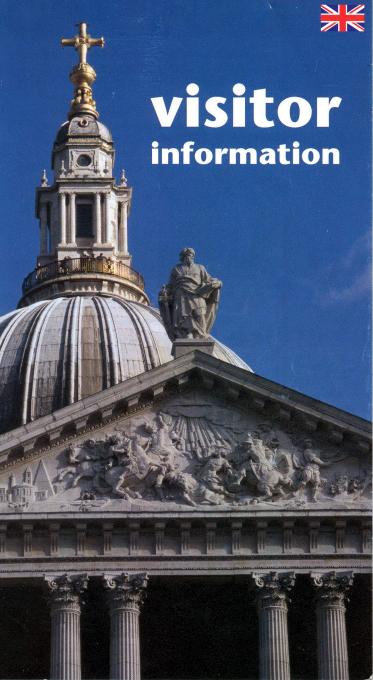
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL





welcome

There has been a Cathedral on this site since 604AD. Today's Cathedral - Sir Christopher Wren's great masterpiece - was built three hundred years ago and it is one of the world's great buildings.

Large numbers of people make their way to St Paul's in the course of every year - for services, for lectures, for concerts, as sightseers. You are all most welcome.

This Cathedral, which still dominates the London skyline, speaks of the majesty of God. Please find the time as you make your way around the Cathedral to stop and be still and light a candle and say a prayer.

John Moses, Dean of St Paul's



service times

Monday to Saturday

7.30am Mattins (said)

8.00am Holy Communion (said)

12.30pm Holy Communion (said)

5.00pm Evensong (sung)

Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion (said)

10.15am Mattins and sermon (sung)

11.30am Sung Eucharist and sermon

3.15pm Evensong and sermon (sung)

6.00pm Evening Service







THE NAVE

The nave leads from the West door to the dome. During major services the congregation sits here and clergy and choir process towards the altar. Three side chapels are dedicated to All Soul's, St Dunstan (dedicated to private prayer) and Saints Michael and George. Monuments include the imposing memorial to Wellington. Where nave meets dome hang four new paintings by Sergei Chepik depicting Christ's Incarnation, Ministry, Crucifixion and Resurrection.



TOMBS AND MONUMENTS

The Crypt is the Cathedral's burial chamber. Many important figures from national life are interred or commemorated here; martial heroes such as Nelson and Wellington, Lawrence of Arabia, Churchill and those who served with them; medical figures such as Florence Nightingale and Sir Henry Wellcome; artists such as Lawrence, Turner and Blake and Sir Christopher Wren himself. At the crypt's centre is St Faith's Chapel which is also known as the OBE Chapel.



UNDER THE DOME

The altar, where the Eucharist is celebrated, sits beneath Wren's great dome (one of the largest in the world) which he conceived as an observatory linking heaven and earth. Paintings by Thornhill depict the life of St Paul; statues portray doctors of both eastern and western churches; mosaics show the four evangelists and Old Testament prophets. In the Middlesex Chapel in the North transept is Holman Hunt's 'Light of the World'.



SHOP, REFECTORY AND CAFÉ

The Cathedral Shop offers a unique range of cards, books, CDs featuring the Cathedral Choir, gifts and souvenirs reflecting the beauty and heritage of St Paul's. The self-service Crypt Café serves light refreshments including sandwiches, home-made cakes, tea, coffee and cold drinks. More formal luncheons and afternoon teas are served in the atmospheric Refectory Restaurant. The menu changes weekly.



THE QUIRE

The quire, leading to the high altar, is where the clergy and choir offer up praise and prayer to God, when not celebrating under the dome. It contains the 'cathedra', the bishop's seat. Carvings are by Grinling Gibbons, the great organ by Father Schmidt and the gates by Tijou. At the East end is the American Memorial Chapel. Mosaics depict the Creation and other biblical scenes.



THE GALLERIES

Inside the dome, 259 steps up, is the Whispering Gallery, where a whisper on one side can be heard 32 metres away on the other. Above this, on the outside of the dome, are the Stone Gallery, 378 steps up, and the Golden Gallery, 530 steps up, offering panoramic views across London.



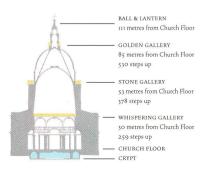
a brief history

St Paul's has offered thanksgiving and service to God since its foundation in 604 by St Mellitus, a follower of St Augustine who was sent to convert the Anglo-Saxons. It continues to welcome Christians, those of other faiths and those who value its heritage.

