



PORTS  
OF CALL

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Your neighbourhood  
pocket guide



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## THE ROYAL DOCKS

Just moments from Canary Wharf and a stone's throw from the hidden gems and curiosities of London's artistic east, Royal Wharf is located in one of the city's most exciting new emerging areas. Once alive with the fragrance of tobacco, coffee, rum and spices, this section of London's Docklands has been in a state of flux for much of the last two centuries, changing from an area of pasture into a thriving industrial powerhouse. Factories and warehouses flourished in the area throughout the 18th and 19th centuries, culminating in the development of the Royal Docks, which remained in use through to the 1980s.

The birth of Canary Wharf and the phenomenally successful O2 Arena were just the beginning of this round of regeneration in the Royal Docks, sitting just a few miles from the similarly revitalised site of the London 2012 Olympics. With easy access to Canary Wharf, Greenwich, Central London and South East England, thanks to significant public investment in the DLR and Crossrail, Royal Wharf is located in the heart of the new East London as it spreads its wings further afield.

The city's East End continues to develop at a breathtaking pace. Still a tangled warren of stylish neighbourhoods and rapidly gentrifying Victorian estates, London's largest urban shopping centre, Westfield Stratford City, and international transport links from Stratford International, have transformed the east into an area to be reckoned with. Glossy Canary Wharf; historical Greenwich; colourful Whitechapel and uber-hip Dalston – there's no doubt that London's creative quarter has something to offer to every Londoner. And, to welcome you to the neighbourhood, we've put together a pick of our favourite things to do and see around the Royal Wharf area.



Plateau  
Canada Square

Hip bar scene  
Dalston



*Must eat...  
Pie & mash at  
Maureen's  
—  
Must drink...  
Milkshakes at  
Fat Boys Diner*

# R + B

## RESTAURANTS AND BARS



London's east has long been one of the city's most experimental and exciting areas for culinary exploration. As well as having a wonderful selection of coffee shops and restaurants on site, Royal Wharf is located close to many of London's most mouthwatering must-visits. The Docklands are scattered with quirky cafés and bars, while, a little further afield, Brick Lane's curry mile and Spitalfields' legendary Hawksmoor attract the ravenous masses. Pop-up supper clubs abound in cutting-edge Dalston, whilst nearby Canary Wharf offers a bounty of glossy, upmarket restaurants and Greenwich boasts lively, family-run independents. The Docklands themselves offer neighbourhood gems, from homely riverfront pubs serving traditional Sunday roasts to floating bars overlooking pop-up riverside beaches.

EAT IN	£
1 PIE MASH & LIQ	2.70
1 PIE 2 MASH, LIQ	3.70
2 PIE 1 MASH, LIQ	4.30
2 PIE 2 MASH, LIQ	5.30
MINI PIE MASH	5.30
STEAK PIE, MASH & GRAVY	2.75
SALT BEEF DINNER	4.10
SAUSAGES, MASH & GRAVY	2.70
SANDWICHES	£
HOT SALT BEEF	3.00
SAUSAGE	2.20
DRINKS	CANS 65
TEA	60
COFFEE	70

### 01. Maureen's Pie and Mash, Langdon Park

Grab a slice of authentic Cockney grub in this local institution, serving up traditional (and much lauded) pie, eels, mash and liquor for over 50 years. The decor may be basic, but the food is the real deal – people come for miles for a plate of Maureen's home-cooked East End fayre. Started at the end of the 1950s by the eponymous Maureen, her son Jason now runs this family joint, also famed for its hot salt beef sandwiches and well-stuffed beignets.

### 02. The Oiler Bar, Royal Victoria

Once a Royal Navy refuelling barge, this atmospheric floating bar provides glorious views of the Canary Wharf skyline from its sun deck, where you can also watch paddle-boarding and kayaking in the basin as people float past overhead in Royal Emirates Cable Cars. Below deck, the galley bar serves a range of hot drinks fit for a pirate, including mulled wine, and spiked Irish and French coffees. A summertime pop-up beach, complete with sand and stripy deckchairs, sometimes appears near the barge.

[wakeupdocklands.com/the-oiler-bar](http://wakeupdocklands.com/the-oiler-bar)

“Whether you go for fillet, rib-eye, sirloin or rump, the steaks are to die for; there’s even the aptly-named Carnivore’s Feast.”

