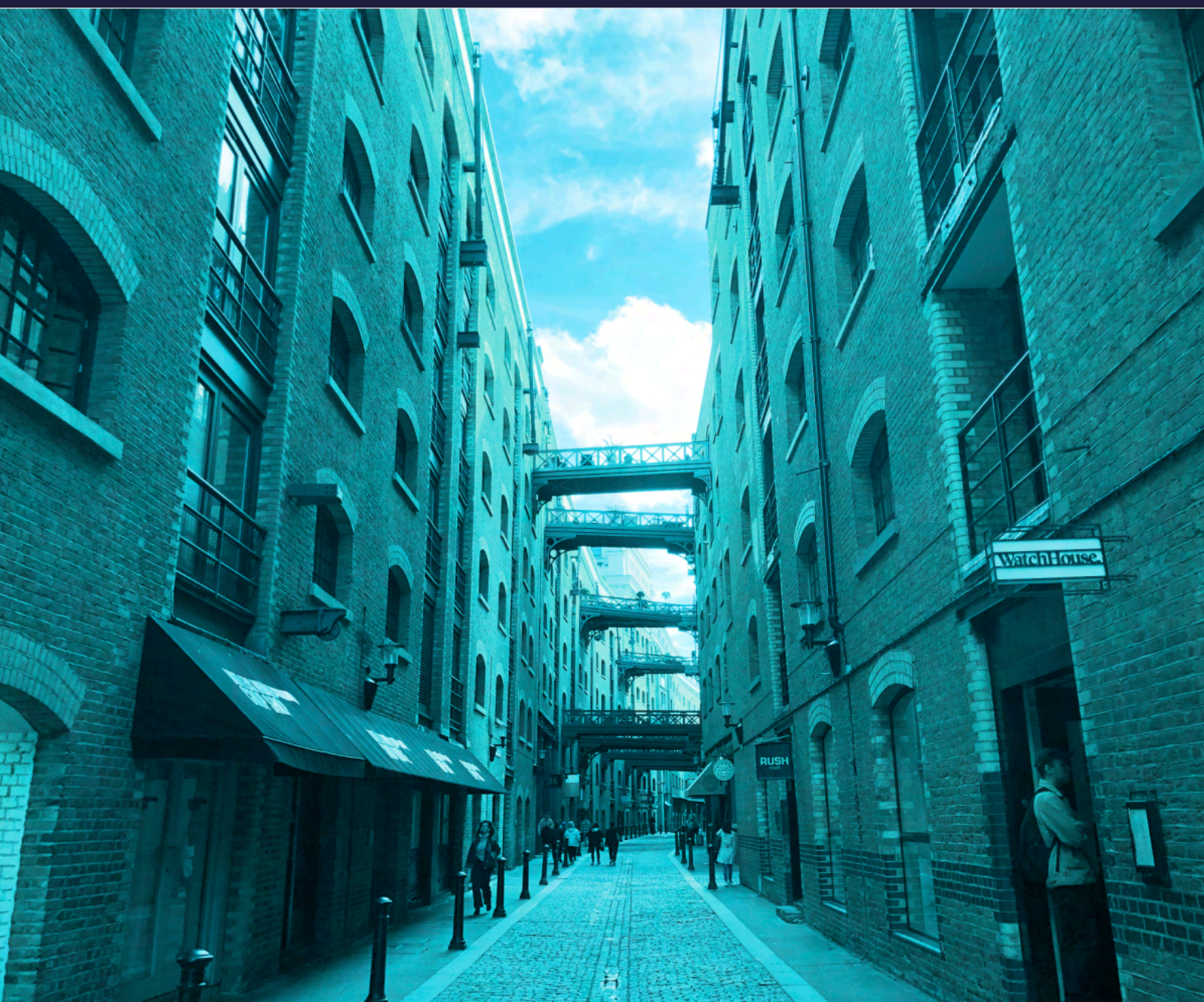


SHAD THAMES RESIDENTS' GUIDE

BY STRA





“

On a warm summer's evening, taking a stroll along the south bank of the Thames, with the restaurants and bars spilling out onto the terraces and the buzz of happy chatter filling the air, you realise this is a magical place.

”

Terence Conran, designer and the driving force behind Shad Thames' renaissance in the early 1990s.

Welcome

Shad Thames' waterside location and relationship with the Thames has shaped its history since Roman times. Once part of the "Larder of London", for many years Shad Thames was where London met the world, with goods from around the globe making their way to the warehouses now converted to flats.

During those years, the area also played a vital role in the struggle for workers' rights, as labourers struck to win better pay and hours. In the 1970s and '80s, Shad Thames became home to artists and musicians who lived in the disused warehouses before inspiration struck Terence Conran. It was during a boat ride on the Thames that he realised this area could be preserved and revitalised into a historic setting for residents and businesses alike.

Today's residents recognise the same magic that Conran felt.

This how-to guide has been put together by the Shad Thames Residents' Association (STRA) and aims to help everyone in Shad Thames make the most of living here. And when there's a problem, STRA members have learned that action comes from neighbours working together.

So we want to make it easier to get the information you need, whether it's finding ways to connect with neighbours and local clubs, charities and societies, or getting the right link or number to call if there's an issue that needs fixing.

We want to continue to improve this guide, so please share your feedback, suggestions and questions via info@shadthames.org

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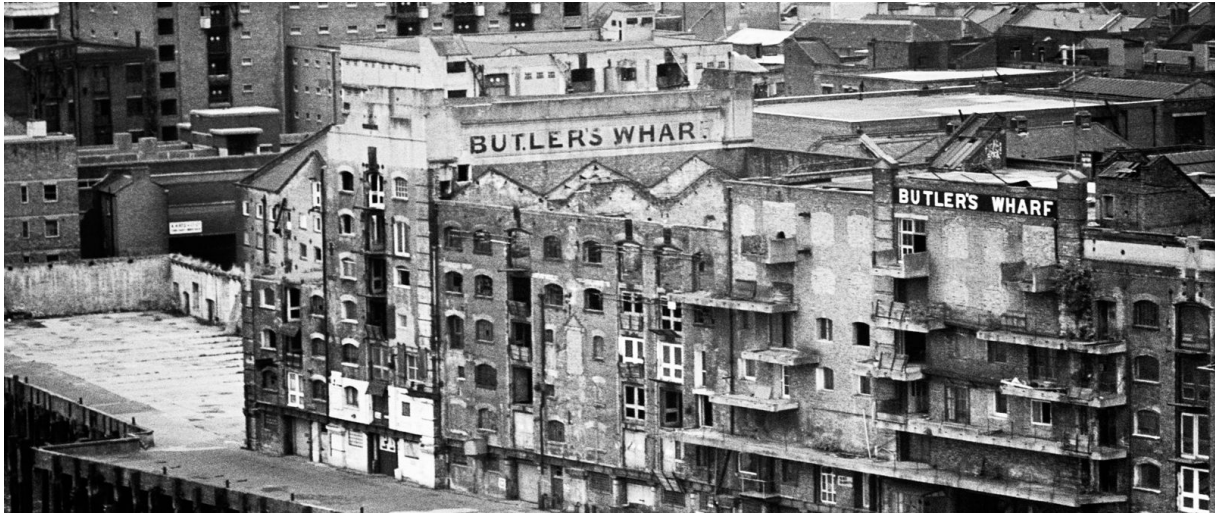
In this guide, we're defining "Shad Thames" as the area whose residents are represented by the Shad Thames Residents' Association (STRA). This means everyone living between the Thames and Tooley Street to the north and south, and Mill Street and London Bridge to the east and west.

Of course, most of the information here applies to anyone interested in Shad Thames!

You can find detailed maps of the area, including maps showing building names on the Shad Thames Residents' Association website:

<https://www.shadthames.org/join-us/resources/>





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Located in a strategic spot on the south side of the Thames and facing the City of London, Shad Thames has a long and fascinating history as part of the ancient borough of Bermondsey.

Origins of the name, "Shad Thames"

Theories vary on where the name "Shad Thames" comes from. It may be a corruption of "Saint John at Thames", which refers to the area's former landowners, the Knights of St John. It might also refer to a fish called shad that was found in the Thames. One of the first appearances of the name is on John Rocque's 1747 map of London.

Mediaeval history: gateway and supply route to Bermondsey Abbey

The river Neckinger, which is now visible only as the inlet into St. Saviour's Dock, was once the main route to the powerful and magnificent Bermondsey Abbey. The abbey's few remains can be found around Bermondsey Square, south of Bermondsey Street. It's said that people sailing down the Thames in mediaeval times would see two great sites on reaching London: the Tower of London and Bermondsey Abbey.

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The area may also have been used to exercise horses, which could be the origin of the name, "Horselydown Lane", a version of which appears on a map from the 1500s.

Industrial London: development as a warehouse complex and brewery

During the Victorian era, as London became industrialised and the British Empire grew, Shad Thames housed the largest warehouse complex in London.

The tea, coffee, dried fruit, and spice warehouses of Butler's Wharf were completed in 1873, and Shad Thames became known as, "the larder of London".

The 20th century: decline and dereliction

Bombing during World War Two took its toll on the area, and Shad Thames' warehouses gradually fell into disuse as congestion and containerization drove shipping to unload goods further east. By 1972 the last warehouses had closed.

An emerging artists' haven

From the 1970s, these unused warehouses found a new life, as artists including David Hockney and Derek Jarman created studios and bohemian, low-cost living in the now-derelict buildings.

Regeneration in the 1980s and 1990s

As part of the wider regeneration of the east of London and former docklands, the former warehouses of the Shad Thames area were converted into flats, with restaurants, retail and office space as part of Terence Conran's master plan for the area. New apartment buildings and homes were built alongside the converted warehouses as well, filling in parts of the neighbourhood that were damaged during the Blitz.

Development and growing popularity into the 2000s

The development of More London has added to the area's popularity as a tourist attraction and a busy place for both

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work and leisure. With its cobbled streets, overhead bridges, and riverside location Shad Thames at some point became “the most Instagrammed street in London”. Today, modern development continues alongside efforts to retain the unique character of the area.



Find out more

[Local History and Tours](#)

[The Shad Thames Conservation Area](#)

[Planning and development](#)



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Shad Thames spans two conservation areas: Tower Bridge and St. Saviour's Dock, designated by Southwark Council in order to manage and protect Shad Thames' unique features of architectural and historic interest.

Find out more about Tower Bridge Conservation Area, which includes Shad Thames, and St Saviour's Dock Conservation area here:

https://www.southwark.gov.uk/planning-environment-and-building-control/planning/design-and-conservation/conservation-areas/list#lgd-guides_title

The Shad Thames Area Management Plan is here (STRA is aware it has expired and needs review!):

<https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s42812/Appendix 1 Shad Thames Area Conservation Area Management Plan.pdf>

How to report violations of Conservation Area guidance on street furniture, signs, etc.

Under the Conservation Management Plan, specific guidance should be followed regarding street furniture, lighting and landscaping as well as managing transport movements and pedestrian flows.

You can report violations of the Conservation Area plans—for example signs, street furniture, or planters that have been placed on the pavement or in streets without permission.

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If the issue is something like an advertising sign that may not have advertising consent, find out how to report it here:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/planning-environment-and-building-control/planning/report-planning-breach>

If the issue regards something that sits on the ground, such as a planter or A-board, then write to this department:

highwayslicensing@southwark.gov.uk

Implications for Planning applications

Conservation areas have extra planning controls and considerations that must be taken into account by Southwark Planning when considering a planning application.

Southwark Planning should also follow the advice in the Shad Thames Area Management Plan and Historic England's 'Streets for All' plan.

These plans should be cited in comments made by residents in response to any planning application.

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/planning-environment-and-building-control/planning/design-and-conservation/conservation-areas-1>

Historic England 'Streets for All' guidance:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/streets-for-all/>

Heritage organisations

20th Century Society:

<https://c20society.org.uk/>

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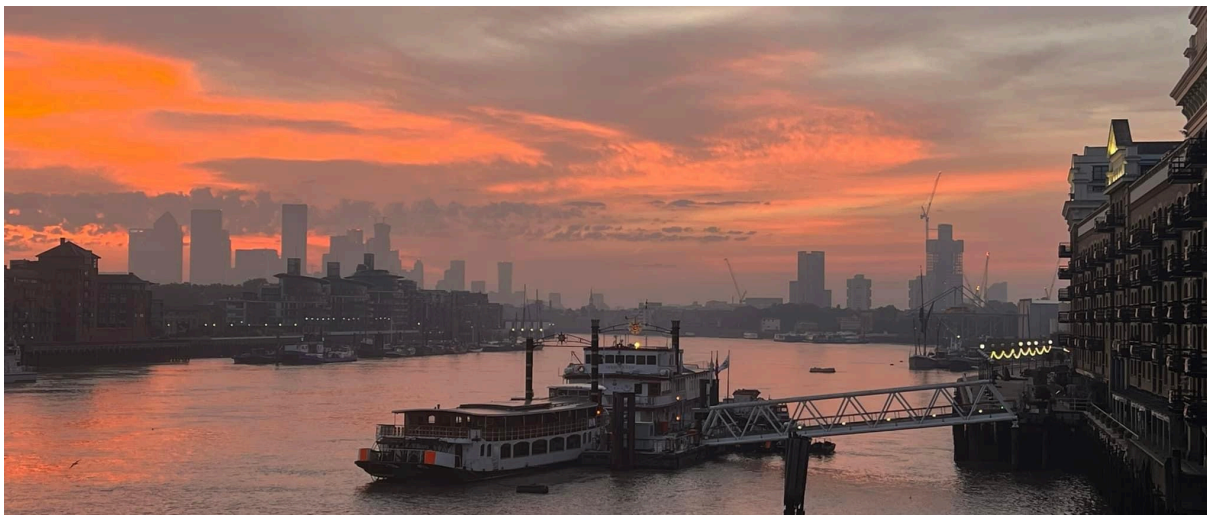
Take Action

Report violations:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/planning-environment-and-building-control/planning/report-planning-breach>

Report obstructions to:

highwayslicensing@southwark.gov.uk



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Ownership and stewardship of the Butler's Wharf waterfront jetty/walkway

Butler's Wharf jetty / walkway forms part of the ownership of the freehold of neighbouring buildings which are owned by Petchey Holdings. Under the 1992 lease, Petchey Holdings is responsible for maintaining the walkway. Unfortunately, they have shown little interest in leading improvements or even the day-to-day cleaning, maintenance, and security of the walkway.

The jetty / walkway is an important part of the character and amenities of the area. To address its neglect, the Butler's Wharf Riverside Trust was founded with the aim of protecting, enhancing, and preserving Butler's Wharf jetty.

You can read more about the jetty / walkway, the work of the Trust and improvement plans here:

<https://www.shadthames.org/butler-s-wharf-riverside-trust/>

Volunteer litter picking

Local residents occasionally get together for volunteer litter picks. Contact Litterati to find out more:

<https://twitter.com/BermondseyUp>

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How to report crime and anti-social behaviour on the jetty/ walkway

The many attractions of the jetty/ walkway sometimes attract anti-social behaviour. This should be reported to the police on 999 if there is any immediate danger—for example fireworks being set off or someone's life being in danger. Otherwise, anti-social behaviour should be reported by following the guidance in the [Safety, Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour section](#).

Butler's Wharf pier

Butler's Wharf pier is privately-owned by Livetts Group. It is currently leased to Thames Luxury Charters. Thames Luxury Charters hires out party boats for events on the river.

