

# Things to do in Deptford & New Cross

## Suggestions for a fun day out....

### Morning

Arrive early on a **market** day (Wed, Fri or Sat) and search the stalls outside The Albany for second-hand bargains from retro clothes to furniture and collectables. Retire to the **Albany Café** for their latest exhibition and breakfast in the café.



Head down Deptford High Street to explore **Albany Street's** 18th century



naval officers' houses and the baroque architecture of St Paul's Church. Visit **St Nicholas's Church** where Christopher Marlowe is buried. Take note of the skull and crossbones topped gates (perhaps the inspiration for the pirate flag) and the grisly woodcarving inside (once on the charnel house).

Head back down to the **Bearspace** (Wed-Sat 12-5pm) to discover work by young emerging contemporary artists. Take your pick for lunch: Caribbean, Vietnamese, African, Indian, Chinese, traditional cafés or pie and mash.

### Afternoon

Take a detour to Watergate Street and nearby **Twinkle Park**, or wander along the river at Millennium Quay or **Deptford Strand** (follow Thames Path signs from Evelyn Street). Head back to the **Laban** contemporary dance venue designed by Herzog & de Meuron in collaboration with visual artist Michael Craig-Martin - a glass and coloured polycarbonate structure next to the tidal creek. The building was awarded the 2003 Stirling Prize for architecture and the coveted 'Building of the Year' title. Have a coffee in the café, remembering to take in the view of the Laban reflected in the water from **Ha'penny Hatch Bridge** when you leave.

Stick around Creekside to view more **artists' studios** (there are 100+ in the area) and galleries. Try APT or Framework – but check details first.

### Evening

End your day in the Dog & Bell pub or try the Kaya House for Malaysian cuisine, Cuisine a la Leke for West African cuisine or The Last Lick Restaurant & Wine Bar (see 'Where to Eat'). Take in a performance at Laban or **The Albany**, or enjoy live music at The Live Bar, The Birds Nest (weekends) or one of the **many music venues** in nearby New Cross Road. After dark, you can catch great views of the twinkling lights of Canary Wharf from the Deptford Station platforms.



Photo credits (above): Tom Elsdon Photography

## Deptford Market & Shopping



One of south London's busiest, the Deptford Market has been in the High Street for centuries. Stock up on global fruit and veg, plants and flowers, vintage clothing, jewellery and household goods at unbelievable prices. Snap up bric-a-brac bargains from stalls in Douglas Way in the popular 2nd Hand Market. Liveliest on Sat.

Also look out for Wellbeloved old-fashioned family butchers (31 Tanners Hill) famed for its homemade meat pies, Whitcome's Cycles (25 Tanners Hill) for a hand-built bicycle, fishmonger The Cod Father (47 Deptford High St) for live eels and baby sharks, Ha Noi Supermarket (84 Deptford High St) for specialty Vietnamese and Chinese products, GospelLight (6 Deptford High St) London's leading gospel music specialist, and Champion (39 Deptford Broadway) for imported Japanese car kitsch, a specialist bodykit and accessories shop.

The market takes place every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, from around 8am until 4pm, in Deptford High Street, Douglas Way and Giffin Square.



Local shop hours vary, contact direct for opening hours. To search for specific shops in Deptford [click here](#)

(Photo credits: Deptford Market by Maxwell, Cod Fathers & Wellbeloved by Tara Munroe)

## Out & About: Places of Interest

### Ahoy Sailing Centre

Borthwick Street, SE8

Based on the river Thames on Greenwich Reach at Deptford, the Centre offers easy access to the surrounding communities in Lewisham and Greenwich. The Ahoy Centre offers sailing, power boating and rowing opportunities for all on London's River Thames.

T 020 8691 7606 [www.ahoy.org.uk](http://www.ahoy.org.uk)



### The Albany

Douglas Way, SE8 4AG

Busy arts and community venue hosts comedy, music and theatre productions. Home to Montage Theater, Drake Music Project, Irie! Dance Theatre, Heart 'n Soul and many youth arts, education and film activities. New digital

media centre. Café with gallery and free wireless internet access. Toilets. Fully accessible. Mon–Fri 10am–6pm, Sat 10am–4pm. **T** 020 8692 0231 **Box Office** 020 8692 4446 **www.thealbany.org.uk**



### Art in Perpequity Trust (APT)

Harold Works, 6 Creekside, SE8 4SA  
Gallery with a changing programme of contemporary art exhibitions, plus workspaces for 37 artists. Open studio events. Opening hours vary. Contact for details on exhibitions and opening hours.