### 03. Gaucho at The O2, North Greenwich

A meat-lover's paradise set within the enormous entertainment centre that is The O2. Gaucho is all candle-lit tables, dark corners, everything in black – and don't forget the cow skin chairs. Whether you go for fillet, rib-eye, sirloin or rump, the steaks are to die for; there's even the aptly-named Carnivore's Feast, offering a variety of cuts. Slick service, strong, sweet cocktails and gorgeously decadent desserts make this a destination in itself, rather than just a stop-off before the show.

[gauchorestaurants.co.uk](http://gauchorestaurants.co.uk)





#### 04. Viet Baguette, Woolwich Arsenal

—  
One of London's best-rated Vietnamese restaurants, friendly Viet Baguette is something of a hidden gem across the river in Woolwich Arsenal. Warm, cosy surroundings are the setting for this authentic restaurant, serving up Vietnamese cuisine as good as you'd find on a bustling street corner in Ho Chi Minh City. Specialities include a much raved-about caramelised pork stew, warming Pho and of course, the traditional, well-stuffed Vietnamese baguette.

#### 05. The Gun, South Quay

—  
Dating back to the 18th century, this beautifully located riverside pub was once frequented by smugglers, who used a rumoured hidden tunnel and lookout in the secret staircase to run contraband past the tax man. The elegant dining room features polished wood, soft red leather bar stools and white table linen on which delicious Sunday roasts are served; there are also private rooms and a beautiful decked and heated outdoor terrace lined with twinkling fairy lights, where you can enjoy the considerably upmarket pub grub with a view, with all fish bought fresh from nearby Billingsgate Fish Market.

[thegundocklands.com](http://thegundocklands.com)



#### 06. The Lotus, Crossharbour

—  
The largest floating Chinese restaurant in the UK, the Lotus has been serving up delicious Chinese cuisine right on the river since 1994. Best enjoyed in the evening, when the entire ship is lit by fairy lights which twinkle in the reflection of the Thames, The Lotus is famed for its delicious Dim Sum as well as a mouthwatering selection of Chinese food including Cantonese, Szechuan and Peking dishes.

[lotusfloating.co.uk](http://lotusfloating.co.uk)

#### 07. View Tube, Pudding Mill Lane

—  
Situated on the Greenway, a lovely pedestrianised cycle and walking path lined with wildflowers leading from Bow to Beckton, the View Tube is literally a hidden gem. Once you do manage to find it though, you'll be treated to unparalleled views of the Olympic Park and the ArcelorMittal Orbit from the café's own viewing platform. As much a social enterprise as a café, you can hire bikes for leisurely rides along the Greenway, become one of the project's community gardeners or peruse the ongoing programme of art which features at the café. If that all sounds a bit much, it's ok — you can simply indulge in one of the best breakfasts in the east, washed down with a very decent cup of coffee.

[theviewtube.co.uk](http://theviewtube.co.uk)





### 08. Bow Creek Café, Trinity Buoy Wharf

—  
Made with recycled shipping containers (well, we are on the docks), this quirky riverside café has a lovely outside seating area, making full use of natural materials such as wood, rope and iron, while potted lavender plants and fresh herbs sway in the breeze. Sit up here and you'll be able to enjoy a unique view of the Lightship, a Danish-built lighthouse on a 1938 ship constructed in Dartmouth. It's worth coming for the creamy, delicious hot chocolate alone, but why limit yourself? The freshly-cooked bacon sandwiches are also the best around.

[trinitybuoywharf.com](http://trinitybuoywharf.com)



### 09. Fat Boys Diner, Trinity Buoy Wharf

—  
A taste of 1950s Americana on the bank of the Thames, this classic neon and chrome diner serves a slice of kitsch with your peanut butter milkshake and salted French fries. Hunker down for a Lumberjack Breakfast — that's pancakes with bacon, eggs and maple syrup — or try one of their legendary burger patties, all washed down with a root beer float. Dang, that's mighty fine.

