

ISSUE 7 / NOV-DEC 2016

OnRoute

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24-hour London

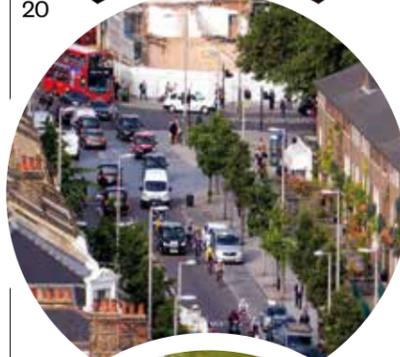
Breathe easy
taking action on air quality

'Tis the season
London's festive attractions

Parking lot
pull over and take our quiz

Healing retreat
dealing with diet and diabetes

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Picture credits: Jeff Eden, RBG Kew

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Visit the TfL website: tfl.gov.uk/tph

0343 222 4444 (lines open from 08:00 to 18:00, Monday to Friday)

for operator and driver licensing enquiries and the Knowledge enquiries.
0343 222 5555 for vehicle licensing appointments and enquiries.

TPH news on Twitter: @TfLTPH

For constant updates on diversions, congestion and accidents: @TfLTrafficNews (roads)

TfL produces a weekly email with information on current and forthcoming road closures and diversions. If you would like to receive this, please contact tph.enquiries@tfl.gov.uk

The views expressed in OnRoute are not necessarily those of TfL.

Welcome.

The past few months have been busy ones for the taxi and private hire trades, with the introduction of the English language requirement for private hire drivers (p19), the mandating of contactless and card payments in taxis, and the launch of the Mayor's Taxi and Private Hire Action Plan.

Now the Capital is gearing up for the season of goodwill and you can read Ian Beetlestone's take on the festivities on p28. Check out our guide to late night London from p11.

We also take a peek inside the historic cabmen's shelters (p26) and test your knowledge of parking restrictions in the Capital (p16).

Everyone at OnRoute would like to wish you a very prosperous and safe holiday season and if you have anything you'd like to talk to us about, just get in contact at OnRoute@tfl.gov.uk


D Pilgrim
Editor



In our next issue...

- Blue plaque guides
- Hypnotherapy for stress
- The Knowledge documentary



SAY SOMETHING IF YOU SEE SOMETHING

- WATCH FOR**
- UNUSUAL BEHAVIOUR OF PEOPLE TRAVELLING TOGETHER, ESPECIALLY IF THERE ARE ADULTS WITH YOUNG PEOPLE
 - YOUNG PEOPLE BEING PICKED UP AND TAKEN TO HOTELS, PARTICULARLY AT ODD TIMES OF THE DAY AND NIGHT
 - ADULTS PUTTING A YOUNG PERSON, WHO MAY BE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS OR ALCOHOL, INTO YOUR CAR

THIS IS ABUSE. DON'T MASK THE PROBLEM.

Report it.

Call 101, quote Operation Makesafe.

www.met.police.uk



News

All ablaze

With darker nights drawing in, Santander Cycles have been fitted with Blaze Laserlights in a bid to make them more visible to motorists. The lights only come on when it is dark and project a symbol of a bicycle on to the ground six metres in front of the bike, which helps them to be seen when they are in a vehicle's blind spot. The new technology will be fitted to all 11,500 Santander Cycles over the next eight months.

The roll out follows a successful trial, which saw overwhelmingly positive feedback and strong results in independent tests.

In September 2015, 250 Santander Cycles were fitted with the technology. An on-street survey of cyclists riding them revealed that around three-quarters felt more confident. Almost half said they would be more likely to use Santander Cycles at night with the new lights fitted.

The announcement was made as Santander ambassador and Olympic gold medallist Jessica Ennis-Hill led a women's night ride along the East-West Cycle Superhighway to show how the new lights are making riders feel more confident that they will be seen by drivers.



A tale of three bridges

Watch out for maintenance work across London

Since 21 October, there has been a series of closures of a section of the A1 to work on replacing the century-old Upper Holloway Bridge.

The latest closures are on the A1 between Fairbridge Road and Wedmore Gardens and will take place on Friday 18 November from 22:00 until 05:00 on Monday 21 November, and Friday 25 November from 22:00 until 05:00 on Monday 28 November. On both occasions the road will be closed to all vehicles in both directions.

This will be followed by the pre-planned full closure between 24 December 2016 and 16 January 2017, when the bridge will be demolished and replaced.

To help ease congestion, TfL is working with the surrounding boroughs to ban all non-emergency roadworks on nearby roads. It has also put in place plans to swiftly remove

any vehicles blocking key surrounding routes to help reduce disruption.

There will be variable messaging signs on the A1 advising drivers of the closure.

For up-to-date information, go to the [@tfltrafficnews](https://twitter.com/tfltrafficnews) Twitter feed or tfl.gov.uk/upper-holloway-bridge



Also, until Friday 30 December, Tower Bridge will be closed to all traffic. A signed diversion route is in place, via London

Bridge northbound and via Southwark Bridge southbound.

For full details, please visit tfl.gov.uk/tower-bridge-closure

Waterproofing and other work is currently being carried out on the A3213 Eccleston Bridge westbound between Bridge Place and Buckingham Palace Road. Because of this, the lane widths have been reduced so drivers should avoid stopping on the bridge to drop off passengers. Five spaces have been put aside for taxis to use in the Bullied Way APOA car park and these can also be used for dropping off. The restrictions will be suspended between 14 December and 8 January, with the work scheduled to continue until May 2017.

For updates on roadworks, go to [@TfLTrafficNews](https://twitter.com/TfLTrafficNews)



TPH licensing in numbers

24,631
Taxi drivers

21,362
Taxi vehicle licences

114,522
Private hire driver licences

84,184
Private hire vehicle licences

2,608
Private hire operators

A great display

Road closures on New Year's Eve

This year, New Year's Eve falls on a Saturday and the hugely popular annual firework display could see as many as 500,000 people trying to enter central London. The event has been ticketed since 2014 and 110,000 ticket holders are expected to gather in the viewing areas, which have their own entrance and exit routes.

Many roads in the area will be closed, some from as early as 14:00, and a number of taxi ranks will not be accessible. The closures will remain in place once the firework display has finished and won't be removed until it is safe to do so.

Road closure timings will be available closer to the date at tfl.gov.uk and on the [@TfLTrafficNews](https://twitter.com/TfLTrafficNews) Twitter feed.

Brand new name

The family-run transport company Mach 1 Group has been relaunched under the Absolutely brand. The business started in 1865 and has both courier and passenger services. It employs 150 people in London and has 100 private hire cars.



Have your say

There are four remaining suburban taxi forums in the current round where drivers can discuss any concerns they may have and make suggestions for improving services in their area.

The Sector 6 forum takes place on 1 December, Sectors 8 and 9 on 12 January 2017, and Sector 7 on 2 February 2017.

Register at tfl.gov.uk/suburban-forum

Information at your fingertips

To make it easier for you to access the TPH information on the TfL website, here's what you need to type in.

Page	URL
Accepting cards in taxis	tfl.gov.uk/cards-in-taxis
Changes to private hire legislation	tfl.gov.uk/ph-regulations
English language requirement	tfl.gov.uk/ph-language
Licensing	tfl.gov.uk/tph
Licence checker	tfl.gov.uk/licencechecker
Parking	tfl.gov.uk/tph-parking
Ranks and ranking	tfl.gov.uk/ranks
TPH legislation and policy	tfl.gov.uk/tph-policy

News

Latest trend



These are the hot topics trending on @TfLTPH

The English language requirement for private hire drivers was a big talking point on the Twitter feed, with taxi and private hire licensees and applicants asking lots of questions (see page 19 for more details).

There were also some interesting exchanges between cyclists and taxi drivers, expressing their differing views about the Cycle Superhighways.

Other major topics included the Tower Bridge closure, access for taxis to more London bus lanes, the new enhanced topographical test for private hire drivers, cross-border hiring and the implementation of the recent private hire regulations.

@TfLTPH now has 10, 506 followers.



Open all hours

New taxi ranks open to serve Night Tube stations

Night Tube services are now running on the Central, Victoria and Jubilee lines, with the Northern line from High Barnet and Edgware to Morden (Charing Cross branch) going live on 18 November.

The following stations have new taxi ranks to help customers make the final leg of their journey home:

- Northern line: Brent Cross; Clapham South; Colliers Wood; East Finchley; Finchley Central; Heathrow Central;

High Barnet; Mornington Crescent; Tooting Bec and Totteridge & Whetstone

- Jubilee line: Dollis Hill; Kilburn; Neasden; Queensbury; West Ham and Willesden Green

The Piccadilly line will become the fifth Night Tube service when it opens on 16 December. Trains will run through the night on Fridays and Saturdays.

● ● ●
For more information on Night Tube taxi ranks, see the map on page 32.



Cabbie looks out for cyclists

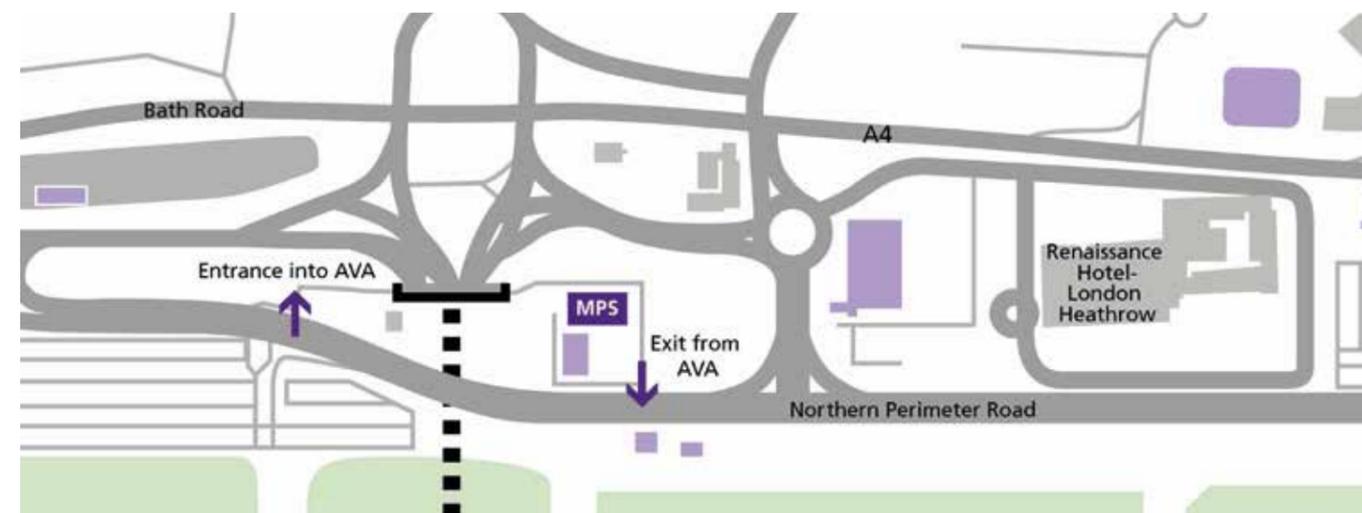
Taxi driver Gary Thatcher has launched an innovative product that could help make London's roads safer for cyclists. The Signum is a reflective wrist band that works like an indicator light when triggered by the cyclist.