**T** 020 8694 8344 Thu–Sun 1–6pm

**E** aptlondon@btconnect.com **www.aptstudios.org**

### Bearspace & The Bear Cafe

152–154 Deptford High Street, SE8 3PQ

An arts and community venue with gallery showcasing the work of young emerging artists and a popular café next door selling Fair Trade products. Café Mon–Sat 7.30am–3pm; Gallery Wed–Sat 12–5pm

**T** 020 8691 2085 **www.thebear.tv/bearspace**



### Cockpit Arts

18–22 Creekside, SE8 3DZ

Home to workshops for over 70 designer-makers, including fashion, interiors, ceramics and glass. Open studios twice a year. Community Education classes. Contact for more details.

**T** 020 8692 4463 (studios); 020 7419 1963 (education)

**www.cockpitarts.com**

### Cor Blimey Arts

C101 Faircharm Trading Estate, 8–12 Creekside, SE8 3DX

A working studio selling fine art direct to the public, plus a central gallery space with varied exhibitions, art courses and open studio events. Contact for details.

**T** 020 8297 2053, by appointment



### Creekside Artists

A110–114 Faircharm Trading Estate, 8–12 Creekside, SE8 3EW

An artist-led group of 22, working in various mediums from painting, photography, film and printmaking, to mixed media. Open studio events. Contact for more details.

**E** info@creeksideartists.co.uk **www.creeksideartists.co.uk**

### Creekside Education Centre

14 Creekside, SE8 3DX

Regular talks, low-tide walks in wellies on the Creek, bird walks, family events, children's educational activities, volunteer days, exhibitions and performances. Contact for opening hours.

**T** 020 8692 9922 **www.creeksidecentre.org.uk**

**E** creeksidecentre@yahoo.co.uk



### Framework Gallery

5–9 Creekside, SE8 4SA

Public gallery with lively changing exhibition programme. Excellent frame store. Artists and other creative studios in building. Ring for details.  
T 020 8691 5140 [www.frameworkgallery.co.uk](http://www.frameworkgallery.co.uk)  
Mon–Fri 9.30am–6pm, Sat 9.30am–1pm

### Fresh Films / Café Crema

306 New Cross Road, SE14 6AF  
Lively coffee bar with cinema, live music and DJ events plus Children's Film Café.  
Outdoor garden.  
T 020 8320 2317 [www.freshfilmslondon.com](http://www.freshfilmslondon.com)



**Goldsmiths College**, Lewisham Way, New Cross SE14  
The college hosts a variety of events throughout the year that are open to the public and free of charge, including talks, workshops, music recitals, exhibitions. The main building was designed by John Shaw in 1843 in the English Renaissance style and originally occupied by the Royal Naval School. It is listed as Grade II. The college chapel is now used as a theatre. The college's new flagship, the Ben Pimlott Building (photo) was designed in 2005 by Alsop & Partners. (See also: Deptford Town Hall and Laurie Grove Baths under "Heritage Sites" below). T 020 7919 7171  
[www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/events](http://www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/events)

### Laban

Creekside, SE8 3DZ  
One of Europe's leading contemporary dance training institutions and new performance venue for dance, music and physical theatre. 300-seat theatre, 13 dance studios, 100-seat studio theatre, specialist library and archive, dance health and Pilate's studio. Designed by Herzog & de Meuron in collaboration with visual artist Michael Craig-Martin, Laban was the winner of the Sterling Architecture Prize 2003. Theatre bar and public café. Fully accessible. Chapter's Café has free wireless internet access. Dance workshops and courses. (Photo credit: Tom Elsdon) Mon–Sat 10am–8pm  
T 020 8691 8600 **Box Office** 020 8469 9500 [www.laban.org](http://www.laban.org)



### Lewisham Arthouse/ Deptford Central Library (former) 140 Lewisham Way SE14 6PD

This historic Grade II listed building now houses an art gallery with changing exhibitions, artist studios and wide array of art courses and workshops for adults and young people including ceramics, photography and life drawing.