[fatboysdiner.co.uk](http://fatboysdiner.co.uk)



### 10. Plateau, Canada Square

—  
Chic Plateau offers fine dining with a serious cityscape view — you could be in New York or Tokyo, perched on the fourth floor opposite One Canada Square. The food looks almost too good to eat, but make sure you do, or you'll miss out on the exquisite flavours of the French-inspired cuisine. The cocktail list is to die for — sip your Lavender Snow or Islay Sour on one of the two terraces, where you can also dine al fresco, with soft, furry throws and cushions to snuggle up under on chilly evenings beneath the patio heaters.

[plateau-restaurant.co.uk](http://plateau-restaurant.co.uk)





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## SHOPS, MARKETS, MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

East London is teeming with unique shops, colourful, always-evolving markets and cutting-edge art galleries. From the bustling market on Brick Lane, where traders pile bric-a-brac onto the kerb and street food sizzles fragrant smoke throughout the whole street, to the vibrantly-hued flower stalls of cobbled Columbia Road, there's surely no better way to shop than perusing some of London's more legendary markets. Elsewhere in the east, independent shops rule; from traditional book stores to quirky bazaars, there's a beautifully thought-out shop for every day of the year and then some – and if you like your shopping with a side of culture, you'll be spoilt for choice, with museums and galleries a-plenty scattered throughout the area.

### 11. Billingsgate Fish Market, Blackwell

—  
Forgo the supermarket and get yourself down to Billingsgate, the UK's largest inland fish market, to see what a real fish counter looks like. Those in the know start their visit with a hot bacon and scallop roll from Piggie's Café, before perusing the miles of fresh crab, giant prawns, lobsters and, of course, local and more exotic fish. If the promise of bargain fish to fill your freezer with won't get you up at 4am, when trading starts, the lively atmosphere, with plenty of Cockney banter, ought to do it.

[billingsgatefishmarket.org](http://billingsgatefishmarket.org)



### 12. Greenwich Market, Greenwich

—  
Set within the UNESCO World Heritage Site that is Greenwich's historic town centre, Greenwich's market is undoubtedly one of London's finest, where visitors browse through the stalls of fine artwork, crafty gifts, home trinkets and quirky hand-made baby clothes, or grab a bite to eat while they explore. Completely unique, and more importantly, under cover, antique and collectible days are held on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and a street food market is held every day, though Sunday is the busiest and best. Choose from mouth-wateringly delicious Ethiopian curries to delectably gooey chocolatey churros – or give in and have them both.

[greenwichmarketlondon.com](http://greenwichmarketlondon.com)

*Must try...  
a scallop roll at  
Billingsgate*

—  
*Must get up early...  
to grab a bargain  
bouquet on  
Columbia Road*

## RESTAURANTS AND BARS

01. Maureen's Pie and Mash  
6 Market Way, London E14 6AH  
07956 38126

02. The Oiler Bar  
1 Dock Road, London E16 1AG  
wakeupdocklands.com/the-oiler-bar  
07789 395160

03. Gaucho at The O2  
Peninsula Square, London SE10 ODX  
gauchorestaurants.co.uk  
020 8858 7711

04. Viet Baguette  
17 Anglesea Road, London SE18 6EG

05. The Gun  
27 Coldharbour, London E14 9NS  
thegundocklands.com  
020 7515 5222

06. The Lotus  
9 Oakland Quay, Inner Millwall Dock,  
London E14 9EA  
lotusfloating.co.uk  
020 7515 6445

07. View Tube  
The Greenway, Marshgate Lane,  
London E15 2PJ  
theviewtube.co.uk  
020 3130 0469

08. Bow Creek Café  
Trinity Buoy Wharf, 64 Orchard Place,  
London E14 0JY  
trinitybuoywharf.com  
07591 383757

09. Fatboy's Diner  
Trinity Buoy Wharf, 64 Orchard Place,  
London E14 0JY  
fatboysdiner.co.uk  
020 7987 4334

10. Plateau  
4th Floor, Canada Square,  
London E14 5ER  
plateau-restaurant.co.uk  
020 7715 7100

## SHOPS, MARKETS, MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

11. Billingsgate Fish Market  
Trafalgar Way, London E14 5ST  
billingsgatefishmarket.org  
020 7987 1118

12. Greenwich Market  
5b Greenwich Market,  
London SE10 9HZ  
greenwichmarketlondon.com  
020 8269 5096

13. The WHO Shop  
39-41 Barking Road, London E6 1PY  
thewhoshop.com  
020 8471 2356

14. Columbia Road Flower Market  
Columbia Road, London E2 7RG  
columbiaroad.info

15. Chrisp Street Market  
Chrisp Street, London E14 6AQ  
chrispstreet.org.uk  
0844 576 0820

16. Westfield Stratford City  
Olympic Park, Montfichet Road,  
London E20 1EJ  
uk.westfield.com/stratfordcity  
020 8221 7300

