

# SUMMER 2025 ON THE RIVER TERRACE



# SOMERSET HOUSE





# HOME OF CULTURAL INNOVATORS



# WHY SOMERSET HOUSE?

As the home of cultural innovators, Somerset House is a site of origination, with a cultural programme offering alternative perspectives on the biggest issues of our time. In 2025, Somerset House celebrates its 25th birthday, marking its extraordinary transformation to one of London's best loved cultural spaces and home to one of the largest creative communities in the UK. Our spirit of constant curiosity and counter perspective is integral to our history and key to our future.

Run as an independent charity by the Somerset House Trust, all event hire income directly contributes to our diverse cultural programme, pioneering engagement & skills work, support of emerging artists and helps to maintain our historic Grade I listed site. You can be confident that your event will directly support an organisation offering immense value to an audience which goes far beyond your attendees.



# RIVER TERRACE



Set against the backdrop of Somerset House's iconic 18th century façade and with sweeping views across the Thames, the River Terrace is one of our most exclusive spaces and the perfect location for a standing reception.

The River Terrace is a glamorous alfresco London setting to entertain guests in the warmer months and the stunning Seamen's Hall is included in your hire as a wet weather contingency. **This September, there will also be a stretch tent in situ on the River Terrace for exclusive use.**

Perfect for summer parties, you can invite your guests to a private barbecue expertly planned by one of our caterers or simply enjoy a drinks reception while the London landmarks light up your event.



# YOUR HIRE

	EVENING
SUPPLIER ACCESS	Set up (River Terrace and BOH): from 16:00 Set up (Seamen’s Hall) from 18:00 De-install: 22:00-23:30
GUEST ACCESS	18.30 – 22.00
HIRE FEE	£15,000+VAT
ADDITIONAL HOURS	£2,000 + VAT per hour

INCLUDED

- Stretch tent with lighting
- Event security
- Event Manager from the venue, to support with the planning process
- A dedicated Operations Manager on the day of your event
- Pre and post event cleaning of the event space

Our late license on the River Terrace is till 00:00. Late night licenses are subject to approval and available on request.

SUPPLIERS

Catering, AV, production and all other requirements, including furniture, are separate to the venue hire fee and will be provided by one of our accredited suppliers - details [here](#).

Please note that as Somerset House is a Grade 1 listed building, we do not allow any non-accredited suppliers to work onsite.

You must allow for at least 1 hour supplier set up/de-rig time before guest arrival/post guest departure. Depending on your event requirements, suppliers may require additional time. In this instance, you can either adjust your guest timings accordingly or pay for additional hours outside of your Hire Period.



