

THE THAMES BARRIER – THE TECHNICAL TOUR on Wednesday 21 May 2014

This visit has been organised by Tony Colclough.

The Thames Barrier – The Technical Tour

This visit to the Barrier will include a technical presentation, a Q & A session and a visit to the Barrier itself and the main machinery areas. The Technical Tours are intended for ‘learned institutions, colleges and engineering groups’ and are not offered to the general public. Because there will be open staircases to negotiate, it is held to be safe only for the able-bodied and a no-walking-stick policy is enforced. However, it is possible for those excluded to remain behind at the Information Centre, which will be reserved for our exclusive use, and to view the displays..

The Thames Barrier was opened in 1982 and protects London from flooding, in particular when exceptionally high tidal surges occur in the estuary. It has been raised many times in its life, the last occasion being on 6 Dec 2013. It stretches 520 m across the river at Woolwich and, when raised, its main gates are as high as a five-storey building.



Where and When to Meet

We meet at 13:00 at ‘The View Café’ near the Thames Barrier from which the Barrier can be seen and refreshments purchased.

Getting There

The nearest Overground station is Charlton. Trains run from London Bridge Station and Waterloo East. The Transport-for-London Journey Planner can be found at <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/> To walk to the Barrier, follow the route shown on the map below. Emerging from Charlton Station, turn left and walk a short

distance to the main Woolwich Road. Turn right at the Antigallican pub and walk eastwards along the Woolwich Road over two roundabouts. Just after the second roundabout turn left onto the Woolwich Barrier site and follow signs to the View Café. The walk takes roughly 20 min. Frequent buses 472, 161 and 177 also run along the Woolwich Road heading east.

Lunch

A sandwich lunch will be provided in the View Café at 13:30. The cost is included in that quoted for the visit.

Timetable

13:00	Assemble at the View Café which will be closed to the public
13:30	Lunch. A sandwich lunch is included in the price which can be eaten during the following session if need be
14:00	DVD and Q & A session
14:30	We are escorted by our guide to the Barrier for the technical tour. (The less able-bodied may prefer to stay at the Information Centre at The View Café)
16:00	Tour ends
16:15	Depart.

Maximum size of party

The number of places is limited to 24. If the number wishing to go is significantly less than this, costs will rise.

Costs

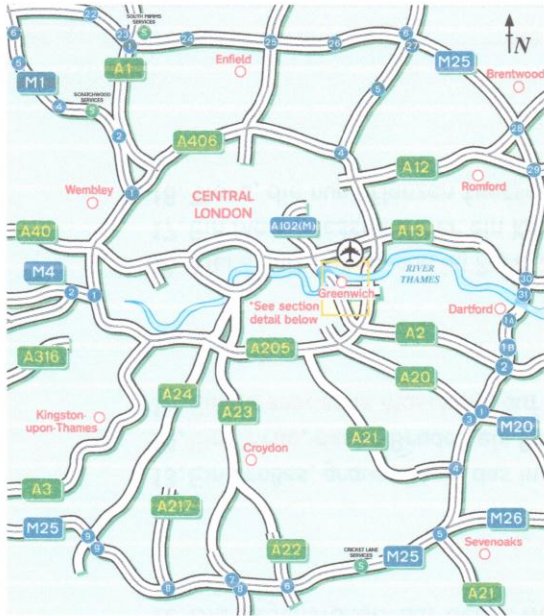
Based on 24 visitors, the cost is £29.00 per head to include a sandwich lunch.

Contacts

Before the day, e-mail Tony Colclough at tonycolclough@tiscali.co.uk or call 020 8398 0766 (leave message with your contact details).

Late arrivals

Call Tony Colclough on his mobile at 07801 698 336 or John Belling on 07986 379 935.



Thames Barrier Offices - South Bank

Thames Barrier,
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Eastmoor Street, Charlton,
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Enquiries: 03708 506 506

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London, SE18 5NJ.
Email: learningcentre@environment-agency.gov.uk
Website: environment-agency.gov.uk/thamesbarrier

Tel: 020 8305 4188
Fax: 020 8855 2146

Public Transport



Rail.
Charlton station is situated on Woolwich Road and is approximately a one mile walk from the Thames Barrier Site. Woolwich Dockyard station is situated near Church Street and is within walking distance. Woolwich Arsenal station is the most convenient station to take a taxi to the Barrier Site.

and only 5 minutes by taxi or bus (161 & 472)



Bus Routes.
Bus No's 177 and 180 via Greenwich (stop at the top of Eastmoor Street), 161 & 472 from North Greenwich tube station.



London City Airport.
The City Airport is situated in North Woolwich only a short distance from the North Woolwich Ferry crossing.



London Underground,
North Greenwich (Jubilee Line).
The station is approximately 2 miles from the Thames Barrier

