What’s New in London | May

From major sporting events to music festivals and new exhibitions, May is packed with unmissable activities to enjoy with friends and family. Days are getting longer, the sun is shining (mostly) and it’s the perfect season to get outside and explore the best of the British capital.

For more information on What’s New in London, go to visitlondon.com

You can also follow the London & Partners communications team on Twitter at @londonpartners

---

**Events**

**Women’s FA Cup Final** [http://www.thefa.com/competitions/womens/the-sse-womens-fa-cup](http://www.thefa.com/competitions/womens/the-sse-womens-fa-cup)

*Wembley Stadium, 4 May 2019*

The SSE Women’s FA Cup Final returns to Wembley in May 2019, following last season’s record-breaking attendance which saw Chelsea victorious over local London rivals Arsenal. Kids go free! For more information, contact the FA press office on 0800 049 9901.

**Queen’s Yard Summer Party** [https://percolatemusic.co.uk/queensyard/](https://percolatemusic.co.uk/queensyard/)

*Various locations in Hackney Wick, 4 – 5 May 2019*
A multi-venue celebration of the finest in UK club music, Queen’s Yard Summer Party is a unique celebration of local culture, art, food and drink in London’s east end. Taking place in some of Hackey Wick’s finest spots, this year’s celebration will involve some big names, party starters and local heroes. For more information, visit https://percolatemusic.co.uk/queensyard/


*London Aquatics Centre, 17 – 19 May 2019*

The world’s top divers will get the chance to compete on British soil in 2019, as London hosts the prestigious Diving World Series in the run up to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. The competition is exclusive to the world’s best competitors, with dozens of world Olympic and European champions guaranteed to be taking part across all four legs. For more information, contact press@queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk

**Chelsea in Bloom**  [http://www.chelseainbloom.co.uk/](http://www.chelseainbloom.co.uk/)

*Various locations in Chelsea, 20 – 25 May 2019*

Chelsea in Bloom is the alternative floral art show that transforms Chelsea’s most iconic streets with breath-taking floral displays, perfect for the ‘gram. This year’s theme of Under the Sea is bound to inspire and delight. Over 60 shops, restaurants and hotels are expected to participate. For more information, visit [http://www.chelseainbloom.co.uk/](http://www.chelseainbloom.co.uk/)

**RHS Chelsea Flower Show**  [https://www.rhs.org.uk/shows-events/rhs-chelsea-flower-show](https://www.rhs.org.uk/shows-events/rhs-chelsea-flower-show)

*Royal Hospital Chelsea, 21 - 25 May 2019*

Held in the grounds of the Royal Hospital Chelsea since 1913, this is the world’s most prestigious flower show inspiring millions and leading the way in innovative garden design. Nowhere makes gardening more fashionable, with a catwalk of colour and creativity, the biggest and brightest ideas, the latest plant trends and the pinnacle of garden design - this show is one the world wants to see. For more information, contact showspr@rhs.org.uk

**Feria de Londres**  [https://www.feriadelondres.com/](https://www.feriadelondres.com/)

*South Bank, 24 – 26 May 2019*

Inspired by Southern Spain’s traditional spring fairs, Feria de Londres is a resplendent celebration of Spanish cuisine and entertainment. Such fairs date back to the Middle Ages and over time have evolved into huge regional events. From Sevillana dance lessons to flamenco rhythm workshops, Feria de Londres will also offer plenty of family-friendly activities. For more information, contact info@krapranos-pr.com

**All Points East**  [https://www.allpointseastfestival.com/](https://www.allpointseastfestival.com/)

*Victoria Park, 24 – 26 May and 31 May – 2 June 2019*

All Points East is a music festival held over two weekends once a year in London’s Victoria Park. The ten-day event comprises two weekends of the most exciting names in music and four days of free entry. Some of the big names for 2019 include The Chemical Brothers, Mumford & Sons and Bon Iver. For more information, contact APEpress@outside-org.co.uk
World Skate/SLS World Tour in London [http://streetleague.com/]

Queen Elizabeth Park, 25 – 26 May 2019

The world’s most prestigious skateboarding competition will return to London this May as the countdown to the sports’ historic debut at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics continues. Fans will get the chance to see some of the world’s best skaters battle it out in a custom-built concrete skate plaza, designed to take skateboarding to new heights. As well as showcasing the best street skaters, the event will highlight London’s rich street skating scene. For more information, contact joel.essex@runcommunications.co.uk


Kia Oval and Lord’s, 30 May – 14 July 2019

This summer, the top international sides will go head to head for the prestigious ICC Cricket World Cup 2019 title at two of London’s famous grounds, The Kia Oval and Lord’s. It all kicks off at The Kia Oval with a match between hosts England and South Africa and culminates with the champions being crowned at Lord’s. There are 10 matches played in London during the tournament, with the other matches taking place around the country. For more information, see www.icc-cricket.com/cricket-world-cup