Gary was inspired to create the product after a near miss with a cyclist who was trying to make a turn. He couldn't see the cyclist's arm because of poor light. 'I've seen that situation numerous times,' he says, 'and so I thought, as a trained electrical engineer, I'd come up with a solution to the problem.'

After talking to several cyclists he found a great deal of enthusiasm for the idea and has since launched a company in the UK to manufacture the Signum, which also has a watch function.

● ● ●
For more information, go to www.brighterindication.com/

Heathrow parking spreads its wings



Heathrow Airport opened an Authorised Vehicle Area in the summer to give private hire drivers somewhere to wait for passengers and ease pressure on local roads. It's proving popular already

After people expressed concerns to Heathrow about the number of private hire vehicles parking in local residential streets, the airport opened the area in June. It operates and is staffed seven days a week from 05:00 until midnight.

No wonder it has found favour with the drivers – 3,000 vehicles use it each day – as alongside its parking spaces it also has toilet facilities, vending machines, refreshments and a covered smoking area. There are litter bins specially designed to stop birds, which can cause a hazard to planes.

There is no need to book and access to the area costs £1 an hour for up to five hours, after which the cost rises to the same rate as the short-stay multi-storey car park in Terminal 3 (£6 for the first hour).

So far the response has been encouraging, with fewer vehicles using local roads while waiting. Drivers have been impressed, even asking for additional facilities such as car washing.

'The way that private hire vehicles operate at Heathrow requires them to enter a short-stay car park prior to passenger pick-up, but many drivers have been parking in the local roads around the airport instead,' said Chris Joyce, head of surface access at the airport. 'The result of this parking has had a negative impact on our local residents and Heathrow has listened to their concerns and is now



providing somewhere within the airport where they can wait for passengers to arrive.'

The area is for the use of private hire vehicles and taxis only, and staff operating within it are Security Industry Authorised (SIA) trained. They are also given extra training by TfL and the Metropolitan Police to understand private hire licensing, as Heathrow works with both bodies to ensure private hire companies comply with regulations. Drivers' licences are regularly checked for the safety and security of everyone at the airport.

The area has been designed as a waiting zone only, and passengers are not allowed to be picked up from there. When picking up customers from the terminals, private hire vehicles must use the short stay terminal car parks and meet passengers at an agreed location in the terminal, or they could be given a £40 Fixed Penalty Notice.

Heathrow also operates a taxi feeder park from which taxis are dispatched to wait for passengers at ranks located in every terminal forecourt. The park provides driver facilities including a canteen and toilets and acts as a meeting point for the trade as well as drivers who wish to catch up on airport news.

● ● ●
The Authorised Vehicle Area is on Northern Perimeter Road, Hounslow TW6 2EQ.

OnRoute

Copies of OnRoute are available from the stands both in the authorised area and feeder park.

A City for All Londoners

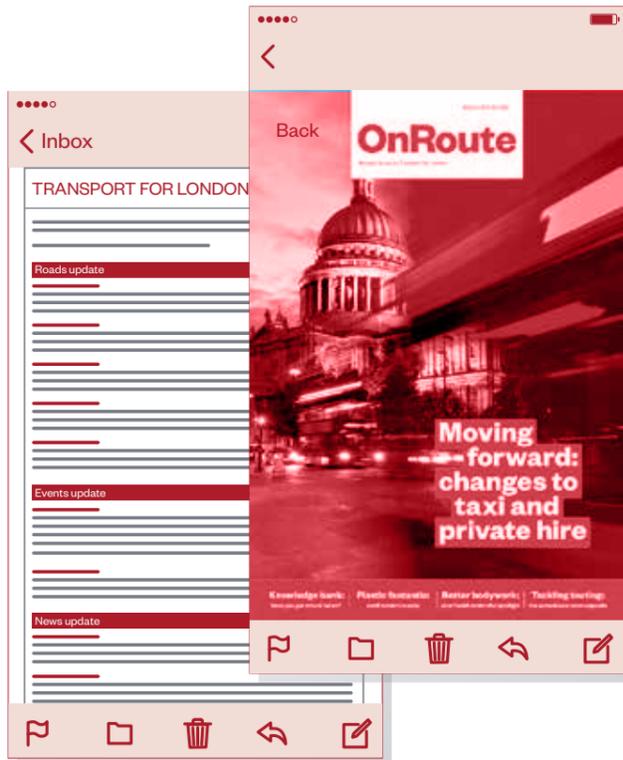
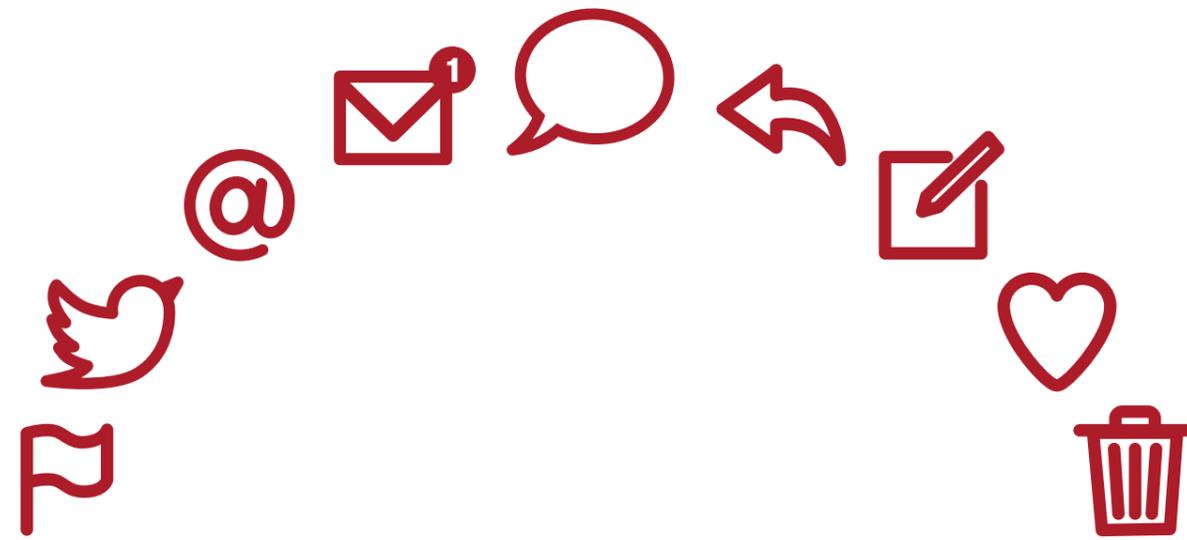
Mayor Sadiq Khan has published a new vision for London: A City for All Londoners. The document, which is now out for consultation, outlines how he plans to respond to pressures on growth and celebrate

diversity in the Capital, ensuring people from all walks of life are healthy and live well alongside each other. It covers everything from transport and housing through to land use and policing. You can

comment on the document until 11 December. Have your say at yourviews@london.gov.uk

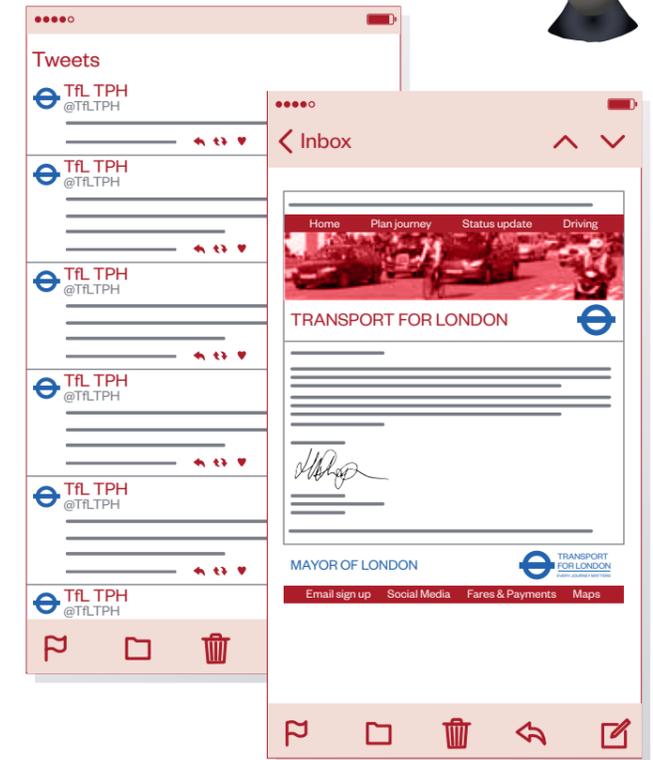
● ● ●
View the document at www.london.gov.uk/cityforall



Connect the dots

Social media technology is making it even easier to have the latest taxi and private hire information and updates at your fingertips



If spending days behind the wheel leaves you out of the loop, there are plenty of options for staying connected. From email to social media, you are never alone in the digital world.

You've got mail

Email addresses became a mandatory part of taxi and private hire licence applications last May. It means TfL can provide drivers with essential information, quickly and efficiently.

If you don't have email you're missing out – it's vital in our increasingly digitised world. It also means you can get weekly TPH news on things like road closures, changes to regulations and important consultations that may affect you, as well as links to the electronic version of this magazine.

