

# LONDON IN 2014



## A Capital Adventure

14-18 August 2014  
[www.londonin2014.org](http://www.londonin2014.org)

### THE BID

We're really looking forward to this chance to bring the Worldcon back to London for the first time since 1965.

London is not only one of the world's great cities, it has also provided the setting for works of written and visual science fiction from 'The War of the Worlds' to 'Doctor Who'. Now, with your support, it can once again host the World Science Fiction Convention.

We have an experienced, enthusiastic and talented team of people - fans, professionals and our delivery partners - who are eager to bring you a great Worldcon in 2014.

# THE SITE

Our venue is ExCeL in London's Docklands. Opened in 2000, this modern Exhibition and Convention Centre is light and spacious, incorporating purpose-built meeting rooms, an auditorium, and more exhibition space than the TARDIS. There are abundant hotels and eating places close by, and excellent transport links to other local amenities as well as to and from central London.



ExCeL is bisected by a wide and brightly lit boulevard running the 600 metres between the east and west entrances, with numerous eateries and coffee bars along its length. On either side of the boulevard are expansive exhibition halls, which can be divided into individual areas using 20 equally spaced moveable walls.

The ExCeL campus already includes a range of hotels, with more on the way, which should provide enough on-site beds to meet our needs. The existing hotels, located to the east and west of ExCeL, range from budget to 4-star and are all just a few minutes' walk away.

There are also more than 40 places to eat on site. Two thirds are within ExCeL, with the rest either located in nearby hotels or independently situated in the area.



Later this year a cable car will connect ExCeL to the O<sub>2</sub> (originally the Millennium Dome), which houses many restaurants and bars along with London's largest entertainment venue - and you'll get great views of the Thames during the crossing.

ExCeL is already connected by the Docklands Light Railway (DLR) to Canary Wharf, where you can find several luxury hotels, many more restaurants and bars, and some of the new buildings that make Docklands look like such a science fictional city.



# THE CONVENTION

London is a great place to visit, and ExCeL and its surrounding campus has provided an excellent venue for a variety of successful events. But we want to tell you some more about how we see the Worldcon itself.

ExCeL will enable us to put on a spectacular show. We'll be using some of the exhibition space for our art show, dealers' room and special exhibits; there's so much potential for the exhibits at this convention that we're already really excited about what we could have to show you.

But it's the International Convention Centre (ICC), located at the east end of ExCeL, that will be the heart of our Worldcon. Arranged over four compact floors, all well serviced by both escalators and lifts, it brings together most of what we'll need for the convention.



**Capital Hall**



**ICC Auditorium**

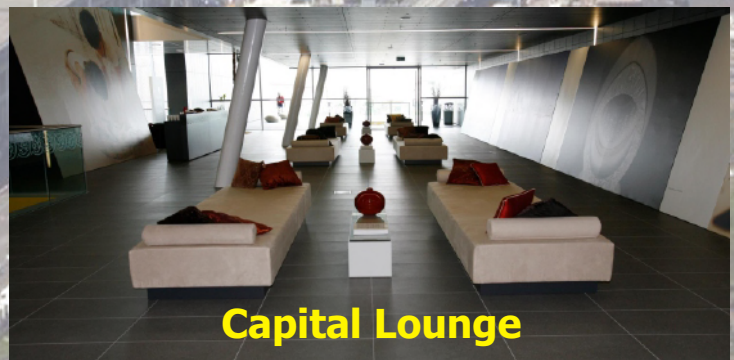
On the ground floor (Level 0) you'll find the Capital Hall. This is often used for receptions and exhibitions, and it will enable us to create a real social centre to the convention. Expect a combination of what's best about Worldcon parties and British con bars and lounges - without having to make difficult choices about where to go to have a good time.

Opposite this is the ICC Auditorium, which can be configured for audiences of between 1,000 and 5,000 people, and where we can therefore host our evening and special events.

On succeeding floors, you come to the ExCeL boulevard and the east entrance, above which is the open plan Capital Lounge.

Finally, on level 3 the Capital Suite can seat 2,500 people at a time in up to 17 configurable meeting rooms. We're excited about all the programming, large and small, that we'll be able to have there.

This will be the World Science Fiction Convention, and we intend to live up to each and every part of that description.



**Capital Lounge**



**Capital Suite Foyer**

# THE CITY

You know it's not quite like the movies: London Docklands isn't located across the street from Big Ben, Buckingham Palace and the Tower of London. But while you're here you might just want to do more than attend the convention.



Fortunately, London is one of the world's best-connected cities, by road, rail or air. There are few cities that are easier to get to or to get around.

London is famous for its underground railway (the Tube) which has a plethora of lines across the city. The DLR is fully integrated into the Tube network at several

stations to the east of London. The ExCeL campus is itself served by three DLR stations, with one at either end of ExCeL and one to the west near the cable car. And London's buses are quick and convenient as well as being iconic.



If you're flying into London you'll probably be landing at Heathrow, Gatwick or Stansted airports. All are just 75 minutes away from ExCeL using London's public transport network.

Alternatively, there's London City, a small airport so close to ExCeL you can see the landing lights - just five minutes away by bus or taxi. Nearly all of the flights come from elsewhere in Europe; but if you're flying from further away, you might want to consider routing via a European airport that connects to London City.

It's also getting easier to travel to the UK from mainland Europe by train, coming through the Channel Tunnel.

We'd encourage you to make the most of all these transport connections to see more of London and more of the rest of the UK before and after the convention. But on 14-18 August 2014, we want you to be with us, having a capital adventure at the next London Worldcon.

"World Science Fiction Society", "WSFS", "World Science Fiction Convention", "Worldcon", "NASFiC", "Hugo Awards", the Hugo Logo, and the distinctive design of the Hugo Award Trophy Rocket are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.