

Diary note: Open House London 17 & 18 September 2011

Open House London Weekend – the capital’s greatest architectural showcase takes place this year on 17 & 18 September.

It is a unique opportunity to get out and under the skin of London’s amazing architecture with over 700 buildings of all kinds opening their doors, plus neighbourhood walks, cycle tours, architects’ talks and debates taking place – all for free.

An essential and anticipated fixture in the capital’s cultural calendar Open House London is a truly city-wide celebration of the buildings, places and neighbourhoods where we live and work.

Through this year’s theme ‘The Liveable City’ London’s communities will find out more and advocate for issues that are relevant to their local area – from the design of homes to the impact of climate change, and the role of architects and contemporary design in revitalising places, showing how good design can make London a more liveable city.

Check in the Guide and online from 8 August to find out more about this year’s highlights:

- Architects' homes and groundbreaking housing developments
- Eco, zero carbon and retrofit buildings
- Tours of major regeneration projects
- Planners, architects and engineers on how they create successful cities
- London’s infrastructure past, present and future
- Landscape projects
- Government buildings
- Landmarks and towers
- Maggie’s and Open House London Night Hike - Friday 16th September, opportunity to see Open House architecture by night and raise money for Maggie’s Cancer Caring Centres
- Competition for a tour by iconic Routemaster with Arriva London Heritage Fleet, starting at BT Tower
- Open House Junior Festival for kids and families
- An app for iphone
- Talk: Walking in the Metropolitan Wild-the River Lea at Margaret Howell on Thursday 15th September
- Competition to win an overnight stay at 5* Town Hall Hotel & Apartments
- Photography competition ‘The changing face of London’ supported by Architects’ Journal, prizes provided by Lomography.

Victoria Thornton, Director of Open House comments: *“Open House is the annual opportunity for Londoners to get inside London’s architecture and see how good design plays an important contributing role in creating and sustaining a ‘liveable’ city. Last year 89% of participants said the Open House event was the best way to get under the skin, become more knowledgeable and engage in the dialogue about the capital’s architecture”*

OpenHouse London

Full details of buildings and events will be published in the 2011 Guide (available from 8 August) and can be ordered online

Website: www.openhouselondon.org.uk

Note to Editors:

Press images: available to download <http://www.openhouselondon.org.uk/news/images.html>

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Website: www.openhouselondon.org.uk

Media partners: BBC London, Architect's Journal

Open House is a concept that was created in London 19 years ago by Open-City, London's leading independent architecture education organisation. The Open House model invites everyone to experience, explore and understand the value of a well-designed built environment. This successful concept has been extended to events in other cities around the world including New York, Dublin & Galway, Tel Aviv & Jerusalem, Barcelona, Rome, Helsinki, Slovenia and Chicago.

Further information on the Open House Worldwide family events can be found at www.openhouseworldwide.org

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Also supported by 700 property owners, walks organisers and civic societies and 7000 volunteers