Creating an account is easy and free

First, you need to find an email provider to register with. There are plenty to choose from including Google (Gmail), Microsoft (Outlook.com) or Yahoo!

Once you've selected your provider, just go to its webpage on the internet and click on 'Log in' or 'Sign up'.

You'll then have to come up with a unique user name and password (something you will remember easily but which other people will find hard to guess). If your chosen user name is already taken, you will need to select an alternative. You will then be set up with your email account where your user name becomes part of your email address.

The social club

Twitter is a great way to receive live information and updates, and TfL has a whole range of feeds covering everything from taxi and private hire news to the Tube.

Sign up for @TfLTPH for information on all aspects of taxi and private hire. Other accounts, including @TfLTrafficNews and @TfLTravelAlerts could help you stay on top of transport issues across the Capital.

Another advantage of social media is that it is a two-way conversation. As well as being alerted to incidents or receiving information, you can join the discussion, share advice or flag traffic trouble to other drivers. You can even use it to send in ideas for articles you want to see in OnRoute.

Get it while it's hot

There are WiFi hotspots across the Capital that you can hook up to when you are between jobs. The Cloud from Sky, BT WiFi and O2 are three of the biggest providers and access could be free.

In most cases your phone will automatically alert you if it recognises a WiFi hotspot in range. Just make sure you have your WiFi enabled on your device – and, of course, that you're safely parked beforehand!



If you are not currently receiving the weekly TPH email or a digital version of this magazine, contact tph.enquiries@tfl.gov.uk



Million dollar man

For a chauffeur, knowing your routes, and getting passengers from A to B without going through X, Y and Z, is just part of the job

I want to make my passenger feel like a million dollars,' says Ajeet Ahuja as he parks his car in the elegant Belgrave Square in west London.

Ajeet, and other limousine drivers like him, provide a specialist, personal service to their customers in top of the range vehicles.

Almost immediately after being picked up, passengers will be offered a bottle of water, and that day's Financial Times will be within reach, along with a selection of magazines. Then it's a case of sitting back and enjoying the comfort as London passes quietly by.

It soon becomes apparent how happy Ajeet is to be at the wheel. 'I thoroughly enjoy it – I can't stop telling my passengers that. For me, driving is fun and not a chore,' he explains. 'I also get to drive this beautiful car, which is fitted with every device one could wish for. I take pride in it.'

'The other reason is that I enjoy being in the company of my passengers.'

Ajeet works for Carey Chauffeur Services, which has a fleet of 210 executive cars in London and 232 drivers. He is one of 39 VIP-passed drivers who have had the highest level of training.

He says: 'I always wait for passengers to initiate a conversation; within the first few seconds of meeting someone you can make a judgement on whether they're going to want to chat. A passenger is just that – a passenger, not a friend.'

A number of celebrities have ridden in Ajeet's car, but to him, everyone's the same. 'You must treat your passenger respectfully, that's almost as important as knowing your routes. If you do that, they'll have respect for you.'

Now until the end of November is the busiest time of the year for Ajeet, with a decent chunk of his work involving airport pick-ups and drop-offs. Business passengers like to slow down in December, so Christmas is a quiet time.

But happily for Ajeet, normal service resumes after the festivities. 'I never wake up and think, "Oh no, I've got to work". Every day's different, but every day's a pleasure.'

'You meet new people. You take the stress out of their travel. After I've dropped my passengers off, they'll hopefully look me in the eye, shake my hand and say, "It's been nice meeting you". And that makes it such a joy.'



Do you want to share your view from the wheel? Email OnRoute@tfl.gov.uk and you could appear in a future issue of the magazine.

"Every day's different, but every day's a pleasure."

Ajeet Ahuja



With the Night Tube now running on the Central, Jubilee and Victoria lines – and the Northern and Piccadilly lines set to follow – London is welcoming even more night owls and early birds

If you're out working late or need a bite to eat in the early morning, it's good to know where you can get a treat that really hits the spot, or something healthy to keep you going through your shift. There's plenty of choice in the Capital, so here's our guide to some of London's late-night cafés, restaurants and grills.



City slickers

The grill is on the go 24-hours a day at Polo Bar near Liverpool Street station (175 Bishopsgate), offering everything from a double egg sarnie to crowd-pleasers like fish-finger sandwiches.

A couple of miles northwest, Tinseltown (44-46 St John Street) is famous for its milkshakes – the Oreos Go Nuts, made with Oreo cookies, peanut butter and ice cream, is a naughty but nice midnight snack – and it's also open for takeaways. Get everything from wings, burgers and wraps to a portion of cheesy chips until 04:00 Monday to Saturday, and until 03:00 on Sundays.

Other branches include Tinseltown Bayswater (57 Westbourne Grove), which opens its doors until 01:30 from Monday to Saturday and midnight on Sundays, and Tinseltown Great Portland Street (35 Great Portland Street), where you can go until 01:30 on Fridays and Saturdays, 01:00 Monday to Thursday, and midnight on Sunday.

At Ranoush Juice (43 Edgware Road) you can pick up a shawarma – a Middle Eastern wrap of spit-roast meat – plus juices and Lebanese sweet

treats until 03:00 every night. Or grab similar meze delights, including traditional lentil soup with Lebanese bread, at their sister eaterie at 86 High Street Kensington, open until 02:00.

Catering for a central crowd

Soho has always rung to the sound of late-night revellers and is a great place to grab something at any time of the day or night.

Soho is a great place to grab something to eat at any time of the day or night

If it's on the menu at Balans Soho Society (60-62 Old Compton Street) you can pretty much have it all day, from falafel to double-dipped chips. They close at 06:00 then open again for breakfast at 07:00, after a swift hour clearing up.

Bar Italia (22 Frith Street) has been the late-night coffee shop in Soho for more than 60 years and still serves drinks made to your particular order. It's open until 05:00, Monday to Saturday.

Spice up your life with the Mexican menu at El Camion (25-27 Brewer Street), which is available until 03:00, Monday to Saturday. Wake yourself up with the signature quesadillas, which come with chorizo, tinga (shredded) chicken or spiced pork.

Healthy options

Eating out doesn't have to mean fried fast food, there are plenty of venues offering healthy soups, salads, juices and lean grilled meat and fish. London also has some great vegetarian and vegan restaurants ensuring you get your five a day. Open from 08:00 until 23:45 each day, the Mediterranean Café at 18 Berwick Street, Soho specialises in Italian and Turkish veggie dishes.

Mildred's vegetarian restaurant started out as one small venue in Greek Street in the late 1980s. It proved so popular there are now three outlets at 45 Lexington Street W1, 9 Jamestown Road N1 and 200 Pentonville Road N1, which are all open from midday to 23:00. It is famous for its veggie burgers and 'detox' salad bowls. Turn to page 24 for more on vegetarian diets.

Keeping it East

Top seller at 24-hour The Bagel House (2 Stoke Newington High Street) is salmon and cream cheese, while salt beef goes down a storm any time at Beigel Bake (159 Brick Lane). Between 05:00 and 02:00, fillings at the Happening Bagel Bakery (284A Seven Sisters Road) include minted lamb or halloumi, and there's a wide range of other savouries and pastries such as samosas and Jamaican patties.

First meal of the day

The pubs around Smithfield Market have historically opened early to welcome the meat traders – perfect if you've just come off the night shift. Traditional breakfasts are available from 07:00 at The Hope (94 Cowcross Street) and the Fox & Anchor (115 Charterhouse Street). Head further east and there's Hulya's Cafe (357-359 Cambridge Heath Road), where breakfast starts at 06:00.

For more information on the Night Tube, including maps, go to tfl.gov.uk/nighttube

Join the conversation...

Got a top tip for a late-night cuppa or a healthy snack? Let us know at OnRoute@tfl.gov.uk

According to Tony Ellis, operations manager for London taxi marshals, you can tell how much people love the city's night life by looking at the late night ranks.

The ones at both Liverpool Street and Victoria stations keep moving throughout the night. At the O2 things can really get busy when a big event coincides with people leaving the venue's clubs.



You can find out which of these ranks are moving quickly and where more taxis are required by following [@LDNTaxiMarshall](https://twitter.com/LDNTaxiMarshall) on Twitter.

Late night marshalled taxi ranks

Berkeley Street (Novikov)	Friday and Saturday	22:00-03:00
Clarence Street, Kingston	Wednesday, Friday and Saturday	22:30-02:30
Charing Cross Road, Westminster	Saturday	22:30-02:30
Dalston (Birthday's)	Saturday	23:00-03:00
City of London (Liverpool Street station)	Friday	22:00-02:00
Cornhill (The Forge)	Thursday and Friday	22:30-02:30
Eastern Road, Romford	Friday and Saturday	22:30-03:30
High Street, Beckenham	Saturday	22:30-02:30
Market Square, Bromley	Saturday	22:30-00:30
Old Street, Hackney	Saturday	23:00-03:00
Regent Street (Swallow Street), Westminster	Friday	22:30-02:30
Victoria station (Terminus Place)	Every night	00:00-04:00
Widmore Road (Bibas), Bromley	Saturday	00:30-02:30

Christmas nights and twinkling lights



After dark is a magical time to experience Christmas in the Capital with glittering lights, inviting market stalls and exciting visitor attractions

Picture captions (left) clockwise from top: Winter Wonderland; Kew Gardens; Carnaby Street



Walking in a Winter Wonderland

Now back for its tenth year in Hyde Park, Winter Wonderland has added lots of new festive activities alongside firm favourites.

It boasts the largest open-air ice rink in the UK, lots of spectacular shows and stalls, plus you can take in panoramic views across London from the giant observation wheel.

● ● ● ●
Winter Wonderland runs from Friday 18 November until Sunday 2 January 2017. Gates open at 10:00 and close at 22:00. Entrance is free but activities are individually priced. The closest taxi rank is on the northbound carriageway of Park Lane. The nearest entrance/exit is Brook Gate. www.hydeparkwinterwonderland.com

Pop in to a pop-up Christmas

Winterville returns to Victoria Park this year and it's bigger than ever with an extra 20 Christmas market stalls. This pop-up town has everything from an ice rink to a circus.