Butler's Wharf is now also a main stopping point for a tourist sightseeing cruise. The hop-on-hop-off riverboat service, launched in May, 2024, runs from Westminster to Greenwich, advertised as twice an hour from 10.00 -18.00. The operator, Thames River Sightseeing, previously used Tower Bridge Quay. Their website says the move is permanent and Butler's Wharf Pier "is now part of our river cruise route!" It adds, "This iconic location next to Tower Bridge becomes a key stop for all our tours, enriching the experience with its perfect blend of history and modernity." Residents received no advance notice of this new venture and the potential implications for the area have yet to be assessed.

The pier is occasionally also used as a base for film shoots on the Thames and around Tower Bridge, and for promotional events with Tower Bridge as a backdrop.

You can contact Thames Luxury Charters here:

<https://www.thamesluxurycharters.co.uk/pier-information/butlers-wharf-pier/>

And Livett's here:

<https://www.livetts.co.uk>

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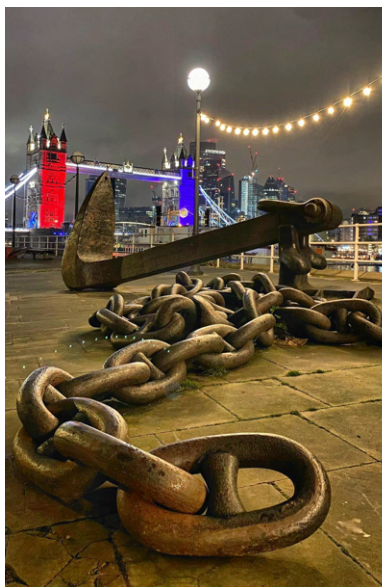
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Butler's Wharf pier disembarkation hours

As part of an agreement with the residents of Butler's Wharf, gates to the pier are locked at 10 pm. Disembarkation from night-time parties takes place at other piers. If you are disturbed by excessive levels of party boat noise, you can contact Thames Luxury Charters:

<https://www.thamesluxurycharters.co.uk/contact/>

Or use the River Residents' Group's handy reporting tool:

<https://riverresidentsgroup.co.uk/ReportANoisyPartyBoat.pdf>

River Resident's Group

Regular news and updates are provided by the River Residents Group. You can sign up to receive updates on issues of importance to residents living near the Thames on their website:

<https://riverresidentsgroup.co.uk>

St Saviour's Dock

St Saviour's Dock is the inlet-style dock that forms the eastern end of the Butler's Wharf walkway. The east side of the Dock is Jacob's Island. The Dock was originally created to service the former Bermondsey Abbey but now no longer functions as a working dock.

St Saviour's Dock Bridge

Southwark Council built and maintains the bridge across the dock. The bridge is open for pedestrians from 7 am to 11 pm daily. The gates to the bridge are locked automatically at night. If you find yourself stuck on the bridge after the gates have locked, there is a button to release the gate.

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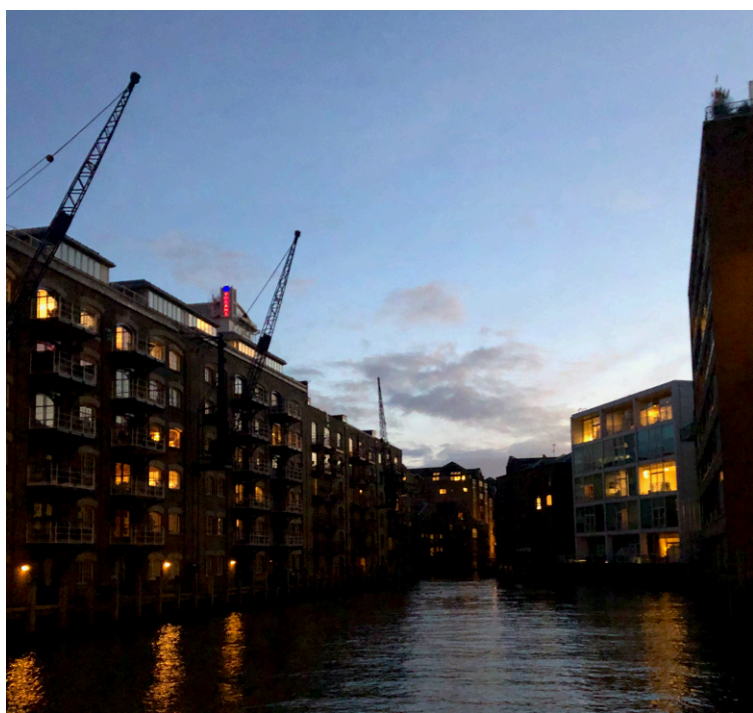
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Cleaning St Saviour's Dock

The Port of London Authority is responsible for cleaning the dock which, unfortunately, often fills with rubbish that floats in the tidal Thames. Our local councillors regularly put pressure on the Port of London Authority (PLA) to perform the cleaning, which can be dangerous, given that the mud in the dock is treacherous.



Take Action

Report crime and anti-social behaviour on the jetty / walkway

Call 999 if there is any immediate danger.

Call 101 if it is not an emergency.

Report anti-social behaviour to the Met Police using their online form:

<https://www.met.police.uk>

Help pick

up litter

Contact

Litterati:

<https://>

twitter.com/BermondseyUp



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The Potters Field Park Management Trust is a not-for-profit organisation that manages and maintains Potters Fields Park and St. John's Churchyard as open public spaces for recreation, leisure, and enjoyment. The Trust is managed by a board of directors, with representatives of: Fair Community Housing Services, More London Development Limited, Shad Thames Residents Association, Southwark Council (2 representatives), Team London Bridge

Most of the trust's income is earned from event hires. This enables the trust to share the parks by offering a range of events as well as access to and education in horticulture, arboriculture and wildlife to local and wider communities.

You can find out more at their website:

<https://pottersfields.co.uk>

Security on Potters Field Park

Potters Field Park is not part of More London, which is privately-owned by the St. Martins Property Group. St. Martins Property Group is owned by the Kuwaiti sovereign wealth fund. The More London security team is not responsible for providing security for Potters Field. If you need to report crime or anti-social behaviour in Potters Field, follow the advice in the [Crime and Anti-Social section](#).

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Summertime partying and litter

Many residents are distressed by the major littering in Potters Field that happens every warm evening. A minority of visitors abuse the area by leaving lots of rubbish in the park, causing it to spread further into the surrounding area and the Thames, and creating hazards for birds, who ingest the plastic.

Potters Field Park's Management Trust have put in place additional litter clearing in the early mornings following these kinds of incidents, but these often happen too late to avoid the litter travelling into nearby streets, into the river and into birds' digestion systems.

This remains a hot issue that Trust members are aware of, along with other examples of how the park's hospitality is open to abuse.

Using Potters Field Park to exercise your dog

You are welcome to use the park to exercise your dog, but please make sure to pick up dog poo and dispose of it responsibly.

Vendors: licensed and unlicensed

The ice cream van by the base of Tower Bridge has a licence to operate. The nut sellers are unlicensed but appear impervious to all attempts to remove them. You can find out more about them here:

<https://southwarknews.co.uk/area/borough/nut-on-our-watch-borough-police-crackdown/>

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You can report unlicensed vendors to Southwark Council using this email address:

streettrading@southwark.co.uk

Or report through the Southwark Council reporting tool:

<https://report.southwark.gov.uk/>



Take Action

Support Potters Field Park and sign up for updates

<https://pottersfields.co.uk>

Report crime and anti-social behaviour in the park

Call 999 if there is any immediate danger.

Call 101 if it is not an emergency.

Report anti-social behaviour to the Met Police using their on-line form:

<https://www.met.police.uk>

Report unlicensed vendors

Send email to this address::

streettrading@southwark.co.uk

Or use this link:

<https://report.southwark.gov.uk/>



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How activities on the Thames are governed

The Crown Estate owns the river bed but has leased most of it to the Port of London Authority (PLA) which also has responsibility for the foreshore up to the high water mark. The PLA has statutory responsibilities for:

- The environment, conserving and improving the river alongside its use as a port and waterway.
- Maintaining navigational safety, safe access to the river, and the safety of vessels on and users of, the Thames.
- Port security.
- Licensing people who trade on the river.

The Port of London is what's known as a trust port. The Port of London Authority has no shareholders and operates for the benefit of customers and stakeholders. It is an unelected body and is exempt from Freedom of Information requests (with some exceptions), leading to charges by some that it is unaccountable and secretive.

You can find out more about them here:

<https://www.pla.co.uk/About-Us/About-Us>

Local boroughs are responsible for development along the river bank but must take advice from statutory bodies, including the Port of London Authority.

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The Maritime and Coastguard Agency is a statutory body that works to prevent the loss of life on the coast and at sea. They produce legislation and guidance on maritime matters and certify seafarers and vessels that want to navigate the Thames.

The Coastguard on the Thames is responsible for Search and Rescue (SAR) operations on the Thames and falls under the remit of 999 emergency services.

The River Thames Society is a charity formed in 1962 to conserve the river for future generations and represents all river users. You can learn about them here:

<https://www.riverthamessociety.org.uk>

Thames Foreshore

At low tide it's possible – and permissible – to go down onto the foreshore where you can enjoy a unique experience of London and the Thames. Horsleydown Old Stairs lead down to the foreshore from Shad Thames via a tunnel through Anchor Brewhouse (closed at night). Be careful as the steps are often slippery and beware of rising tides.

The foreshore contains evidence of generations of people using the Thames. Parts of old clay pipes are easy to find. But there are strict rules about “mudlarking”—searching for and collecting objects from the Thames—which requires a permit from the Port of London Authority. Find out more here:

<http://www.pla.co.uk/Environment/Thames-foreshore-permits>

You can learn about joining guided tours of the foreshore at these websites:

<http://www.thamesdiscovery.org>

<http://www.thamesdiscovery.org/events-home/>

Read more about mudlarking and the history of the Thames here:

<https://www.laramaiklem.com/books/>

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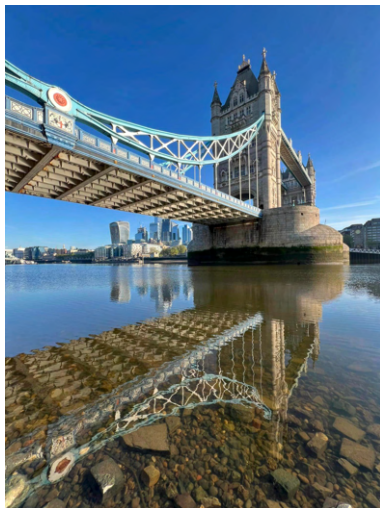
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Safety and pollution

The Thames is tidal and can be a very dangerous river, with currents that can pull even strong swimmers under quickly.

In addition, although the Thames has become progressively cleaner in recent years, even being rated as one of the world's cleanest waterways, sewage is still released into the river when sewers overflow due to heavy rain. We recommend that you do not swim in the Thames

You can read about the history of pollution in the Thames here:

<https://www.rmg.co.uk/stories/topics/pollution-river-thames-history>

The Thames Tideway Tunnel aims to solve London's problem of releasing sewage into the Thames by capturing the sewage from overflow points and redirecting it to treatment plants. Construction of the tunnel is complete and the system is being tested to ensure that the new infrastructure works. Full operation is planned for 2025. Read about it here:

<https://www.tideway.london>

The Tunnel's Chambers Wharf site in Bermondsey is a "main drive site", meaning that it is one of key sites in the project. With tunnel construction complete, redevelopment of the above-ground site will proceed, based on planning permission in place for new homes, commercial and community space and a riverside walk.

To find out more, click here:

<https://www.tideway.london/locations/chambers-wharf/>

The Shad Thames Pumping Station is an existing Thames water site. As part of the Tideway Tunnel Project, a new pipeline and manhole chamber are being constructed beneath Maguire Street to connect with the existing Thames Water sewer network locally.

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<https://www.tideway.london/locations/shad-thames-pumping-station/>

Thames wildlife

Different species of fish and birds now make the Thames their home as the river has been cleaned up. Seals are occasionally spotted from the foreshore near Tower Bridge.

To learn about the local river wildlife, use this link:

<https://www.towerbridge.org.uk/discover/what-wildlife-around-river-thames>

Threats to Thames wildlife remain severe. Find out how you can help to conserve it from the London Wildlife Trust, by reading here:

<https://www.wildlondon.org.uk>

Thames Barrier

The Thames Barrier is one of the largest movable flood barriers in the world. The Environment Agency runs and maintains the Thames Barrier as well as London's other flood defences.

Follow the activities of the barrier on X (formerly Twitter), here:

<https://twitter.com/AlanBarrierEA>

The barrier has been in use since 1982 and now closes to prevent flooding in London at a rate far higher than originally forecast. The barrier was closed four times in the 1980s, 35 times in the 1990s, 75 times in the 2000s and 74 times in the 2010s. Plans to upgrade and replace the barrier are under review.

To learn more, click here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/managing-future-flood-risk-and-thames-barrier-thames-estuary-2100>

Tower Bridge

Tower Bridge was built by and is owned and managed by the charity City Bridge Foundation. City Bridge Foundation was

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founded roughly 900 years ago to maintain the old London Bridge, using income from bridge tolls, rents, and bequests. Tower Bridge itself was built between 1886 and 1894.

You can find out about Tower Bridge here:

<https://www.towerbridge.org.uk/>

Check bridge lift times here:

<https://www.towerbridge.org.uk/lift-times>

Check for closures of the road that crosses Tower Bridge here:

<https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/services/streets/road-highways-and-pavements/road-closures>

Speed limit

The speed limit on Tower Bridge is 20 mph and speed cameras are in operation.

Visiting Tower Bridge

Residents can tour Tower Bridge for £1. Find out how to get your tickets here:

<https://www.towerbridge.org.uk/plan-your-visit/community-ticket>

Neighbouring riverside communities

The River Residents' Group is a new organisation formed to be an inclusive action group for individuals and communities with a passion for London's River Thames. Find out more and sign up here:

<https://riverresidentsgroup.co.uk>

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Take Action

Report an emergency or crime taking place on the river

Call 999 if there is any immediate danger.

Call 101 if it is not an emergency.

Report excessive party boat noise

<https://riverresidentsgroup.co.uk/ReportANoisyPartyBoat.pdf>

Get help if river wildlife is under threat or in difficulty

RSPCA emergency number: 0300 1234 999

London Wildlife Protection

<https://www.londonwildlifeProtection.org/found-an-animal/>

<https://www.londonwildlifeProtection.org/other-rescue-organisations/>

Swan Support

<http://www.swansupport.org.uk>



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The Thames Path provides easy and traffic—free pedestrian access to much of the best of what London has to offer. Routes are available on the north and south banks of the Thames, east and west.

Avoiding the crowds

The Thames Path west of Tower Bridge can become very congested so if you want a quieter and scenic stroll or run, try the Thames Path east either on the south or north banks of the river. There are plenty of historical sites to enjoy and very good pubs. This is also a useful tip for local runners, pub fans, and history buffs.

If you want to avoid the crowds on the west part of the Thames Path, try walking “the back way” through Potters Field Park to Druid Street and then west through Snowfields and Union Street. This is an easy way to reach Borough Market, Waterloo, the West End, and Westminster.