17. Newham Bookshop  
745-747 Barking Road, London E13 9ER  
newhambooks.co.uk  
020 8552 9993

18. The Whitechapel Gallery  
77-82 Whitechapel High Street,  
London E1 7QX  
whitechapelgallery.org  
020 7522 7888

19. V&A Museum of Childhood  
Cambridge Heath Road, London E2 9PA  
vam.ac.uk/moc  
020 8983 5200

20. Museum of London Docklands  
No.1 Warehouse, West India Dock Road,  
London E14 4AL  
museumoflondon.org.uk/docklands  
020 7001 9844

## THINGS TO DO

21. East Ham Nature Reserve  
Norman Road, London E6 6HN  
0300 124 0123

22. ExCel London  
1 Western Gateway, Royal Victoria Dock,  
London E16 1XL  
excel.london  
020 7069 5000

23. Thames Barrier Park  
North Woolwich Road,  
London E16 2HP  
020 7476 3741

24. Lyle Park  
Bradfield Road, London E16 2AU

25. The London Aquatics Centre  
Olympic Park, London E20 2ZQ  
londonaquaticscentre.org  
020 8536 3150

26. The Space  
269 Westferry Road,  
London E14 3RS  
space.org.uk  
020 7515 7799

27. Newham City Farm,  
Stansfeld Road, London E6 5LT  
newhamcityfarm.co.uk  
020 7474 4960

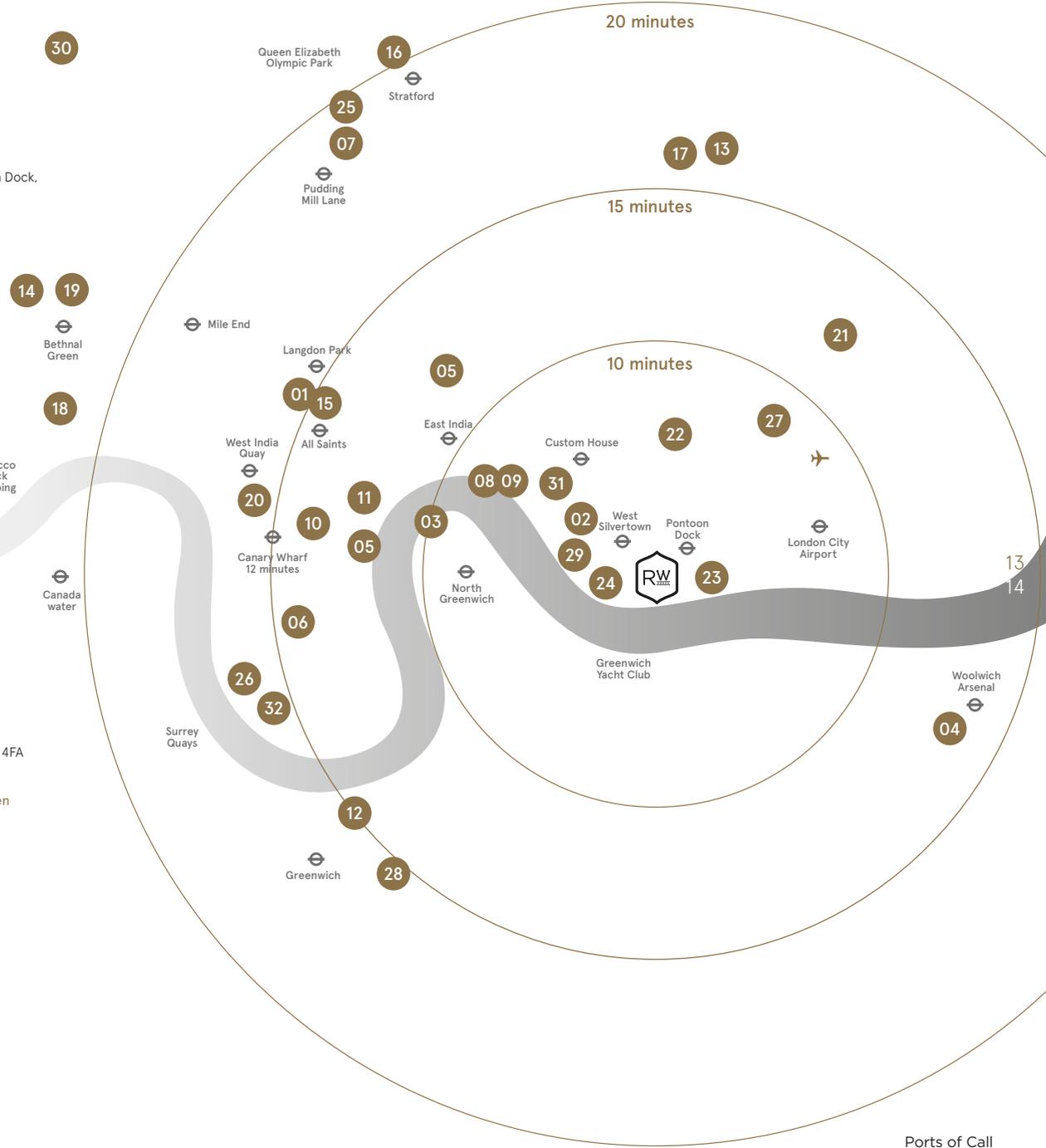
28. Royal Observatory  
Blackheath Avenue, Greenwich,  
London SE10 8XJ  
rmg.co.uk  
020 8858 4422