The 1914 building is in a modified Baroque style, designed by H Brumwell Thomas, the architect of many early 20<sup>th</sup> century public buildings, including Woolwich Town Hall and Belfast City Hall.

T 020 8244 3168 [www.lewishamarthouse.co.uk](http://www.lewishamarthouse.co.uk)

### Sue Godfrey Nature Reserve & Ferranti Park

Bronze Street between Creekside and Deptford Church Street SE8

A little gem of green space with children's play area and benches. Formally a wasteland site and lorry park, it became a nature park in 1984 after lengthy campaigning by local residents. Originally named Bronze Street Nature Park, the park was renamed in 1994 in memory of Sue Godfrey, a local resident and environmental campaigner, who was killed in a road accident, in



recognition of the unceasing effort she had devoted to the park. The children's play area was incorporated in 2003 and named Ferranti Park after the famous Ferranti Power Station, which used to operate in Deptford.



### temporarycontemporary

Old Seager Distillery, Brookmill Road SE8  
Hosts a variety of exhibitions and installations in this historic warehouse. Contact for details on upcoming exhibitions.

E [info@tempcontemp.co.uk](mailto:info@tempcontemp.co.uk)

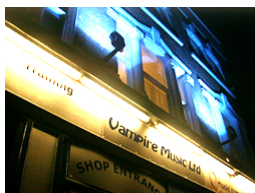
### Thames Path

Walking & Cycling Trail, running along the Thames River and through historic North Deptford, Rotherhithe and Greenwich.  
[www.londoncyclenetwork.org](http://www.londoncyclenetwork.org) (Photo credit: J Bewley)



### Vampire Music

20 Tanners Hill SE8 4JP



Music store and equipment hire, recording studios and training. The building was the former Deptford Town Hall (along with the old town hall on New Cross Road).

T 020 8691 6666 [www.vampiremusic.co.uk](http://www.vampiremusic.co.uk)

### Wavelengths Leisure Centre & Library

Giffin Street SE8 4RJ

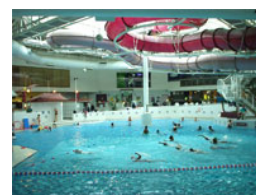
Wave pool, gym, café, library with children's activities, book clubs & free IT access.

T 020 8694 2535 (library) & 020 8694 9400 (leisure centre),

[www.lewisham.gov.uk/LeisureAndCulture/](http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/LeisureAndCulture/)

Leisure centre hours: Mon–Thu 8am-10pm, Fri 8am-9pm, Weekends 9am-6pm

Library hours: Mon 10am-5pm, Tue & Thu 9am-8pm, Wed & Fri & Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 1pm-4pm (hours may be subject to change, check website to confirm).



## Deptford & New Cross Heritage Sites



### Albury Street houses

Albury Street, SE8

Built in the early 18th century for the naval officers of Deptford's maritime past. Ornate wood carvings decorate many doors. Of particular note are 13-45 and 34-40 Albury Street, all Grade II.\* Some of the houses were originally the homes of sea captains who set out from Deptford on long voyages. Nelson and Lady Hamilton lived here – allegedly. Attributed to architect Thomas Lucas. (Photo credit: Tom Elson)

### Carrington House and Sylva Cottages

Brookmill Road SE8

Grade II and Locally Listed. The contrast in scale between these two buildings could hardly be greater but they shared the same purpose of providing much needed public housing.



Carrington House, 1902-3, was built as a lodging house for single men by London County Council (LCC) while Sylva Cottages, 1903, were built for working class families by the Greenwich Board of Works. The arts and crafts styling of Carrington House portrays the influence of the Scottish architect, Charles Rennie Mackintosh.

### Deptford Foreshore

Thames River, Pepys Estate, SE8

Behind the Pepys Estate, the old naval buildings on the Deptford Foreshore have panoramic views across the River Thames. There is an evocative atmosphere, which makes it easy to imagine the busy shores of the Thames when it was full of ships bringing exotic goods from around the world.



### Deptford Town Hall

New Cross Road, SE14

This building was the winning design for a competition organised by the newly formed Borough of Deptford. Built in the Edwardian Baroque style by Lanchester and Rickards, 1903-5, it is one of Lewisham's most enjoyable public buildings. The elaborate stone façade is very florid and features a central doorway with carvings of Tritons supporting an oriel bay window and statues of admirals between first floor windows. The grandeur is continued inside with marble columns, staircase and sculptures, which are lit by a domed lantern. Grade II. (See also: Goldsmiths College, above).