For more information on the path, see here:

https://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/en_GB/trails/thames-path/trail-information/

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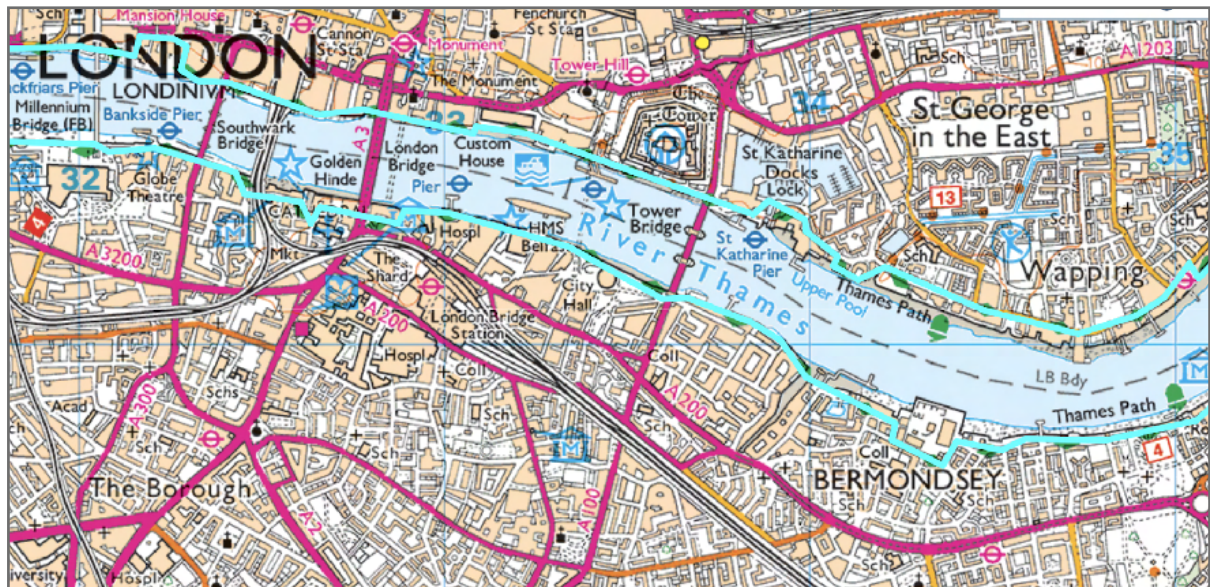
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Underground and Overground Trains

Plan your journey via Transport For London's App or website, here:

<https://tfl.gov.uk/plan-a-journey/>

Local stations

London Bridge (Overground and Northern and Jubilee Lines), Bermondsey (Jubilee Line), Tower Hill (District and Circle Line), and Tower Gateway (Docklands Light Railway – DLR) are all within walking distance.

Shortcuts and useful routes via the Overground from London Bridge station

London Bridge's Overground services provide some useful shortcuts that don't always show up on the Transport For London guide. Use the Trainline app for information on these services:

- Services to Charing Cross – it's just two stops to go from London Bridge to Charing Cross and the West End.
- Thameslink services – these connect London Bridge and the City of London, King's Cross/St Pancras, Luton, Brighton and Gatwick.

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- Overground train to Waterloo – you can take any train from London Bridge that stops at Waterloo East, then follow the covered walkway into Waterloo Station.

The London Overground route from Rotherhithe and Canada Water (Jubilee line) stations connects you to lots of useful places for exploring London in all directions. It also provides an additional Thames crossing between Rotherhithe and Wapping:

<https://content.tfl.gov.uk/london-overground-network-map.pdf>

Elizabeth Line

The nearest Elizabeth Line stop is Liverpool Street Station where taxis are available. The 42 and 78 buses connect Liverpool St and Tower Bridge. If you are travelling to Liverpool St, there is a handy lift next to the steps from Duchess Walk up to the west side of Tower Bridge Road near the bus stop.

Alternatively, you can connect to the Elizabeth Line at Farringdon Station via Thameslink services from London Bridge station. This route is step-free, as long as the lifts and escalators at London Bridge and Farringdon are working.

Buses

Find a guide to local buses here:

<https://tfl.gov.uk/maps/bus?Input=Tower+Bridge%2C+Tower+Bridge+Road%2C+London%2C+UK&InputGeolocation=51.505455017089844%2C-0.07535649836063385>

Free and discounted travel for older people and people with disabilities

If you're 60 or over and live permanently in a London borough, you can get free travel on London Transport services with an Oyster photocard.

<https://tfl.gov.uk/fares/free-and-discounted-travel/60-plus-oyster-photocard>

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The Freedom Pass for older people and people with eligible disabilities allows free travel in London and on buses nationally

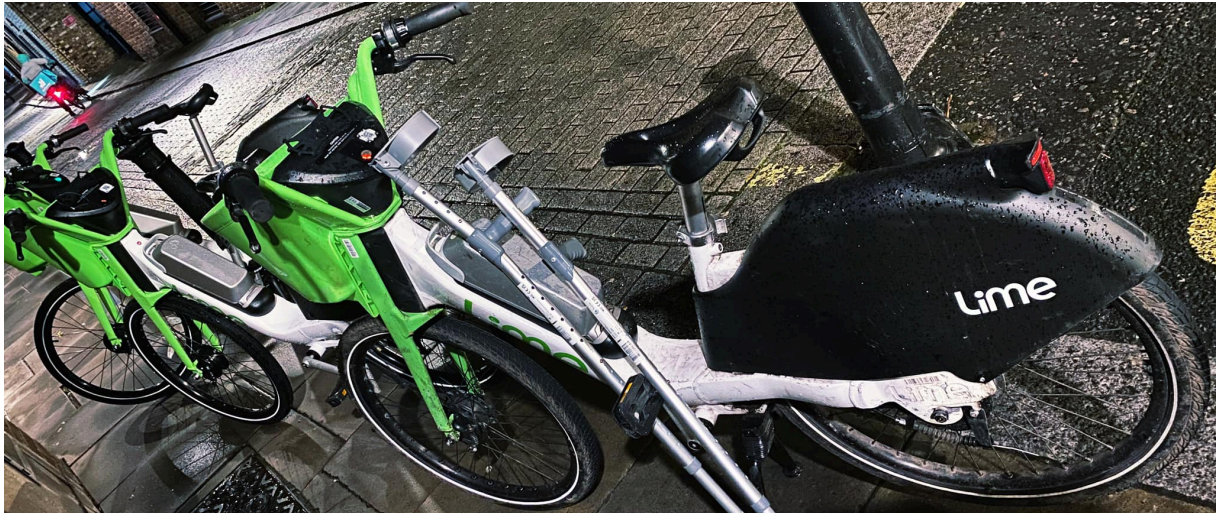
<https://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/services/freedom-pass>

River boat services

Uber Thames Clipper (now a partnership between the two companies) operates river services along the Thames and has piers near London Bridge and the Tower of London. Learn more here:

<https://www.thamesclippers.com/plan-your-journey>





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Southwark Council is continuing to develop its Cycling Plan.

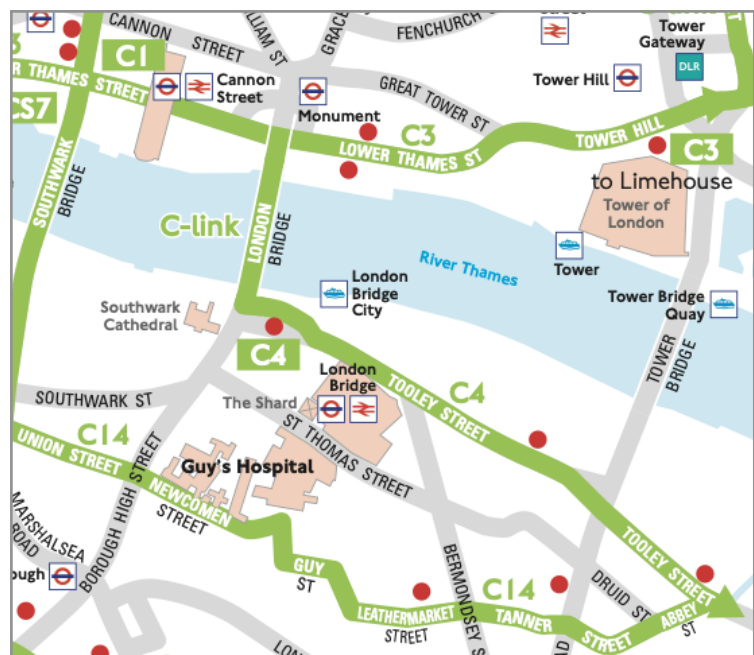
Cycleway 4 passes along Jamaica Road and Tooley Street.

More information can be found here:

<https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/cycling/routes-and-maps/cycleways>

There is a bike repair shop on the corner of Shad Thames and Tooley Street. Click here for info:

<https://www.nipnip.co.uk/nipnip-bike-repairs-tower-bridge-london/>



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Rental/e-bikes

A useful guide to London's rental bike services is available from The Cyclist. You can get your copy here:

<https://www.cyclist.co.uk/reviews/ridden-and-rated-ultimate-guide-to-london-s-bike-sharing-rental-bicycles>

Parking your rental bike

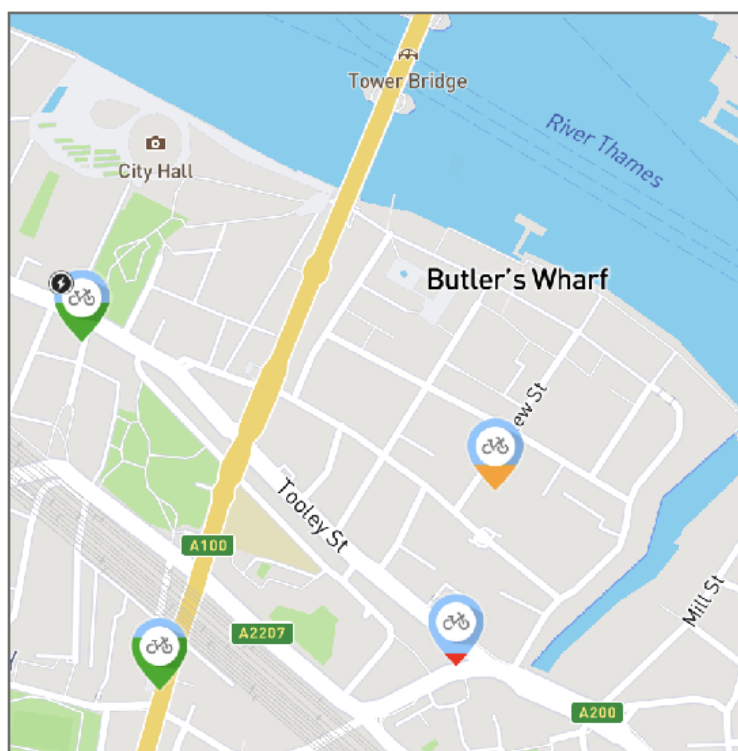
London transport/Santander bike docking stations are available in the area.

Learn their location and availability here:

<https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/cycling/santander-cycles/docking-stations>

Please park other rental bikes responsibly!

Bikes cannot be left on private property. This includes Cayenne Court, Courage Yard, and Butler's Wharf walkways. Bicycles must be parked without causing an obstruction. Please be especially conscious of the needs of people with disabilities or using pushchairs.



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Some London Boroughs require e-bikes to be parked in mandatory parking areas. These boroughs include Camden, the City of London, Hackney, Kensington, and Chelsea.

Southwark Council has added a marked parking bay for e-bikes on Boss Street, at the junction with Queen Elizabeth Street.

Private electric scooters

It is legal to buy an electric scooter in the UK but it is illegal to ride one on public roads. The advice published by the Metropolitan Police explains why and the penalties for using e-scooters illegally on public roads

<https://www.met.police.uk/e-scooters>

Rental e-scooters

Rental electric scooters (e-scooters) are the only legal way to ride an e-scooter on public roads or in other public places within London—and even this is limited to a trial scheme currently underway in specific boroughs, including Southwark. It is still illegal to use privately-owned e-scooters or other powered transporters on public roads.

You can learn more about the trial here:

<https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/electric-scooter-rental-trial>

Take Action.

If you see a rental bike that is causing an obstruction in Southwark, you can report it using the FixMyStreet app.



<https://report.southwark.gov.uk/>



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Shad Thames sits within a Zone G Controlled Parking Zone governed by Southwark Council. Consultations are held periodically with local residents to gather feedback on parking issues and priorities in the area.

Visit Southwark Council's parking pages to find a wide range of parking-related information:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/parking-streets-and-transport/parking>

Residents' Parking

There is limited, residents-only parking in the area's streets. These are available in marked bays from 8:30 am to 11 pm daily.

Parking for visitors and contractors

There is limited visitor parking available in the area. This is governed by time limits. Check the signs for information.

For a fee, Southwark residents can apply for visitors' parking permits, whether they have a car or not.

Check here to find out more:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/parking-streets-and-transport/parking/parking-permits/visitors-parking-permits>

Paid parking is also available in the Q Parks garage on Gainsford Street. But bear in mind there is a height limit of 1.95 metres, which means it is not suitable for tall vans. Spaces

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are bookable and this is highly recommended—even essential—on strike days and some weekend evenings.

For more information, see here:

<https://www.q-park.co.uk/en-gb/cities/london/tower-bridge/>

Renting additional parking spaces in the area

Many residents have parking spaces included in the lease of their flat and these are often unused. It may be possible to rent a space in a local car park. However both parties should double-check that this is permitted within their car parking space lease.

Parking wardens

Southwark parking wardens are very mobile—often on mopeds—and can be quick to arrive when parking violations are spotted via CCTV monitoring. Be warned!

However, local residents in some streets that are commonly used as a pick-up zone from local restaurants and bars are complaining that these streets are being used as car parks at night, attracting unreasonable amounts of late-night noise and anti-social behaviour.

Southwark parking and Highways teams have so far proved unresponsive to complaints. If neighbours affected would like

Take Action

Report a parking violation:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/parking-streets-and-transport/parking/report-parking-problem>

Parking violations hotline:

If the parking violation is causing a serious issue, call the parking violations hotline on 0207 708 8587 and an officer will be sent to the location within 30 minutes.

This number is manned 6.30 am to 10.30 pm Monday to Saturday and 7 am to 7 pm on Sunday.

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to get together to mount an evidence-based request for stronger action, please contact info@STRA.org to be put in touch.

Electric-car charging

Facilities in the area are limited.

There are some electric car charging stations on Horsleydown Lane but are subject to change as a result of the development of Tower Bridge Court.

There are 14 charging stations in the Q Parks on Gainsford Street. Note however, that you must pay to enter the car park. See here to find out more:

<https://www.q-park.co.uk/en-gb/cities/london/tower-bridge/>

Zapmap offers a mobile phone app, a map, and other information to help you locate electric car charging points. To find out more, click here:

<https://www.zap-map.com>

Car clubs and rental car

Zipcar is available in the area although some local residents have found it to be sometimes unreliable due to abuse and dumping of its cars.

<https://www.zipcar.com/en-gb>

Car rentals are available in Q Parks on Gainsford St and Enterprise has a car rental office on the north side of Tower Bridge.

