

V&A Academy

WALKING TOUR

SHAKESPEARE'S

LONDON



Introduction



This walking tour will follow in the footsteps of Shakespeare and his contemporaries, searching out the places and spaces where drama was conceived and performed. Shakespeare probably arrived in London in the year 1592, finding a bustling and rowdy metropolis of over 200,000 people, living cheek by jowl in a warren of half-timbered buildings, studded with church spires, livery company halls and numerous taverns and alehouses. London was the centre for a vigorous playgoing tradition of public theatres, dramatic performances in Inns, as well as street pageants and fairs. This walk will explore the highways and by-ways of the ultimate theatrical city.

This event is designed to complement the London online course series led by Mike Berlin but you do not need to be enrolled on any online course to join an 'Unlocked' event.

This walking tour will be taking place on 14 November 2025.

Please note that we cannot guarantee that this tour is fully accessible; there will be curbs, narrow and uneven pavements on this tour.

Information

Friday 14 November 2025

11.15-14.45

Offsite meeting point near entrance Shoreditch High Street Overground Station

V&A Academy events invite you behind the scenes to bring you closer to the places linked to the V&A extraordinary collections.

Handouts

A day before our walking tour you will receive a handout that accompanies this event: an itinerary of the walking tour with landmarks to invite you to re-visit the route of the tour in your own time and further reading recommendations and ways to learn more about the topic by exploring the V&A's Collections both online and onsite.

If you have any queries regarding the walking tour or if you have any specific access requirements, please do let us know by emailing courses@vam.ac.uk so that we can ensure the best experience on the day.

Programme and timings are subject to change

Suitable for ages 18 and over.

Friday 14 November 2025

Shakespeare's London

Offsite meeting point to be announced

11.15-11.30 Arrival at Meeting the point (near entrance Shoreditch High Street Overground Station)

- 11.30 Welcome by Mike Berlin and start of your walking tour
- 12.45 45 minutes convenience break near St Pauls Cathedral
- 13.30 Walking tour continues – meeting point to be announced
- 14.45 The walk ends

Note: V&A Academy programmes are subject to change without notice.

Additional study options

The 10-weeklong online course *A History of London: 1066-1666*, part of the London course series over three terms.

A History of London: 1066-1666 - Autumn term (September 2025)

A History of London: 1666-1851 – Spring term (January 2026 start)

London: The Global City 1851 – 2020 - Summer term (April 2026 start)

Discover all walking tour events and courses via vam.ac.uk/academy