Destination
Olympia London

The best bits from our local area for you to explore and make the most of your visit...
6 Things you never knew about Olympia London

Handcrafted in 1886 Olympia London is more than an events space. It’s where culture and heritage come together to create inspiring experiences for everyone who steps through our doors. But did you know our world famous venue has some hidden secrets...

The site of Olympia London was once a famous vineyard established in 1745.

In 2017, the venue welcomed 24,000 exhibitors

And over 1,500,000 visitors

Olympia London opened its doors to the public on Boxing Day in 1886.

There are 100 hotels within one mile, & 235 within two miles of the venue.

All monarchs from Queen Victoria to Queen Elizabeth II have attended an event at Olympia London. In fact we also spotted Kate Middleton at Spirit of Summer.

320,000 people live within a mile radius of Olympia London.
Sitting at the heart of the UK’s capital, Olympia London is the best connected venue in the city. With 5 underground lines, 8 bus routes and a dedicated overground station next to the venue, your guests are free to explore the delights of London with ease.

Did you know:
We are the only central London venue with our own dedicated rail station, Kensington (Olympia)

You can reach Heathrow Airport in 55 minutes and it’s only 50 minutes to Gatwick Airport

The closest Crossrail station to Olympia London will be Bond Street; just 20 minutes away

Plan your journey:
olympia.london/visiting/getting-here

See live departure times:
travel.olympia.london

How to get to Olympia London:

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From Kensington (Olympia) it takes 10 minutes to Clapham Junction and 2 minutes to Shepherd’s Bush

There are 5 underground lines within walking distance including; District, Piccadilly, Central, Circle and Hammersmith and City lines

Our bus stops are served by 8 routes connecting you to Victoria, Oxford Circus, Paddington and Charing Cross

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The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea is home to some of the leading arts, culture and education institutions in the world. Just five minutes’ walk from each other you will find: the Victoria and Albert, Science and Natural History Museums, as well as the Royal Albert Hall surrounded by two Royal Parks, the two Royal Colleges of Art and Music and the Imperial College.

Click here to view cultural attractions on the map

Looking for more places to explore? Check out Time Out’s review of the local area:

www.timeout.com/london/explore-olympia-london

Royal Albert Hall

This iconic concert hall situated on the northern edge of South Kensington, has been the home of arts and culture since 1871. The beautiful structure is also a Grade I listed building admired by visitors for its stunning architecture and ornate designs.

V&A

The Victoria and Albert Museum, London, is the world’s largest museum of decorative arts and design, housing a permanent collection of over 4.5 million objects.

Design Museum

Just down the road from Olympia London is the world’s leading museum devoted to contemporary design. Showcasing design in every form; from architecture and fashion to graphics, product and industrial displays, there is something to inspire everyone.

Natural History Museum

One of the UK’s most popular visitor attractions, see over 80 million specimens spanning billions of years from the natural world at this renowned scientific research institution.

Science Museum

Experience a world-class collection of scientific, technological and medical achievements from across the globe at London’s Science Museum. Discover online exhibits, iconic objects and stories of incredible scientific discoveries.
Outdoor adventures

If you fancy a breath of fresh air why not take a short stroll to Holland Park or Brook Green and escape in these charming green spaces. Trying to catch a glimpse of the Royal Family? Head to Kensington Gardens with a picnic and tuck into a royal feast in the beautiful grounds of Kensington Palace.

Click here to view parks on the map

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Brook Green
The eponymous park at the heart of Brook Green is a focal point for the community. The space is well loved by residents and families who often meet by the children’s playground; kids can run around while their parents relax under the leafy trees.

Holland Park
The borough’s largest park with 22.5 hectares of gardens, children’s play facilities, sports areas, a cafeteria and large areas of woodland abundant with wildlife. Contained within the park is the beautiful Kyoto Garden; a Japanese garden donated by the Chamber of Commerce of Kyoto in 1991.

Hyde Park
At 1.5 miles long and about a mile wide, Hyde Park is one of the largest of London’s Royal Parks. The land was appropriated in 1536 from the monks of Westminster Abbey by Henry VIII for hunting deer and, despite opening to the public in the early 1600s, was only frequented by the upper echelons of society. London’s oldest boating lake, The Serpentine, is at the bottom of Hyde Park.

Kensington Gardens
At the end of the seventeenth century, William III relocated to Kensington Palace and consequently, a corner of Hyde Park (Kensington Gardens) was sectioned off to make grounds for the residence. Nowadays, Kensington Gardens is only delineated from Hyde Park by the line of the Serpentine and the Long Water.
Whether you’re after the latest designer handbag or a vintage pair of jeans the local area offers everything keen shoppers could ask for; just 2 minutes from the venue is Westfield Shopping Centre, the capital’s ultimate shopping experience. High Street Kensington offers the perfect balance of affordable brands and stylish boutiques, or for something more unique, Portobello Road offers chic vintage and antique markets.