The following websites have information on car rentals:

https://drivalia.co.uk/locations/car-hire-tower-bridge/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=GMB_Tower_Bridge

<https://www.enterprise.co.uk/en/car-hire-locations/uk/london-tower-bridge-u128.html>

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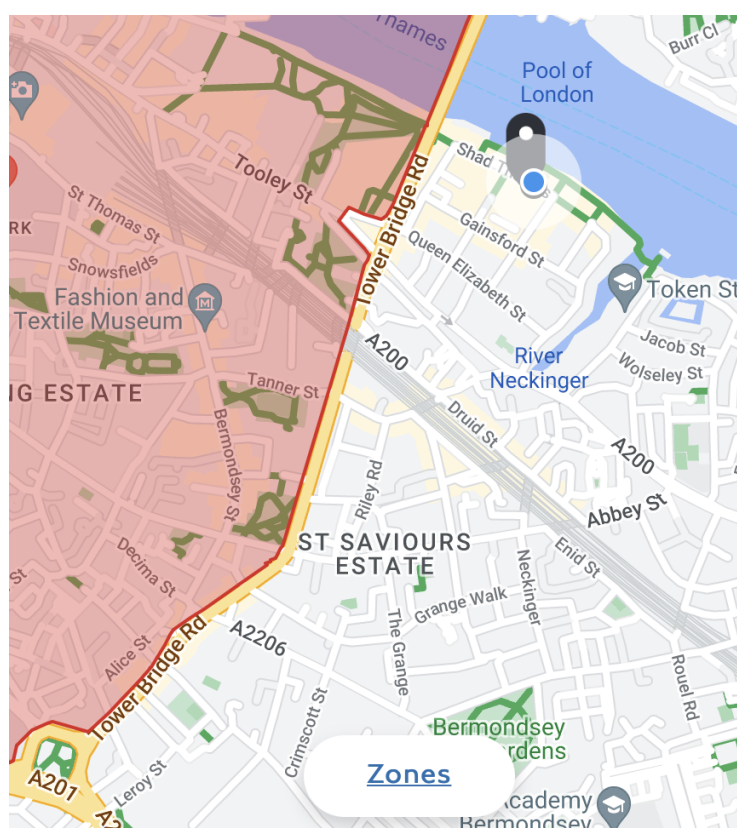
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Congestion charge zone

Shad Thames mostly sits outside the Congestion Charge Zone, which begins on the roads leading west of Tower Bridge road.

You can find out more about the zone here:

<https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/congestion-charge/congestion-charge-zone>



Occasional major local road closures

A few times a year, Shad Thames is effectively closed to traffic to accommodate major events such as the London Marathon. These closures can be total, which means no vehicular traffic can enter or leave the area for hours at a time, including deliveries and taxis.

It's important to keep an eye out for publicity about closures and stay involved with local neighbourhood communications

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such as the Shad Thames Residents' Association Facebook page or your building's or street's Whatsapp group.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/shadthames>

<https://www.instagram.com/shadthamesresidents/>

And if you receive or see publicity about road closures, please share it!

You can also check planned road closures in advance here on the TfL website:

<https://tfl.gov.uk/traffic/status/?startDate=2023-10-21T00%3A00%3A00&endDate=2023-10-22T23%3A59%3A59&dateTypeSelect=This%20weekend>

If you have travel plans for days when there are closures and you'll have heavy luggage, it's usually best to leave before or arrive home after the closure periods.

Alternative parking near Shad Thames area unaffected by the closures

Limited paid street parking is available in Druid Street. If you have other suggestions, please contact info@shadthames.org.

Alternative taxi pick-up zones unaffected by the closures

The pedestrian route to Tooley Street via Shad Thames, Potters Field Park, and More London remains open during area closures.

Local car wash services

Tesco & ASDA car parks on Old Kent Road have car wash services.



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Please send us your own nominations along with a brief description of why you recommend it and any relevant links to info@shadthames.org.

Southwark Parkrun:

<https://www.parkrun.org.uk/southwark/>

London City Runners (running club, bar and coffee house):

<https://www.londoncityrunners.com>

Proper Blokes walking club:

<https://theproperblokesclub.co.uk>

More Yoga's London yoga studio:

<https://www.moreyoga.co.uk/yoga-london/tower-bridge-studio/>

Third Space gym and pool:

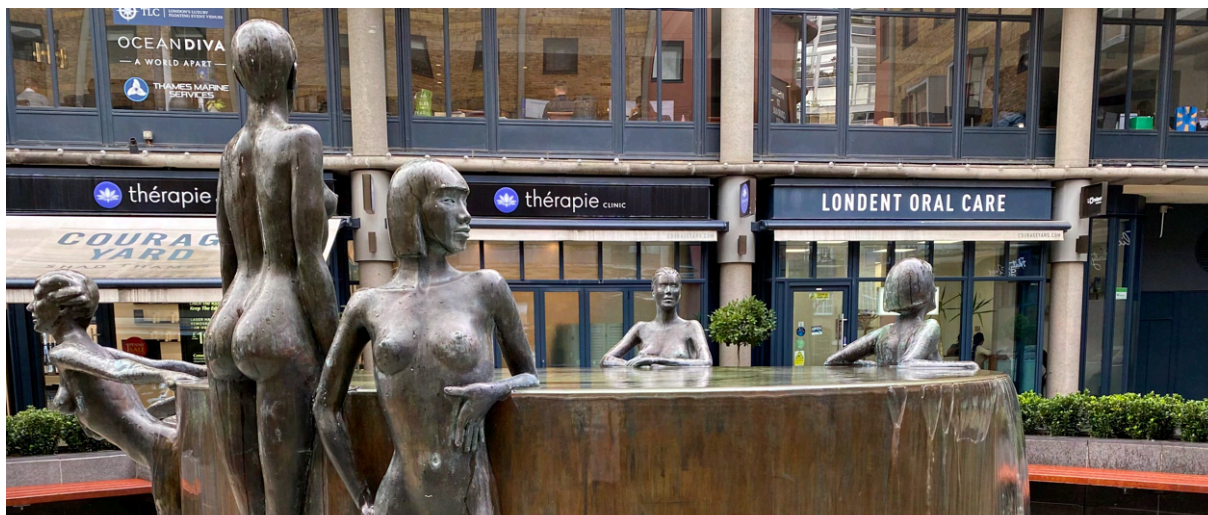
<https://www.thirdspace.london/clubs/tower-bridge/>

The Circle Gym and Spa:

<https://www.thecirclegymandspa.co.uk>

Movement Collective (pilates, stretch and breath)

<https://themoco.uk>



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Pharmacies

Boots, Hays Galleria

https://www.boots.com/stores/839-london-hays-galleria-se1-2hd?srltid=AfmBOoqa-0G68U8OejzBBHW4Mxep_s16nUdID-Oh_twwlGjiT2YKD8pp

Amadi's, 107 Abbey St

<https://www.nhs.uk/services/pharmacy/amadi-s-chemist/FKC34>

Tower Bridge Wellness, 43 Shad Thames (does not offer NHS prescriptions)

<https://www.thewellnesspharmacy.co.uk>

NHS GP (medical doctor and nursing) services

To use National Health general practice services, you must register with your local GP surgery. Here are Shad Thames' local surgeries:

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New Mill Street Surgery

1 Wolseley Street, SE1 2BP

020 7252 1817

<https://www.newmillstreet.com>

Bermondsey Spa Medical Practice

50 Old Jamaica Road, SE16 4BN

020 3474 6000

<https://www.b-spa.co.uk>

Private GP services

Roodlane (HCA) private GP clinic

4th Floor, Magdalen House, 148 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2TU

<https://www.hcahealthcare.co.uk/facilities/roodlane-medical/tooley-street>

London Bridge walk-in GP service (Spire Healthcare)

Collegiate House, 9 St Thomas Street, SE1 9RY

<https://www.londondocctorsclinic.co.uk/clinics/london-bridge/?>

Dentists

Shad Thames has two local private dentist offices. They do not provide NHS dental services.

Londent

1 Copper Row, London SE1 2LH

020 7407 0211

<https://www.londent.co.uk>

Oralon Dental

Unit 2, The Circle, Queen Elizabeth Street, London SE1 2JE

020 7407 4556

<https://www.oralon.co.uk>



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Please send us clubs and societies in the area along with a brief description of why you recommend it and any relevant links to info@shadthames.org.



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Here is an initial list of entertainment sites in the area. Please send us your own nominations along with a brief description of why you recommend it and any relevant links to info@shadthames.org.

Theatres

The Bridge

<https://bridgetheatre.co.uk>

Southwark Playhouse

<https://southwarkplayhouse.co.uk>

Unicorn Theatre (for young audiences)

<https://www.unicorntheatre.com>

Menier Chocolate Factory

<https://www.menierchocolatefactory.com>

Wilton's Music Hall

London's last music hall venue, a unique building with a good restaurant and bar and a lively, diverse, regularly-changing programme. On the wrong side of the river but it's only a mile away:

<https://www.wiltons.org.uk>

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London Bridge outdoor events

<https://londonbridgecity.co.uk/events>

Music

The Malted Shake in Rope Walk

<https://www.castrosbarbershoplondon.com/events>

Comedy

The Raven

This traditional British pub hosts stand-up comedy nights:

<https://www.facebook.com/TheRavenTowerBridge/>





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Here is an initial list of history and tour sites about the area.

Please send us your own nominations along with a brief description of why you recommend it and any relevant links to info@shadthames.org.

Southwark Archives sells a range of local history booklets.

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/culture-and-sport/local-history/southwark-archives/buy-local-history-books>

Rotherhithe and Bermondsey Local History Society

<https://www.rbhistory.org.uk>

Southwark Archives

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/culture-and-sport/local-history-and-heritage/southwark-archives>

Bermondsey Abbey archaeology

This Youtube video provides an in-depth description of finds and the history of the Abbey that was once the beating heart of the area:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-vEhFloecok>

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<https://www.bowllofchalk.net/things-are-afoot/category/shad-thames>

Shad Thames trail guide

<https://www.shadthames.org/join-us/resources/>

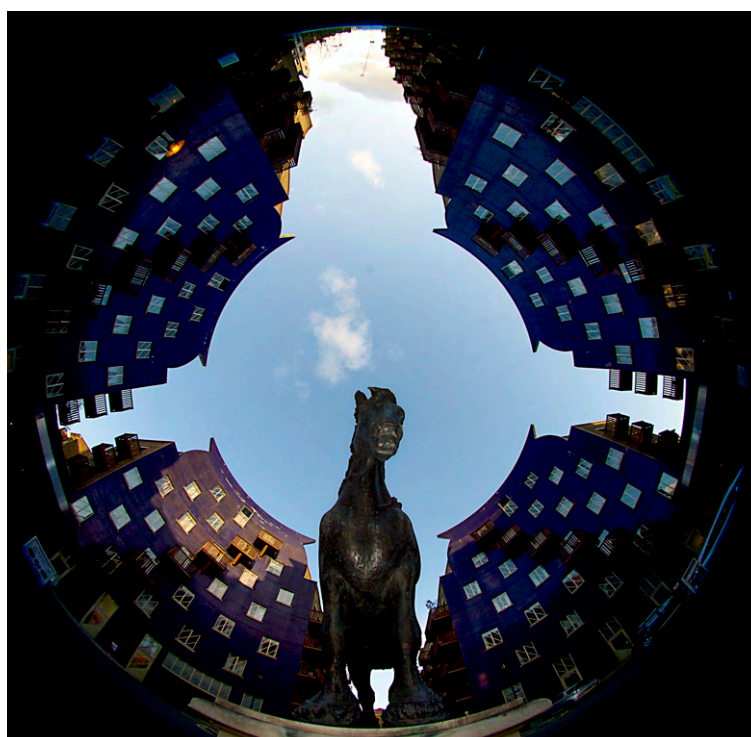
Bermondsey Street trail guides

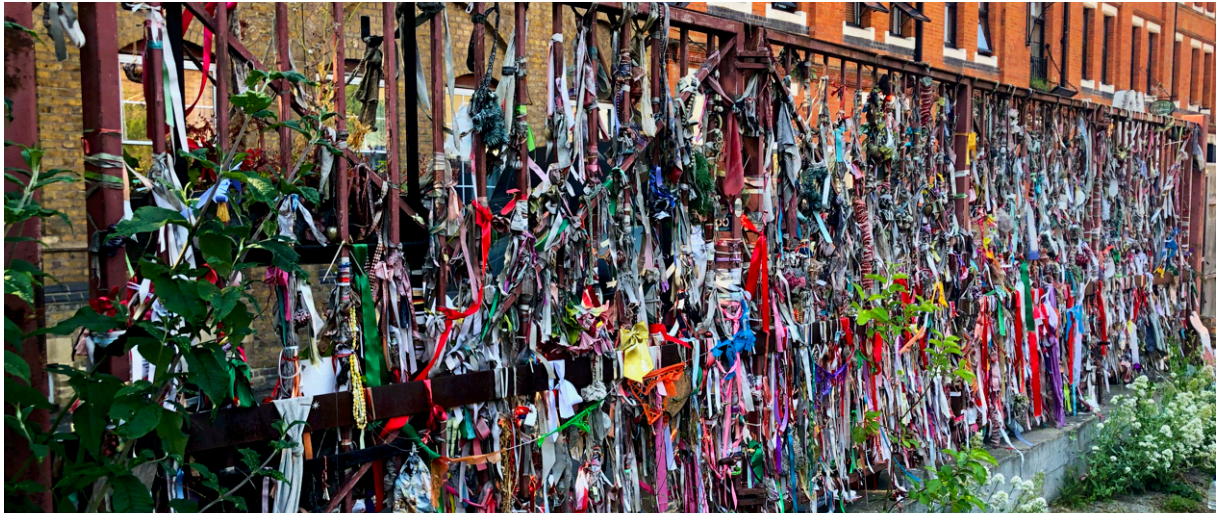
<https://bermondseystreet.london/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Bermondsey-Street-Trail-Guide-August-2019.pdf>

Secret History of Our Streets – Reverdy Road (Bermondsey)

This Youtube video gives a fascinating insight into Bermondsey history:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DZnPBfktbF0>





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Here is an initial list of especially interesting local places.

Please send us your own nominations along with a brief description of why you recommend it and any relevant links to info@shadthames.org.

East

The Mayflower

This is a historic and cosy pub where you can dine above the lapping waters of the Thames below:

<https://www.mayflowerpub.co.uk>

Brunel Museum

This museum gives a fascinating insight into giants of the industrial era. There are also cocktails served outside on summer nights:

<https://thebrunelmuseum.com>

Dr Salter's Daydream

This is a public sculpture celebrating the lives of local philanthropists Dr. Alfred Salter and Mrs. Ada Salter, along with their daughter Ada Joyce, near the Angel pub in Rotherhithe and the ruins of King Edward III's manor house:

<http://www.bewsgorvin.co.uk/sculpture-dr-salters-daydream.html>

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Southwark Park

A beautiful and generally peaceful park east of Shad Thames. Visit in autumn to see the fall colours or in spring when the waterfowl on the lake have their chicks and cygnets:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/culture-and-sport/parks-and-open-spaces/find-park/southwark-park>

Borough

Borough Market

Go early to avoid the crowds and don't miss the mulled wine at Christmas:

<https://boroughmarket.org.uk>

Crossbones graveyard

Commemorating the lives of mediaeval sex workers in the Bankside and Borough area. These women paid fees to the Bishop of Winchester for the privilege of working as prostitutes, but weren't allowed burial in the "hallowed ground" of the church after their death:

<http://crossbones.org.uk>

City of London

London Mithraeum

This atmospheric museum showcases the remains of a Roman temple and Roman artefacts found during recent excavations and provides a true insight into Roman Londinium:

<https://www.londonmithraeum.com>

The Guildhall Art Gallery (free entry)

This large gallery has the remains of London's Roman amphitheatre in the basement:

<https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/attractions-museums-entertainment/guildhall-art-gallery/visit-guildhall-art-gallery>





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Some local businesses offer discounts for residents. These sometimes apply to food only – check with the restaurant.