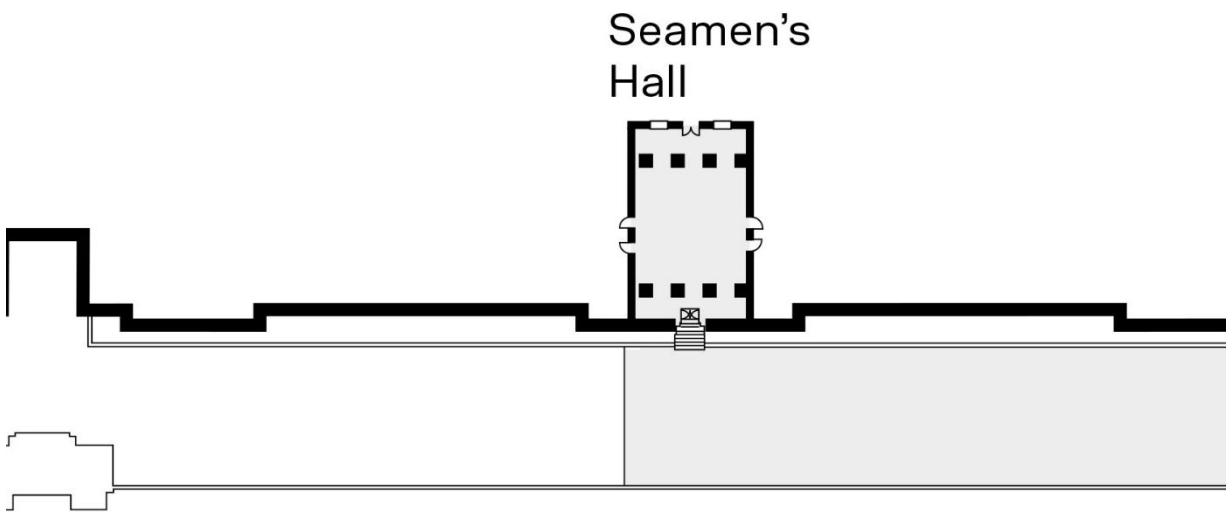


# YOUR HIRE

**CAPACITY**

Reception: up to 500

**SPACE DIMENSIONS: 49.5m x 11.7m**



**BOOKING DETAILS**

A refundable security deposit is required for all bookings. The amount of deposit owed is calculated on the length of hire period and will be invoiced separately from the Hire Fee. This deposit is fully refundable up to 30 days after the event, subject to no damage having been caused to the building or overrunning of the contracted timings.

Somerset House require all clients to have £10 million public liability insurance.

**OUR SITE**

As an arts and culture centre open to the public, we cannot always confirm what might be happening in the Courtyard or around the rest of the public areas at Somerset House at that time, and we cannot guarantee that our fountains will be on at that time. We have a very exciting and constantly expanding public programme, which sees lots of different installations, exhibitions, artwork, and public events all over the site. It is a huge part of what makes us Somerset House. There are also occasions where essential works need to take place on the building and these instances are out of our control.





# OUR VALUES



## DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

We are committed to building a diverse and inclusive community reflecting the diversity of our society. A community where everyone feels valued, where their contribution matters and where they can reach their full potential, irrespective of their background, identity or circumstances. We aim to ensure the diversity of all our staff reflects our society as fully as possible. Similarly, we aim to be home to a resident community of artists and enterprises from an equally diverse range of situations, backgrounds, and disciplines. Ongoing initiatives include running the Black Business Incubator.

## ANTI-RACISM

Somerset House is committed to being actively anti-racist and publicly releases updates on the actions it is taking in relation to its Anti-Racism Pledge every six months. We recognise that this is a journey. We have divided our focus into 5 key areas: History, Community, Workforce & Recruitment, Language and Procedures & Policy. A comprehensive list of our current actions can be found [here](#).

## SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability and responsible event management are of paramount importance to Somerset House and, by extension, our Accredited Suppliers. You can download our sustainability booklet, outlining what we are up to and top tips on how to host a sustainable event at Somerset House, [here](#).

## OPT-IN TO SUPPORT THE YOUNG TALENT FUND

Somerset House's Young Talent Fund supports the next generation of early career creatives and artists to fulfil their potential, by providing financial relief to resident artists and opportunities to under-represented young people aged 18-25. If you would like to support this fund by making a donation please speak to a member of our team. Your support will help to secure a future for our creative community for many years to come.

## LONDON LIVING WAGE EMPLOYER

Somerset House is proud to be an accredited Living Wage payer. We pay all our staff and sub-contractors the London Living Wage.





# OUR ECOSYSTEM

3.1M

visitors annually

500,000  
SQ. FT

grade listed site

62

Somerset House Studios artists and their teams in over 15,000 sq.ft of studio space

550

members of the creative co-working space Somerset House Exchange

304

creative-tech and maker members from 77 different organisations at Makerversity which provides specialist workshops.

65

Black Business incubator businesses

133

creative enterprises occupying 194 offices across c 72,000 sq.ft

262

days of free exhibitions annually

259k

engage with our digital programme

1000+

young people aged 18-30 engage with our career development programme





# GET IN TOUCH



Somerset House

## CONTACT

[events@somersethouse.org.uk](mailto:events@somersethouse.org.uk)

+44 (0)20 7845 4618

[somersethouse.org.uk/venue-hire](https://somersethouse.org.uk/venue-hire)

## FOLLOW

Instagram: [@somersethouse\\_venuehire](https://www.instagram.com/somersethouse_venuehire)

LinkedIn: [Venue Hire at Somerset House](https://www.linkedin.com/company/venue-hire-at-somerset-house)

## FIND

Somerset House, Strand, London WC2R 1LA

## BY LONDON UNDERGROUND

Temple (Circle & District lines; 250m, 5 mins)

Covent Garden (Piccadilly line; 650m, 8 mins)

Charing Cross (Bakerloo & Northern lines; 700m, 10 mins)

Embankment (Circle & District lines; 700m, 10 mins)

