









Hyde Park Area Guide

<p>HYDE PARK</p>	 <p>1</p> <p>PARKS / OPEN SPACES</p>	 <p>3</p> <p>5* OFSTED-RATED PRIMARY SCHOOLS</p>
 <p>2</p> <p>5* OFSTED-RATED SECONDARY SCHOOLS</p>	 <p>TRAVEL: 0 MIN DRIVE TO CENTRAL LONDON</p>	 <p>7</p> <p>NEARBY STATIONS CLOSEST TUBE: LANCASTER GATE CLOSEST NATIONAL RAIL STATION: PADDINGTON</p>
 <p>WHO LIVES THERE: FAMILIES / PROFESSIONALS</p>	 <p>POPULAR ROADS: HYDE PARK GARDENS / LANCASTER GATE / GLOUCESTER SQUARE</p>	 <p>AREA GOOD FOR: LOCATION / CULTURE / LIFESTYLE / TRANSPORT</p>

Hyde Park has a wide range of properties for sale and to rent which appeal to every taste; from executive studios to luxurious apartments and superb family houses. Exceptional transport links, a fantastic network of local schools and a wide range of shopping amenities are just part of what makes this lovely area of West London popular with families and professionals alike.

Beautiful Victorian architecture is combined with the quaint, boutique shops and cafes of Connaught Village to epitomise the timeless charm of the area. Hyde Park's biggest asset is the Royal Park itself, which offers a range of outdoor activities year-round and for many provides a welcome escape from the hustle and bustle of the city.

Did You Know:

- Hyde Park was obtained by Henry VIII in 1536 from the canons of Westminster Abbey, who had owned it since before the Norman Conquest. It remained enclosed as a deer park and private hunting grounds for 101 years until Charles I opened it to the general public in 1637.
- Until the 18th Century the farmland north of Hyde Park was occupied by the infamous Tyburn Gallows, where many met their fate at the hands of the executioner.
- One of the most important events to take place in Hyde Park was the Great Exhibition of 1851. The Crystal Palace was constructed on the south side of the park but was later moved to Sydenham Hill in South London.
- Notable residents of Hyde Park have included Winston Churchill, Keira Knightley, Stella McCartney, biologist Alexander Fleming and JM Barrie, author of Peter Pan.

Architecture and property:

Hyde Park is characterised by large town houses and period apartments in an array of building styles including its iconic Grade II listed white stucco fronted buildings on private, family friendly garden squares.

Many properties border Hyde Park itself, offering stunning views of its green open spaces. All properties have a convenient for the transport and shopping amenities of Oxford Street, the West End and Whiteleys in Queensway.

Modern apartments can be found in the Paddington Basin area and on the Hyde Park Estate, whilst a number of pretty mews houses offer a charming, traditional appeal, set back from the busy main roads.

Who lives there:

Hyde Park is home to a diverse collection of residents of all nationalities and age groups, due to its friendly, cosmopolitan vibe. Whether looking for a grand home or the perfect London pied a terre, often people are attracted to the great community atmosphere and easy access into the City.

Going out:

Where to eat:

- For tapas-style Japanese food in an informal setting: Kurobuta, Kendal Street
- For light bites and sweet treats: Cocomaya, Connaught Street
- For authentic Greek food and warm hospitality: Halepi, Leinster Terrace
- For a good steak and a taste of Argentinian culture: Casa Malevo, Connaught Street
- For those with an interest in journalism or a smart business lunch: The Frontline Club, Norfolk Place
- For excellent wine and fine dining: Angelus, Bathurst Street
- For fantastic Oriental cuisine: Pearl Liang, Paddington Basin

Culture:

On the top floor of Whiteleys shopping centre is a multiscreen Odeon cinema, showing the latest blockbusters in 2D and 3D format. The Lounge at Odeon Whiteleys offers a boutique service, complete with luxurious leather seats and high quality food and drink brought to your seat.

