

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Pre arrival and Arrival information

Thames View Apartments

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Arrival:

You can check into the apartment from 2.30pm. You may not check-in early unless previously arranged.

We will send you a welcome letter entailing all details of the arrival process as soon as we have received initial payment. You will be required to phone a separate company whom will deliver the keys to you within 15 minutes of your call.

Arrival instructions (finding the right building)

The St George Wharf apartment complex is a particularly big apartment complex. You will need to know which apartment you are staying in to get the specific instructions for the correct block. We will send you these instructions with your Welcome letter once you have confirmed a booking with us.

We have included a diagram of the apartment complex below and the rendezvous point from where you receive your apartment keys. Vauxhall tube, rail and bus station is very close as you can see on the map.



Maps are on display in the grounds of the complex and within this information.

Arrival charges:

For the majority of the time, this is a complimentary service (Mon – Sun 5am-10pm). **Outside of these times there is a small fee of £50 applicable**. Payment (if required) is arranged and quoted at time of booking. This will be a part of the total price quoted you on booking. You do not pay the driver anything (no tips required).

If payment is required later (i.e. late arrival or unknown arrival time) then we can either take this from your security deposit or arrange a separate Google Checkout invoice.

Apartment payment and booking details

For current and future reference, here are our payment and cancellation procedures and policies.

Deposit Payment:

To secure your booking we need to have received your booking deposit. This is 20% of the total price if you booked well in advance. Or the full payment is required if you are arriving within 14 days of the booking date.

Please ensure that this payment has been made in order to secure your booking.

Please note: If you are a last-minute booking, then full payment will be taken on booking.

Full Payment:

The outstanding balance (usually 80%) of your tariff must be paid TWO weeks prior to arriving at the apartment. You may be liable for a £40 late payment fee and/or cancellation of their booking if full payment is not received before this time.

If using Google Checkout:

A *Google Checkout* invoice for this amount will be emailed to you shortly. This invoice might sometimes be filtered into your junk mail. If you don't receive this invoice within 2 hours, please check your junk mail account. Please pay this invoice 14 days prior to arrival.

If paying direct using your credit card:

We will automatically debit your card (the one you provided already) for the remaining balance 14 days prior to arrival. Please ensure that your card is active and has sufficient credit for this payment.

Full payment is required TWO WEEKS (14 days) before arrival

Security deposit:

We ask for a security deposit of £200. We put the deposit in place to ensure that guests take good care of the apartment and leave it in good order. As soon as you depart and the cleaner inspects the apartment we cancel the transaction. If something was to break or malfunction whilst you are in the apartment, please inform us by calling or emailing. Obviously if it is an emergency, then telephone is the best way. For your own peace of mind, we very rarely hold people's deposit back as a result of damage.

If using Google Checkout:

We use *Google Checkout* for this also. Please note though that **we do not charge your debit/credit card**, we just hold this amount as available. This damage deposit is **fully refundable** on departure of the apartment.

Again, if you have booked far in advance, please pay this anytime, but at least **TWO WEEKS** before arrival.

If paying direct using your credit card:

We will automatically debit your card for this amount if required. Please ensure that your card is active and has sufficient credit for this payment.

Please see our terms and conditions for more information on the security deposit.

Cancellation and refund policy:

On booking an apartment, the 20% booking deposit is non-refundable.

The 80% full balance payment is due **TWO WEEKS** before arrival. Feel free to pay the full balance at any time via the email invoice we would have sent you. We reserve the right to cancel your booking if we do not receive full payment one week before arrival.

The full balance will be payable and forfeited if you cancel **only within TWO WEEKS** of arrival. If you cancel before this time, only the 20% booking deposit will be retained and the 80% balancing payment will be refunded (if this has been paid).

Booking price and quote policy:

We reserve the right to change advertised prices with no notice. Existing quotes will be honoured under these circumstances. **Once you have made your booking at a certain rate, the rate will not change** – regardless of future rate adjustments.

Departure:

Checkout time is 10.00am. You many not checkout late unless previously PAID FOR and arranged.

Upon departure, please ensure all windows in the apartment are closed and all electrical items are switched off.

When you leave, please ensure that both the apartment and the building front doors are firmly locked.

Ensure that you leave BOTH sets of keys in the designated areas, so that they can be easily found by the housekeeping team.

Please leave the main set of keys (set 1) as designated. There will be a sign in the apartment explaining where to leave them (found on the back of the front door). The location depends on whether you need the keys to exit the apartment (some front doors require the keys to shut them).

