

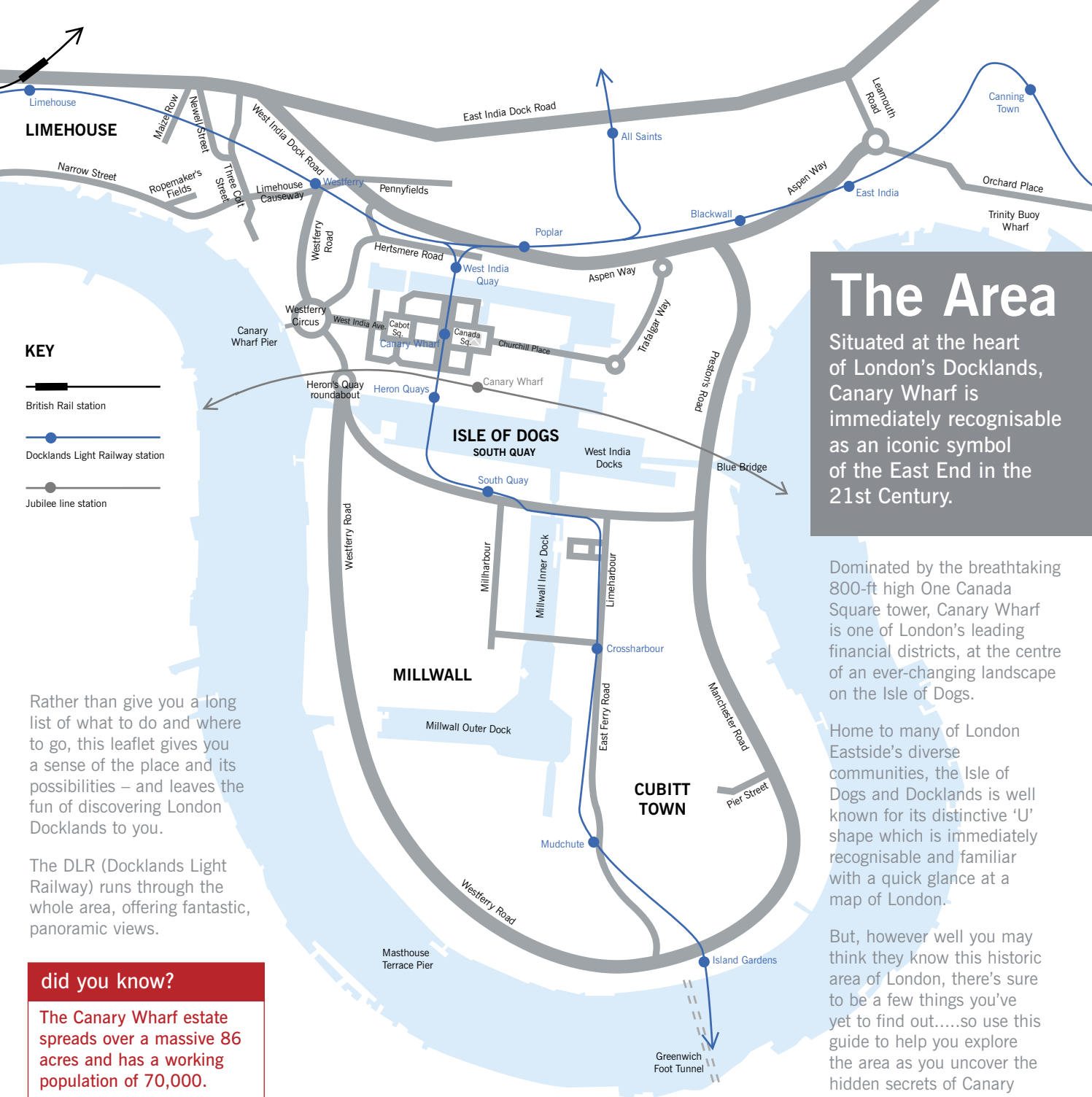
secrets of

Canary Wharf




and surrounding London Docklands



TOWER HAMLETS



KEY

-  British Rail station
-  Docklands Light Railway station
-  Jubilee line station

The Area

Situated at the heart of London's Docklands, Canary Wharf is immediately recognisable as an iconic symbol of the East End in the 21st Century.

Rather than give you a long list of what to do and where to go, this leaflet gives you a sense of the place and its possibilities – and leaves the fun of discovering London Docklands to you.

The DLR (Docklands Light Railway) runs through the whole area, offering fantastic, panoramic views.

did you know?

The Canary Wharf estate spreads over a massive 86 acres and has a working population of 70,000.

