

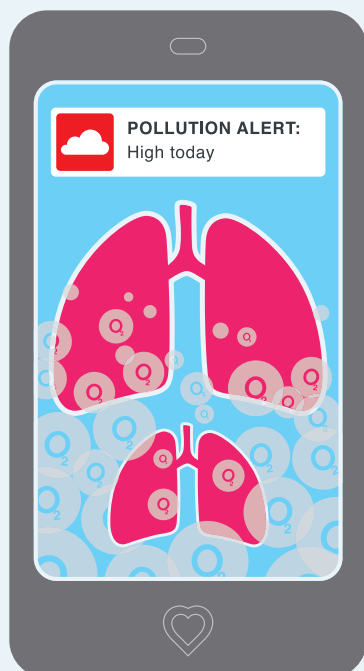
This classic poster by Charles Paine costs £9.95 and is one of several depicting the Boat Race available to buy from [shop.tfl.gov.uk](http://shop.tfl.gov.uk)

## MAYOR OF LONDON

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# Enjoy an oar-some day at the Boat Race

**THIS Saturday, April 11, the Oxford and Cambridge crews will take to the River Thames for the 161st BNY Mellon Boat Race. Make sure you enjoy all the action with our guide on where to watch.**

This is the first year the Women's Boat Race (pictured below) will be taking place on the same day as the men's – at 4.50pm while the men's starts at 5.50pm – so it is the perfect opportunity to enjoy a full day on the river bank. There are plenty of fantastic viewing spots but they get extremely busy so it's best to get there early. Favourite locations are on Putney Bridge, Hammersmith Bridge and Chiswick Bridge.

You can also watch from the many pubs, bars and restaurants on the river banks, but do remember that as the support vessels race upriver after the competing boats they create significant waves so you may get your feet wet!

You can avoid the waves by spending the day in either of the two boat race parks at Bishop's Park, Fulham and Furnivall Gardens in Hammersmith.

At Bishop's Park, which is close to the race start, there will be children's rides and sporting activities, plus many food stands and bars. British Rowing will also be supporting Greenwich Leisure Limited to deliver a 'come and have a go rowing' activity to try out on the day.

Furnivall Gardens, located in the middle section of the course, also has family-friendly entertainment, beer tents and food organised by Hammersmith & Fulham Council.

Both parks offer great vantage points and have several big screens showing the action and will be open free to the public between midday and 7pm. Radio Jackie will be providing pre-race and post-race music and programmes in the parks.

A more unusual viewing venue is Craven Cottage, the home of Fulham Football Club. Here you can watch the first mile of the race from the Riverside Terrace and the rest of the action on the terrace televisions. Tickets cost £10 which includes something hot to eat and a drink. Telephone 0843 208 1234 (option 3) or purchase tickets in person from the Fulham Ticket Office.

Because of the crowds, the best way to get to the area is by public transport. Putney Bridge Tube station is a short walk from the start of the race, while Barnes Bridge station is a one-minute walk from the river.

■ Plan your journey at [tfl.gov.uk/journeyplanner](http://tfl.gov.uk/journeyplanner)

## Other activities to enjoy nearby

If you are in the area for the Boat Race in the afternoon, why not spend the morning at the London Wetland Centre? This urban oasis for wildlife and people at Queen Elizabeth's Walk, Barnes, is just ten minutes from Hammersmith and provides a fantastic day out for kids. Stroll among the lakes, ponds and gardens and visit the adventure playground and discovery centre where you can learn more about the wildlife around you.

If teeing off is more your thing than rowing, then head to the new Putt in the Park at Wandsworth Park, right by the River Thames. This exciting putting course has been specially designed with bridges, islands and rockeries. It is suitable for all abilities, from the novice to the experienced golfer, so the kids can practise their swings before heading to the café for coffee and cake.

■ For London Wetland Centre, telephone 020 8409 4400 or go to [www.wwt.org.uk](http://www.wwt.org.uk). For Putt in the Park, telephone 0208 877 0713 or go to [www.puttinthepark.com](http://www.puttinthepark.com)



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