Be sure to mention you are a resident when you arrive or order. It's also a good idea to take proof of residence just in case. Make sure you are on the restaurant's system (this is often automatic when you book on-line). Go regularly and be recognized!

10% off restaurants

- Sticky Mango

<https://www.stickymango.co.uk/towerbridge>

- Le Pont de la Tour

<https://www.lepontdelatour.co.uk>

- Butler's Wharf Chophouse

<https://www.chophouse-restaurant.co.uk>

The Tower Bridge Museum

The museum offers Southwark residents entry for £1 when you buy a Community ticket:

<https://www.towerbridge.org.uk/plan-your-visit/community-ticket>

Courage Yard Card

The Courage Yard loyalty card gives you access to offers, discounts and events in the Shad Thames area. It's free to



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join and includes discounts such as 10% off at the Dean Swift pub and Café Paradiso:

<https://courageyard.com/courage-card/>

Team London Bridge Deal Card

This card gives you access to offers and discounts across the London Bridge area, including some restaurants on Bermondsey Street, in the Shard and in More London:

<https://www.teamlondonbridge.co.uk/dealcard>

The Dixon Hotel

The Dixon offers local residents 20% off the standard retail rate at the time of booking. The discount even applies to rooms you book for your visitors – you don't have to be staying yourself. Note, however, that the discount does not apply to promotions or advance purchase rates.

To receive the discount, when booking on-line, use the "Special Rate" / "Corporate/Promotional Code" option and enter the promo code "L9Z". You must provide proof of residence to reservation@thedixon.co.uk before check-in

Cash Machines and Post Offices

Cash machines

Cash machines are available in London Bridge station, outside Tesco on Tooley St, outside Sainsbury's on Tower Bridge Road/Tooley St, and at the Cooperative Food in Mill St. You can find other cash machine locations here:

<https://www.link.co.uk/cash-locator>

Post Offices

19, Borough High St, although this is often busy and the self-service option is rarely in use due to under-manning.

A less busy and more customer-friendly post office is north of the river at 12 Eastcheap, closed weekends.

Ronnie's Supermarket in Tanner St also operates a small post office branch.



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Southwark Council has the main responsibility for maintaining pavements and roads that are publicly-owned, and for planting and taking care of the trees along our streets.

Our area also contains some “quirks” that are not the responsibility of Southwark Council: private squares such as Cayenne Court or Courage Yard and the Butler’s Wharf waterfront walkway, for example. Warehouse bridges are also privately-owned and maintained.

STRA ‘walkabout’ with Southwark Council officials

Members of the Shad Thames Residents’ Association (STRA) core group aim to walk the area with the relevant council officials on a regular basis. STRA keeps a log of all the issues identified, ranging from broken and loose footways to rogue pavement signs to strange bumps in our roads, and monitors whether action is taken.

Shad Thames Conservation Area – violations of guidance on street furniture, signs etc

Shad Thames is part of a Conservation Area, reflecting the area’s historical character, features and distinctive identity. To find out more about the Conservation Area, how it is managed and what you can do to help or report issues, please see the [Conservation Area section](#).

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Pavement gritting in winter

Southwark Council is responsible for maintaining publicly-owned pavements in a safe condition during icy weather. If you want to report dangerously icy pavements, use Southwark Council's reporting tool:

<https://report.southwark.gov.uk>

Gritting privately-owned pavements and courtyards

The safety of privately-owned walkways is the responsibility of the relevant owner. Please note that this includes the Butler's Wharf waterfront jetty and walkway which is privately-owned by an investment company.

Jet-washing dirty pavements by bin stores

Restaurants are responsible for keeping pavement outside their bin stores clean. If you spot a persistently dirty pavement area, report it via the Fix My Street app or here:

<https://report.southwark.gov.uk>

Road works

Southwark Council is responsible for coordinating and monitoring street works carried out by utility companies, which must comply with requirements relating to safety and notify the Council of intended roadworks.

Find out more here:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/parking-streets-and-transport/road-works>

Check road works in your area here:

<http://public.londonworks.gov.uk/roadworks/home>

Take Action

Reporting issues with pavements, roads and trees - we can help the Southwark Council teams by spotting and reporting issues and damage caused by irresponsible use.

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In an emergency that poses a serious safety risk – for example, a fallen tree or missing manhole cover:

Call Southwark's hotline at 020 7525 2000

Fix My Street

Use the app, FixMyStreet or the website to map and report street problems to the councils responsible for fixing them anywhere in the UK



<https://www.fixmystreet.com/>

Southwark Council also has a general reporting tool. This lets you report all sorts of problems including graffiti, fly-tipping, broken paving slabs, or street lighting that is out.

To use the website, enter your postcode, locate the problem on the map, and enter the details.

<https://report.southwark.gov.uk>

Tree Damage

If you see damage to a tree (for example caused by a lorry), contact the tree team immediately as they may be able to save the tree. Take photos if possible so that the council can follow up.

Email: trees.Env1@southwark.gov.uk

Or use the tree issue reporting tool at:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/environment/trees>

Reporting obstructions on pavements or roads

To find out how to report a range of issues including obstructions on roads and pavements, illegal street trading and fly tipping, go to this site:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/parking-streets-and-transport/street-care/blocked-roads-and-pavements>



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Southwark Council is responsible for and maintains street lighting on publicly-owned and adopted streets. As part of the Shad Thames Conservation Area plan, new street lighting was installed in the area in the early 2020s.

Take Action

If you want to report a street lighting issue, email here:

street.Lighting@southwark.gov.uk



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Supporting our local restaurants and bars

Many Shad Thames residents chose to live here because of the buzz and proximity to restaurants and bars. We are regular customers and want to help our favourite eateries and watering holes succeed.

It's especially important that we support them when times are tough—for example on strike days and dark, rainy winter nights—and for many, profit margins are slim, so patronage is very welcome. Some businesses offer local residents discounts and special offers to recognise our local support.

Respecting the needs of residents

Restaurants and bars are expected to respect the fact that Shad Thames is a residential area and to minimise noise, bottle emptying and refuse collections at unsocial hours, and to encourage customers to leave the area quietly late at night.

Premises and alcohol licensing

A premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003 is required for any premises where any of the following take place:

- The retail sale of alcohol.
- Regulated entertainment (plays, films, indoor sporting events, live/recorded music or any performance of dance).

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- Providing hot food or hot drink between 11 pm and 5 am on any day.

You can read more about premises licensing here:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/business-and-licences/alcohol-and-business-premises-licences/premises-licences>

Some premises' licences include conditions that reflect the residential nature of the area in which the business is based. If you are experiencing problems, it's worth checking these conditions to see if they are being breached.

How to check a premises licence

Visit Southwark's licensing site here:

<https://app.southwark.gov.uk>

How to make a complaint about excessive noise or unreasonable disruption

Follow the guidance in the [Noise section](#). It's especially important to work with your neighbours and gather evidence such as photos or videos with times and dates.

Find out about licensing applications that may affect you

A notice of a licence application must be displayed on the premises for 28 consecutive days beginning the day after the application is made. A copy of the notice must also be sent to the local newspaper.

If you see notice of an application that could affect you and your neighbours—or one you want to support—let your neighbours know as soon as possible and contact info@STRA.org so that your comments, objections, or support can be registered via Southwark Council's Planning Portal. The more you involve your neighbours, the more chance you have of being heard.

Sign up for alerts about licence applications that might affect you

Email: licensing@southwark.gov.uk

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How to make a representation to an application

Making a representation means offering comments on a specific licensing application. Comments can be categorised as in favour, in objection or neutral. You will normally have 28 days to make a representation.

Search the licensing register here to find the relevant application and then follow the guidance offered on the register:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/business-and-licences/licences>

If you can't find the application or you have further questions, email: licensing@southwark.gov.uk

Objections to alcohol licences

You have the right to object to an application for an alcohol licence but your "representation" must be relevant to at least one of the licensing objectives:

- Preventing crime and disorder.
- Public safety.
- Preventing public nuisance.
- Protecting children from harm.

Any "representation" must be a personal one, reflecting your own concerns. While it is important to work together with your neighbours when objecting, it's vital that your "representation" is personalised and not a copy of someone else's.

Temporary Event Notices "TENS"

Bear in mind that, once a licence has been granted, the licence holder can also apply for permission to hold temporary events by serving a Temporary Event Notice, known as a "TEN". Importantly, this kind of event could be much more disruptive to local residents than the activities permitted under the normal licence. This can effectively turn a



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“restaurant” that normally closes at 11 pm into a nightclub / festival venue open until 4 am, up to 12 times a year. The only people who can object to such an application are the police.

A TEN comes with certain limitations:

- A maximum of 499 people on site (at any one time).
- A maximum of 96 hours (four days) duration.
- One premises can have up to 12 TENs in any calendar year, covering a maximum of 15 days in total.
- A personal licence holder can submit up to 50 TENs in any calendar year, but a non-licence holder can only submit up to five in a year.

Applications for a TEN must be submitted to Southwark’s Licensing unit at least ten full working days before the day of the event. The police have 48 hours to consider the application and, if there are concerns, they will issue a counter-notice requiring those concerns to be discussed and considered. Residents do not have the right to comment on TENs applications and basically have no say.

If you believe this is unfair and should be changed, please write to Neil Coyle, MP for Bermondsey and Old Southwark:

<https://members.parliament.uk/member/4368/contact>

Licensing enforcement

Southwark’s Licensing Enforcement team conducts regular inspections and visits across the Borough. If you have a concern about a persistent issue with specific premises, email: licensing@southwark.gov.uk and bring the issue to their attention—evidence and persistence are key to getting action.

Pavement licences

Learn about Pavement Licences:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/business-and-licences/licences/roads-and-highways-licensing>

Find out what Pavement Licences have been granted in your street and the conditions that apply (yes, really they count as roadworks):

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<http://public.londonworks.gov.uk/roadworks/home>



Take Action

Sign up for alerts about licence applications that might affect you

Email: licensing@southwark.gov.uk

Check a premises licence

<https://app.southwark.gov.uk>

Make a “representation” about an application

Search the planning register to find the relevant application and then follow the guidance:

<https://app.southwark.gov.uk>

Raise a concern about a persistent issue, email:

licensing@southwark.gov.uk



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Finding the right balance between successful development and the needs of residents

We want businesses and new developments in our area to succeed while preserving the balance between commercial interests and the needs of residents. The best time to speak up is at the planning or application stage.

We can also make a difference by reporting violations of licences and permissions whilst developments are underway.

Working effectively as a neighbourhood

There is room for different opinions on what's desirable in the area. But when we find common ground, we're most effective when we support each other as a neighbourhood and not just when a development is happening next door.

Developments in one part of a small and built-up area can easily affect other streets, for example from additional delivery traffic, as well as setting precedents.

The rules and frameworks that govern planning and development in Shad Thames

The overall framework is provided by the Town and Country Planning Act, 1990 which defines what planning permission is required for development.

You can read a copy of the Act [here](#):

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<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/8/contents>

In addition to the legal framework, the Shad Thames area is part of a Conservation Area. This is a designation that reflects and protects Shad Thames' special features, heritage, and unique character. Specific guidance applies for any proposed changes and development work. Many buildings in the area are listed, which also brings additional rules and limitations.

The London Plan, 2021, is the Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London. It sets out a framework for London's development in the next 20-25 years and the Mayor's vision for good growth. The Plan is part of the statutory development plan for London and should inform decisions on planning applications across the capital.

You can read the plan here:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/planning/london-plan/new-london-plan/london-plan-2021>

The Southwark Plan, 2022

The Southwark Plan sets out the vision, strategic objectives and policies for development in Southwark for the period 2019 to 2036, and includes:

- The regeneration strategy for the borough.
- Policies that are used to guide decisions on planning applications.
- Key development sites, with land use and urban design requirements.
- Visions for each of the borough's neighbourhoods.

You can read about it here:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/planning-environment-and-building-control/planning/planning-policy-and-guidance/southwark-plan-2022>

Southwark Planning and Building Control

Southwark's Planning and Building Control's web pages provide guidance and advice. You can search the planning register and report suspected planning breaches here:

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<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control>

You can also register and sign up here to receive email notifications of changes to applications you may want to track and new results on any searches you have saved:

<https://planning.southwark.gov.uk/online-applications/registrationWizard.do?action=start>

Commenting on a Planning application – advice and tips

- These are the types of issues that Southwark Planning will take into account when considering a planning application:
- The design and size of the development.
- The proposed land use.
- Traffic and parking issues.
- Potential noise issues.
- Any potential effect on a resident's amenity in terms of daylight, privacy, etc. Note that this does not include “Right to Light”, which is a civil matter adjudicated after any planning approval is granted.
- Compliance with Southwark’s planning policies and guidance. Note that these policies should reflect the rules and frameworks governing planning and development in London, including Conservation Area status.
- Possible Section 106 planning contributions or benefits for the community that could be secured from the proposal.
- Any other relevant material planning or environmental issues.

What to do if you are concerned about an application

The best time to make your voice heard is at the planning stage of any development. The planning system is heavily weighted in favour of developers and applicants. However, input from residents can force conditions that make a development easier to live with; for example, rules on noise, refuse collection, deliveries, and the like.

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Contact the assigned Planning Officer. The Planning Officer's details can be found under "Further Information" in the "Details" section of an online application entry in the Planning Register.

Stick to the issues. Focus on issues outlined by Southwark as legitimate ones to be taken into account. You can't simply "not like" a plan or proposal.

Work with your neighbours. Generating as many comments as possible to an application is key, and usually will determine whether the planning committee will bring the application to a public meeting or decide on it in a private committee meeting where residents can't be present.

Invite Planning officers and Planning Committee members to make site visits.

Involve our ward councillors. Get them involved in any applications to which residents would like to object. Shad Thames sits in North Bermondsey ward.

You can find details of our councillors here:

<https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/mgMemberIndex.aspx?FN=WARD&VW=LIST&PIC=0>

Strength is in numbers at public meetings. It is crucial that as many residents as possible attend, to show the strength of public feeling. Residents are afforded a single, three-minute slot to make all their arguments to the committee—that's one three-minute slot for ALL residents in total –not three minutes per resident. So it is vital to choose speakers and coordinate points in advance. Councillors are allowed an additional 3-minute slot to address the committee.

If the application concerns a building or a space within the Shad Thames Conservation Area (vistas are an important part of the conservation area appraisal), it can be very useful to get other heritage organisations involved and ask for letters of support to be sent to the Planning Committee.

You can also support a Planning application! If you believe that the proposed project will enhance the neighbourhood it's a great idea to leave positive comments.

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Planning violations

If you witness something that you believe to be a planning violation—whether it is something being done that contravenes the conditions of an application’s approval or something that has been done without planning permission being sought (such as signs, street furniture, or materials that don’t conform to the Conservation area appraisals)—you can register a comment with Planning Enforcement and they will investigate.

Click here to learn how:

https://forms.southwark.gov.uk/ShowForm.asp?fm_fid=1042

Take Action

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control>

This link enables you to:

Register and sign up to receive email notifications applications you want to track

Search the planning register

Report suspected breaches

Apply for planning permission

And always try to work with your neighbours!