29. The Emirates Air Line  
27 Western Gateway, London E16 4FA  
emiratesairline.co.uk

30. Dalston Eastern Curve Garden  
13 Dalston Lane, London E8 3DF  
dalstongarden.org

31. WakeUp Docklands  
Waterfront Studios,  
1 Dock Road, London E16 1AG  
wakeupdocklands.com  
07596 361312

32. Docklands Sailing and  
Watersports Centre  
235a Westferry Road, Docklands,  
London E14 3QS  
dswc.org  
020 7537 2626





### 13. The WHO Shop, West Ham

—  
A must-visit for die-hard Doctor Who fans, there's also a small museum at the back of this quirky shop (ask for the key to the tardis) featuring costumes and props from the show and autographs from some of its stars. In the store itself, you'll find every kind of Dr Who memorabilia; collectible toys, costumes, magazines, books and even full-sized, licensed Daleks.

[thewhoshop.com](http://thewhoshop.com)



### 14. Columbia Road Flower Market, East End

—  
Make like Eliza Doolittle and get yourself down to Columbia Road on a Sunday, when this usually whisper-quiet street roars into life at 8am, as loud-mouthed market stall traders fight one another to flog you the best-priced fluffy peonies, proud tulips and delicate orchids. The market is lined with beautiful shops, including a traditional perfumer, an old-fashioned sweet shop, a pottery and several wonderful homeware shops. If you're lucky, you might catch a glimpse of the pearly kings and queens who can sometimes be spotted wandering the market or enjoying the live bands who create the soundtrack to the street.

[columbiaroad.info](http://columbiaroad.info)



### 15. Crisp Street Market, Poplar

—  
Originally a Victorian street market, this traditional East End market, lined by traditional 1950s London housing, was the first pedestrianised shopping centre in Britain. Today, its atmosphere remains as bustling as ever, with locals pottering about buying their vegetables, plants and household goods or stopping off at one of the two shops selling fortifying pie and mash. The market is now also well known for its unique street art and, on the last Friday of every month, the Bite Street Food market. Street food fans will have plenty to Instagram at this little-known gem, with delicious bites from Venezuela, Sri Lanka and Malaysia and plenty of beers and beats to go along with it.