Fantastic Feats: the building of London [https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/visit-the-city/whats-on/fantastic-feats/Pages/default.aspx]

City of London, 31 May – 1 December 2019

‘Fantastic Feats: the building of London’ is an arts season to celebrate London’s long-standing history of architectural and engineering firsts and to look at how these innovations have contributed to improving the lives of Londoners over past centuries. There will be a huge range of events, exhibitions, street theatre and art installations. For more information, contact charlotte@carocommunications.com

Exhibitions

AI: More than Human [https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2019/event/ai-more-than-human]

Barbican Centre, 16 May – 26 August 2019

An unprecedented survey of creative and scientific developments in artificial intelligence, exploring the evolution of the relationship between humans and technology, AI: More than Human will explore what it means to be human when technology is changing everything. Telling the story of AI, from its ancient roots in Japanese Shintoism and Ada Lovelace and Charles Babbage’s early experiments in computing, to AI’s major developmental leaps from the 1940s to the present day. For more information, contact anna.dabrowski@barbica.org.uk

Museum of the Moon [http://www.nhm.ac.uk/visit/exhibitions/museum-of-the-moon.html]

Natural History Museum, 17 May – 8 September 2019

Museum of the Moon is a touring artwork by UK artist Luke Jerram. Since 2016, the Moon has been circling the globe, lighting up spaces from Bilbao to Beijing. This six-metre model
What's New in London | May

features meticulously detailed NASA imagery of the lunar surface, ambient moonlight and an evolving soundscape. The Moon will be at the Natural History Museum for the fiftieth anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon landing, accompanied by a programme of events for space enthusiasts of all ages. For more information, contact press@nhm.ac.uk

Secret Rivers https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/museum-london-docklands/whats-on/exhibitions/secret-rivers

Museum of London Docklands, 24 May – 27 October 2019

For centuries Londoners have existed beside a series of waterways, which have shaped the city and people within it. Secret Rivers uses archaeological artefacts, art, photography and film to reveal stories of life by London’s rivers, streams and brooks, exploring why many of them were lost over time. Previously unseen artefacts from excavation of the River Fleet and elsewhere hint at the diverse industrial, economic and religious roles these rivers have played over the centuries. For more information, contact press@museumoflondon.org.uk


Kensington Palace, 24 May 2019 - TBC

On 24 May 1819, Princess Victoria was born at Kensington Palace, an infant who as Queen would one day rule over the largest empire the world had ever known. This major exhibition will mark the bicentenary of this historic event and will reimagine the very rooms she grew up in. Offering a chance to uncover history right where it happened, these historic spaces will be brought to life with interactive displays which will help visitors of all ages imagine the rooms that Victoria would have lived and played in. For more information, contact adam.budhram@hrp.org.uk

Jo Spence and Oreet Ashery: Misbehaving Bodies
https://wellcomecollection.org/exhibitions/XFHHShUAUU_pE70

Wellcome Collection, 31 May 2019 – 26 January 2020

This exhibition will bring together two artists who explore the representation of chronic illness and reclaim the idea of ‘misbehaving bodies’. Influential photographer Jo Spence’s (1934 – 92) work documents her diagnosis of breast cancer and subsequent healthcare regime through the 1980s. Her raw and confrontational photography will be shown alongside Oreet Ashery’s (b.1966) award-winning miniseries, ‘Revisiting Genesis’, 2016, which explores death and dying in the digital era. For more information, contact mediaoffice@wellcome.ac.uk

Entertainment & Theatre


Sadler’s Wells Theatre, 3 – 6 May 2019

Innovating popping, creative krump and soulful house dance collide in the world’s biggest festival of hip hop dance, hosted and curated by Sadler’s Wells Associate Artist Jonzi D. Now in its 16th year, Breakin’ Convention is an annual celebration of all things hip hop, with taster sessions, workshops and free activities on offer through the building. For more information, contact alicia.powell@sadlerswells.com
The Victorian Film Weekender [https://whatson.bfi.org.uk/Online/default.asp]
*BFI Southbank, 10 – 12 May 2019*

A weekend of events, previews, screenings and discussions celebrating 200 years since the birth of Queen Victoria, this event will include a reprise of the BFI London Film Festival Archive Gala The Great Victoria Moving Picture Show, hosted by BFI Silent Film Curator Bryony Dixon. For more information, contact liz.parkinson@bfi.org.uk

The Lehman Trilogy [https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/shows/the-lehman-trilogy]
*Piccadilly Theatre, 11 May – 3 August 2019*

On a cold September morning in 1844 a young man from Bavaria stands on a New York dockside. Dreaming of a new life in the new work. He is joined by his two brothers and an American epic begins. 163 years later, the firm they establish – Lehman Brothers – spectacularly collapses into bankruptcy and triggers the largest financial crisis in history. Sam Mendes (Skyfall, King Lear), returns to the National Theatre to direct Ben Power’s English version of Stefano Massini’s vast and poetic play. For more information, contact Snewbery@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Sound Unbound [https://www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2019/event/sound-unbound]
*Barbican and Culture Mile, 18 – 19 May 2019*

