

## 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.

### Highlights include:

- 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
- Public art and space
- 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
- Open House Junior Festival for kids and families
- An app for iPhone
- Photography competition

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”*

**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](http://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](http://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](http://www.openhouseworldwide.org)