[crispstreet.org.uk](http://crispstreet.org.uk)



### 16. Westfield Stratford City, Stratford

—  
Ok, it's not a quirky independent market, but Westfield Stratford has been a gamechanger for nearby Stratford, turning it into a destination in itself. Pretty much every popular high street store has staked a claim in this airy mega-mall, including M&S, John Lewis, Zara Home, Mamas and Papas, Kurt Geiger, Topshop, Primark, Reiss and well over 200 others. Complete with its own cinema, casino and food hall, as well as an outdoor shopping area housing several restaurants and the centre's more upmarket designer boutiques, you'll find everything you could need all under one roof here.

[uk.westfield.com/stratfordcity](http://uk.westfield.com/stratfordcity)



## 17. Newham Bookshop, Upton Park

Independent bookshops are something to be cherished these days, and Newham Bookshop, which has been a fixture in Green Street's 'Little India' for over 35 years, is definitely one such gem. The only place to go for your reading fix, East London's largest independent book store is managed by bookworm Vivien, who can recommend something you'll devour within the day, whether you're nine or ninety-nine. They often host signings and support readings in the local area.

[newhambooks.co.uk](http://newhambooks.co.uk)

## 18. The Whitechapel Gallery, Whitechapel

Following its re-opening in 2009, the Whitechapel Gallery has successfully built a reputation as one of London's most cutting edge modern art galleries. Housing a rolling programme of exhibitions, stunning galleries, education facilities, historic archives and art courses as well as a charming café and book shop, the gallery showcases art from those both established and emerging, from Picasso and Pollock to relative unknowns. The exterior of the listed building is a piece of art in itself; Rachel Whiteread was commissioned in 2012 to adorn the building, which features clusters of leaves plated in gold leaf, inspired by the urban plants climbing buildings around Hackney.

[whitechapelgallery.org](http://whitechapelgallery.org)



## 19. V&A Museum of Childhood, Bethnal Green

Many Eastenders remember this museum from their childhoods, as it's been going strong in its current guise since 1974 (before then, it was simply the Bethnal Green Museum). The museum came as an antidote to the problem of bored children in museums; no such issue here. The open-space gallery with mezzanine is filled with interactive exhibitions and displays to titillate every child, with the largest doll collection in the UK (and over 100 dolls' houses) and a constantly changing roster of exhibitions. From a closer look at the world's best-loved children's authors (past exhibitions include Roald Dahl and Jacqueline Wilson) to a thorough journey through the British history of toys, this is a family must-visit.

[vam.ac.uk/moc](http://vam.ac.uk/moc)

A photograph from the Museum of London Docklands collection

Port of London Authority policemen testing life-jackets by jumping into the water at the West India Docks, around 1930



An exhibition at the V&A Museum of Childhood

On Their Own: Britain's Child Migrants (24 October-12 June 2016)

## 20. Museum of London Docklands, West India Quay

There's a huge amount to see at this museum, which tells the history of the Thames and London's Docklands. Based in a 200-year old warehouse, the museum is crammed full of objects and historic photographs documenting the history of London's ports, from the arrival of the Romans to pirates to the Blitz to the birth of Canary Wharf. They hold a revolving programme of exhibitions alongside the permanent galleries. There's a shop specialising in posters, prints and postcards relating to the Docklands, as well as a café for light bites and an upscale restaurant, Rum & Sugar, for unique food and scrumptious cocktails (over 100 rums should keep you busy).

[museumoflondon.org.uk/docklands](http://museumoflondon.org.uk/docklands)





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THINGS TO DO

"I'm bored" — two words the average Londoner really has no right to say. London's Docklands are lined with wonderful places to take a stroll or have an adventure, from stretches of glorious parkland and the UK's first urban cable car ride, to the ExCel Centre and even a UNESCO World Heritage Site, all practically on your doorstep. If you're feeling in the mood for something active, there's a wealth of exciting sports activities on your doorstep, both for observers and for doers. Living in a city doesn't have to feel cramped-in — there's so much to do on those days when you just want to explore or even enjoy a touch of respite from London.

*The Festival of Light at the Dalston Curve Garden*  
—  
*Fun for all on the Riverside*

21. East Ham Nature Reserve, East Ham

You'd never guess that tucked alongside the A13 is this peaceful 10-acre haven of natural wilderness. Actually a churchyard belonging to St Mary Magdalene Church, built in 1137, the explosion of mature trees and wildflowers have pretty much taken over the graveyard here, which is now home to a fantastic array of wildlife, jays, kestrels, owls, green woodpeckers and willow warblers flutter between the trees, while foxes and pheasants dart about in the undergrowth. Three nature paths wind around the reserve; there's also a small visitor's centre, as well as the 800-year old church at the heart.



