

For families, friends and single explorers

### the journey begins...

A 20-minute Tube ride from London's west end drops you in the bustling heart of Walthamstow and the busy Walthamstow Market. Plentiful fruit stalls sit side by side with pots and pan vendors and street fashion traders, decked along the length of the High Street. Four hundred

and fifty stalls and three hundred shops stretch from Hoe Street to St James's Street - making this the longest market in Britain. And the warm cacophony of East End voices seduces you from one sight to the next.

### What else about Walthamstow..

*Discovering Walthamstow is like unlocking a magical Russian doll. On the surface there's the beautiful Epping Forest to the East the gentle River Lea to the West. But the layers between reveal stark contrasts of ancient and modern and rural to urban, which make exploring the area a real surprise and delight. A loud and colourful East End market sits side by side with a remarkable Saxon village and the infamous dog-racing stadium rubs shoulders with an Elizabethan hunting lodge; all play their part in a vibrant living history.*

### the journey continues...

After the bustle of the market, get ready to experience a part of Walthamstow that is worlds away. Make your way to the top end of the quieter east end of the High Street and take the right turn - into Hoe Street, cross the road and nip down the left side of the roundabout into St Mary's Road. Here the atmosphere changes dramatically. The road narrows into an ancient bridle path, bordered by beautiful small cottages and a garden with a heavy-set wall and stable windows. Towards its end, this Church

Path reveals a remarkable secret. A silent and ancient hamlet opens out in front of you, locally known as **Walthamstow Village**. At its centre sits the idyllic 13th Century **St Mary's Church**. The only sound is the breeze rustling through the tree canopy and the warble of the pigeons. One of the oldest plants on earth, the fern, flourishes throughout the surrounding picaresque churchyard. It's as if you've been transported to another time.



Walthamstow Dogs

Directly opposite the church there is a 15th century timber framed house, aptly called Ancient House. Looking back towards Church Path stands the **Vestry House** - a former workhouse and police station that since 1931 has been a local museum. It's a real treasure trove, especially for budding young historians. Exhibits range from period fashions to a fantastic, early motorcar. The gardens are delightful too; a tranquil place to sit while the kids take in the exhibits.

### now the journey gets interesting...

Up past the Ancient House and first right is the village pub, **The Nag's Head**. With a pleasant beer garden, this is a gentle spot to pass a few hours on a sunny afternoon. And if the kids have truly tired you out, it may just be the right time to grab a pint of Belgian beer. But if it's time to go home, retrace your steps, pass

straight over the roundabout and you're quickly back at Walthamstow Central.

If the village leaves you with the taste for history and culture, however (or an urgent need to walk off your dinner), visit the gallery of one of Walthamstow's most gifted sons.

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The William Morris Gallery is a leisurely 15-minute walk north of the village. Retrace your steps along Church Path and turn right into Hoe Street heading northwards, turn left into Gaywood Road and onto Forest Road and the Gallery is ahead. Alternatively, you can take the two-minute 275 bus ride from Walthamstow Central and jump off at nearby Jewel Road. You can't miss the Gallery. It is housed in the Morris family's grand and imposing Georgian home set in the pretty Lloyd Park.



William Morris Gallery

### the journey continues...

The master craftsman's beautiful textile designs and the original design for Trellis - one of his well known early wallpaper patterns, are all on show as well as furniture and ceramics from the Arts and Crafts movement, which was heavily influenced by Morris' work. This is the only museum dedicated to England's best known and versatile designer and socialist thinker and is well worth a visit.

The Walthamstow history trail doesn't stop here, however. There's way further back to go. The next time-travelling stop begins with a trip out to Epping Forest and the site of a remarkable building. From Walthamstow Central take the 10-minute train journey to Chingford and then a 20-minute walk along Rangers Road until you see a striking Tudor building that seems to grow out of the ground.



Queen Elizabeth's Hunting Lodge

Queen Elizabeth's Hunting Lodge is the only timber building of its kind left in England. Built by the merry king himself, Henry VIII in 1543, its most likely use was as a grandstand to get the best view of the deer hunt. It's an incredible piece of history, and quite unbelievable that it still stands. Legend has it that Queen Elizabeth once rode her white horse up the staircase.

### the journey continues...

Leaving hunting aside, the only way to truly finish off a day in this part of the world is to go to the dogs. Well the dog races that is. Walthamstow's famous greyhound stadium serves up races three nights a week and is a really exciting evening out for all the family. Kids under

15 get in free with an adult too. **Walthamstow Dogs** is great fun and only a 20-minute bus ride from Walthamstow Central. And you never know - if you fancy a flutter, you may come away with some unexpected riches.

## contact information

**London Transport**

T: +44 (0)20 7222 1234

E: [travinfo@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:travinfo@tfl.gov.uk)W: [www.tfl.gov.uk/journeyplanner](http://www.tfl.gov.uk/journeyplanner)**One Railway**[www.onerailway.com](http://www.onerailway.com)**Walthamstow Market**

Along High Street between Hoe Street and St James's Street  
Walthamstow Central Tube/ Rail; St James' Street Rail. The market is just outside either of these stations and it stretches the whole distance between them.

**Opening Times**

Mon - Fri: 9am - 4pm

Saturday: 9am - 5pm

**Walthamstow Village**

Church Lane/ Orford road

London E17

10-minute walk from Walthamstow Central

**St Mary's Church**

Church End

London E17

10-minute walk from Walthamstow Central

**Ancient House**

Church Lane

London E17

10-minute walk from Walthamstow Central

**Vestry House**

Vestry Road, Walthamstow, E17 9NH

T: +44 (0)20 8509 1917

E: [vestry.house@al.lbwf.gov.uk](mailto:vestry.house@al.lbwf.gov.uk)

10-minute walk from Walthamstow Central

**Opening times**

Please call to check opening times.

**William Morris Gallery**

Lloyd Park, Forest Road, E17 4PP

T: +44 (0)20 8527 3782

F: +44 (0)20 8527 7070

E: [wmg.enquiries@lbwf.gov.uk](mailto:wmg.enquiries@lbwf.gov.uk)W: [www1.walthamforest.gov.uk/wmg/home.htm](http://www1.walthamforest.gov.uk/wmg/home.htm)**Opening times**

Please call to check opening times.

**Queen Elizabeth's Hunting Lodge**

Rangers Road (B1081), Chingford, E4 7QH

T: +44 (0)20 8529 6681

E: [epping.forest@corpoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:epping.forest@corpoflondon.gov.uk)**Epping Forest**[www.eppingforest.co.uk](http://www.eppingforest.co.uk)**Chingford Rail**

One railway

[www.onerailway.com](http://www.onerailway.com)**Walthamstow Dogs**

Walthamstow Stadium, Chingford Road, E4 8SJ

T: 020 8498 3300 (General Information)

E: [mail@wsgreyhound.co.uk](mailto:mail@wsgreyhound.co.uk)W: [www.wsgreyhound.co.uk](http://www.wsgreyhound.co.uk)