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Southwark Council's roadmap to carbon neutrality by 2030

In 2021, Southwark Council published its roadmap to becoming a carbon-neutral borough.

Southwark's strategy sets out ways in which the council, residents, and organisations across the borough can reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.

The roadmap focuses on five themes that are essential to achieving a Carbon Neutral Southwark by 2030:

- Greener Buildings
- Active and Sustainable Travel
- A Circular Economy with Green Jobs
- Thriving Natural Environment
- Renewable Energy

The strategy also underlines the importance of partnerships, working with community groups, businesses, faith groups, schools, and other large organisations in Southwark to build a strong coalition for a just transition away from fossil fuels.

You can read more about it here:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/planning-environment-and-building-control/environment/climate-emergency>

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Progress is reported annually and provides insights about the main sources of carbon emissions in the borough and key actions to reduce them. Here is a link for more information:

<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjojODYzOGI3ZGI5YjJjNi00YjkLTlhMzAtMDM3N2M2MDExMjNliiwidCI6ImY3YWVjZjA2LTk1OGYtNDRjNC1iYzFjLTMzOWVvZDkwOTAzZCIsImMiOjh9>

ULEZ

Southwark is within the Ultra Low Emissions Zone which includes all London boroughs and the City of London. Click here for more information.

<https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/ultra-low-emission-zone/ulez-where-and-when>

Air quality

Our local air quality measuring station is located at the Tower Bridge Primary School on Tower Bridge Road. Go to

<https://www.breathelondon.org>

click on the map and zoom in until you find Tower Bridge Primary School.

Power sources and supply

The power supply infrastructure in the Shad Thames is very dated and struggles to meet modern demands and future demands, including electric car charging.

Smart meters

Utility companies strongly recommend installing smart meters for your residence, enabling better, more responsive monitoring of your energy consumption.

To work optimally, smart meters must be connected to the mobile phone network. This is difficult to do in Shad Thames, where mobile reception is patchy and meters are often located in basements with no coverage.

It may still be worth installing a smart meter as it could be more accurate than old-style meters, which may date from the

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1990s when many of the buildings in the area were converted to residential properties. Your power supply company should advise how to read your meter. Please check the relevant app or website.

Electric car charging

Charging facilities in the area are limited.

There are two electric-car charging stations on Horsleydown Lane. Due to ongoing construction work at Tower Bridge Court, these are only available after 6 pm Monday through Friday, after 2 pm on Saturday, and all day Sunday.

There are 14 charging stations in the Q Parks on Gainsford Street. Note however, that you must pay to enter the car park.

See here to find out more:

<https://www.q-park.co.uk/en-gb/cities/london/tower-bridge/>

Zapmap offers an app, map and other information to help you locate electric car charging points. You can find it here:

<https://www.zap-map.com>

Southwark Council has produced a plan to support the expansion of electric charging in the borough. You can read the plan here:

<https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s117465/Electric%20Vehicle%20plan.pdf>

Recycling

Southwark Council's recycling portal provides a range of information about recycling in the borough. The law is changing and Southwark Council will soon be required to collect all recycling and food waste separately from rubbish. Southwark will be introducing communal food waste collections for all blocks of flats and estates. Residents must follow the rules correctly.

Find out more at:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling>



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You can even watch a film to see what happens to your recycling as it makes its way through one of the most advanced integrated recycling centres in Europe:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nSfr5uOsC8>

You can also volunteer to become a “recycling champion” in your area or building to boost recycling rates and keep more of our rubbish out of landfill.

Recycling larger items of household waste

Southwark residents can take larger items to Southwark’s Recycling Centre just off Old Kent Road. It’s free and you just need to show proof of address. You can dispose of wood, metals, electrical items, household waste, paint and small items of furniture.

Find details here:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/bins-and-recycling/recycling/recycling-centres/reuse-and-recycling-centre>

Last-Mile Deliveries

As our dedication to online shopping increases, the volume of deliveries into the area continues to increase. Attempts are being made to limit the environmental impact through “last-mile” logistics which transfer goods to cargo bikes for the last mile of the delivery. (We used to call this “the Post Office”. ☺)

A cargo bike hub has been established in the Q Parks in Gainsford Street. Van deliveries unload on the double yellow lines in the street (which is permitted as long as unloading is continuous) and the bikes are to be loaded and charged in the three dedicated parking spaces/loading bays inside the car park.

Due to increasing demand for the service, the cargo bike hub has been spilling over into Gainsford Street, causing obstructions for other road and pavement users.

This issue has been raised with Southwark Council, who are aware and in touch with the operator. It is a good example of how, although we need to “go greener”, our current infrastructure is far from ready.

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Take Action

Volunteer to become a recycling champion for your building or area and help boost recycling rates.

https://forms.southwark.gov.uk/showform.asp?nc=rguv&fm_fid=2232



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When a conversation isn't enough to resolve the issue, under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, Southwark Council must investigate and address persistent and harmful issues from:

- Loud amplified music
- Parties
- Commercial noise from pubs, nightclubs, restaurants, shops, warehouses, venues, and events
- Construction and demolition noise
- Dust or noise from some works or equipment in the street
- Noisy DIY
- Alarms
- Barking dogs
- Light intrusion
- Odours and fumes from commercial properties
- Smoke

You can find Southwark Council's Noise pages here:

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/planning-environment-and-building-control/environment/environmental-protection/environmental-0>

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How to report noise

If the noise is happening now, call Southwark Council's Customer Call Centre and the Noise Team will aim to respond within 1 hour. Their number is **020 7525 5777**

The Noise service is available from:

- 7am Friday continuously through to Tuesday morning (24 hours)
- Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7am to 2.30am

The Noise & Nuisance Team will be closed from midnight Christmas Eve (24 December) until 5pm Boxing Day (26 December)

If the noise problem is persisting, officers (carrying ID badges) should visit and assess the noise.

If the noise is not happening now but it's a persistent issue that you want to report, use their online form instead. You can view it here:

https://forms.southwark.gov.uk/ShowForm.asp?fm_fid=786

Tips on how best to get action

- **Work with your neighbours.** Multiple reports mean the issue is more likely to be taken seriously and addressed.
- **Evidence matters.** If it's safe to do so, get strong evidence—video with sound, photos with times and dates.
- **Talk to the business concerned.** If a local business is causing the issue, ask to meet the manager. Take a neighbour along and perhaps a Shad Thames Residents' Association (STRA) core group member.
- Check the business's licensing conditions to see if there are violations (see Bars and Restaurants for details of how to check licences). Record the discussion and let STRA know.
- **Reporting matters** Report persistent issues to Southwark Council—they have a statutory duty to investigate. Follow

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up if you don't hear back. Raise the issue with STRA and our local councillors. Don't seethe in silence!

- **Report criminal activity to the police.** Dial 999 if there is immediate risk or 101 for non-emergencies.

Report noise to STRA

The Shad Thames Residents' Association also aims to keep track of noise issues to help "join up" reports about the same or similar issues and inform Southwark Council and our local ward Councillors.

This has proved a very effective tool when STRA has needed to represent residents at Southwark Licensing hearings.

To report noise to STRA, complete this form:

<https://shadthamesnoisereport.wufoo.com/forms/shad-thames-noise-report/>

Party boat noise

Most leisure boats on the Thames are wonderful. But a small number consistently causes issues. You can help yourself and others by reporting excessive noise from a party boat, using the River Residents' Group's handy tool.

This information you provide is used to bolster complaints about persistent offenders to the London Port Health Authority, which is responsible for monitoring and regulating noise on the Thames. However, the LPHA only has resources to patrol six times a year on dates that are advertised publicly in advance, giving persistent offenders the chance to turn down the noise on those dates.

You can find the reporting tool here:

<https://riverresidentsgroup.co.uk/ReportANoisyPartyBoat.pdf>

Insulating your home for sound

If you are a local resident living in a listed building where double glazing is not permitted, you might be thinking about installing secondary glazing. This will reduce noise levels as well as improve the energy performance of your home,

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although it can be difficult to strike a good balance between maintaining the character of your home and enjoying the peace and quiet.

Some local residents have installed secondary glazing and are often happy to share their experiences. Why not use the Shad Thames Residents' Association's (STRA) social media to ask for advice?

Take Action

Report excessive and unreasonable noise

If the noise is happening now, call Southwark Council's Customer Call Centre at **020 7525 5777** and the Noise Team will aim to respond within 1 hour.

The Noise service is available from:

- 7am Friday continuously through to Tuesday morning (24 hours)
- Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 7am to 2.30am

The Noise & Nuisance Team will be closed from midnight Christmas Eve (24 December) until 5pm Boxing Day (26 December)

If the noise is not happening now, use this form:

https://forms.southwark.gov.uk/ShowForm.asp?fm_fid=786

Report excessive party boat noise:

<https://riverresidentsgroup.co.uk/ReportANoisyPartyBoat.pdf>



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Littering is an environmental offence. Southwark Council can issue fixed penalties of up to £150 for offences such as:

- Littering (including food waste, cigarette butts or chewing gum)
- Not cleaning up after your dog
- Putting up posters without permission (“fly-posting”)
- Graffiti

All publicly-owned and adopted roads in the Shad Thames area are cleaned by Southwark Council. (An adopted road is one that sits on private land but that has been “adopted” by the local council and maintained as a public highway.)

STRA also applies for funding for additional street cleaning for Shad Thames on an annual basis from Southwark’s Neighbourhoods Fund. STRA supplements this with income from filming in the area. The additional street cleaning is needed due to the high volume of visitors in the area.

As Shad Thames is a Conservation Area, sufficient waste bins should be provided to prevent litter and cigarette ends from detracting from the area. However, as residents are acutely aware, waste bins and cigarette end bins are few and far between on the streets here and problems can mount up.

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You can help by reporting litter, dumped rubbish, and dog mess by using either Southwark's reporting tool or the Fixmystreet app.

<https://report.southwark.gov.uk>

<https://www.fixmystreet.com/>

If you live in a building close to a problem area for littering, you can raise it with Southwark Council, providing evidence of the problem, and ask them to arrange a visit to tackle the problem.

Litter on the Butler's Wharf jetty/walkway

The waterfront walkway/jetty is privately-owned and, sadly, the owners—Petchey Holdings, do not play any active role in maintaining, cleaning or improving their property, despite multiple attempts to involve them in local community efforts. Much of the litter left on Butler's Wharf walkway unfortunately therefore ends up in the river or surrounding streets.

Local residents occasionally get together for volunteer litter picks. One local group that organises cleanups is Litterati (who win for best group name).

To find out more, visit their website here:

<https://twitter.com/BermondseyUp>

Littering in Potters Field Park

Many residents are distressed by the major littering in Potters Field that happens every warm evening. A minority of visitors abuse the area by leaving lots of rubbish in the park, causing it to spread further into the surrounding area and the Thames, and creating hazards for birds, who ingest the plastic.

Potters Field Park's Management Trust have put in place additional litter clearing in the early mornings following these kinds of incidents but these often happen too late to avoid the litter travelling into nearby streets, into the river and into birds' digestion systems.

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This remains a hot issue that Trust members are aware of, along with other examples of how the park's hospitality is open to abuse.

Find out more in the [Potters Field Park section](#).

Pollution in the Thames

Please report any water pollution in the Thames to the Environment Agency's 24-hour hotline at 0800 80 70 60.

Oil spills should be reported to both the Environment Agency and the PLA (Port of London Authority) at

<https://uk.core.resolver.com/#/form/8a9b451b-5a57-462e-9db4-336adb959b70/object?objectType=9288>

or contact the PLA's 24-hour VTS duty officer on 0203 260 771.

You may also report water pollution issues to Thames Water using their online form at

<https://www.thameswater.co.uk/help/report-a-problem#/view-and-report-problems>

Take Action

Report litter and mess on Southwark's reporting tool or Fixmystreet:

<https://report.southwark.gov.uk>

<https://www.fixmystreet.com/>

Report water pollution in the Thames to the Environment Agency 24-hour hotline at 0800 80 70 60.

Report oil spills to the PLA at 0203 260 771 or use their online form at

<https://uk.core.resolver.com/#/form/8a9b451b-5a57-462e-9db4-336adb959b70/object?objectType=9288>



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Shad Thames pedestrianised zones

Part of Shad Thames and Lafone Street are pedestrianised and gated. Vehicular traffic is permitted only during specific times of day for deliveries, loading and unloading, and collecting waste. At all other times, the gates remain shut.

Gates are open at these times:

- Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 11:00 am and 4:30 pm to 6 pm
- Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 am to 11:00 am and 4:30 pm to 6 pm

In addition, some residents have lease provisions which permit continuous loading (i.e. not parking) in the pedestrianised areas for up to 40 minutes in the morning between 7:00 am and 11:00 am. This can be useful for residents in the pedestrianised areas moving in and out. Please check your building lease to see if this applies to you or speak to your porter team who should be able to organise access.

Loading, unloading and waiting on double yellow lines

Unless there is a “no loading” sign, 10- minutes’ tolerance is generally given for deliveries and collections on streets with double yellow lines.



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When to call 999 emergency services

You can call 999 for an ambulance, police, fire service, and coastguard in case of these kinds of emergencies:

- A person in need of immediate medical assistance
- Suspicion that a crime is in progress, or that an offender is in the area
- A structure on fire
- A serious incident that needs immediate emergency service attendance

When to call 101 for non-emergency issues

101 is the number to use in situations that do not require an immediate police response. This service can be used to report any non-emergency crimes such as reporting untaxed / stolen vehicles and drug dealing.

Reporting anti-social behaviour

The Metropolitan Police have introduced a way to report antisocial behaviour through an online form on their home page. You can find it here:

<https://www.met.police.uk>

North Bermondsey police contacts

North Bermondsey Safer Neighbourhoods Team

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Telephone: 0208 721 2440

E-mail: NorthBermondsey.snt@met.police.uk

Crime information Website

You can read about crime levels in the area and most common types of crime as well as police priorities for tackling local crime on the Metropolitan Police website for the North Bermondsey Ward. You can also report issues via the website.

<https://www.met.police.uk/area/your-area/met/southwark/north-bermondsey/about-us/our-priorities>

⌘ (formerly Twitter) and Reporting

The North Bermondsey Local Police Team ⌘ (formerly Twitter) account is @MPSNBermondsey. You can use this account to register your concern with the team regarding local security and safety issues.

⌘ is also used to publicise upcoming events and meetings, including meetings of the North Bermondsey Ward Safer Neighbourhoods Panel. A ward smartphone allows the team to keep the public updated whilst the team are out patrolling. Crimestoppers remains an invaluable source of intelligence collection for the police. Reports can be made anonymously. The more reports there are about the same issue, the more likely it is that the police will act.

<https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information>

Safer Neighbourhoods Panel for North Bermondsey

The Safer Neighbourhoods Panel is a group of local representatives who meet members of the North Bermondsey policing team on a regular basis. This is an opportunity to hear about policing issues and activities in the area and to share information on specific issues and priorities for local residents. Please note that this panel represents residents east of Tower Bridge Road.

A member of the STRA Core Group is a member of the panel and reports issues raised in the community. Panel meetings are open to the public. If you're interested in attending, please

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contact: Colin Hartridge-Price, colinhp@btinternet.com.

Residents west of Tower Bridge Road are represented by the London Bridge and West Bermondsey Safer Neighbourhoods Panel. Please contact STRA to be put in touch.

info@shadthames.org

Report an issue or concern while on public transport

In an emergency, always call 999.

