

THE END OF LONDON UNDERGROUND TICKET OFFICES

Probably since 10 January 1863, ticket offices (booking offices, call them what you will) have been an integral part of Underground travel. All stations served by Underground trains at one time must have had a ticket office of sorts and only in recent years have the hours of operation at quieter stations been reduced and more recently still, ticket offices closed at such stations. Following this, some busier stations also lost their ticket office facilities. With some lift/escalator replacement schemes (e.g. Regent's Park and Charing Cross [Trafalgar Square]) and new stations (e.g. Wood Lane), ticket offices were not provided from day one.

Chigwell, Grange Hill, Roding Valley, Upminster Bridge and Theydon Bois booking offices closed some ten years ago from 5 February 2006, along with second offices at Bank (Northern Line), Baker Street (Chiltern Street), Liverpool Street (Broad Street entrance), Moorgate (Metropolitan Line), Southwark (west) and St. James's Park (Palmer Street). In addition, Vauxhall had closed when station upgrade work began. The 'exhibition' ticket office at Earl's Court was closed after the subway access was abandoned which was even before the present closures kicked off.

But it was only in early 2015 that a wholesale programme of closure began.

The following is a list of closure dates. Treat them with caution – because information about the closures was often difficult to acquire (a last day, a first day of no ticket office, or some locations closed earlier than planned to facilitate the closure!) – and therefore we will give just the month of closure. Certainly the last three LU ticket offices to close took place on Friday 18 December, at Upton Park, Aldgate East and – perhaps not surprisingly – St. James's Park! However, although no 'genuine' London Transport ticket offices now remain, there are a handful that were formerly staffed by Network Rail and are now part of London Underground. These are the stations on the DC lines (Queen's Park to Harrow & Wealdstone) along with Kew Gardens and Gunnersbury, all of which are (at the time of writing) still able to sell main line tickets as well.

JANUARY 2015

Tottenham Court Road.

FEBRUARY 2015

Embankment, Queensway, Shepherd's Bush, South Wimbledon, Temple.

MARCH 2015

Bermondsey, Bethnal Green, Brixton, Canons Park, Covent Garden, Highbury & Islington, Kingsbury, Manor House, North Greenwich, Seven Sisters (both), South Woodford, Stockwell.

APRIL 2015

Dollis Hill, Green Park, King's Cross (Met.), Northfields, Old Street, Royal Oak, St. Paul's, Shepherd's Bush Market, South Ruislip, Stamford Brook, Stepney Green, Stratford (both), Totteridge, Tower Hill, Turnham Green, Upney, Wanstead, West Finchley, Willesden Green.

MAY 2015

Barbican, Camden Town, Fairlop, Gloucester Road, Goldhawk Road, Hanger Lane, High Street Kensington, Holborn, Ladbroke Grove, Lancaster Gate, London Bridge (Borough High Street), Oval, Oxford Circus, St. John's Wood, Sloane Square, Snaresbrook, South Ealing, Southwark (east), Swiss Cottage, Tottenham Hale, Warwick Avenue, Waterloo (Main), Westbourne Park, West Brompton, West Harrow, West Kensington, Westminster, West Ruislip, White City, Wimbledon Park, Woodford (eastbound), Woodside Park.

JUNE 2015

Alperton, Bank (Central), Hillingdon, Holland Park, Hornchurch, Hounslow Central, Ickenham, King's Cross (Tube), Lambeth North, Latimer Road, Leyton, Mill Hill East, Moor Park, North Acton, North Harrow, Piccadilly Circus, Ruislip Gardens, Tufnell Park, West Ham, Woodford (westbound).

JULY 2015

Amersham, Borough, Boston Manor, Burnt Oak, Charing Cross (Strand), Edgware, Holloway Road, Kilburn, Leytonstone, London Bridge (Main), Marble Arch, Monument, Neasden, Newbury Park, Northolt, Northwick Park, Northwood, Northwood Hills, Parsons Green, Pimlico, Plaistow, Queensbury, Victoria (District), Waterloo (Shell), Wood Green.

AUGUST 2015

Barkingside, Becontree, Blackfriars, Blackhorse Road, Brent Cross, Bromley-by-Bow, Canada Water, Cannon Street, Chancery Lane, Chorleywood, East Putney, Euston, Finchley Central, Finsbury Park, Golders Green, Goodge Street, Hampstead, Hatton Cross, Heathrow T4, Mile End, Pinner, Preston Road, Putney Bridge, Ravenscourt Park, Rickmansworth, Ruislip, Southfields, Walthamstow Central.

SEPTEMBER 2015

Bayswater, Buckhurst Hill, Chalfont & Latimer, Chesham, Colindale, Colliers Wood, Croxley, Dagenham East, Dagenham Heathway, Edgware Road (Bakerloo), Edgware Road (Met), Elephant & Castle (Bakerloo), Fulham Broadway, Gants Hill, Greenford, Hammersmith H&C, High Barnet, Highgate, Hounslow East, Hyde Park Corner, King's Cross (North), Knightsbridge (West), Paddington (Bakerloo), Ruislip Manor, Victoria (Victoria Line).

OCTOBER 2015

Acton Town, Aldgate, Archway, Baker Street (Met), Bow Road, Canary Wharf (east), Chiswick Park, Debden, Eastcote, East Ham, Elm Park, Epping, Great Portland Street, Hainault, Hammersmith D&P (east and west), Harrow-on-the-Hill, Heathrow T123, Hendon Central, Kentish Town, Knightsbridge (East), Liverpool Street ('A'), Mansion House, North Ealing, Paddington (District), Russell Square, Sudbury Town.

NOVEMBER 2015

Arsenal, Baker Street (Bakerloo), Bond Street, Canning Town, Clapham North, Earl's Court (Warwick Road), Elephant & Castle (Northern), Euston Square, Farringdon, Finchley Road, Kilburn Park, Leicester Square, Loughton, Maida Vale, Marylebone, Moorgate (Northern), Morden, Notting Hill Gate, Osterley, Park Royal, Perivale, Rayners Lane, Redbridge, South Harrow, South Kensington, Stanmore, Sudbury Hill, Warren Street, Watford, Wembley Park (both), West Acton.

DECEMBER 2015

Aldgate East, Angel, Arnos Grove, Balham, Barons Court, Belsize Park, Bounds Green, Caledonian Road, Canary Wharf (west), Chalk Farm, Clapham Common, Clapham South, Cockfosters, Ealing Common, Earl's Court (main), East Acton, East Finchley, Hounslow West, Kennington, Liverpool Street ('B'), Mornington Crescent, Oakwood, St. James's Park, Southgate, Tooting Bec, Tooting Broadway, Turnpike Lane, Upton Park, West Hampstead, Whitechapel.