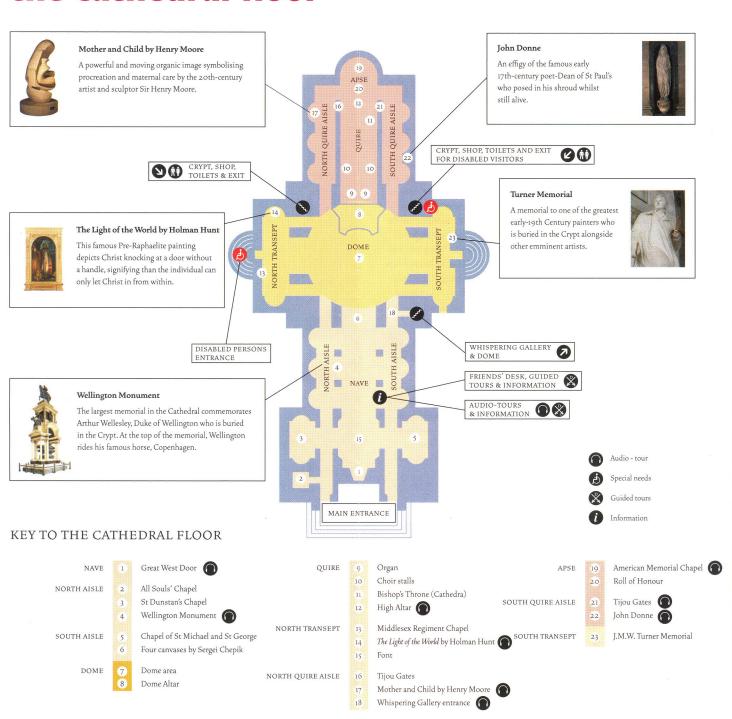
It has been resurrected several times, being rebuilt in 675, 962 and 1087. The massive medieval cathedral was one of the greatest Gothic buildings, its spire towering 150 metres high. It also housed an important law school, St Paul's Cross in its churchyard was London's first 'parliament'.

Following the Reformation, the cathedral fell into disrepair. Inigo Jones began its restoration in 1633, adding a neo-classical portico. Sir Christopher Wren submitted a proposal for rebuilding, which the Fire of London in 1666 allowed to be realised. Wren's third 'Warrant Design' received royal approval in 1675: construction was not finished until 1710. James Thornhill painted the life of St Paul in the Dome, Grinling Gibbons carved the woodwork for the Quire and the great organ, Jean Tijou made the Quire's metalwork gates. Successive generations have continued to embellish it. Glittering mosaics (originally envisioned by Wren for the Dome) were added in the 19th-early 20th centuries by Stevens, Watts, Britten and Richmond, along with Holman Hunt's 'The Light of the World'. Henry Moore's 'Mother and Child' was placed in the North East aisle and contemporary art continues to enrich worship here.

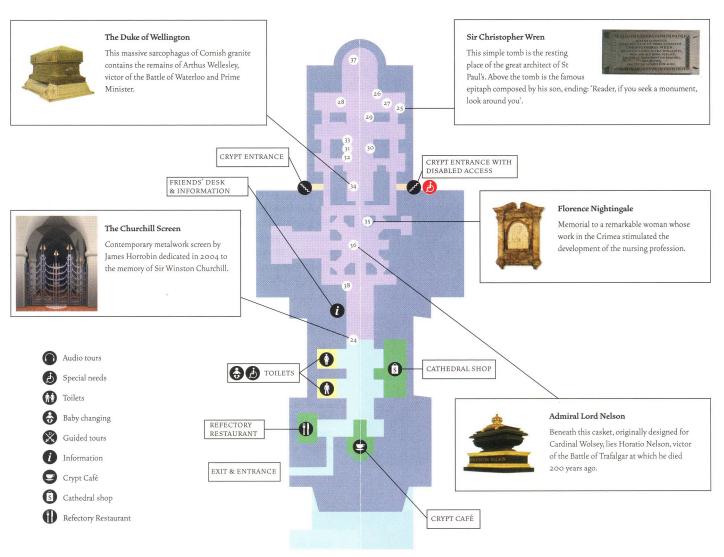
St Paul's has celebrated many important events: the funerals of Nelson, Wellington and Churchill; the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria, the Golden Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II; the wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana. Role models of successive generations are commemorated – political and martial figures, architects, artists, and scientists. Dean John Donne wrote poetry here, Martin Luther King preached and the St Paul's Institute hosts debates on topics such as business ethics and the environment. This is a vibrant, living place of worship, a portal to heaven committed to serving God in the world.



the cathedral floor



the crypt



KEY TO THE TOMBS AND MONUMENTS