22. ExCel London, Royal Victoria

The home of leading events, the ExCel hosts some of the world's largest conventions, events and shows. Those which have featured in the past include Grand Designs Live, the London Boat Show, The Clothes Show, The London ExCel Wedding Show, The London Classic Car Show and thousands more, from the quirky through to the mainstream. There are a large number of drinking and dining facilities in the centre for visitors — check the website for the latest events listings.

[excel.london](http://excel.london)



19  
20

### 23. Thames Barrier Park, Pontoon Dock

A wonderful 22-acre park, particularly for those hot summer days, the river breeze at this park makes you feel almost as though you're at the seaside. Whether it's a champagne picnic or an afternoon with the kids, there's plenty to catch your eye here, from the unusually shaped wavy hedges and unobstructed views of the Thames Barrier to the sunken garden, beds of wildflowers, fountains, children's play area and 5-a-side football/basketball court. There's a decent coffee shop serving pastries and ice-cream.



### 24. Lyle Park, West Silvertown

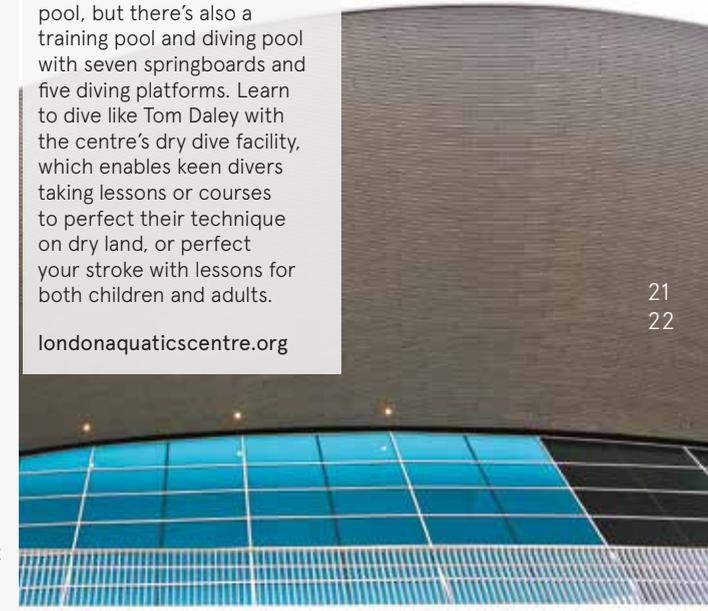
It's like something from a Dickens novel; in 1924, two years after Tate & Lyle joined forces to create their sugar powerhouse, Sir Leonard Lyle opened a park for the local residents. At the time packed with factory workers, green space was a much-coveted rarity and offered respite from the drudgery of factory life. That same park is still as lovely today – and is still frequented by the factory workers of Tate & Lyle and the passing public. As well as pretty lawns and flowers on which picnic and play are pretty much the most popular pastimes, the park is home to tennis and basketball courts, a football pitch and a children's play area.



### 25. The London Aquatics Centre, Stratford

Made famous by the London 2012 Olympics, this is the world's most technologically advanced swimming facility – and it's just a short trip on the DLR away. The main attraction is the centre's 50m, ten-lane swimming pool, but there's also a training pool and diving pool with seven springboards and five diving platforms. Learn to dive like Tom Daley with the centre's dry dive facility, which enables keen divers taking lessons or courses to perfect their technique on dry land, or perfect your stroke with lessons for both children and adults.

[londonaquaticscentre.org](http://londonaquaticscentre.org)





### 27. Newham City Farm, Newham

This inner-city gem appears as if from nowhere; hearing the sound of bleating sheep rising above an East London housing estate is nothing short of surreal. A friendly collection of well-fed alpacas, turkeys, chickens, horses and bunnies, amongst others, all call the farm home – there's a petting area where children can feed and stroke the animals and children are encouraged to volunteer with animal care. There's a café on the farm, and you can buy freshly laid eggs and local honey here, too.