### Hamilton House

Convoys Wharf, Princes Street SE8

Grade II. This is a purpose built naval office building dating from c.1700 and central to the functioning of Deptford's Royal Naval Dockyard in the 18th and 19th centuries. It was used by the Master Shipwright and his assistants: Master Attendant, Clerk of Survey, Timber Masters and Foremen. The attic was added in 1805 and was probably used as a drawing office. The slightly later adjacent building was built as the Master Shipwright's apartment. Private residence, not open to the public.



### Laurie Grove Baths

Laurie Grove, SE14

Grade II. These swimming baths, slipper baths and laundries were designed in 1895-98 by Thomas Dinwiddy, a local architect and commissioned by the Vestry Board of St Paul's Deptford (the precursor to the Borough of Deptford) under the Public Baths and Wash-houses Act 1846. The building is of Jacobean style with separate entrances for men and women. Many original internal features survive. The building has been converted to art studios and faculty offices for Goldsmiths College.

### Railway Viaduct

Along Edward Place, Ffinch Street and Resolution Way, SE8 4NT

Built between 1833-1836 for the London and Greenwich Railway, this viaduct carried the first passenger railway in London and is one of the first major achievements of railway engineering in Britain. The viaduct is over five kilometres long and is built from yellow-grey bricks. Each arch is 20 feet from centre to centre and 22 feet high. It is a Grade II listed structure. Many of the arches now house local businesses and community



organisations, including the Deptford Town Centre Management Office and Creative Lewisham Agency (Unit 1 Resolution Way SE8 4NT).

### St Nicholas's Church

The Stowage, Deptford Green, SE8 3BU



St Nicholas is the patron saint of sailors. The church, parts of which date back to the 12th century, was visited by Sir Francis Drake and Captain James Cook before their world wide expeditions. See Ezekiel in the Valley of Dry Bones by Grinling Gibbons, famous for wood carvings in St Paul's Cathedral and memorial to Elizabethan dramatist Christopher Marlowe, killed in Deptford in 1593. Church also contains a wonderful collection of local history archives relating to Deptford Maritime. Usually open to visitors Mon–Fri 9am–2.30pm. T 020 8692 8848

### St Paul's Church

Mary Ann Gardens, SE8 3DS

A magnificent Roman Baroque church by Thomas Archer, 1730, set in an oasis of green behind the High Street. The crypt is also worth a visit. St Paul's is the most important and prominent listed building (Grade I) in the borough. On right of driveway is plaque to Mydiddee, a Tahitian who sailed with Captain Bligh in HMS Providence and died in Deptford in 1793.



### Stone House

281 Lewisham Way, SE14



Grade II. This distinctive villa was built in 1771-3 by George Gibson the Younger for himself (the same architect who designed St. Mary's, Lewisham). It has a highly unconventional exterior (the architect had only to please himself and not a client), with projecting bow windows in the centre of three sides and on the fourth side a four column portico, two columns deep. It is built from Kentish ragstone which gives it a rustic appearance. It was known as the Comical House in the 19th century.

### 19-31 Tanners Hill, SE8

Grade II. This is a late 17th century group of small timber framed houses and shops with some early 19th century alterations to the front. Several of the houses have clay pantile roofs and weather-boarding at the rear - typical materials before slate and brick became widespread in the 18th and 19th centuries.



## Annual Events in Deptford



**Deptford Design Festival** – annual design festival, part of London Design Week, September.  
[www.deptforddesign.org.uk](http://www.deptforddesign.org.uk)

**Deptford X** – annual visual arts festival, November.  
[www.deptford.org.uk](http://www.deptford.org.uk)

**Deptford & New Cross Christmas festivities** – December.  
[www.deptford.towntalk.co.uk/events](http://www.deptford.towntalk.co.uk/events)

**Made in Deptford Festival** – weekend celebration of Deptford,  
May. [www.madeindeptford.com](http://www.madeindeptford.com)



For full listing of local events happening this month, click here  
([www.deptford.towntalk.co.uk/events](http://www.deptford.towntalk.co.uk/events))

Photo credits: Tom Elsdon, Maxwell Photographers, Tara Munroe & Jennifer Taylor.