If you have a non-emergency issue while on public transport, text the British Transport Police at 61016.

You may want to save this number in your contacts.

Safety support

Strut Safe

If you are walking alone at night and feel unsafe, a volunteer from Strut Safe will stay on the phone with you while you walk.

This service operates during the following hours: Friday and Saturday from 7:00 pm to 3:00 am Sunday from 7:00 pm to 1:00 am

Contact them by phone or website

- 0333 335 0026
- <https://strutsafe.org>

Walk and Talks

The Metropolitan Police provide women over 18 living in London a chance to spend time with a Met police officer and share views and experiences. Women can connect with police to schedule a Walk and Talk at the link above. This program was piloted by the Met Police in Southwark and is now being rolled out across London.

You can check out their site here and arrange a meeting:

<https://www.met.police.uk/police-forces/metropolitan-police/areas/campaigns/2022/walk-and-talks/>

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If you see something, say something!

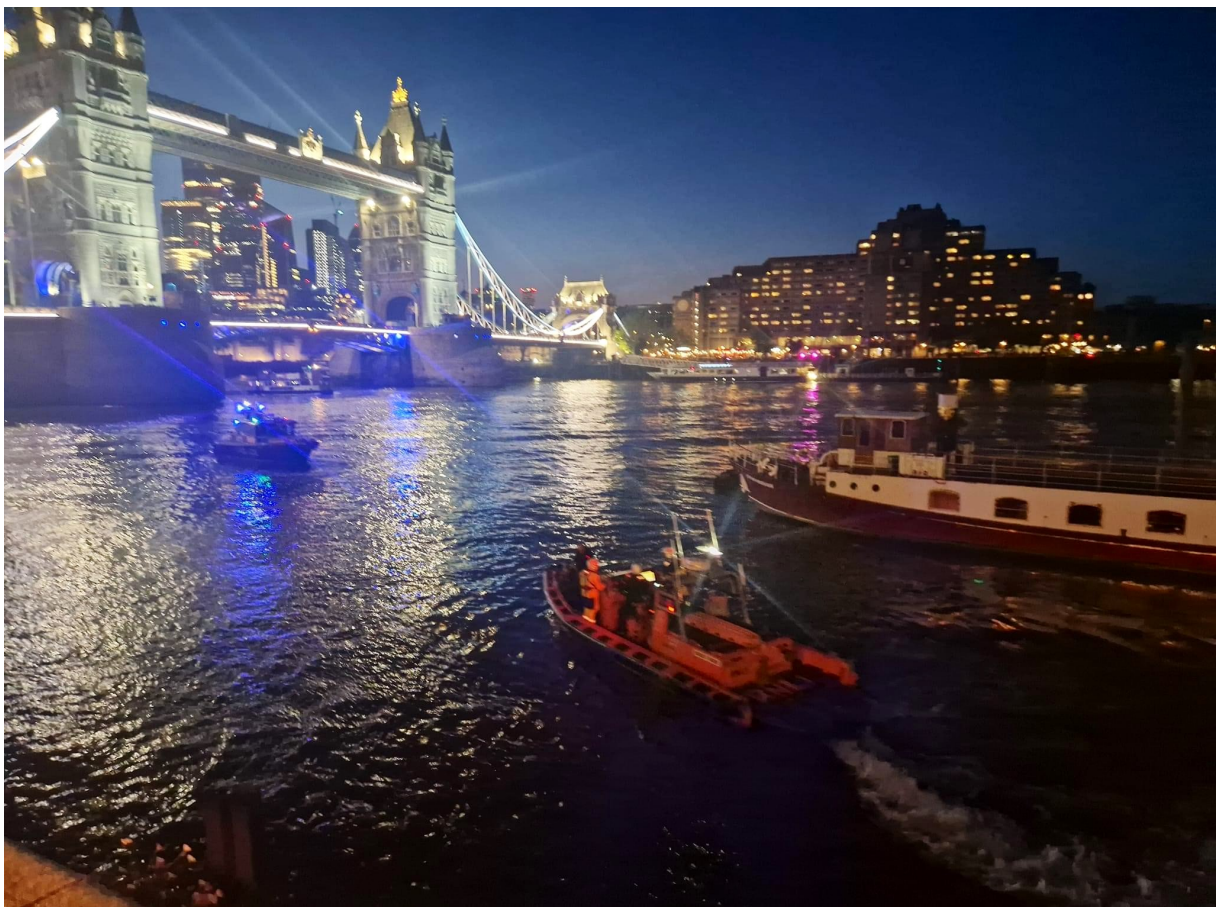
Call 999 to report an emergency: ambulance, police, fire service and coastguard.

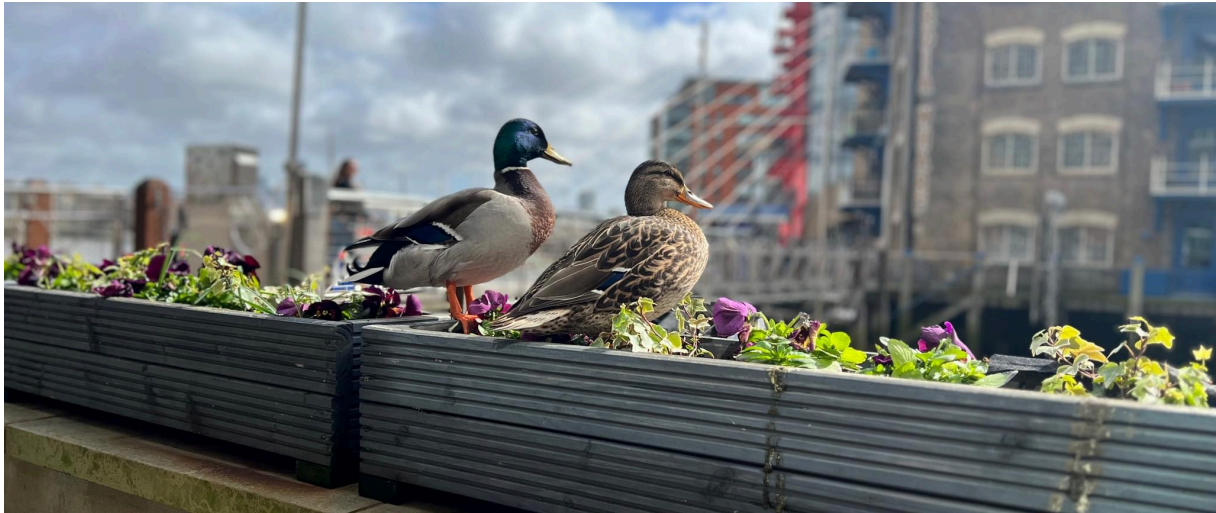
Call 101 to report non-emergency issues

Use the Met Police on-line form to report anti-social behaviour

<https://www.met.police.uk>

If you are on public transport, text the British Transport Police on 61016 and save this number in your contacts.





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Wildlife can struggle in competition with the local human population. Here are contacts and sources of advice to help us take care of our local wildlife.

RSPCA

RSPCA Central London Box 145

2 Lansdowne Row London W1J 6HL

Their emergency phone number is: 0300 1234 999

London Wildlife Protection

This agency specialises in small birds and provides good advice on when to intervene. They can also advise on how to take care of ducklings (an occasional challenge in our local window boxes and balconies).

Contact the agency here:

<https://www.londonwildlifeprotection.org/found-an-animal/>

Other animal rescue organisations

London Wildlife Protection also provides a good list of other specialist rescue organisations that can help with other animals, including all these:

- Birds of prey

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- Foxes
- Squirrels
- Hedgehogs
- Mice and rats
- Gerbils and guinea pigs
- Rabbits
- Bats
- Reptiles
- Turtles and tortoises
- Frogs
- Snakes

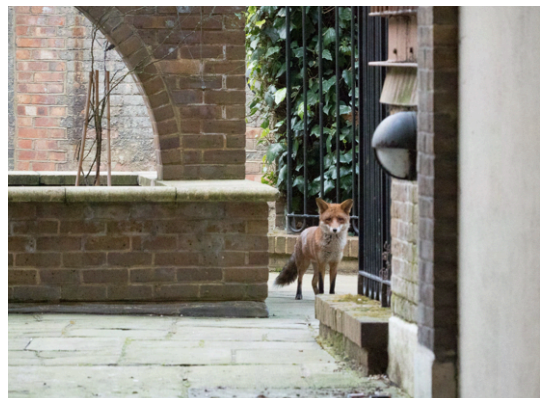
<https://www.londonwildlifeProtection.org/other-rescue-organisations/>

Swans

It's not an urban myth that the British Crown owns all unmarked swans in open water. Rights over swans can be granted to a British subject by the Crown. The only bodies who still exercise such rights are two livery companies of the City of London: the Worshipful Company of Vintners and the Worshipful Company of Dyers who share equally with the Crown in the number of swans in the Thames that they own. Basically, don't try stealing a swan.

Swans are under threat. Swan Support provides help and advice. For more information, see:

<http://www.swansupport.org.uk>



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Call the RSPCA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) emergency phone number:

0300 1234 999

Contact London Wildlife Protection for advice on when to intervene:

<https://www.londonwildlifeProtection.org/found-an-animal/>

Visit Swan Support for help and advice if you see swans under threat:

<http://www.swansupport.org.uk>





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Shad Thames – screen star

Southwark is one of the leading London boroughs offering film locations and Shad Thames and the Tower Bridge area are increasingly popular choices for film and TV productions of all kinds. Ten TV and film production teams filmed in the Shad Thames area in 2023 alone.

Roles and responsibilities

Southwark Council regulates and issues permits for filming in the borough via Filmfixer, which deals directly with productions seeking local filming permits. See them here for more information:

<https://filmfixer.co.uk>

STRA plays a consultancy role, working with FilmFixer to help facilitate filming in the Shad Thames area while trying to minimise disruption for local residents and businesses. STRA receives voluntary donations from film productions, which fund contributions to local charities, extra cleaning and local events.

STRA generally supports any production that falls within the guidelines that STRA has agreed with Filmfixer. STRA also negotiates with FilmFixer to avoid filming at unreasonable times, as well as prevents major obstructions and noisy and polluting generators parked outside people's homes.

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However, STRA is not responsible for the behaviour of film production companies—this is for Filmfixer to address when productions don't follow their agreed conditions.

How to report problems with film productions

If you encounter unreasonable obstructions, noisy generators, or activities that fall outside Filmfixer's guidelines, contact FilmFixer's 24-hour emergency number:

07919 002 115.

Southwark's Film Office provides information for residents, including FAQs, advice on how to get involved in filming, and a route for complaints. Find them here:

<https://app1.apply4.com/filmapp/uk/southwark>

Sign up for alerts on filming planned in the area

To receive notices of filming in Shad Thames, email here:

info@southwarkfilmoffice.co.uk

Laws and rules on filming – the basics

A filming permit is required from Southwark Council's Film Office, via FilmFixer, is required if:

- The production team has more than five people and uses equipment more extensive than just handheld cameras or a camera and tripod.
- Filming activities allow less than 1.5 metres space for pedestrians, wheelchairs, and double buggies to pass and will obstruct other people.
- The street is not private and part of a pedestrianised area, on a housing estate or in a market, park, or cemetery.
- The film production company requires parking provision in the area.

Can I or my home be filmed without my permission?

Filming or photographing the exterior of a building does not infringe its copyright. Permission is not required to film a building's exterior and building owners are not entitled to

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charge a fee. Filming on private land does require permission from the owners.

There is no specific right under English law for an individual not to be filmed in public. However, FilmFixer supports industry body Film London's guidance that filmmakers should have your permission to use footage you feature in. Filmmakers are also expected to warn the public that filming is in progress.

Exceptions to Filmfixer and STRA's remit

FilmFixer cannot regulate productions working on private land. This includes the terrace outside the Vaults by Tower Bridge and Butler's Wharf pier. Regulation of film productions using Tower Bridge is managed by the City of London.

However, any obstructions to public areas such as production vehicles parked on local public highways or filming on pavements used by the public that stem from these private productions are subject to Filmfixer's oversight.

So if you see a "spillover" report it to Filmfixer on their 24-hour Emergency Number: 07919 002 115.

How to receive information and alerts about filming in Shad Thames

If you don't already receive updates from FilmFixer on upcoming shoots, you can write to this email address and ask that your email address be added to the mailing list for Shad Thames shoots:

info@southwarkfilloffice.co.uk

Take Action

Register to receive updates about filming in the area:

info@southwarkfilloffice.co.uk

Report problems with film productions

call Filmfixer's 24-hour emergency number: 07919 002 115.



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Water pressure varies throughout the day with demand.

However, residents occasionally experience major drops in pressure. This can be due to an issue in your own plumbing or building so check with your neighbours and managing agent first.

If there is no local plumbing or building issue, contact Thames Water and log the problem with them or call the Thames Water Customer Service Team on 0800 3169800 or message them on WhatsApp.

<https://www.thameswater.co.uk/help/report-a-problem#/view-and-report-problems>

Encourage your neighbours and managing agents to do the same. The more complaints they receive the more likely they are to investigate.

If the problem persists and Thames Water will not acknowledge there is a problem, let the neighbourhood know by posting on Our Shad Thames and contacting STRA on

info@shadthames.org

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/shadthames>



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Public toilets are very limited in the area, despite its heavy tourist and visitor footfall. Constant maintenance demands mean that toilets are often out of order. Public toilets in the area are maintained primarily by Southwark Council and More London.

Locations

Toilets are available in these locations; a fee is sometimes charged:

- Toilets are in the More London walkway en route to London Bridge Station
- Toilets for retail customers are open during the day in the basement of Hays Galleria (below Boots the chemist).
- Multiple toilets are in London Bridge Station
- Seasonally, temporary toilet facilities are provided during large-scale events held in More London or Potters Field Park.

There are supposed to be public toilets in Q Parks, the public car park in Gainsford Street, as part of the planning permission granted for the building. However Q Parks keeps these locked and Southwark Council does not enforce their maintenance as public facilities.

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Southwark Council provides a map but it is out-of-date and limited to Council-maintained toilets. You can view the map [here](#):

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/parking-streets-and-transport/public-toilets-southwark>



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Shad Thames Residents' Association

The Shad Thames Residents' Association (STRA) has its own website and social media presence on Facebook, X/Twitter, and Instagram:

<https://www.shadthames.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/shadthames>

<https://twitter.com/ShadThamesRA>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/shadthamesresidents/>

Email: info@shadthames.org

STRA holds an Annual General Meeting (AGM), usually in late October/early November. All residents are welcome.

Southwark Council news

<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/news>

London SE1

<https://www.se1.news>

Potters Field and St John's Churchyard Trust

<https://pottersfields.co.uk/contact-us/>

Team London Bridge

<https://www.teamlondonbridge.co.uk/news>





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How to raise concerns about a homeless person in the area

You can raise a concern via StreetLink, a platform that connects people sleeping rough in England and Wales to support provided by local authorities and charities.

Here is their website:

<https://thestreetlink.org.uk>

Local residents might be familiar with StreetLink's app, which was closed at the end of September, 2023, after the Government procured a new provider for the service.

London's Mayor has registered deep concern about the closure, which had proved an effective route for connecting thousands of homeless people with the services they need.

If you share this concern, please write to Neil Coyle, MP for Bermondsey and Old Southwark.