The West End is world-famous for its fantastic theatre offering and top class musicals, tourist attractions, hotels, shopping, bars and restaurants. Oxford Circus and Tottenham Court Road are easily accessible from Hyde Park via local buses or Central line underground services from Marble Arch and Lancaster Gate.

Sports & Leisure:

Cycling is allowed through Hyde Park and its numerous paths are extensively used for jogging. Horse riding is available from Hyde Park Stables in Bathurst Mews and there are tennis courts, a bowling green and swimming at The Serpentine Lido.

Nearby gym facilities include Virgin Active in Merchant Square and Nuffield Health in Sheldon Square, which are both located near Paddington Basin. Bayswater is also home to the Porchester Centre, offering modern gym equipment in addition to its Turkish baths, squash court and swimming facilities.

Shopping:

The fashionable boutique shopping areas of Westbourne Grove and Connaught Village each provide superb local shopping and dining out amenities for residents of Hyde Park and Bayswater. For those looking specifically for world-renowned high street brands, the famous shops of the West End are close by, with Oxford Street accessible within 5-10 minutes via Marble Arch or Lancaster Gate underground stations.

Parks & Green Spaces:

Hyde Park is one of London's finest historic landscapes and remains one of the largest parks in central London, covering 350 acres. The focal point is The Serpentine Lake which is home to a number of fascinating buildings and monuments, such as The Serpentine Bridge and the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fountain.

Hyde Park offers a peaceful place to relax and people-watch, whilst reclining on one of the deck chairs available to hire or enjoying a bite to eat or a glass of wine at one of its lovely eateries. Paddle boating and canoeing prove popular activities during the summer months and the park also hosts a number of live music events throughout the year in addition to Winter Wonderland – London's premier Christmas Fayre.

Transport Links:

- **Underground:** Paddington (zone 1) is connected to central London by Bakerloo, Circle, District and Hammersmith & City lines trains. Bayswater underground station also offers Circle & District line services for convenient access into the City and financial districts, whilst Queensway, Lancaster Gate and Marble Arch stations are all situated on the Central line, ideal for access to the vast array of shops surrounding Bond Street and Oxford Circus.
- **Rail:** Paddington Mainline Station, home of the Great Western Railway (aka the 'Holiday Line'), links central London with the south west of England and provides a large number of National Rail services, with destinations all over the UK. The imminent Crossrail (Elizabeth line) development, due for completion in 2018, will offer more direct routes across the capital, stretching as far east as Shenfield and west towards Reading.
- **Air:** The Heathrow Express service from Paddington Station offers fast and convenient access to Heathrow Airport, with journey times of approximately 25 minutes. To reach Gatwick, Luton or Stansted airport by public transport would take around 1hr 15 minutes, whereas City Airport is located within 1 hour of Paddington Station.
- **Bus:** The roads surrounding Paddington Station offer a wide variety of bus services, including the 36 towards Queens Park and New Cross and the 23 towards Liverpool Street and Westbourne Park, both of which operate a 24-hour service.
- **Car:** The major roads of the M40 and M1 provide access to the north and west, with the Bayswater Road linking Notting Hill to the West End and Oxford Street.

Schools & Education:

Hyde Park has access to a wealth of outstanding education facilities, from nurseries to universities, and the area offers some of the best schooling in London including the award-winning Hampden Gurney Church of England Primary School, which heads the Sunday Times list of top primary schools in the UK. Connaught House School, St James & St John Primary School and Hallfield Junior School are just a few of the other highly regarded schools in the area.

Wetherby Senior School is the natural progression from Wetherby Preparatory School, widely regarded of offering a 'gold standard' in education for boys. Other nearby secondary schools include the Westminster Academy, St Marylebone C of E School and Queens College London, an independent school for girls.

For those with an interest in the performing arts, Sylvia Young Theatre School offers a high level of academic and vocation courses for part time or full time study, in addition to evening classes for adults.

Council & Tax Bands:

Hyde Park, Paddington and Bayswater are represented by Westminster City Council.