● ● ● ●
Winterville runs from 26 November until 23 December, 11:00 until 22:00. Entry is free, but you pay for the individual shows. Taxis and private hire should use the entrance at Crown Gate at the junction of Old Ford Road and Grove Road E3 5TB.



On the south bank

From Friday 11 November until Wednesday 25 January 2017, the Southbank Centre's Winter Festival will feature some spectacular Christmas shows including rock and roll musical Million Dollar Quartet. There'll also be a big top where circus company NoFit State will perform above a standing audience.

● ● ● ●
www.southbankcentre.co.uk



Light up your life

Everybody loves Christmas lights and some of the locations below have already turned on their illuminations.

For the past 57 years, Oxford Street's lights have been a big draw. This year's display consists of 1,778 decorations and 750,000 LED lightbulbs and is in aid of the NSPCC's Little Stars charity campaign. For a donation of £5 people can dedicate one of the star-shaped lights to a loved one.

Duke of York Square has a Santa's Grotto along with its illuminations. In Carnaby Street the lights are shining down on loads of on-street and in-store activities, while the 2016 display on Regent Street is a throwback to its first set of Christmas lights, which went up in 1954. The decorations will form part of a wider display that will run all the way from Oxford Circus to Waterloo Place via Piccadilly and St James's. The star-studded switch-on event is on Thursday 17 November and will see the street go traffic-free.

Further out of town, Kingston's lights have a 'Christmas Carol' theme. Staying south, Eltham High Street will

be lit up this Saturday (19 November), accompanied by street performers plus side shows, music and entertainment.

At Kew Gardens, beautiful illuminations will light up the buildings, trails and planting. The mile-long trail will lead visitors past two Christmas trees, a scented garden and all kinds of nature-inspired lights. There's also Santa's Snowflake Grotto and a vintage carousel, Christmas gifts and traditional festive nibbles and drinks.

Heading north, the Hampstead Christmas Festival opens on Tuesday 29 November when the Christmas lights will be turned on by the BBC's Fiona Bruce. The High Street will be lined with stalls selling gifts, food and drink, and there will be children's activities.

Other great places include Covent Garden and Trafalgar Square (with its famous giant Christmas tree).

● ● ● ●
For more information on Christmas lights, go to www.visitlondon.com

Kew's light show is a ticketed event and will be open from 17:00 to 22:00 each evening from Wednesday 23 November to Monday 2 January. Taxi and private hire should drop customers off at Kew's main entrance at Victoria Gate. For more information, visit www.kew.org and go to the what's on page.



Christmas markets

Alongside the usual Christmas shopping hotspots such as Oxford Street, Regent Street and Covent Garden, there are plenty of Christmas markets taking place around the Capital. Check out Notting Hill, Shoreditch, London Bridge, Canary Wharf and Camden.



Park life

Understanding your parking rights is important to keep the Capital moving and help you avoid a ticket



Whether waiting for a fare or dropping off passengers, there are many laws and some exemptions around how taxi and private hire drivers use London's roads. Taxi drivers also have access to taxi ranks, as they are able to ply for hire.

Read between the lines

Taxis and private hire vehicles are allowed to pick up or drop off on single and double yellow and red lines, as well as parking bays, bus lanes and places where loading is not permitted. However, as with other areas with waiting or parking restrictions, drivers cannot stop for longer than the passenger needs to safely get in or out of the vehicle.

Drivers waiting at a time and place where there are restrictions could be given a penalty charge notice (PCN) if they are not picking up or dropping off a fare. This applies even if the driver has arrived early for a booking, the passenger is late, or a customer asks the driver to wait while they use a cashpoint.

Also make sure you don't fall foul of the law by stopping somewhere that could cause an obstruction or safety hazard, such as zigzag lines near a pedestrian or school crossing.

In the bus lane

Only taxis can drive in bus lanes, but both taxis and private hire vehicles are allowed to pick up or drop off a passenger in a bus lane.

The only exceptions are stretches of red route where stopping is not permitted because of the disruption this would cause to already busy roads.

Drivers should enter and leave the bus lane in the most direct and safe way when dropping off or picking up.

While taxis and private hire vehicles are also permitted to pick up and set down at most London bus stops, it is best avoided as it can cause disruption to the buses and their timetables.

Customers should never be set down in the middle of the road, even if the vehicle is stopped owing to traffic. The driver must always get close to the kerb to ensure the passenger can safely exit the vehicle.

Any requests?

If a passenger asks to stop and wait in an area where waiting is not permitted, then drivers should advise them where they will be allowed to wait for them.

You should suggest alternative locations nearby so that you will not be penalised and the customer can be confident you will be waiting for them.

Make sure you don't fall foul of the law by stopping somewhere that could cause an obstruction

Perfect parking

Test how much you know with our parking quiz. There are no winners, but it might just stop you collecting an unwanted parking ticket.

Tick the box next to the answer you think is right. You can check your answers on the next page and see if you're right.

Q1 When can a private hire vehicle stop or wait in a taxi rank?

A Only when picking up or setting down a passenger

B Only if the hazard lights are on

C Never

Q2 When can you stop on double yellow or red lines?

A When picking up or dropping off a passenger

B When waiting for a passenger

C Never

Q3 Taxis and private hire vehicles can pick up and set down passengers on most red routes, with two exceptions, which are marked with a wide red line. Can you name them (one point for each)?

A Eastbound Euston Road in front of King's Cross station

B Northbound Bishopsgate between Liverpool Street and Middlesex Street

C Southbound Upper Street between Cross Street and Essex Road

Q4 When can a driver stop on a red route to allow a passenger to use a cash point?

A Always

B Between 22:00 and 06:00

C Never

Q5 When can a private hire driver use a bus lane?

A Only if there is a passenger in the car

B After 22:00

C Never

Q6 When can a driver leave their engine idling?

A Never

B When waiting in stationary traffic

C While waiting for a passenger in a designated rank



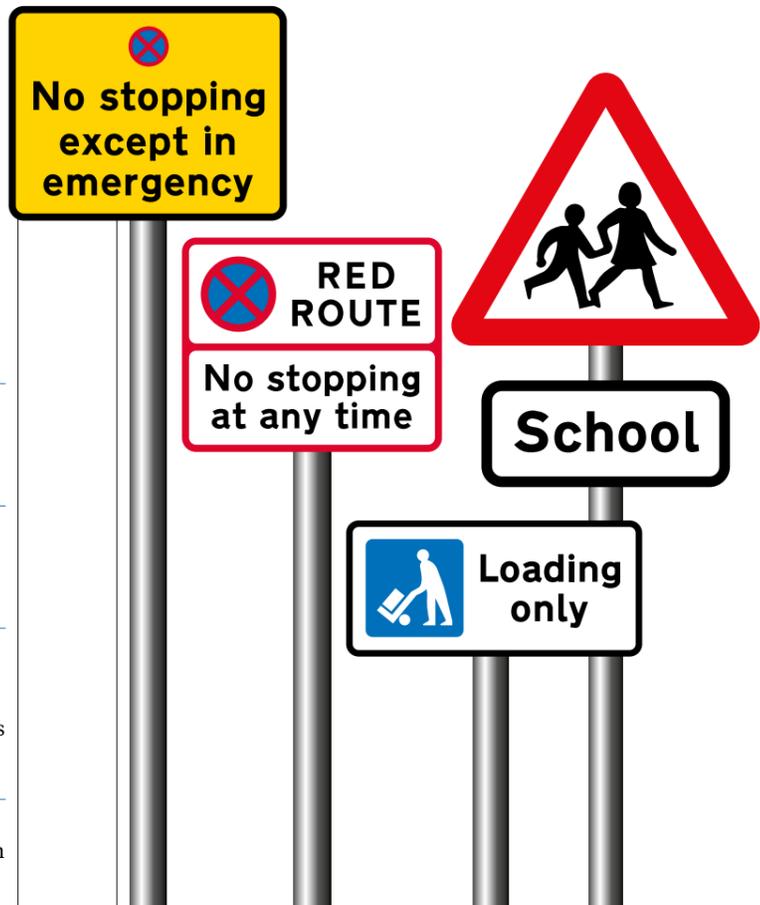
Now turn the page to see how you did...

ANSWERS

- Q1** **C** There are around 500 taxi ranks in the Capital and this number is growing all the time. Private hire vehicles must never stop or wait in them. If they do so the driver will be subject to a PCN and potentially face licensing action.
- Q2** **A** Picking up and dropping off is allowed on single and double yellow lines, and red lines. It is also permitted in places where loading is not allowed, in parking bays and in bus lanes.
- Q3** **A B** These stretches of road have particularly busy bus stops so stopping is not permitted. These red routes are marked with a wide red line in place of normal single or double red lines.
- Q4** **B** Where there are waiting or parking restrictions, drivers must normally only stop for as long as necessary for the passenger to get out of the vehicle. The exception is that between 22:00 and 06:00, drivers can wait for up to five minutes on red routes so that customers can use cash points.
- Q5** **C** Private hire vehicles are never permitted to drive in bus lanes, but they can pick up or set down passengers. Drivers must enter and exit the bus lane in the most direct and safe way. While taxis and private hire vehicles can pick up and drop off passengers at most London bus stops, it is not recommended as it can cause disruption to the bus network.
- Q6** **A** Running the engine while your vehicle is stationary pollutes the environment and is illegal on a public road. Drivers who do so risk a fixed penalty notice. It is not illegal to have your engine running if you are waiting at traffic lights, moving slowly through congestion or repairing or defrosting a windscreen.



For more information on waiting and parking, and further explanations of the answers, visit tfl.gov.uk/tph-parking



Private hire drivers are never permitted to drive in bus lanes, but they can pick up and set down passengers

Taking a penalty

Taxi and private hire drivers can be given PCNs by parking attendants, or they can be sent to the registered keeper of the vehicle if it is caught on camera.

Drivers can challenge a PCN. Details of how to do this will be provided with the notice and they should follow the procedure outlined.

Any evidence to support the case, such as details of the customer, a copy of any log that shows the journey, or photos of the location if the signage is incorrect, should be provided with the appeal.

If the initial appeal to the authority is unsuccessful, a further one can be made to London Tribunals, formerly known as the Parking and Traffic Appeals Service. There is no charge for this and the driver can attend the hearing.

