London

Southwark and Rotherhithe





Local Guides

Rotherhithe & Bermondsey Local History Society

www.rbhistory.org.uk president@rbhistory.org.uk The Rotherhithe & Bermondsey Local History Society's aim is to encourage interest in the history of Rotherhithe, and the surrounding area.

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An Introduction to Southwark and Rotherhithe

From the port of London, visitors can explore the borough of Southwark including the cobbled streets of Historic Rotherhithe.

The Mayflower story and Southwark's role in that historic voyage are deeply intertwined. Rotherhithe has a long seafaring and ship building history and was the place where Christopher Jones, the captain and part owner of the ship, and many of the crew lived. In July 1620 the Mayflower sailed from Rotherhithe to join another ship, the Speedwell, coming from Holland in Southampton. When the Speedwell sprang a serious leak the ships were forced to stop in Plymouth where passengers and provisions were crowded onto the Mayflower. Carrying something like 150 passengers and crew she set off again on 6 September 1620.

The Mayflower carried not only those escaping religious persecution (the "Saints") but also other people who are perhaps less familiar in the popular imagination.

The majority of passengers were going for non-religious reasons and were making the journey because they were servants, merchant adventurers or traders, known as the "Strangers".



Suggested Itinerary: Rotherhithe

In the morning, you could explore some of the historic places of interest that Rotherhithe has to offer

St Mary's Church Rotherhithe

(1 hour approx.)

Visit St Mary's Church, where the reverend Thomas Gataker, a man of puritan learnings, may well have influenced Christopher Jones' decision to take on the perilous transatlantic voyage in his ship, Mayflower. Designed by John James, an associate of Sir Christopher Wren, it has a homely grandeur with deep roots in the maritime history of Britain. The links with the 'Mayflower', with the Pilgrim Fathers, and with Prince Lee Boo of Pelau, are particularly treasured.



The Brunel Museum

(0.5 hours approx.) Just fifty yards from Rotherhithe Station is a narrow door through which you can descend into the 1825 shaft via a makeshift staircase. You find yourself inside a huge round cavern, smoke-blackened as if the former lair of a fiery dragon.



Mayflower Pub (1 hour approx.) The Mayflower pub stands on the site of The Shippe pub that dates back to around 1550. It is close to where the Mayflower ship was fitted out for the long transatlantic voyage. The pub has many references to the Mayflower Pilgrims and captain Christopher Jones, including the passenger list. Mayflower Descendants can sign the descendants visitors book. The pub is also the only pub in England that sells stamps!



Southwark Park

(1 hour approx.) Southwark Park is an English Heritage Grade Two Listed amenity, and one of London's oldest parks. First opened to the public in 1869, the park is home to Ada Salter's Rose Garden and CGP London, an artist led gallery of contemporary art based across two venues in Southwark Park; The Gallery and Dilston Grove. The park also boasts London's first public memorial to honour a working class man - a drinking fountain to commemorate Mr Jabez West, a member of a local Temperance Society.

Things to do

St Mary's Church Rotherhithe

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+44 (0)207 394 3394 www.stmaryrotherhithe.org mmarini2001@aol.com

The Clink Museum

Relive the gruesome history of the prison where those refusing to obey the laws of Elizabeth 1st would find themselves.



+44 (0)20 7403 0900 www.clink.co.uk miranda@clink.co.uk

Southwark Cathedral

Beautiful 800 year old cathedral on the bank of the Thames river.



+44 (0)20 7367 6700 www.cathedral.southwark.anglican.org cathedraltours@southwark.anglican.org

Golden Hinde

A full-sized reconstruction of the ship Sir Francis Drake used to circumnavigate the globe between 1577-80.



+44 (0)207 403 0123 www.goldenhinde.co.uk info@goldenhinde.co.uk

Shakespeare's Globe

Join the "groundlings" at the reconstructed Shakespeare's Globe and watch Shakespeare's timeless tales performed in the open air.



+44 (0)20 7902 1400 www.shakespearesglobe.com info@shakespearesglobe.com

The Brunel Museum

Just fifty yards from Rotherhithe Station is a narrow door through which you can descend into the 1825 shaft via a makeshift staircase.



+44 (0)20 7231 3840 www.brunel-museum.org.uk info@brunel-museum.org.uk



Things to do

John Harvard and the Local History **Library and Archive**

Southwark's history is told through surviving documents, audio and photographs. The library offers Information on researching family history and free access to Ancestry.





Sands Film Studio and **Rotherhithe Picture Research Library**

Films Independent film production facility operating in an 18C listed building in Rotherhithe since 1975.



+44 (0)207 231 2209 www.sandsfilms.co.uk





Lunch and Evening Meals

The Mayflower Pub

The oldest pub on the Thames.









+44 (0)20 7237 4088 info@mayflowerpub.co.uk

Swan Pub, Shakespeare's Globe

Showcases the best of contemporary, British cooking.