[newhamcityfarm.co.uk](http://newhamcityfarm.co.uk)



### 26. The Space, Isle of Dogs

A performing arts and community space set within a beautiful converted church on the Isle of Dogs, The Space produces a year-round programme of mixed performance arts. From comedy and dance to theatre and music, they hold an impressive 200+ events every year, as well as providing weekly theatre workshops for both kids and adults interested in performing arts. The Space also put on performances in the incredible Crossrail Place Roof Garden, atop the Crossrail station set to open in 2018.

[space.org.uk](http://space.org.uk)



Berlin 13° 25' E

Amsterdam 4° 54'

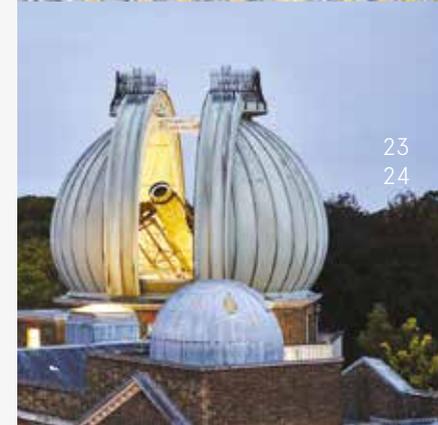
Gree

Paris

### 28. Royal Observatory, Greenwich

Standing at the centre of world time at exactly 0° longitude, mere moments from your own doorstep – how cool is that? The Royal Observatory is better known as the place where time began and consists of a collection of buildings commissioned by King Charles II. Explore Flamsteed House, designed by Christopher Wren and built in 1675, where you can see the Royal astronomers' telescopes and timepieces, or wander about the planetarium; using Europe's first digital laser planetarium projector, you can look back at Earth from space and view images from the space probes.

[rmg.co.uk](http://rmg.co.uk)



23  
24

## 29. The Emirates Air Line, Royal Victoria

A relatively new addition to London's skyline, this cable car ride offers a completely unique view of London — and it's just a stone's throw from Royal Wharf. Crossing the River Thames between the Peninsula and the Royal Docks, you'll take in the sights of The O2, the Cutty Sark, the Royal Observatory and more. At night time, the city really comes to life before your eyes, with the twinkling city lights reflecting from the river. The journey is slowed down in the evening to give you more of a chance to take in the awe-inspiring city views at a relaxed pace.

[emiratesairline.co.uk](http://emiratesairline.co.uk)



## 30. Dalston Eastern Curve Garden, Dalston

A utopia in the middle of the city, Dalston Eastern Curve Garden offers a moment's respite — an area of green in which to relax, breathe, drink tea and mulled wine, and garden if you want to during the spring and summer months. With its own café area and a community garden open until 11pm, they hold a Festival of Light every Christmas, with hand-made lanterns lighting up the garden at night throughout December. Its focus is on community, with a lovely greenhouse and creative workshops for all. Truly a special place in the midst of it all.

[dalstongarden.org](http://dalstongarden.org)



## 31. WakeUp Docklands, Royal Victoria

Probably the most fun you can have on the Thames without your own boat, Wake Up Docklands is a watersports school for wakeboarding, flyboarding and stand-up paddleboarding. Whether you're a first timer or looking for a place to hone your skills, this laid-back hub has everything you need, including two cables for different skill levels, various obstacles and jumps, a shop selling and renting top equipment and even their own fully licensed bar, open to boarders and non-boarders alike. They're closed during the winter months.

[wakeupdocklands.com](http://wakeupdocklands.com)

## 32. Docklands Sailing and Watersports Centre, Crossharbour

Whether you're a practiced sailor or a complete at-sea novice, the Docklands Sailing and Watersports Centre should be your first (ahem) port of call. This Royal Yachting Association-recognised training centre offers an incredible range of courses for both novices and pros, including dinghy sailing, windsurfing, kayaking, power boating and sea survival courses for adults, and a range of courses and summer schools for children. There's also a bar over the dock offering sweeping river views, ideal for a glass of grog after a day at 'sea'.

[dswc.org](http://dswc.org)



MARINERSQUARTER.COM  
ROYALWHARF.COM

ballymore.