Well spoken

An English language requirement now applies to all renewal and new applications for private hire drivers' licences



In October the new English language requirement for all private hire drivers was introduced, as communicating with passengers and being able to understand and respond to information sent by TfL is crucial. Anyone applying for a new or renewal licence on or after 14 October has until 31 March 2017 to satisfy TfL they meet the new requirement. From 1 April, all applicants must provide evidence they meet the English language requirement as part of their application before a licence will be issued.

Applicants must now meet this requirement by providing either:

- A certificate from a TfL appointed test provider confirming that their English language is at level B1 on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)
- Evidence of a qualification that satisfies TfL their proficiency in English is equivalent to the level B1 on the CEFR (for example, a UK qualification that has been taught or examined in English, such as a GCSE at grades A* to G, or equivalent)

Taking the test

If you don't have suitable evidence that you are proficient in English to the B1 level, you will need to take a test with one of the providers who administer it on TfL's behalf. The test will examine your ability to read, write, speak and listen in English.



Information on the providers, and how you can book a test with one of them, is available at tfl.gov.uk/ph-language

» Online info

Full information on the test and guidance, including examples of evidence TfL will consider as being equivalent to taking the test, is available online at tfl.gov.uk/ph-language

Clearing the air – have your say

Londoners have another chance to comment on plans to clean up the Capital, as the next phase of the Mayor's air quality crackdown is now under way

A total of 15,000 people aired their views in July – the highest number ever seen for a City Hall consultation. They offered overwhelming support for Mayor Sadiq Khan's bold measures including a new Emissions Surcharge (dubbed the T-charge) and launching the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) a year early.

The ULEZ will initially cover the same area as the current Congestion Charging zone and operate 24/7.

In the zone

All cars, motorcycles, vans, minibuses, buses, coaches, HGVs and private hire vehicles driven in the ULEZ will need to meet specific exhaust emission standards, or be subject to a daily charge.

What is the Emissions Surcharge?

This is a daily £10 charge for the oldest, most polluting cars, vans, minibuses and HGVs driving in central London. It is in addition to the Congestion Charge, and would apply to all vehicles with pre-Euro 4 emission standards. Taxis and private hire vehicles are exempt.

Following the July consultation, the Mayor has already introduced air quality alerts. They are displayed on road signs, bus stops and at station entrances on the day before high and very high pollution levels are expected.

From 2017, a rapid charging network will be developed to enable drivers to maximise fuel savings and operate vehicles mostly in zero emission mode. By 2018, 150 should be in place, with 90 of these being on-street 'taxi dedicated' rapid chargers.

As well as backing the main proposals, people supported the Mayor's call to Government for a diesel scrappage scheme to help Londoners switch from high polluting cars.

» **At a glance**
81
 per cent
 Backed the
 proposed
 Emissions
 Surcharge

79
 per cent
 Supported
 plans to bring
 forward the
 ULEZ

87
 per cent
 Wanted the
 ULEZ to be
 extended
 further

71
 per cent
 Agreed it
 should be
 expanded to
 the North and
 South Circular

Next stage

Now a second 10-week consultation will run until 18 December, with the Mayor specifically seeking views on:

- Introducing the Emissions Surcharge on 23 October 2017
- Launching the ULEZ in 2019, rather than 2020
- Expanding it London-wide for HGVs, coaches and buses
- Extending it to the North and South Circular for motorcycles, cars, vans and private hire vehicles

The Mayor is taking urgent action to help end the Capital's 'public health emergency' – 443 schools are in areas that exceed safe air quality levels.

He said: 'The equivalent of 9,500 Londoners die each year as a result of the air they breathe in our city. I refuse to sit back and do nothing.'

'A record number of Londoners responded to our consultation, which demonstrates they feel just as strongly as I do that cleaning up the Capital's killer air has to be a major priority.'



Visit tfl.gov.uk/airquality-consultation, email airqualityconsultation@tfl.gov.uk, or write to Freepost, TfL Consultations – ULEZ before 18 December.

The results will be considered in detail before the next steps are decided.

“The equivalent of 9,500 Londoners die each year as a result of the air they breathe in our city. I refuse to sit back and do nothing” Mayor Sadiq Khan

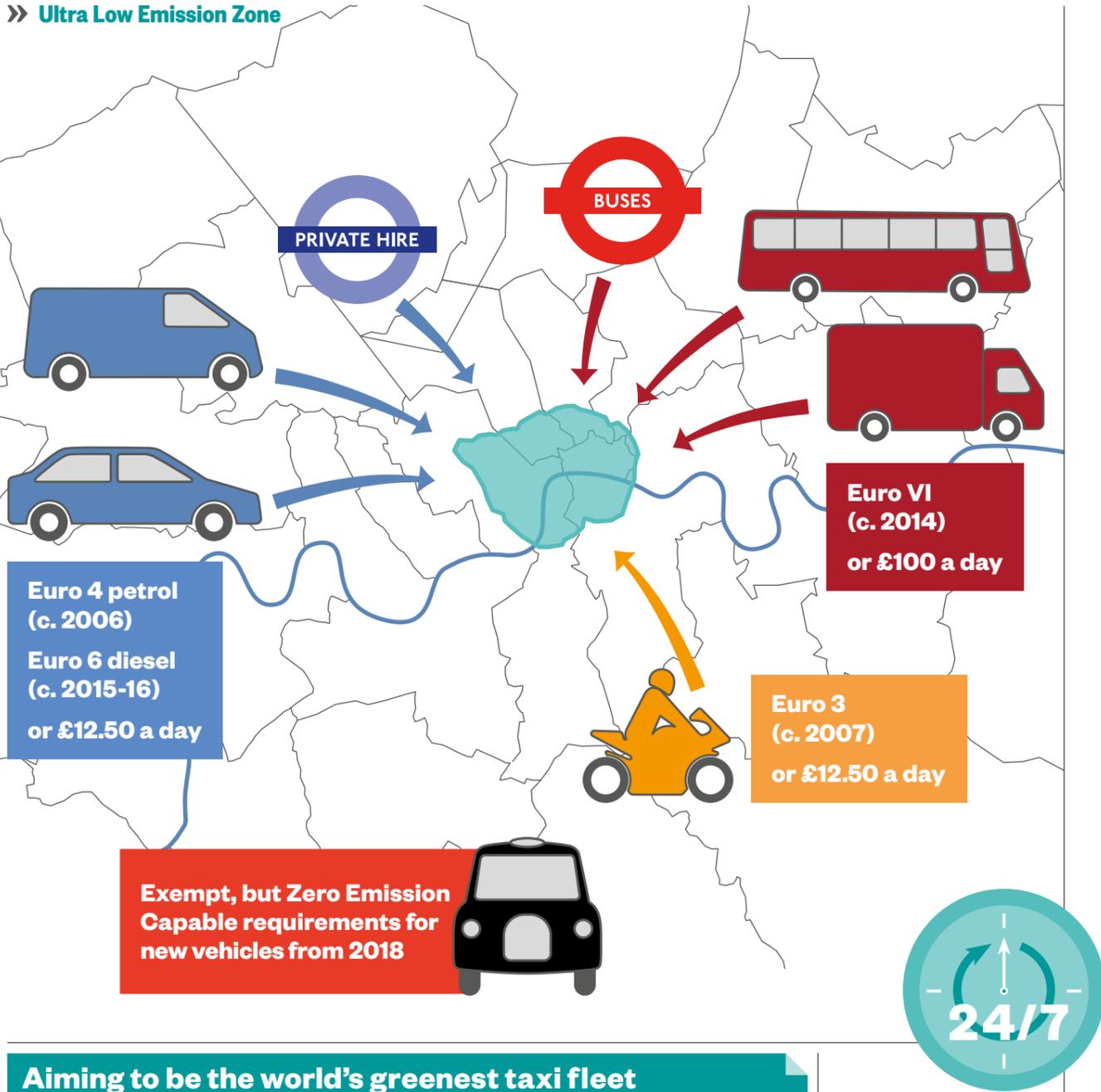


T-charge proposal

An Emissions Surcharge on the most polluting vehicles entering central London from 2017:

- Taxi and private hire vehicles are exempt
- Same boundary as the Congestion Charge zone
- Applied to vehicles that do not meet Euro 4/IV emissions standards (broadly speaking built before 2006)
- A £10 surcharge in addition to the Congestion Charge
- Applied during the same hours as the Congestion Charge (07:00 – 18:00, Monday to Friday)
- Would use a combination of the existing Congestion Charge and ULEZ discounts and exemptions
- Includes a 90% discount for residents (eg the same designated area as for the Congestion Charge discount)

» Ultra Low Emission Zone



Aiming to be the world's greenest taxi fleet

Proposals to tackle the Capital's poor air quality featured in the Taxi and Private Hire Action Plan, launched in September.

These include:

- From 2017, up to £5,000 will be available to drivers of the oldest taxis who choose to no longer license their vehicle in London, with the exact amount depending on the age of the vehicle

- Requiring that, from 1 January 2018, newly registered taxis in London to be Zero Emission Capable (ZEC)

- Reducing the cost premium of new vehicles by providing a £3,000 grant towards the first 9,000 ZEC taxis licensed in London and lobbying Government to guarantee the plug-in car grant for these vehicles, enabling up to £7,500 in total

- Rewarding drivers who pioneer green technology by offering exclusive access to certain facilities, for example, zero emission ranks, and working with boroughs to explore areas where taxis and other vehicles must operate in zero emission mode

For more information, visit tfl.gov.uk/tph, then go to Ranks, regulation and policy.

The newest taxis today will be the last remaining diesel vehicles in the fleet.

Taxi and Private Hire Action Plan

Tackling air pollution in London

The Mayor, Sadiq Khan has launched the second phase of consultation on proposals to improve air quality in London. Earlier this year, the Mayor received a positive response from thousands of Londoners who gave their views on a number of initiatives to improve the quality of the air and the health of Londoners. We are now seeking views on the Emissions Surcharge proposal and options for enhancing the Ultra Low Emission zone.

The Emissions Surcharge

We would now like your views on proposals to introduce a new Emissions Surcharge (also known as the T-charge) in 2017. This would be a £10 daily charge for cars, vans, minibuses and heavy vehicles driving in central London that do not meet the emissions standards. It's mostly for vehicles registered in 2005 and older and would be in addition to the Congestion Charge.

