

A grand day out in the capital

To celebrate the royal wedding on Saturday, MetroTravel rounds up some of London's palaces.



No palace like home: You can see inside the State Rooms at Buckingham Palace this summer

Now you can get instant answers to your Tube, bus, London Overground, DLR, TfL Rail and tram travel questions.

So there's no need to hang around.

Just ask @TfLTravelBot on Facebook Messenger



THE capital has many historic palaces waiting to be explored. Which of the following are you acquainted with?

Buckingham Palace

One of the most famous palaces in the world, this is Her Majesty's official home in the capital. The building dates back to 1703, but it has been remodelled since then, and most of what you see today was built in the 19th century. If you want to go inside, the State Rooms are open to the public from July 21 to September 30.

How to get there: Take the Tube to Green Park, St James's Park, Hyde Park Corner or Victoria. Alternatively, bus routes 11, 211, C1 and C10 stop on Buckingham Palace Road.

Lambeth Palace

With a history dating back some 800 years, Lambeth Palace is the official residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury, principal leader of the Church of England. It remains a working palace and family home, but its gardens are open one day a month between April and September.

How to get there: It's a short walk from Lambeth North Tube station. Bus routes 3, 77, 344, 507 and C10 take you even closer.

Eltham Palace

The history of this former royal residence dates back to the 1300s. It remained a royal palace between the 14th and 16th centuries but has passed through several hands since then.

In the early 20th century, the then owners gave its interior an art deco makeover. The classic design of some of the rooms (pictured top right) remains one of the reasons that so many people travel to see it.

How to get there: Bus routes 124, 126, 160 and 161 run closest to Eltham Palace.

St James's Palace

Built by Henry VIII in the 1530s, St James's Palace is a residence of the Prince of Wales (in the adjoining Clarence House), Princess Royal and Princess Alexandra, and several organisations with ties to the royal family.

The palace is not open to the public, but you can visit Clarence House during August.

How to get there: Green Park Tube station (Jubilee, Piccadilly and Victoria lines) or the number 9 bus.

Palace of Westminster

It's easy to forget that the home to our MPs and Lords is also a palace. The building we know today was largely rebuilt following a fire in the mid-1800s. Tours will take you inside, and the public galleries are also open to anyone who wants to see the Commons and Lords in action.

How to get there: Westminster Tube, or buses 3, 87, 148 and 211.

Alexandra Palace

The so-called 'People's Palace' was built in 1873. A north London counterpoint to Crystal Palace in south London (destroyed by fire in 1936), it hosts live concerts, trade shows, fairs and ice skating. It also offers a fantastic view over London.

How to get there: Wood Green on the Piccadilly line is the nearest Tube station. Catch the W3 bus from outside, which will take you right up to the palace.

■ To plan your journey to any of these destinations, visit tfl.gov.uk/plan-a-journey

What exactly is a palace?

The dictionary definition states it's an impressive building that's an official residence of a ruler – such as a monarch or church leader – or a place of entertainment.



Eltham Palace: Opulent bathroom



The People's Palace: Visitors can enjoy spectacular views from the top of Ally Pally

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
0343 222 1234*



Sign up for email updates
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.



Newspapers left on the Tube can jam doors and cause delays to your journey. Take your newspaper with you or put it in a recycling bin.