Waterloo (Bakerloo, Waterloo & City, Jubilee & Northern lines; 800m, 11 mins)

## BY RAIL

Charing Cross (700m, 10 mins)

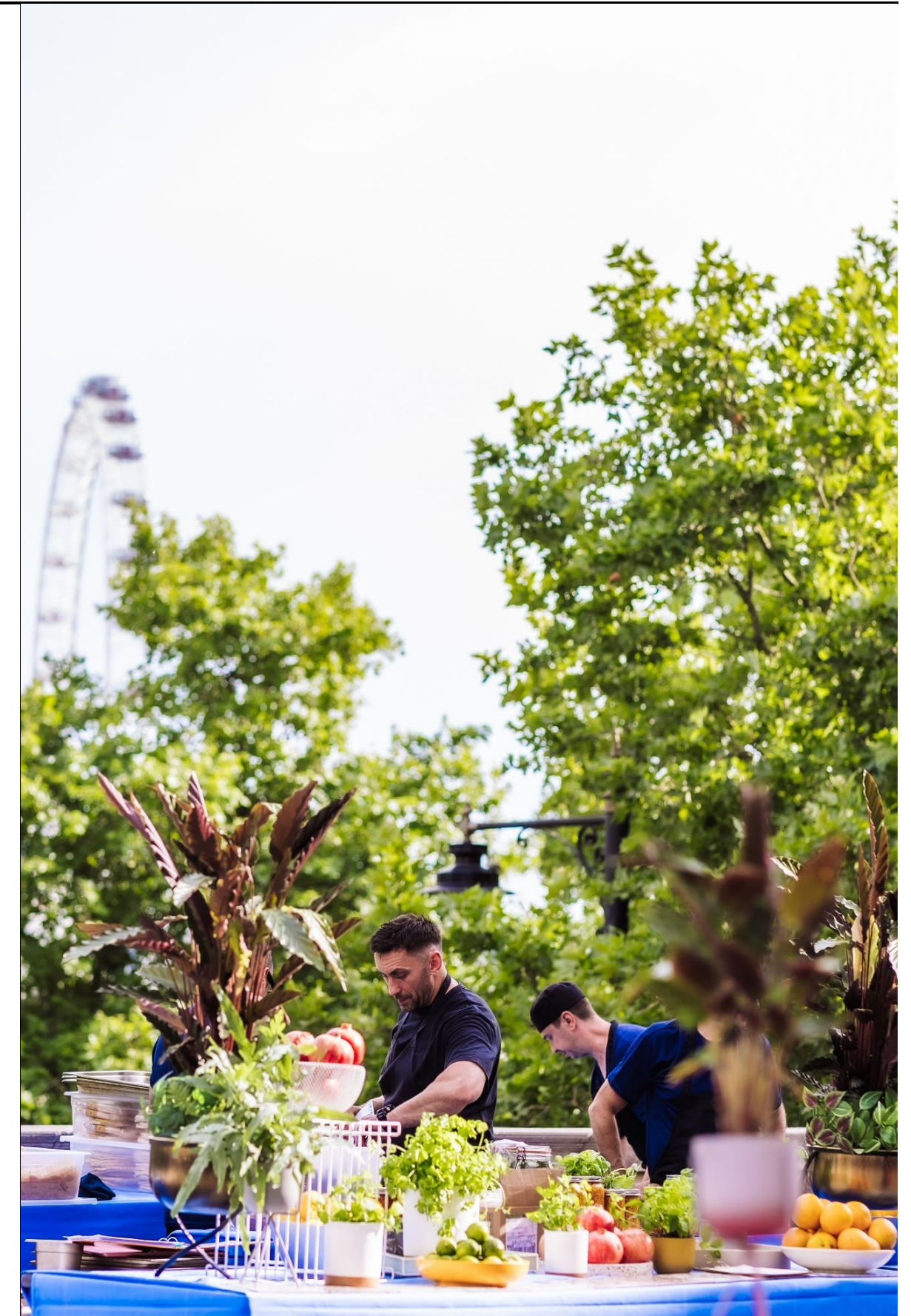
Blackfriars (1km, 13 mins)

Waterloo (1km, 13 mins)

## BY RIVER

River bus services RB1, RB2 and RB6 all stop at Embankment Pier, roughly 600m from Somerset House

Venue Hire





**STEP INSIDE  
THINK OUTSIDE**