We are proposing that taxis and private hire vehicles are exempt from the Emissions Surcharge.

Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ)

This is a separate scheme that will operate 24/7 and introduce stricter emissions standards for vehicles, including private hire vehicles.

We are also seeking your views on the following ideas:

- Introducing central London ULEZ in 2019 rather than 2020
- Extending the zone up to the North and South Circular in 2019 or later
- Extending the zone London-wide for heavy vehicles only in 2019 or later

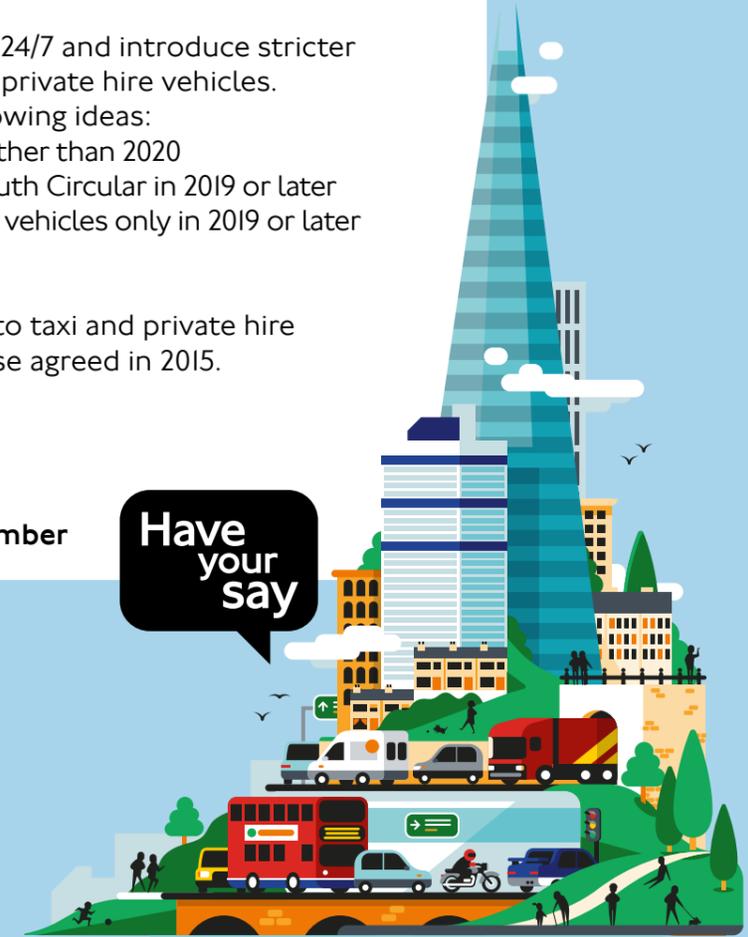
Vehicle licensing requirements

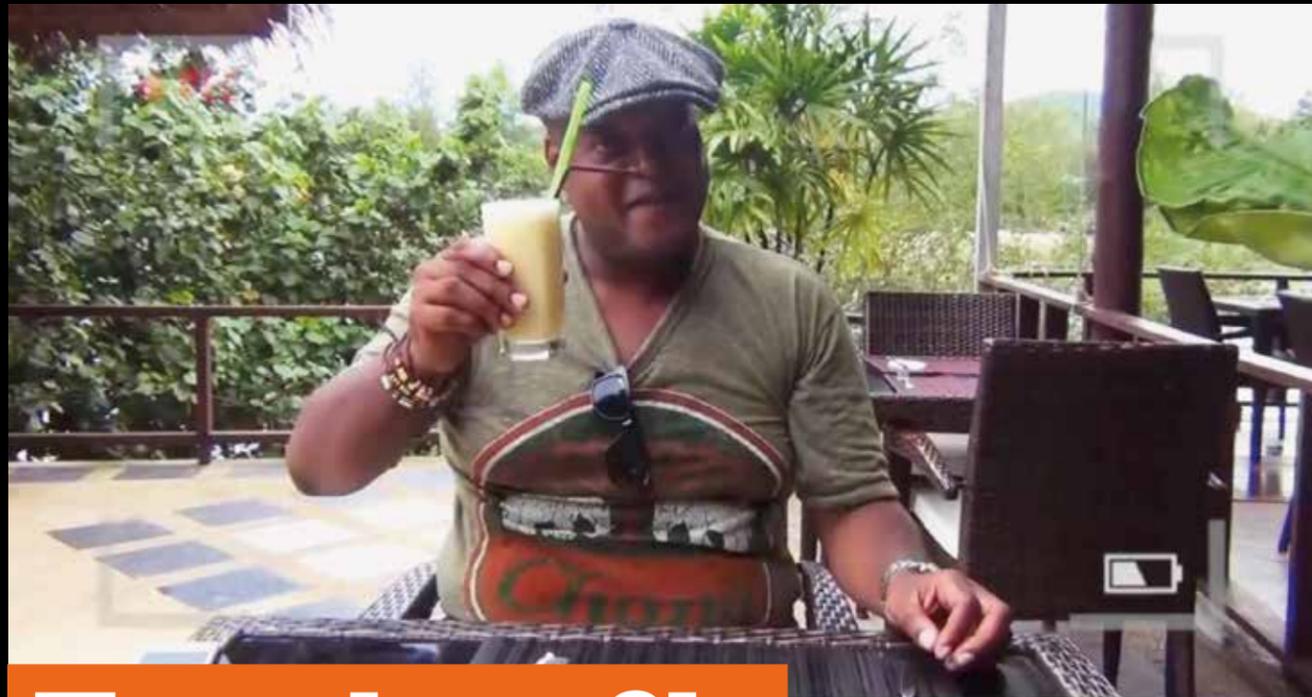
We are not proposing any further changes to taxi and private hire vehicle licensing requirements beyond those agreed in 2015.

To find out more and have your say, visit tfl.gov.uk/airquality-consultation

The consultation ends on Sunday 18 December

Have your say





Fasting fit

In our last issue we looked at ways to improve your wellbeing. Here we talk to one driver who transformed his life in under a month

Picture caption above: Milton Johnson with his first meal in five days. Above right: scenes from the BBC 2 series *The Retreat: 28 days to change your life*. Right below: Orion Healing Centre in Thailand.

At the start of 2016 chauffeur Milton Johnson, 47, was diabetic and overweight. But in just a few weeks, he achieved a massive U-turn in his health.

Viewers of the BBC 2 series *'The Retreat: 28 days to change your life'*, which aired in September, will recognise him as, along with presenter Nick Knowles, he took part in a healing retreat in Thailand.

The results were truly amazing. The 18-stone, type-2 diabetic Milton had reversed his condition after less than a week. By the end of the retreat, he'd also dropped two stone in weight.

He explains: 'I had heard type-2 diabetes could be reversed by following a certain diet, but while I was working so hard in London I didn't get around to doing anything about it. In Thailand, I had so much support because everyone was doing the diet as well, which made it much easier for me.'

He took part in the show as he knew Shakti, the retreat's Reiki practitioner.

She suggested a regime of fasting followed by a strict vegan diet, yoga, meditation and other treatments.

'At first, I was a bit reluctant because I didn't know if it was my kind of thing,' he admits. 'Then I thought "just go for it, it's an opportunity. Who else is going to give you a month in Thailand with treatments for free?"'

However, he does admit the first days of the fast – when he had just a bowl of soup and a coconut to keep him going – were really hard, but he had massive moral support from Cathy, one of the other retreaters. She would get up at 05:00 to accompany him on the two hour walk to the hospital for his regular blood tests.

'I was absolutely shocked that after just five days I'd gone from being diabetic to not being diabetic. In fact all my test levels including blood pressure and cholesterol had returned to normal and I'd lost two stone by the end of the retreat. That's not bad for 28 days.'

Although he decided Reiki was not

“ Make time in the mornings to put on your shorts and trainers and go for a walk ”

Milton Johnson

for him, Milton did take to other parts of the regime. Walking is now his favourite form of exercise and he regularly practises the 10-minute yoga programme that teacher Luke designed for him at the retreat. 'I've also kept up some of the meditation because I'm really into that, it gets you ready for the day,' he says.

Milton has made a conscious decision to change his diet, shunning the unhealthy food he used to eat on the road and cooking more at home,

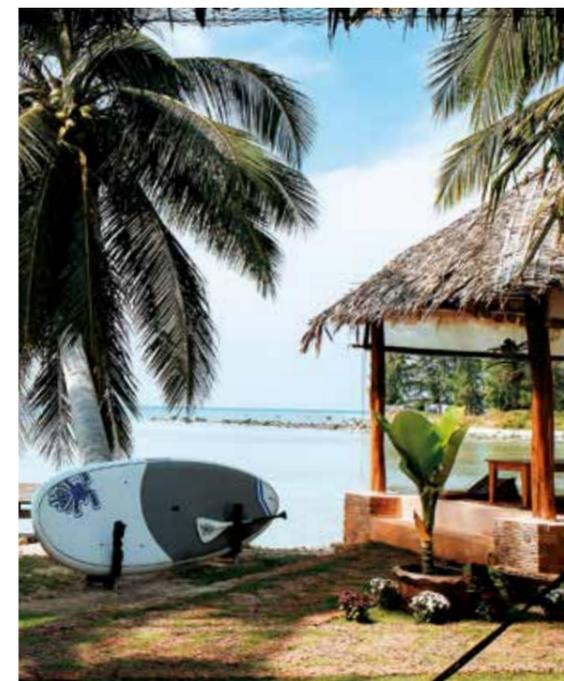


including some vegan recipes he brought back from Thailand.

Now he wants to share the healthy lifestyle message with other drivers. 'Make time in the mornings to put on your shorts and trainers and go for a walk,' he urges. 'Even 10 or 15 minutes walking a day sorts you out. I take a container of healthy snacks, such as cashew nuts and fresh and dried fruit, in the car as this keeps me feeling full, so I'm not tempted to eat unhealthy things. I also drink a lot of water, which is so important.'

'The whole experience has been an amazing opportunity. I would definitely do it again,' he adds. 'Eating healthily and doing exercise is something I am going to keep up. I have a beautiful 20-year-old daughter and I'm not getting any younger – I want to stay around for a long time and get even fitter.'

