams will deliver a 50 per cent increase in capacity on the Wimbledon to Croydon link by 2016.



The trams have been ordered by London Tramlink to increase capacity on the busiest line on the network. They are part of the £30million Wimbledon Line Enhancement Programme, which aims to improve journey times and reduce congestion on board trams and at Wimbledon station.

The new service will provide improved access to central Croydon, with 50,000 employees working within 750 metres walk of a tram stop. An additional 25,000 people will now have a journey time of less than 60 minutes to central Croydon, giving employers in the area access to a larger labour market.

Transport for London's director

of London Rail, Jonathan Fox, said: 'This increase from eight to 12 trams per hour with a 50 per cent rise in capacity on the Wimbledon branch will greatly improve tram frequency, reduce waiting times and increase reliability as well as making for a better passenger experience.'

'As London's population grows this is an important

expansion to the tram network, bringing more convenient and efficient tram connections, and moving more people around the capital to leisure, education and employment opportunities. At the same time, congestion on buses is relieved and car owners are encouraged to leave their vehicles at home, helping to reduce carbon emissions.'

Kensington Olympia station works now complete

NEW automatic ticket gates and a cross-track pedestrian footway have been opened at London Overground's Kensington Olympia station.

The installation of a fourth stairway at the station has enabled the footbridge to be

divided into two sides – one for fare-paying passengers and the other for pedestrians wishing to use it as a shortcut to cross the railway.

As well as providing better access, the improvements will help to reduce the number of

fare evaders who had previously used the un-gated station to reach the wider London Overground network.

The works complement an earlier upgrade of the station that delivered a new ticket office and canopy over the platform.

Tube improvement plan – post weekend update



Central line: Points and crossings were replaced at Northolt, and drainage was replaced at North Acton. This work will improve journey reliability and comfort.

Northern line: As part of the line's upgrade, test trains ran through the central sections under the new

signalling system. When the upgrade is complete next year, capacity will increase by a fifth (the equivalent of an extra 11,000 passengers an hour). Journey times will also be reduced by 18 per cent. During the closure, work also took place on the Northern line platforms at Tottenham Court Road.

Keep up with the improvement plan and how it might affect you at tfl.gov.uk

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