



Travel Guides designed by insiders.

LONDON'S BEST LESSER-KNOWN MUSEUMS



A guide to London's unusual museums.



Mandy Hegarty
Sub-editor, World Words

ABOUT US

THE BUGGL TEAM.

We are a small team banded together to solve the major problems that exist around travel planning. We've lived in your shoes for years, trying to seek authentic and matched trip advice to no avail. Buggl was built as your vehicle to ride in every time you need inspiration about a place to go.

OUR MISSION.

Our goal is to give people a better opportunity to experience delightful life moments when they travel. This only happens when people begin to trust in one another and not on reviews or ratings of places online anymore. Bringing the life back to travel means pulling local people out of the shadows of those review sites and onto a place where they share their expertise on what they love to do in their location. It's only possible to travel well by harnessing the relationship between travelers and locals.

Our aim is give everyone an equal chance to have beautiful trips.

OUR STORY.

This isn't a company. If you unraveled our DNA it would read like a passport stamped with ink from all over the world. We've each had unique and memorable experiences traveling down the street or around the world that have changed us as individuals and humans. If you've traveled like us, you know it's possible to grow as a person when you travel right. If you haven't traveled like us, this platform will give you the ability to do so. It's time to TRUST in other people again to help navigate you through the world.



ABOUT ME



Mandy Hegarty

Sub-editor, World Words

Traveler Since

1987

Age

26

Interests and Activities

Travel writing

WHO AM I?

Mandy Hegarty is a freelance writer who covers travel, food and film. Born and bred in Dublin, she has spent the last few years living and working in New York and London, where she is now based. Her work has been featured in publications such as Time Out New York, Private Air Magazine and the Irish Film and Television Network. She currently works as Sub-Editor at World Words (www.world-words.com), an expert travel content writing agency.

WHAT I KNOW ABOUT TRAVEL?

Travel has always been a strong passion of mine. I've lived in Ireland, the UK, the US and Canada, and have traveled extensively around Europe and Latin America.

OVERVIEW

When it comes to cultural collections in London, why should the British Museum, the Tate Modern and the Natural History Musuem get all the attention? Look past the glossy, grand facades of the city's more famous museums and you'll find a bunch of smaller collections offering unexpected delights.



LOCAL PERKS AND KNOWLEDGE

This guide will tell you all about the London museums you've never heard of, from an oft-overlooked bell foundry in the East End to an eclectic gem hidden away south of the Thames.

LOCAL SECRETS





Dennis Severs' House



See and Do

18 Folgate Street, E1 6BX

Part museum, part private home and part theatre, Dennis Severs' House provides a glimpse into London's past. Set in a Georgian terrace in the East End, entering the house is like stumbling into someone else's life. Each room showcases a different time period and gives the appearance that a family has left only moments before — candles still burn, smells linger, drinks are left unfinished. The creation of eccentric American Dennis Severs, this musty, antique-cluttered den is an immersive and theatrical experience. Visitors are asked to remain silent throughout and it is not suit

RATING



Make Your Trip

CATEGORY

Hidden Interesting

Cool

NEED TO KNOW

Museum

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT IT HERE



Whitechapel Bell Foundry

RATING



Good Detour

CATEGORY

Hidden

Educational Tours

NEED TO KNOW

Museum



See and Do

32-34 Whitechapel Road, E1 1DY

Set in an 18th century townhouse, it's hard to imagine this diminutive little factory is responsible for forging some of the world's most famous bells, including Big Ben and the Liberty Bell. They've been casting bells since 1570 and continue the centuries-old tradition today. All tours must be pre-booked, but displays in the foyer can be seen without appointment.

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT IT HERE



The Geffrye Museum



See and Do

132 Kingsland Road, E2 8EA

A hideaway treat in the heart of Hackney, the Geffrye Museum focuses on all things domestic. Set in a historic almshouse, the museum showcases a series of 11 typical English interiors, from a 1630s wainscot-paneled hall through to an open-plan 1990s loft. Outside, a series of idyllic period gardens reflect gardening trends through the ages and are open from April through to early November.

RATING



Good Detour

CATEGORY

City Hidden

Quiet

NEED TO KNOW

Museum

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT IT HERE



V&A Museum of Childhood

RATING



Good Detour

CATEGORY

Kids

NEED TO KNOW

Museum



See and Do

Cambridge Heath Road, E2 9PA

Sister to the beloved West London behemoth, this Bethnal Green V&A outpost is a great place to bring your little ones, or to play kid for the day yourself. Housed in an imposing Victorian building, the collections are sure to spark fond childhood recollections. There are toys, teddies, dolls and games from the 17th century through to the present day.

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT IT HERE



The Design Museum



See and Do

21 Shad Thames, SE1 2YD

Currently housed in a converted Thames-side banana warehouse, but scheduled for a move to west London in 2016, the collections here skew contemporary. The museum hosts a series of temporary exhibitions, which cover everything from fashion designers to visionary architects. In the permanent collection, furniture, lighting and domestic appliances all get their time in the spotlight — their stories are surprisingly compelling.

RATING



Good Detour

CATEGORY

Interesting

Cool

NEED TO KNOW

Museum

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT IT HERE



Horniman Museums and Gardens

RATING



Make Your Trip

CATEGORY

Kids Fun

Interesting

NEED TO KNOW

Museum



See and Do

100 London Road, SE23 3PQ

Born from the private collection of a Victorian tea trader, this South London museum is a cornucopia of weird and wonderful anthropological finds presented in a traditional manner. A collection of Victorian and Edwardian taxidermy is fronted by a portly walrus, who sits atop a faux iceberg platform and is stuffed so tight, he looks ready to burst at the seams. Elsewhere in the grounds, you'll find Egyptian mummies, an aquarium and an interesting collection of musical instruments.

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT IT HERE



Wellcome Collection



See and Do

183 Euston Road, NW1 2BE

Located in North West London, this eclectic museum houses a range of peculiar medical memorabilia and curiosities. Some items on display border on grisly (think antique forceps, prosthetic limbs and a mummified body). Others are just plain odd (Napoleon's gold toothbrush and a glass-blown virus model). Displays highlight ongoing medical afflictions, such as obesity and malaria, and ever-changing temporary exhibits are usually both kooky and fascinating.

RATING



Make Your Trip

CATEGORY

Educational

Interesting

NEED TO KNOW

Museum

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT IT HERE

BEFORE YOU GO

I. WHAT TO TAKE

You, yourself and I. And student/senior cards for concessions.

II. GETTING AROUND

All of these museums are within easy walking distance of Tube stations.

III. MONEY AND TIPPING

Cards are accepted in most places and ATMs are widely available. Dan Severs' House is cash only.

IV. SAFETY AND SECURITY

All these locations are generally very safe.

V. USEFUL PHONE NUMBER, WEBSITES AND LOCAL APPS

Geffrye Museum: <http://www.geffrye-museum.org.uk/>

Dennis Severs' House: <http://www.dennissevershouse.co.uk/>

Whitechapel Bell Foundry: <http://www.whitechapelbellfoundry.co.uk/>

Horniman Museums and Gardens: <http://www.horniman.ac.uk/>

Design Museum: <https://www.designmuseum.org/>

Wellcome Collection: <http://www.wellcomecollection.org/>

V&A Museum of Childhood: <http://www.museumofchildhood.org.uk/>

VI. Local Notes

Please check individual websites for opening hours.



www.buggl.com