

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL – CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Ways of making your visit safer and more enjoyable

Westminster Cathedral is foremost a place of worship and prayer. It is also a building of interest for numerous visitors due to its unique architectural style and beauty. We welcome all visitors. There is no entrance fee, but donations are encouraged to help with the upkeep of the Cathedral and support its mission.

To ensure that the Cathedral is a place of safety for all we kindly ask that all visitors adhere to the Conditions of Entry listed below.

GENERAL CONDUCT

1. To ensure safety for everyone, all visitors are requested to follow instructions given to them by the Cathedral Security Officers, other Cathedral staff or volunteers.
2. Certain areas of the Cathedral may be closed off with barriers for safety or security reasons. Visitors are asked to respect these restrictions and not to enter any closed areas or move any item of furniture.
3. Keeping the prayerful ambiance of the Cathedral is very important to us. Visitors who act in a disorderly or disturbing manner will be asked to leave.
4. We pride ourselves in showing respect for every person. Anyone who engages in aggressive or abusive behaviour towards Cathedral visitors and/or staff will be asked to leave.
5. The Cathedral is predominantly a place of worship and prayer. Anyone wearing clothing with offensive language or imagery, which undermines the integrity of the building and the Catholic faith, may be asked to cover it up as a condition of entry.
6. As a mark of respect, male visitors are requested to remove any head coverings unless worn for religious or medical reasons.

FOOD AND DRINK

The consumption of food and drink (except for bottled water) is not allowed inside the Cathedral. If you carry a hot drink or any alcoholic beverage, you will not be able to enter the Cathedral unless those are left outside or disposed of responsibly. Anyone who shows signs of intoxication may be refused entry.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Out of respect for this place of worship, please refrain from photography or video/audio recording during services and when schoolchildren are present on the Sanctuary. Signs will be on display at such times.

CASES / BAGS

We encourage visitors not to bring large bags or cases into the Cathedral as they risk causing an obstruction. Please do not leave personal items unattended as they may be treated as suspicious and removed by Security Officers or the Police.

For safety reasons, banners or placards (unless being used as part of a service), replica weapons or any item Security staff deem to be a safety hazard are not allowed into the Cathedral.

OTHER INFORMATION

Only the votive candles provided can be lit on the votive stands. Any other candles will be removed by Cathedral staff.

All Assistance dogs are welcome to enter and small dogs can enter (providing they can be carried by the owner). For safety reasons any other dog on a lead cannot enter the Cathedral.