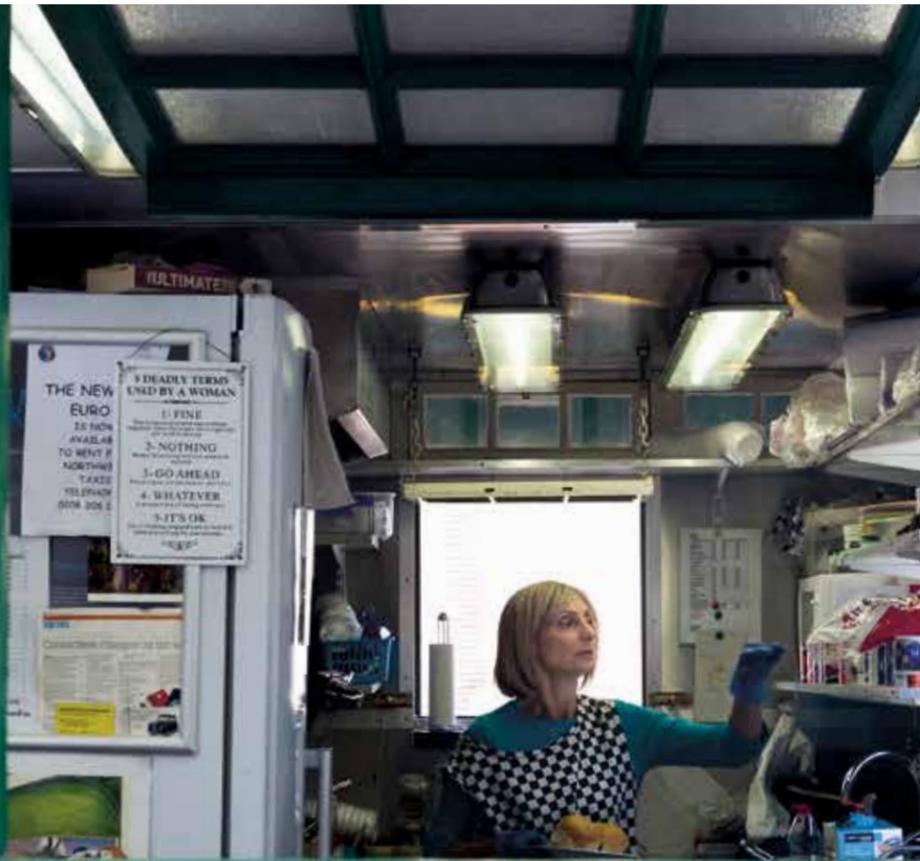
●●●
Do you regularly practise yoga or meditation? Or are you planning a health kick in the New Year? Share your story at OnRoute@tff.gov.uk



About the retreat

Orion Healing Centre is a Thailand detox retreat located in Srithanu Bay, Koh Phangan. As well as offering yoga in Thailand, it is a health retreat and since its creation in 2005 it has provided life-changing experiences to thousands of people from across the world.

Its experienced therapists combine methods based on ancient Thai and Indian knowledge with a blend of modern techniques and diet expertise.



Left and above: Tracy Tucker, tenant at Warwick Avenue cabmen's shelter. From top to bottom: Thurloe Place, Russell Square and Kensington Park Gardens

Gimme shelter

Across the Capital a number of green, hut-like buildings have oozed the scent of fresh coffee and food for more than 100 years

Traditionally, it was illegal for drivers to leave their horse and carriage or Hansom cab unattended. If they wanted a hot meal, they had to pay somebody else to mind their horse while they were away from the rank.

Captain George Armstrong, the editor of the Globe newspaper, realised the inconvenience of this when he couldn't find a cabman during a January blizzard – they'd all retired to the warmth of a pub. So he came up with the idea of shelters. In 1875, the first ones were introduced, and with the help of the 7th Earl of Shaftesbury, so was the Cabmen's Shelter Fund.

Between 1875 and 1954, 61 shelters were built, all within a six-mile radius of Charing Cross. By law, they had to be located directly on the cab ranks, either on the kerb or middle lane of thoroughfares. This meant they couldn't be larger than one horse and carriage, yet they still managed to fit in kitchens, benches and long tables. Books and newspapers were also stocked, and there were strict rules banishing swear words and alcohol.

After the Second World War, shelter numbers dwindled as many were bombed and roads became wider. Today, 13 are still standing and 11 are fully functioning.

The shelters are all Grade II-listed so

are protected from redevelopment and every effort is made to preserve them.

Although not part of the Cabmen's Shelter Fund scheme, in 2012 a new cabmen's shelter was built at the Haven Green rank at Ealing Broadway – the first in a century. Fittingly, it adopted the traditional design of its predecessors.

The historic structures are now run by tenants who pay a contribution to the Cabmen's Shelter Fund for their maintenance and upkeep. To this day, it is only taxi drivers who can go inside and enjoy the 'good and wholesome refreshments at moderate prices', although some tenants sell drinks and snacks to the public through their takeaway hatch.

Cooking for the cabbies

Tracy Tucker has been dishing out food and advice to cabbies for 13 years. Until last year she was the tenant at the Kensington cabmen's shelter but now presides over proceedings at Warwick Avenue, which is open for business from 08:00 to 14:00, Monday to Friday. She prides herself on the quality of the food she provides and is keen to promote healthy options for her drivers – as she says 'there's no chips in my shelter, only potatoes!'

Tracy says: 'The mornings are busiest because quite a few of my drivers come

in for cooked breakfasts. A lot of them start at 04:00 or 06:00, so they're ready to eat something between half nine and 10. We serve lots and lots of cups of tea and my regulars bring their own mugs in.

'Drivers used to come in for dinners but now it is more snacky things like omelettes, jacket potatoes and sausage or bacon rolls and I always make sure there is a healthy option such as salads.'

'I might get 25 or 30 cabbies a day actually coming to sit down in the

shelter but I also do a lot of takeaways. Members of the public can also buy takeaway from me but they're not allowed to come into the shelter.

'I hope to carry on for a long time because I love the banter and the laughter. Sometimes the drivers take the mickey out of me, but I always give as good as I get.'

●●●
To make a donation, go to www.btplc.com/mydonate then click on 'donate to charity' and type in 'cabmen's shelter fund'

Save our shelter

The 13 remaining sites are run and managed by the Cabmen's Shelter Fund and its trustees issue the licences for the shelter keepers and make sure all the current regulations are in place.

At present, the shelter at Hanover Square has restricted use because of Crossrail work in the area. To compensate for loss of revenue, the tenant has been given special dispensation to sell refreshments to the construction workers.

The shelter at Chelsea Embankment is closed as the police feel it is too dangerous for taxis to park in and around the area. The trustees are looking at alternative uses to stop it from deteriorating any further.

So, should the shelter be relocated (as was originally suggested), become a mini museum, gift shop or something else entirely? Email your ideas to OnRoute@tfl.gov.uk

Cabmen's shelters around London

1 Chelsea Embankment near Albert Bridge (currently closed)

2 Embankment Place

3 Grosvenor Gardens, Victoria

4 Hanover Square (currently restricted use)

5 Kensington Park Gardens

6 Kensington Road (north side)

7 Pont Street

8 Russell Square (northwest corner)

9 St George's Square, Pimlico

10 Temple Place (to be temporarily moved during building of the Garden bridge)

11 Thurloe Place (opposite V&A Museum)

12 Warwick Avenue (next to the Tube station)

13 Wellington Place, St John's Wood



Pining for the kipper

It may be the busiest time of year for taxi drivers, but some gifts are more welcome than others, explains Ian Beetlestone. Bah humbug!

“ Ah, Christmas in London. Heart-warming carollers and calypso bands. The twinkling lights in Oxford Street. The magnificent Norway Spruce in Trafalgar Square. The smiling faces of excited children as they enter the wonderland of that famous toy store. And that newer tradition, the other Winter Wonderland, gleaming over Hyde Park like a seasonal Las Vegas. It's a time of joy, love, giving, goodwill and merriment.

Or, festive office-party-goers in reindeer antler Alice bands, stumbling all over Shaftesbury Avenue and looking worse for wear in Charing Cross Road.

We cabbies are well-known for enjoying a good moan, and there can't be a better topic for a bit of bah humbug than Christmas, can there?

Don't get me wrong, we're all glad of the extra business. Of course, when I say all, I mean all – every man and his dog is out plying the streets as much as he can in December – but then it's a time of sharing, isn't it? And it can feel very festive driving an iconic London cab with the lights and the shoppers and the buskers and the revellers and all that.

But I'll admit that some time around early December I start longing for the clear, sleepy streets of January, and then get annoyed with myself when I



realise I'm pining for the kipper, that part of the year during which I pine for the time of year I'm in now. Rather than enjoying, I'm willing away, and that's no way to let the season pass, is it?

It's all that, combined with the fact everybody else is out making merry, drinking mulled wine and every other night friends are saying

'come for a drink, it's Christmas', and I'm in the cab.

Ah, Christmas in London. The best, busiest time of year to be a cabbie, and yet the time of year that makes me long for the worst, quietest time of year to come back around. There's just no pleasing some people, is there?

Five hotspots for Christmas cabbieing



1 Oxford Street
The classic Christmas destination. It's a stony heart that isn't moved by the lights and the happy crowds, the smell of roasting chestnuts and the sound of Christmas carols.



2 Covent Garden
Always decked out beautifully, the quaint streets a good mixture of shops, bars and restaurants to keep the work coming all day and night.



3 The stations
There's constant rail traffic in and out of the city at this time of year, and the station ranks are a nice spot to briefly come up for air before diving back into the chaos.



4 Winter Wonderland
Adds a huge amount of work to that side of town for a couple of months.



5 Old Street
Party central. Festive cheer and merrymaking in shovelfuls. Not for the faint-hearted.

Letters

Email us at OnRoute@tfl.gov.uk. We will print a selection of emails every issue – and there's a £20 Amazon voucher on offer for the best.

Star letter

Bus barminess



Around the first week of September, while driving eastbound on Bloomsbury Way, I observed seven number 38 buses in the space of five minutes travelling westbound towards New Oxford Street. Between them they could not have had more than a dozen people on them. It is not an uncommon sight during the day in central London to see many empty buses.