Dominated by the breathtaking 800-ft high One Canada Square tower, Canary Wharf is one of London's leading financial districts, at the centre of an ever-changing landscape on the Isle of Dogs.

Home to many of London Eastside's diverse communities, the Isle of Dogs and Docklands is well known for its distinctive 'U' shape which is immediately recognisable and familiar with a quick glance at a map of London.

But, however well you may think they know this historic area of London, there's sure to be a few things you've yet to find out.....so use this guide to help you explore the area as you uncover the hidden secrets of Canary Wharf and surrounding London Docklands.



did you know?

Once the current building work is completed, a total of more than 14 million square feet of office space will be provided.

Canary Wharf



Now firmly established as one of London's premier landmarks and recognisable around the world, Canary Wharf is the face of London in the new century.

Wherever you are in the capital, there's a good chance you'll catch a glimpse of Canary Wharf rising out of Docklands, like a stunning Manhattan skyline transported to the East End.

did you know?

Canary Wharf is named after the Canary Islands – where many imports arrived from in the 1930s, when the area was being used as a dock.



One Canada Square

When most people think of Canary Wharf they think of One Canada Square, the giant tower which dominates the estate skyline.

The stylish, futuristic tower was designed by the world-renowned architect Cesar Pelli. The office building has 50 floors and at 800 ft (224 metres) high is the tallest building in Britain.

Visually stunning, One Canada Square complements the perimeter building around Canary Wharf, which reflects Britain's industrial past.

One Canada Tower Facts and Figures:

- The tower has 32 passenger lifts, serving different sections of the building. Lifts travel from the lobby to the 50th floor in just 40 seconds.
- It has 3,960 windows and 4,388 steps.
- The building is designed to sway by up to nearly 14in in very high winds.
- An incredible 27,500 metric tonnes of steel and 500,000 bolts were used in constructing the tower.
- The aircraft warning light at the top of the tower flashes 40 times every minute - that's 57,600 times a day.

Canary Wharf – A Real Life Work of Art

Just strolling through the Canary Wharf estate can make you feel like you're in the middle of a real life work of art. Surrounded by stunning, cutting-edge architecture it's as though you've walked onto a modern day canvass.

Adding to the 'public gallery' feeling of Canary Wharf is the diverse range of public artwork that's on display. If you like to interact with your art, there is plenty to gaze at, peer through, listen to or even touch.

Take a walk through Canary Wharf and delight in the quality, humour and creative ideas captured in the pieces on display.

did you know?

The estate is home to more than 200 shops, restaurants and bars and boasts a conference and banqueting centre.

did you know?

The first tenants moved in to Canary Wharf in August 1991.



did you know?

Limehouse, Pennyfields and the West India Dock Road made up London's original Chinatown – 400 Chinese sailors in 17th Century married local women and it became their home.

Isle of Dogs

Limehouse

Despite the major regeneration schemes taking place in this area, the new-look Isle of Dogs remains steeped in history.

There are two theories as to how the Isle of Dogs got its name. One is that Henry VIII kept his dogs here, sending boats over to fetch them to his palace at Greenwich when he felt like going hunting. The area is actually referred to as the Isle of Dogs on a map made in 1558, so this is a credible theory.

The other is that the name derives from the dykes which Dutch engineers created in the 17th Century to drain the marshland which had until then made the peninsula uninhabitable.

Although draining the land was successful, people were in no hurry to move to the area. As late as the 18th Century, the only two buildings on the Isle of Dogs were a chapel and a pub!

During the war years residents demonstrated their resilience when the Island became the target for heavy bombing.

Today, there remains plenty for people to see in this vibrant area of the borough. The Island is home to one of Europe's major financial districts in Canary Wharf, while it also boasts some wonderful green open spaces, such as Millwall Park.

Why not take a stroll alongside the Thames and take in the stunning views across to Greenwich, or enjoy a family day out at Mudchute Farm – Europe's largest urban farm.

did you know?

In the 1920s, to demonstrate their anger at poor living conditions, local residents closed two roads allowing access to the Isle of Dogs and declared independence!

Walking through Limehouse today, it's hard to imagine this attractive, tranquil residential area, with its lovely old riverside pubs and the remains of glorious 18th Century houses, was at one time one of London's wildest areas.

In the 18th Century the area around Limehouse Basin, known as Ratcliff, was a 'sailor town' – a place full of cheap lodging houses, bars, brothels and music halls.

Limehouse was also the setting of London's original Chinatown. Limehouse Causeway, Pennyfields and West India Dock Road made up the heart of Chinatown in the 1890s.