Portobello Road

Portobello Road was once famous for its antique market, but it’s now so much more. On Saturdays the road goes into full selling mode and party swing – you name it, you can find it: crafts, fashions, music, books, collectables, specialist antiques and bric-a-brac. Navigate through haggling crowds and you’ll also find plenty of international food stalls and chic cafes.

High Street Kensington

Best for young fashion (eastern end), bespoke travel agents and outdoor retail specialists (western end), boutiques in Kensington Church Street, and generally a calm and quiet place to shop the big High Street names.

Westfield

At a whopping 150,000 square metres the imposing Shepherd’s Bush Westfield Shopping Centre has the honour of being London’s largest shopping mall. Opened on 30th October 2008, this monster mall houses 265 high end shops and 50 restaurants, supplemented by a luxury spa and 14-screen cinema.
A taste
of the
capital

With over 17,000 restaurants in London, the capital is a haven for food fanatics. At the heart of the city, Olympia London is surrounded by the best of the best. From top Michelin restaurants to the trendiest street food pop-ups, traditional English pubs and delectable French patisseries there is so much to inspire your taste buds. So we’ve picked our favourites for breakfast, lunch & dinner...

Click here to view restaurants on the map. Visit our website olympia.london/visiting/food-drink to discover more.

A la carte...

Breakfast
Balans Soho Society
L’Elysée

With delicious fresh pastries L’Elysée is the perfect place to start your day just outside the venue. Looking for something more substantial? Balans Soho Society do the best brunches in town.

Lunch
The Ivy Kensington Brasserie

Relaxed yet sophisticated, The Ivy Kensington Brasserie offers all day dining, perfect for client lunches. Absolutely delicious pub lunches are found in The Cumberland Arms.

Dinner
Buddha Bar
Dishoom

Discover colourful cocktails and Bombay inspired cuisine at trendy brasserie Dishoom. Or why not head down the road to Knightsbridge for an Asian culinary masterpiece at Buddha-Bar.
The after party

The hard work is done and you’re ready to celebrate. Whether you’re looking to host an exhibitor party or wanting to raise a glass with your team, we have some of the hottest celebrity hangouts as well as award-winning bars and pubs on our doorstep. So if you’re after a pint in the local or an impressive Champagne reception, there are plenty of places to let your hair down. With so many to choose from we took it upon ourselves to seek out the finest Olympia London has to offer (its a tough job but someone had to do it)...

Best For...

...A glam celebration filled Tiki décor, delicious fresh fruit cocktails and tropical vibes.
Mahiki, Kensington

...Sipping exquisite cocktails and impressing clients Jin at The Dorsett Hotel

...Soaking up the sunshine in a traditional English beer garden
The Queen's Head, Brook Green

...Happy hour cocktails and the All-American experience
Dirty Bones, Kensington Church Street

...Enjoying a glass of wine or two
The Wine Rooms, Church Street

...Private parties with a difference
Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road

Click here to view bars on the map
Explore the area further
olympia.london/visiting/local-area/guides/evening-entertainment
London’s top five-star hotels - namely 45 Park Lane, Claridge’s, Four Seasons Hotel London at Park Lane, The Dorchester, The Lanesborough, and The Savoy are all based in West London. And with over 30 four and five star hotels within walking distance from Olympia London, your guests will be spoilt for choice when looking for somewhere to relax after a busy day.

Rest your head

We couldn’t pick a favourite so here is our hotel hotlist:

The Spa:
K West Hotel
With a modern glass facade, this chic hotel is 5 minutes’ walk from Shepherd’s Bush tube station and Westfield London shopping centre.

The five-star:
Royal Garden Hotel
This luxury hotel is known for its friendly service and great views. Located on the edge of Kensington Gardens with shops, restaurants and a tube station all within a 5-minute walk.

The Boutique:
Dorsett Shepherds Bush
Overlooking Shepherds Bush Common, this upscale, modern hotel in a former 1920s movie theatre is 3 minutes’ walk from Shepherd’s Bush Market tube station and 2 miles from Kensington Palace.

The Boutique:
Hilton London Olympia
This contemporary hotel is a 2-minute walk from our venue, 2.9 miles from Buckingham Palace and 12 miles from Heathrow Airport.

The value for money:
St Paul’s Hotel
Just a short walk away, this stylish hotel which is steeped in history, offers unique rooms full with original character features. Interesting fact: this hidden gem was the location where Winston Churchill planned the D Day landings.
We’d love to know if you’ve found any secret hideouts, hidden parks or lost treasures during your visit to Olympia London.

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Buddha Bar London
Dorsett Shepherds Bush
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K West Hotel
Kensington Royal Gardens
Hilton London Olympia
St Paul’s Hotel
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