For its third edition, Sound Unbound is about unexpected sounds in unexpected places, as classical music bursts from the concert hall and out across Culture Mile’s architectural gems: hear the strains of Steve Reich on the Barbican Lakeside, soak up ambient sounds in Farringdon’s super-club Fabric and discover choral music alongside terrapins in the Conservatory. The weekend features artists for whom the boundaries between classical music and contemporary, experimental music and jazz are blurred – or never even existed in the first place. For more information, contact sabine.kindel@barbican.org.uk

The Starry Messenger [http://www.starrymessengerplay.com/?gclid=CjwKCAjwycfkBRAFEiwAnLX5lcopVBUpIR5y1E0b651MTnK9K6AAwN08Rlj5agQXPkJbhtRNGVCT_RoCdbkQAvD_BwE]
*Wyndhams Theatre, 16 May – 10 August 2019*

Hollywood star Matthew Broderick makes his West End debut in *The Starry Messenger* by Kenneth Lonergan. Mark Williams is lost. An astronomer at New York City’s Planetarium, he feels a closer connection to the infinite, starry sky than to his job or even to his wife, Anne. Mark doesn’t believe in fate or divine intervention, but the universe has other ideas. This bittersweet, comic drama is an unblinking exploration of love, hope and understanding our place in the universe. For more information, contact emma.whelan@delfontmackintosh.co.uk

Our Town [https://openairtheatre.com/production/our-town]
*Regent’s Park Open Air Theatre, 16 May – 8 June 2019*

Birth; marriage; death. And everything in between. As day breaks on another ordinary day, the townsfolk of Grover’s Corners go about their business: newspapers are delivered; people go to work; gardens are tended to. A boy and girl fall in love. But as life’s events unfold and a community comes together, one question remains: “do human beings ever realise life as they live it? Every-every, minute?”. For more information, contact press@royalparks.org.uk
What's New in London | May

Jeff Wayne's Musical Version of ‘The War of the Worlds’: The Immersive Experience  
https://www.dotdot.london/#1551565170-1-4815515711506531551579059123

The Old Metal Exchange London, 16 May – 31 August 2019

Jeff Wayne’s The World of the Worlds: The Immersive Experience combines immersive theatre, virtual reality, augmented reality, holograms and other cutting-edge technology to give audiences the chance to live through the Martian invasion of 1898. Visitors will be thrust into the heart of the story from the moment they step inside the vast 22,000-square foot multi-level site. For more information, contact thewaroftheworlds@kallaway.com

Food & Drink

Parrillan at Barrafina https://www.barrafina.co.uk/restaurants

Coal Drops Yard, May 2019: Date TBC

The newest addition to the Harts Group family, the fourth location will open in Coal Drops Yard, King’s Cross. A 100-cover terrace bar and grill, Parrillan is an extension of Barrafina. Diners will be able to cook their own dishes and will feature table-top grills and a para picar menu. For more information, contact Sophie.orbaum@hartsgroup.co.uk

Louie’s http://www.reddogsaloon.co.uk/hoxton-square

Hoxton, May 2019: Date TBC

There’s fried chicken, and then there’s Nashville red-hot chicken, served blazing. Coated in buttermilk and seasoned with paprika, garlic and brown sugar and fried in cayenne-infused hot oil, Louie’s chicken has a distinctive deep red colour and a fiery, crispy coating. A new concept from Red Dog Saloon – the aim is to be fully bespoke and allow everyone to choose their own level of spice, their own cut of chicken and sides. For more information, contact polly.hughes@wcommunications.co.uk

Hotels

One Aldwych https://www.onealdwych.com/

Covent Garden, May 2019: Date TBC

After embarking on an extensive refurbishment, One Aldwych will be re-opening and available for reservations in spring 2019. With a history dating to 1889, One Aldwych once housed the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Works, Prudential Assurance Company, Lloyds Bank and the Aldwych Brasserie. For more information, contact howardrombough@onealdwych.com

About London & Partners:

London & Partners is the Mayor of London’s official promotional agency. Its purpose is to support the Mayor’s priorities by promoting London internationally, as the best city in the world in which to invest, work, study and visit. We do this by devising creative ways to promote London and to amplify the Mayor’s messages, priorities and campaigns to
international audiences. Its mission is to tell London’s story brilliantly to an international audience.

London & Partners is a not-for-profit public private partnership, funded by the Mayor of London and our network of commercial partners. For more information, visit londonandpartners.com

About visitlondon.com:

visitlondon.com is the most influential source of information for overseas visitors to London and features thousands of attractions both large and small across the entire city. Every year the site attracts 28 million unique users.

For high res, rights-free images of London, please register at https://photos.london/press/

Media Enquiries:

London & Partners Communications Team
Tel: +44 (0)20 7234 5710
Switch: +44 (0)20 7234 5800
Email: press@londonandpartners.com