

V&A Academy

STRATFORD

WALKING TOUR:

LONDON FROM THE

EAST

Friday

27 November 2026



# Introduction



Long before thousands of visitors flocked to the Olympic city, Stratford was the ancient gateway to London, a path beaten from centuries by migrants, political and religious dissenters, rebels and adventurers. It was London's manufacturing core, a place of railway engineering, shipbuilding and other heavy industry. It was also and continues to be the centre of a lively and thriving popular culture, epitomised by the Theatre Royal. This walk will explore Stratford's historic heartland, searching out the different episodes in the area's past through the remaining facets of its built environment.

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 27 November**

**11.15-14.45**

Offsite meeting point- **Stratford Red Steam Train**

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](mailto:courses@vam.ac.uk) so that we can ensure the best experience on the day.

*Note: Programme and timings are subject to change*

Suitable for ages 18 and over.

# Friday 27 November 2026

## Stratford Walking Tour: London from the East

*Offsite meeting point-* Stratford Red Steam Train

### **11.15 Arrival at Meeting the**

11.30 Welcome by Mike and start of your walking tour

12.45 Short convenience break. Facilities can be found inside Stratford Shopping Centre ahead of the tour start at 11.30. This convenience break will be a short break of around 10/15 minutes.

13.00 Walking tour continues

14.15 The walk ends at the entrance of the Stratford Shopping Centre.

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

*Image: Silk programme printed for the 'Grand Opening Night' of the Empire Palace Theatre Stratford, London, Monday 4th April 1899 (on display V&A East Storehouse)*