The Ivy Tower Bridge

The Ivy Tower Bridge is an all-day British brasserie with an all-encompassing menu.









+44 (0)20 3935 1980 www.theivytowerbridge.com

Simplicity

Simplicity restaurant in London's Rotherhithe, tucked away on Tunnel Road, is the very definition of a hidden local gem that deserves a much higher profile, at least, according to its legion of loyal diners.









+44 (0)20 7232 5174 www.simplicityrestaurants.com

The Ship

A small friendly local pub with a pretty beer garden to the rear and seating outside the front of the pub. Great range of beers and a menu of pub classics.









+44 (0)20 7237 4103 theship.stmarys@yahoo.co.uk www.rampubcompany.co.uk/visit-pubs/theship-rotherhithe

Angel Pub

A Victorian pub with river views from ground floor bar, upstairs lounge and small outside











+44 (0)20 7394 3214

Suggested Itinerary: Southwark

After lunch, you could experience other significant and historic places in the borough of Southwark

Southwark Cathedral (1 hour approx.)

Spend time in stately Southwark Cathedral and see the tomb of Shakespeare's brother and the John Harvard Chapel, dedicated to the local boy who went on to endow Harvard University.



The Clink Museum (1 hour approx.) Originally the Clink Museum was a manor owned by the Bishop of Winchester and situated close to his residence, Winchester Palace. Puritans who went on to become the first Pilgrim Fathers, settlers of the New World in what is now Plymouth, Massachusetts in the United States were held here.

Borough Market

(1 hour approx.) Gourmet food market consisting of more than 100 stalls and stands. Producers from all over the country bring a range of fresh produce to the market, including fish, meats, vegetables, ciders, cheeses, breads, coffees, cakes and patisseries.



Tower Bridge Exhibition

(1 hour approx.)

Step inside the most famous bridge in the world and explore its iconic structure, spectacular views and Glass Floor, fascinating exhibitions and atmospheric Victorian Engine Rooms.

Shakespeare's Globe

(1 hour approx.) Shakespeare's Globe is a unique international resource dedicated to the exploration of Shakespeare's work. Together, the Shakespeare's Globe, Globe Exhibition & Tour and Globe Education seek to further the experience of Shakespeare in performance.



Golden Hinde

(1 hour approx.)

Experience the life of a 16th century explorer aboard the Golden Hinde, a full-sized reconstruction of the ship Sir Francis Drake used to circumnavigate the globe between 1577-80.

Food and Drink Experiences

The Watchhouse Café

Fresh handmade sandwiches made on demand, soups, pastries and fresh juices.





@WatchhouseCafeR







Borough Market

An amazing food market dating back to the 13th century.









+44 (0)20 7407 1002 www.boroughmarket.org.uk

Midnight Apothecary at Brunel Museum

An urban oasis complete with campfire and free marshmallows to toast.









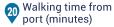
+44 (0)7917 548475 www.thecocktailgardener.co.uk



















Contacts for Guided walks

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What's on in Rotherhithe Group SE16-WORG@HOTMAIL.CO.UK

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Robert Hulse robert.hulse@brunel-museum.org.uk

Stephen Deane, Clink Museum stephendeane@clink.co.uk



Mayflower Speakers

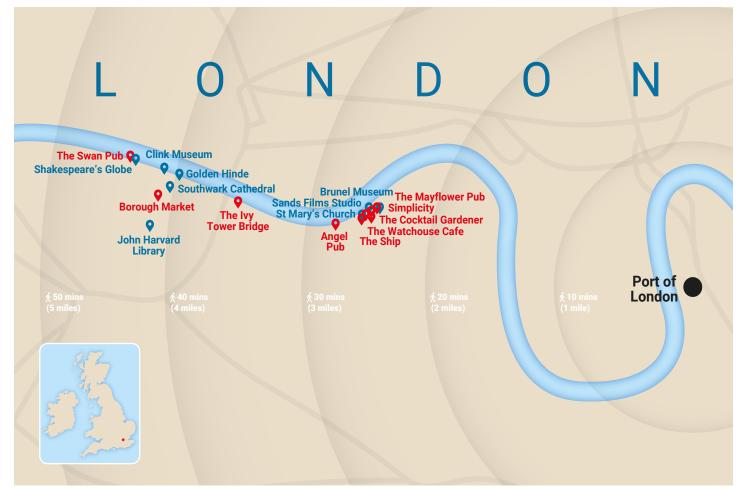
Please contacts directly to confirm topics, availability and rates.

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Popular historian: author of
'Emigrants' and of 'Merchant
Adventurers'.
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Steering our future, inspired by the past.





Map Key

- Location of attractions
- Food & drink establishments
 Approx walking time from port (minutes)

For more information

For more information about things to do, places to eat and events in London, go to www.visitlondon.co.uk

Content correct at time of going to press. Check before you travel. E&OE.