Please return the second spare set of keys (Set 2) to where you found them. There will be a sign in the apartment explaining this.

On departure:

- (1) Please ensure you leave the apartment before 10.00am (unless previously PAID FOR)
- (2) Leave BOTH sets of keys in the designated locations as described by the sing on the back of the apartment front door.

Luggage Storage:

Due to the nature of the apartments, we have no access to communal areas or lobbies. Therefore we have no ability to store any of your luggage outside of your booked stay.

Airport transfers:

Taxi:

Waterloo Car Hire is a reputable car hire company for airport transfers. They are a fully licensed taxi company offering a good service. Please arrange airport transfers in advance with the company. Mention "Boutique London Lets", the apartment name and whether you wish to "pick-up" or "drop-off" the keys at the same time (Refer to "Arrival & departure – key pick-up & drop-off" section above)

Waterloo Car Hire (taxi)
229 Southwark Bridge Road
London
SE1 6NP
+ 44 (0)20 7407 3456

The prices, arrangement and payment of any extra services (such as airport transfers) are to be arranged directly with the taxi company. Please note that Boutique London Lets does not arrange these bookings.

How do I get to the apartment from Stansted Airport?

The most convenient way to get from Stansted airport is by using the "Stansted Express" train. This takes about 45 minutes and is £18 for an adult and £9 for a child, and departs every 15 minutes on 00, 15, 30 and 45 minutes past each hour. This train will take you to Liverpool Street station in London. For more information, check their website.

https://www.stanstedexpress.com/

Once you reach Liverpool station, you can either take a taxi or take the London underground tube. The apartment is less than 3 miles from the station which is well serviced by taxis.

To get there by tube, from "Liverpool Street Station" take the "Central Line (red)" toward the centre, and get off the train at "Oxford Circus". Change train here onto the "Victoria Line" (blue)" heading south. Get off the train at "Vauxhall Station".

Leave the tube station on the River Thames side. <u>NOTE:</u> To do this, take 'exit 6' from the station and this will bring you out at the corner of Vauxhall Bridge Rd and Wandsworth Rd – this will allow you to avoid crossing the road. This exit will bring you to the foot of the St Georges Wharf development, where your apartment is located. If you don't wish to take this exit, you can similarly take any exit and the just cross the road on the surface.

Find the concierge office and wait outside there for the taxi company to deliver your key (first time arrival), as per key/arrival instructions. The concierge office is at the front of the development (facing Vauxhall bus station), and near to the 'Lloyds Pharmacy' (drug store).

To/from Heathrow Airport

It's easy to get from Heathrow to the Thames View Apartment using public transport (tube). Though be aware, the tubes are very busy during peak-hours, and can be difficult if you are carrying large amounts of luggage.

You need to get on the Piccadilly line at Heathrow, heading towards Cockfosters via central London. Change lines at "Green Park" station onto the "Victoria Line" (blue) southbound (toward "Brixton"). Alight the train at Vauxhall Station.

The apartment is a 2 minute walk from here. See above for walking directions.

To/from Gatwick Airport

There is a fast train service from Gatwick Airport straight into London Victoria Station. The train costs £16.90 one-way or £28.80 return and takes approximately 30mins. The child fare is £8.45 and £14.40 respectively.

Trains run every 15mins throughout the day to the airport from 5:00 to 23:45 Monday to Sunday. Trains into London Victoria begin at 5:50 and run at 15mins intervals until 00:35. Please check their website for full information. www.gatwickexpress.com

Once at Victoria station you can either take a short Taxi across the river from the numerous Black Cabs waiting at the main entrance to the Station (signs are on display) or you can get on the Underground (at Victoria Station) using the Victoria Line (blue) going Southbound, and alight the train at Vauxhall Station. From there it's a 2 minute walk across the road as per instructions above.

To/from Luton Airport:

Luton airport is 30 miles to the north of central London. It does not have such good transport links as the other airports. The two main options are either train or bus (coach).

Train: <u>First Capital Connect</u> (formerly Thames link) operates up to six trains per hour. Take the train to London Bridge station. Journey time from 35 minutes. An hourly service operates through the night to and from St Pancreas International and Black friars. However, please note there are no trains between approximately 01:00 and 03:00.

From those respective stations, take either a tube or taxi from there to Vauxhall Station, from there it is a short walk to the apartment.

Alternatively, if you would like to travel by taxi, you can either hail a Black Cab on the street; or if you wish to pre-book we can recommend you use the taxi company below. See below for details.