Given the levels of congestion in central London it seems ridiculous that so many buses operate in the period between the morning and afternoon rush hours. Does TfL have any say, or can they regulate these numbers of empty vehicles?

Ronnie Franklin

We do regulate the numbers of buses around central London and we also stipulate the number of bus services that run on each route and their frequency. Although it may seem that buses are empty at certain times, we do carry out extensive passenger checks on all our routes to ensure there is enough capacity for our customers.

The 38 is the third busiest bus route in central London, and we know the key stops for boarding are Hackney, Angel Islington and Victoria.

We are reviewing all bus services in the Capital and will be checking we have the right amount of services to meet passenger demand. We also make sure environmentally-friendly buses, which produce less harmful emissions, run on this high frequency route.

Tony Akers, head of Bus Operations, TfL

Fixed card readers

I am writing with concerns regarding the permanent fixing of the credit card machine in the rear of the taxi. As a woman who works all different hours, I have experienced situations where I have needed to help with the process of paying by card both verbally and physically, especially when the customer has had a bit too much to drink.

In the past I have been able to assist and pass the pinpad through the cabin window, but now this is not possible and I am too concerned for my own safety to get out and enter the passenger compartment. I would like to know why TfL feels that the machine has to be fixed in the rear and what suggestions you have for me when I encounter a payment problem.

Jo Good

From 1 January 2017, the payment device must be installed in the passenger compartment of all taxis in order to allow passengers to be in control of their card details at all times.

We would not expect a driver to leave their cab, should a problem with payment arise, if they do not feel safe to do so. Our advice is, firstly, to ask the passenger to try their payment card again. If the issue persists, ask the passenger whether they have another payment card or cash to pay for the fare, or offer to take the passenger to the nearest ATM. If a passenger refuses to pay and an amicable agreement cannot be found, then consider contacting the police.

If the driver experiences any problems with their card payment device, they should contact the provider of the card payment system in order to rectify the issue as soon as possible.

Tom Moody, head of Taxi and Private Hire Policy, TfL

From our Twitter feed



» We say...

✍ Please ensure you declare all names, including middle names, when applying for your disclosure certificate and check all your details are correct

» You say...

✍ Tripped & ripped my hamstring running. Huge thanks Black Cabbie Colin who got me home & carried me in @MartinSLewis

✍ Hi Martin your fav cabbie Colin. Glad you're ok mate good excuse to put feet up and be waited on cheers Colin @colinbgunner

✍ Hi, I need more credit card stickers. Can I collect from your counter service? @_Danny_J_Smith_

Yes, or you can collect them from any of the inspection centres.



Do you know?

- 1 On which London bridge is there a sign ordering troops to break stride as they cross it?
- 2 Where and when was the world's first traffic light installed?
- 3 Where in London are vehicles required by law to travel on the right-hand side of the road?
- 4 The traffic island at the junction of Marble Arch and Edgware Road was once the location of what?
- 5 How is the exact centre of London marked?

1 Albert Bridge. 2 Outside the House of Commons in the Church of St Martin's-in-the-Fields. 3 Savoy Court, so theatregoers can enter directly into the Savoy Theatre from their carriages. 4 The Tyburn Tree. 5 London's public gallows.

Calendar



November

- 15 November** Catfish and the Bottlemen concert, Wembley Arena
- 16 November** Homes 2016, Olympia (until 17 November)
- 17 November** Regent Street Christmas lights turned on, pedestrianised
- 18 November** Skills London, ExCeL Arena
- 19 November** Winter Wonderland, Hyde Park (until 2 January 2017)
- 22 November** Rod Stewart concert, O2 Arena (and 25-26 November)
- 23 November** Ideal Home Show at Christmas 2016, Olympia (until 27 November)
- LUX LIVE**, ExCeL Arena (and Thursday 24 November)
- 24 November** Alter Bridge concert, O2 Arena
- Christmas at Kew**, Kew Gardens (until 2 January 2017)
- 25 November** Simply Red concert, Wembley Arena
- A Town called Christmas (with ice rink)**, Clapham Common (until 23 December)
- Black Friday shopping event**, across London (until 27 December)

- 26 November** England vs Argentina (rugby), Twickenham
- 27 November** Simply Red concert, O2 Arena
- Hampstead Christmas Festival**, Hampstead
- 28 November** Justin Bieber concert, O2 Arena (and 29 November)
- 29 November** The Gadget Show, ExCeL Arena
- England vs Jamaica (netball)**, Copperbox, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park
- 30 November** Jess Glynne concert, O2 Arena



December

- 1 December** Pete Tong presents Ibiza Classics concert, O2 Arena
- The Cure** concert, Wembley Arena (until 3 December)
- 3 December** The Levellers concert, Brixton Academy
- 4 December** London Santa Dash, Clapham Common
- 8 December** Varsity match (rugby), Twickenham
- 9 December** Richard Ashcroft concert, O2 Arena
- 10 December** Madness concert, O2 Arena
- Taste of Christmas**, ExCeL Arena (until 13 December)
- 11 December** Status Quo concert, O2 Arena
- 13 December** London International Horse Show 2016, Olympia (until 24 December)
- 15 December** Placebo concert, Wembley Arena
- The 1975** concert, O2 Arena (and 16 December)
- 17 December** Fatboy Slim concert, O2 Arena
- 19 December** Andrea Rieu concert, Wembley Arena
- 21 December** Disney on Ice presents Frozen, O2 Arena (until 24 December)
- 23 December** Best Ever Christmas, Wembley Arena (and 26 December)
- 25 December** Christmas Day (Bank Holiday)
- 26 December** Boxing Day (Bank Holiday)
- 27 December** (Bank Holiday)

- Big Game 9 (rugby)**, Twickenham
- 28 December** Snow White, Wembley Arena (until 30 December)
- 31 December** New Year's Eve fireworks, central London closed to traffic



January

- 1 January 2017** New Year's Day Parade, central London
- 7 January** Comedy Central - Impractical Jokers, O2 Arena
- 8 January** London International Boat Show, ExCeL Arena (until 13 January)





Night Tube Service

Night Tube taxi rank guide

- Central line
- Jubilee line
- Northern line
- Victoria line

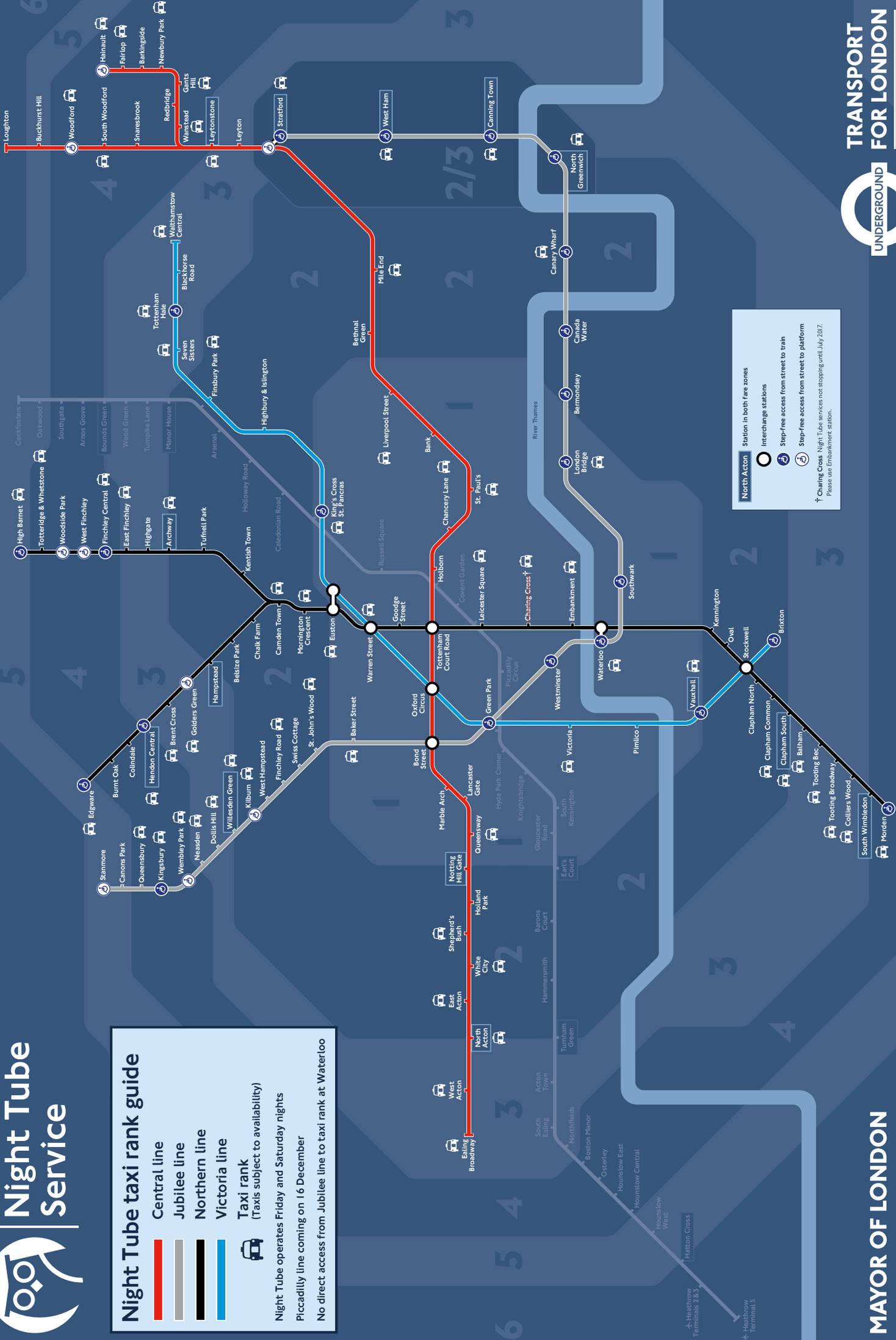


Taxi rank
(Taxis subject to availability)

Night Tube operates Friday and Saturday nights

Piccadilly line coming on 16 December

No direct access from Jubilee line to taxi rank at Waterloo



North Acton

- Station in both fare zones
- Interchange stations
- Step-free access from street to train
- Step-free access from street to platform

† Charing Cross Night Tube services not stopping until July 2017. Please see Embankment station.