Best views

The area's reputation for vice and opium dens was enhanced and romanticised by writers such as Oscar Wilde, Dickens and Conan Doyle. Today, London's Chinatown can be found in the west end, but traces of the past still remain in street names and some of the old buildings.

The Grapes, a popular pub in Narrow Street, is thought to have been the inspiration for the pub in Dickens' *Our Mutual Friend*.

The name Limehouse comes from the lime oasts or kilns established in the area in the 14th Century, used to produce quick lime for building mortar.

did you know?

Famous people who come from this area include Sir Walter Raleigh, who is believed to have lived in Blackwall in the 16th Century and actress Angela Lansbury, who comes from Poplar.

The view from Island Gardens provides a modern day version of the Greenwich featured in Canaletto's famous painting 'A View of Greenwich from the River'.

Some of the best views of runners in the Flora London Marathon are to be seen at Westferry Circus, Canary Wharf and Narrow Street.

London's only lighthouse is at Trinity Buoy Wharf on the river, opposite the Millennium Dome. Today it is more likely to house an interesting and eclectic art, light or sound show. You can climb right up for a bird's eye view of the river.

Sit on the benches that skirt the roundabout at Westferry Circus and have the best view of the river – looking upriver towards Tower Bridge and then downriver past the old warehouses and new apartments towards Greenwich.

did you know?

Port East Apartments (West India Quay) are housed in the only original 18th and 19th Century warehouses left. Originally used to store sugar, molasses, rum and coffee.

Look out for...

- One Canada Square. Ok, so you can't really miss it, but stand at the bottom and look up to get a stunning view of one of Britain's most iconic landmarks.
- Canary Wharf Tube Station. Arguably the most impressive underground station in London. Arriving out of the station into the centre of Canary Wharf is a treat.
- Traffic Light Tree by Pierre Vivant, located in the middle of Heron Quays roundabout – something truly different
- 'The House They Left Behind' in the corner of Ropemaker's Fields, Narrow Street. Built in 1857, this building is all that remains of a former terrace of similar buildings. Now called The House, it's a restaurant with a marvellous modern bar.
- St Anne's Church, designed by Nicholas Hawksmoor.
- Mudchute Farm - a rural oasis in the middle of the concrete jungle.



Visit and see

We do recommend that you check opening times and specific details before setting out.

Billingsgate Fish Market (020 7987 1118)

Docklands Sailing Centre (020 7537 2626)

Jack Dash Art Gallery (020 7247 9037)

Mudchute Farm & Equestrian Centre (020 7515 5901)

Museum in Docklands (0870 444 3856)

St Anne's Church (020 7987 1502)

UGC Cinema (0870 9070722)

...and a few ideas to start you off

- The Grapes, 76 Narrow Street. Thought to have been the inspiration for the pub in Dickens' *Our Mutual Friend*, this friendly watering hole offers drinkers a refined atmosphere and excellent seafood meals.
- Smollensky's, Nash Court, Canary Wharf. Stylish and funky, this is one of the places to be seen at Canary Wharf.
- Bar 38, West India Quay. Fun, lively bar with a great atmosphere – the perfect venue for that post-shopping drink.
- The Gun, 27 Coldharbour, Isle of Dogs. One of Docklands' oldest watering holes, this pub boasts fantastic views across the river to Greenwich. Lord Nelson was a regular.
- City Pride, 15 Westferry Road. Built in the 1950s to primarily serve the area's dockers, the City Pride has been extensively refurbished to serve the needs of today's Docklands office workers.

Events

Canary Wharf Arts & Events (020 7418 2783 or www.mycanarywharf.com)

The Space (www.space.org.uk)

London Waterways (020 7286 6101)

For more detailed information take a look at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/data/discover or www.visitlondon.co.uk



further info

For more detailed information take a look at www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/data/discover or call: 020 7364 4900



Getting There...

Canary Wharf is easy to reach. Its award-winning tube station – which is worth a visit in itself – is on the Jubilee Line, just 15 minutes from the West End and 10 minutes from Stratford International Station.

The excellent Docklands Light Railway snakes its way through the estate, with a major station at Canary Wharf, plus stops close by at Crossharbour, South Quay, Heron Quay and West India Quay.

Probably one of the best ways to see Canary Wharf is from the window of a DLR train. Why not board a train at Crossharbour, at the heart of the Isle of Dogs, and travel to West India Quay for a bite to eat, or a drink?

Five bus routes serve the estate, which can also be easily reached by car from Aspen Way.

Canary Wharf also has eight taxi ranks, where you can always find a black cab, more than 3,000 parking spaces and a network of cycle routes.

A popular way of travelling to and from Canary Wharf is by riverboat. Visit www.thamesclippers.com to find out more.

