

This note is one of a series placed in the Almanac for the guidance of livery masters, wardens, and their clerks, especially new ones, seeking advice on a particular topic. They are not prescriptive, and how individual companies choose to conduct their affairs is, of course, entirely up to them. Most are written by a past chairman of the Livery Committee, of whom you may read more at the foot of the Contact page.

Most notes at this website are written for livery masters, their clerks, and other liverymen. This one is not, but for those who contact this writer asking advice on how to go about arranging a tour of a livery hall for their group.

Visits to Livery Halls

Livery halls are not generally staffed or equipped to host visiting groups or to arrange tours. They are working premises, rather than visitor attractions. Most smaller ones may not merit a visit longer than a few minutes anyway, and only employ the clerk, their assistant, and a hall-keeper; whilst the grander ones will be in regular use for events, and not free for visitor tours.

To establish the relative sizes of the livery halls, go to <http://www.liverycompanies.info/a-z-list-of-companies/livery-halls-by-dining.html>

When visits are arranged it will usually be by a personal introduction or contact.

That said, many do open their doors to the public on the [Open House weekend in September](#).

There are a number of other City of London venues which may be of interest, and include those listed below:

Mansion House – <https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/about-the-city/mansion-house/Pages/tours.aspx>

Guildhall - <https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/visit-the-city/attractions/guildhall-galleries/Pages/guildhall.aspx>

Old Bailey - <https://old-bailey.com>

Charterhouse - <http://www.thecharterhouse.org/visit-us/>

Museum of London - <https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/>

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