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Tap happy: Visitor Oyster cards are the perfect way to explore, with savings on some top attractions

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Know anyone planning a trip to London this Easter? MetroTravel looks at the fares and special deals that are available to help visitors get around.

USING a contactless payment or Visitor Oyster card is the best way to go sightseeing in the capital. Both give the best price adult pay as you go fare and are cheaper than buying a paper travel card or single ticket. Fares are capped so once you've reached the daily limit you can carry on enjoying the sights without paying a penny more.

They're convenient – simply tap in and out at the start and end of each journey – and can be used on buses, the Tube, trams, the DLR, London Overground, TfL Rail, Emirates Air Line and most National Rail services in London.

The Visitor Oyster card can't be bought in London, so make sure you order yours before you leave home. It costs £5 (plus postage) and is pre-loaded with the amount of pay as you go credit you wish to add, from £10 to £50. When it runs out, just top up and use it again.

Contactless payment cards can be used straight away without registering or planning in advance – you simply arrive and travel without queueing for a ticket. Charges may apply if you pay for travel using a credit/debit card issued outside the UK, so check with your card issuer for more information.

Save money

A Visitor Oyster card does more than help you get to the top sights – you can even save money when you arrive in the capital. Card holders get discounts at restaurants, shops and other attractions with offers on food and drink, West End shows, museum entrance tickets and exhibitions.

The many London venues giving visitor discounts include The National Gallery, the Royal Academy of Arts,

Somerset House, the Royal Albert Hall, Planet Hollywood, the London Bridge Experience and Brasserie Blanc. Just show your Visitor Oyster card to get the benefits.

■ **For details about how to get around the capital, planning journeys, checking accessibility, and more information on discounts, visit tfl.gov.uk/visitinglondon**

Check out your nearest Visitor Centres

LOCATED at many of the capital's mainline stations, TfL Visitor Centres can help people make the most of their trip to London.

These offer discounted tickets for open-top bus tours and guided coach tours to places of cultural and historic interest, such as Stonehenge and Windsor.

The centres also offer entry tickets for some of London's top attractions, such as Madame Tussauds, the Tower of London, The London Eye, Kensington Palace, The London Dungeon, Hampton Court Palace and The View from The Shard, as well as theatre tickets and the London Pass.

If you didn't have time to order a Visitor Oyster card before your trip, don't worry – staff at the Visitor Centres can issue you with a regular Oyster card on the spot. They can also advise on getting around and provide information about travelling to and from central London and the airports.

■ **For more information go to tfl.gov.uk/visitor-centres**

Traffic information for the capital

For a full list of traffic information, go to tfl.gov.uk/trafficnews

West London area

Saturday, midday until 7pm

The Cancer Research UK Boat Race between Oxford and Cambridge takes place on the Thames. Hammersmith Bridge will be closed between 4pm and 6pm. Expect restrictions and traffic holds on Putney and Chiswick Bridges, while delays are likely in the area.

Central London area

Sunday 2.30am until 6pm

Roads will be closed for the London Landmarks Half Marathon. Roads affected include Pall Mall East, Holborn, Kingsway, Tower Hill, Victoria Embankment, and Whitehall. Waterloo Bridge will be closed and London Bridge will be closed northbound between 7am and 2.30pm. All roads should reopen by 3.15pm, except Pall Mall East and Whitehall, which will reopen by 6pm.

Hounslow

Sunday, 11am until 6pm

Various roads will be closed for a procession that will start on Hibernia Road and pass along Staines Road, Wellington Road North, Bath Road, Martindale Road, Staines Road and back to Hibernia Road.

New King's Road (A308)

Tuesday, 8am until Thursday, 5pm

The road will be closed in all directions at the junction of Perrymead Street for resurfacing work.

Wembley Stadium

Tuesday, 5pm until midnight

England play Italy in an international friendly (kick-off 8pm). The area will be particularly busy before and after the game. Roads affected include the A406, A1, A40, Harrow Road and Wembley High Road.

For more articles and to keep up to date with TfL announcements, visit tfl.gov.uk/news

London travel advice: plan your journey now

tfl.gov.uk

24 hour travel information
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tfl.gov.uk/emailupdates

tfl.gov.uk/socialmedia

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

*Service and network charges apply.
See tfl.gov.uk/terms for details.

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The views expressed are those of TfL only and are not those of Metro.