You can reach Mr. Coyle here:

<https://members.parliament.uk/member/4368/contact>

The Manna Society

STRA uses income from film productions in the area to support the Manna Society, which runs a day centre for homeless people. Located just behind London Bridge Station, the Manna Society gratefully accepts donations of food and goods.

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For general information, contact them here:

<https://www.mannasociety.org.uk>

And for a list of what they are most in need of, click here:

<https://www.mannasociety.org.uk/most-needed-items-list-march-2021/>

Southwark Foodbank

STRA uses income from film productions in the area to support Southwark Foodbank, which provides a list of locations where food donations can be dropped off and a list of most-needed items. This is updated regularly.

Go here to learn how to donate food:

<https://southwark.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

The Circle Store

Locally, The Circle Store at the corner of Queen Elizabeth Street and Shad Thames Street has a collection basket just inside their entrance for food donations.

St Mungo's

St Mungo's, based at Tower Hill, is a charity that supports homeless people across London and the south of England. You can learn about them here:

<https://www.mungos.org>

Local charity shops – donate your unwanted items and your time

Mary's Living and Giving

This shop at 90 Bermondsey Street raises funds for Save the Children. Here is their website:

<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/shop/marys-living-and-giving-shops/bermondsey>

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The Sue Ryder Foundation

This shop at 1 Market Place in Bermondsey raises funds to provide palliative, neurological, and bereavement support.

This is their website:

<https://www.sueryder.org/support-us/shop-with-us/our-shops/bermondsey>

The British Heart Foundation

This charity shop at 211-219 Old Kent Road has a furniture and electrical shop and also offers a collection service.

Here are links for what they provide and how to donate goods to them:

<https://www.bhf.org.uk/what-we-do/find-bhf-near-you/old-kent-road-furniture-electrical-store>

<https://www.bhf.org.uk/shop/donating-goods/book-furniture-collection-near-me>

Up Market charity shop

Up Market at 48 Albion Street in Rotherhithe sells used clothing, books, and bric a brac, and accepts these kinds of items as donations.

They're open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm. But note that they do not accept furniture. Their website is:

<https://www.upmarketat48.co.uk/>

Donating your time

Community Southwark

This is the umbrella body for the voluntary and community sector in Southwark. Community Southwark support charities, community groups, and individuals through capacity building, networks, and training. You can sign up to receive regular alerts about volunteering opportunities in the area.

For more information, visit their website:

<https://communitysouthwark.org/volunteering/volunteering-opportunities/>

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Time and Talents

This organisation has been in Bermondsey for over 150 years. You can see the original Time and Talents building on Bermondsey Street just north of Saint Mary Magdalene Church. Time and Talents provides a wide range of help and support for communities in the area and warmly welcomes volunteers.

Find out more about them here:

<https://www.timeandtalents.org.uk/about-us-2/>

<https://www.timeandtalents.org.uk/volunteer-with-time-talents/>

Southwark recycling champions

You can volunteer to become a recycling champion for your building or area. To learn more, visit their website:

https://forms.southwark.gov.uk/showform.asp?nc=rguv&fm_fid=2232

London Wildlife Trust

If you are interested in helping to conserve London's wildlife, you can volunteer with the London Wildlife Trust. Click here to find out more:

<https://www.wildlondon.org.uk/volunteer-with-us>

Charities supported by STRA

The Charter School

STRA also supports the Charter School in Bermondsey, a mixed 11-18 school. Here is the school's website:

<https://www.charterbermondsey.org.uk>

The Shad Thames Residents' Association (STRA) also gives one-off donations to organisations in need of help including:

- London Fire Brigade (Dockside Station).
- Riverside Parents and Carers Association.

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Voting

If you are eligible to vote in the UK, you can register here:

<https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>

Once you have registered and are eligible to vote, Southwark Council will check regularly that your address remains the same and on the registration status of eligible voters at your address. It's important to keep your registration accurate and up-to-date.

Where to vote

Voting for national and local elections is normally held in The Greenhouse, the glass building in Courage Yard behind the Cafe Paradiso. Remember to take your voting card (issued by Southwark Council) and don't forget that photo identification is now required.

Parliamentary constituency

Shad Thames is situated in the constituency of Bermondsey and Old Southwark.

Member of Parliament

Our MP is Neil Coyle. His contact information can be found here:

<https://members.parliament.uk/member/4368/contact>

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London Mayor and London Assembly

As part of the UK's devolved government model, London is also represented by an elected Mayor and the London Assembly.

You can find out more here:

<https://www.london.gov.uk>

<https://www.london.gov.uk/who-we-are>

Southwark Council

Shad Thames is situated in the North Bermondsey ward of Southwark Borough Council. We are represented by three elected councillors.

Find their details here:

<https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/mgMemberIndex.aspx?FN=WARD&VW=LIST&PIC=0>

Southwark Council current consultations

Southwark Council regularly consults local residents on key local issues.

You can see the list of current consultations and closing dates here:

<https://engage.southwark.gov.uk/en-GB/>



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The **Shad Thames Residents' Association (STRA)** is a voluntary organisation to represent the interests of local residents.

All residents of the Shad Thames area and people who work here are welcome to join STRA. As part of the STRA network, you can keep up-to-date with what's happening in the area, get involved with local groups and issues and help make sure that Shad Thames remains a great place to live and work.

What we do

STRA helps members to stay in touch through the STRA website, a monthly newsletter, email updates, X/Twitter, our Facebook Group - Our Shad Thames - and open meetings.

STRA also organises community events, including celebrations like the Platinum Jubilee Lunch (2022), regular local photography competitions and meetings and Q&As about local issues.

STRA has a Core Group of volunteers who do their best to know about news and issues affecting the area, and work with our local councillors and Southwark Council departments on a range of issues including protecting our urban environment, licensing, planning and noise. The Core Group also liaises with organisations using our space, including film makers and event organisers.

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Income from commercial filming in the area enables STRA to fund extra cleaning of our streets and to make donations to local and national charities and other organisations.

The STRA Core Group also liaises with other riverside residents' groups and is represented on local committees including: the Potters Field Park Management Trust and the Riverside Safer Neighbourhood Ward Panel.

STRA created the Shad Thames Residents' Guide to bring together and share the product of many years of experience of listening to and working with local residents and businesses. We hope you find it useful and please share your own input and feedback!

Take Action

Join STRA

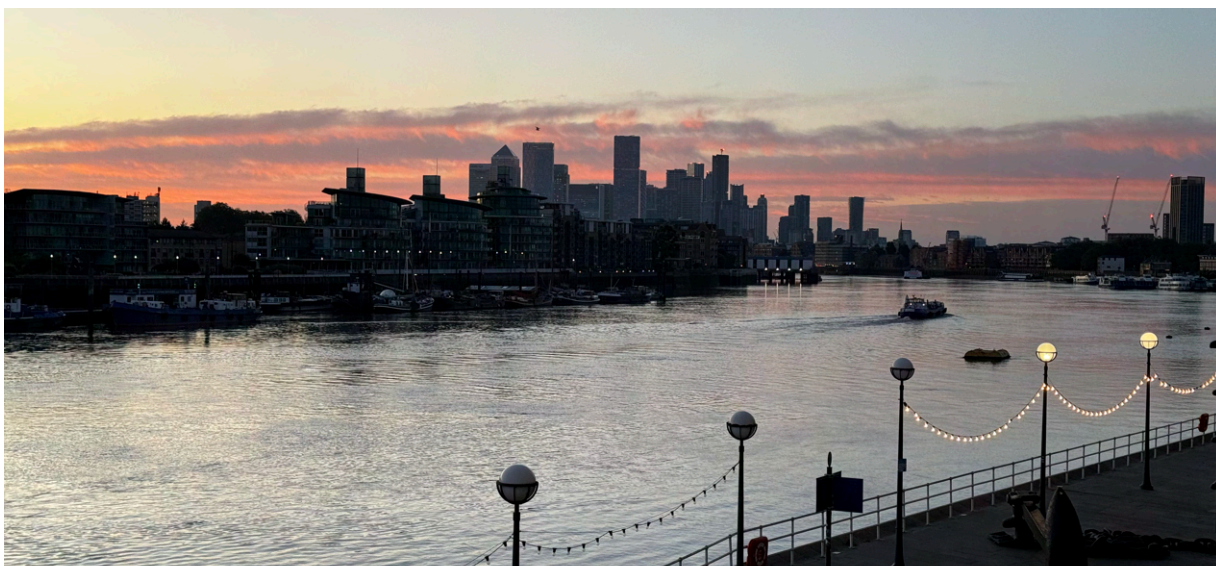
<https://www.shadthames.org/join-us/>

Follow us on X/Twitter

[@ShadThamesRA](https://twitter.com/ShadThamesRA)

Find out more about STRA – who we are and what we do

<https://www.shadthames.org>





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What are we missing?

Please email info@shadthames.org with your ideas and nominations!

We welcome all contributions to update and expand this guide.



Special Thanks

A big “thank you” to our neighbours and friends who have shared their photographs of the area via STRA social media or were winners in the Shad Thames Residents’ photography competitions.

We’ve tried to contact all the photographers to check you are happy for your pictures to feature in this guide and your name to be included on this page. We weren’t always successful so, if you see your picture and you haven’t seen any of our messages, please get in touch.

Please contact: info@shadthames.org.

Thank you

Humaira Ali

Aline Baeck

Kathleen Ehrlich

Steve Ehrlich

Peter Emrys-Roberts

Mike Goggin

Julian Griffiths-Searle

Margo Lewis

The Manna Centre

David McGrail

Andrew McKelvie

Mario Montelatici

Paul Morkel

Nick Napier

Claire Ovenell

Special Thanks to our Residents' Guide Sponsor Anderson Rose

“This is a neighbourhood where people get together to help each other and that's one of its biggest selling points. The residents' guide is a great example of that and we're looking forward to sharing it with our clients. ”

Meet Jon Byers, owner and head of Anderson Rose estate agency, whose office is in the Cardamom Building, Shad Thames. After building a career with Hamptons, Jon took a risk in 2011 and decided to go it alone with a start-up in the area in which he began his career and bought his first home.

“I've lived in three flats in two local buildings. Because I love the area so much, I am very good at selling it!

Shad Thames is a great place for entrepreneurs; Conran paved the way and many of our local businesses continue that spirit of enterprise.”



Nearly 15 years later, Anderson Rose is going strong with a team of 12 and a second office at Regent Street. Since opening its doors, Anderson Rose Tower Bridge has helped local residents to sell or buy £135 million worth of property in the Shad Thames area and has looked after nearly 700 tenants and landlords.

According to Jon, the area has unique attractions both for busy career people who want to be able to walk to work as well as mature buyers who want the perfect spot to “grow old disgracefully”.

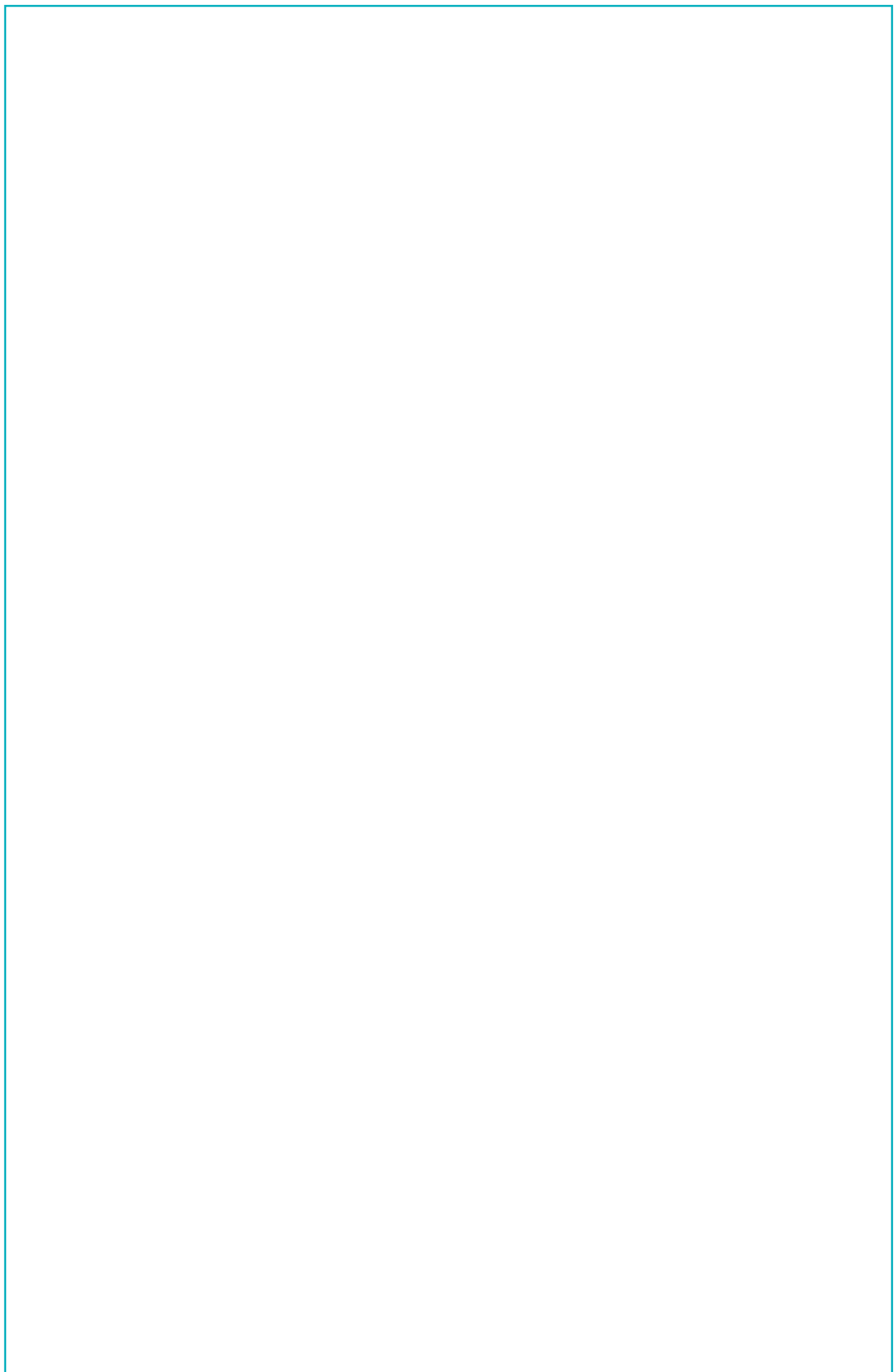
“Apart from the attraction of being close to the Thames, we have everything on our doorstep: great restaurants and cafes, iconic buildings, amazing views, a great theatre, bars and fantastic transport links. It is also a real community where local people are invested in the area.”

Jon's long time living and working in the area means he has seen the waves of change that have created the Shad Thames we see today,

“Since regeneration of the old warehouse district in the 1980s, there have been several phases that have shaped the area. We are now seeing some vacant commercial space but the area is attracting new investment. I'm optimistic that fresh energy and opportunities will come with the latest developments, increasing the value of people's homes and offering new amenities.”

Jon is delighted to support the Shad Thames' Residents Association in producing a guide that helps people to make the most of living and working in this special place

STRA thanks Anderson Rose for sponsoring the first print run of the residents' guide, enabling copies to be distributed free to local porter and concierge offices and businesses. If you represent a local business and would like to sponsor STRA's volunteer work for local residents, please get in touch via info@shadthames.org





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