

# Discover South Kensington

This is one of the world's most popular cultural destinations and home to an extraordinary cluster of world-leading organisations pioneering innovation and learning in science and the arts.

Discovery is at the core of what happens here and there is so much to explore every day.

Find out more at [www.discoversouthken.com](http://www.discoversouthken.com)  
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DISCOVER  
SOUTH  
KENSINGTON

*Discover South Kensington brings together leading cultural and educational organisations and is an initiative of the Exhibition Road Cultural Group.*

# Discover South Kensington

the home of science, arts and inspiration





Every day there is so much to explore in South Kensington from amazing exhibitions, inspiring events, great places to eat, guided tours, music, films and lots more.

**1 NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM**

The Natural History Museum, famous for its beautiful Victorian building, is home to the nation's finest collection of natural history specimens. It brings visitors face to face with the power of nature through the collections, exciting temporary exhibitions, events, education programmes and free galleries. With a different theme each month, the Lates events let you explore the Museum after hours.

**2 SCIENCE MUSEUM**

The Science Museum is world-renowned for its remarkable galleries and inspirational exhibitions, with around 15,000 objects on display including the original Apollo 10 command module and Stephenson's Rocket. Two new galleries have recently opened: Wonderlab: The Statioil Gallery, and Mathematics: The Winton Gallery. Away from the galleries you can experience flying in the Red Arrows 3D motion flight simulator, before feeling like you're part of the action in the IMAX Theatre. The Museum also hosts a monthly adults-only, themed Lates event.

**3 VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM**

The V&A is the world's leading museum of art and design, housing a permanent collection of over 4.5 million objects that span over 5,000 years of human creativity. The Museum offers a programme of temporary exhibitions and events including themed Lates events which feature live performance, film, installation, debate, DJs and late-night exhibition openings. No visit is complete without a trip to the stunning café or the tranquil garden. Daily tours are available.

**4 ROYAL ALBERT HALL**

The Royal Albert Hall is one of the UK's most treasured and distinctive buildings, with more than 380 events held in the Hall's auditorium each year, from classical music, jazz, world music, circus, rock and pop concerts to ballet and opera, dance, comedy, tennis, charity concerts, film premieres, award ceremonies and much more. Daily tours offer a journey through the Hall's unique history and incredible architecture.

**5 IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON**

Imperial is consistently rated amongst the world's best universities – it is a place

where engineers work alongside clinicians, scientists rub shoulders with designers, and mathematicians collaborate with business experts. Imperial hosts a range of public events from hands-on activities to lectures exploring the most recent advances in science, all of which are free and open to all. Their flagship event, the Imperial Festival, takes place each May.

**6 ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC**

The Royal College of Music is one of the world's great conservatoires, training gifted musicians from all over the world for international careers as performers, conductors and composers. You can catch a performance or enjoy the many other events including lectures, masterclasses & workshops and participatory events.

**7 GOETHE-INSTITUT**

The Goethe-Institut is Germany's cultural institute offering educational opportunities, promoting intercultural relations, and organising cultural events that attract thousands of people each year. Events include monthly screenings of contemporary German cinema and TV, open to all.

**8 INSTITUT FRANÇAIS**

The Institut français is the official French government centre of language and culture in the UK. As part of the Cultural Centre, the Ciné Lumière is a showcase for the best French, European and world cinema. With more than 600 screenings a year, it shows premières, recent releases, classics and rare movies and special events such as appearances by directors, screenwriters and actors.

**9 KENSINGTON PALACE**

A royal residence for over 300 years, Kensington's opulent State Apartments bring the glittering court of King George II and Queen Caroline to life. Come along to one of the talks, debates, and study days to learn more about the Palace. Don't miss the elegant pavilion restaurant, the Orangery, surrounded by beautiful gardens.

**10 ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY (WITH IBG)**

The Royal Geographical Society (with the IBG) is the UK's learned society and professional body for geography. They run a programme of events, mostly open

to the public, designed to enrich knowledge of the world's people, places and environment. Membership of the Society is open to all.

**11 SERPENTINE GALLERIES**

The Serpentine Galleries have up to eight free seasonal programme shows of art, architecture and design throughout the year including the ambitious, summer Serpentine Pavilion programme. There are two exhibition spaces in the park, together with the stunning Magazine Restaurant, designed by Zaha Hadid.

**12 ROYAL PARKS**

The Royal Parks manage over 5,000 acres including Kensington Gardens and Hyde Park. Hyde Park is home to the Diana Memorial Fountain and offers activities such as open water swimming and boating on the Serpentine, cycling, tennis and horse riding. Kensington Gardens hosts Kensington Palace, the Italian Gardens, the Diana Memorial Playground, Albert Memorial, Peter Pan Statue and the Serpentine Galleries.

**13 DESIGN MUSEUM**

The Design Museum's move to Kensington to a listed landmark building from the 1960s creates the world's leading museum devoted to architecture and design, encompassing all elements of design including fashion, product and graphic design. Alongside its cutting edge programme of temporary exhibitions, the museum also hosts a variety of talks and family activities.

**14 THE ISMAILI CENTRE**

Part of an international family of Ismaili Centres, the Ismaili Centre London incorporates spaces for social and cultural gatherings, intellectual engagement, as well as spiritual contemplation. Some events and exhibitions are occasionally open to the public. The tranquil roof top garden is one of London's best kept secrets; tours are available for members of the public on selected dates.

**15 OGNISKO POLSKIE**

Polish Hearth have a programme of theatre productions, film showings, lectures, seminars, dances, art exhibitions and concerts that seek to promote and encourage wider knowledge of Poland and Polish culture within the UK.

Discover South Kensington is proud to also partner with the Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851 and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.