



# BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir

LONDON



Free Entry

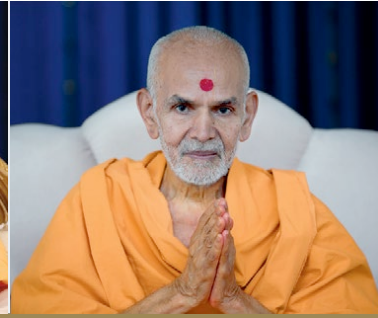
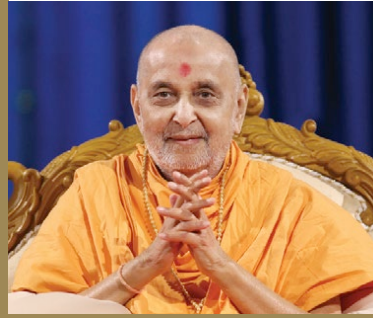
A London Landmark

National Geographic

# Welcome to Europe's first traditional Hindu Temple

BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir – popularly known as the Neasden Temple – is dedicated to the worship of Bhagwan Swaminarayan and the millennia-old traditions of the Hindu faith. It is a masterpiece of traditional Hindu design and exquisite Indian workmanship in the heart of London. Using 5,000 tonnes of Bulgarian limestone and Italian and Indian marble, it was hand-carved in India before being assembled in London in just 2½ years.

Since its opening in 1995, this renowned place of worship has attracted close to half a million visitors annually. Come and marvel at the intricate carvings, experience a traditional Hindu prayer ceremony, or learn about the world's oldest living faith. Enjoy hours of beauty, peace and discovery all year round.



## The Inspirers:

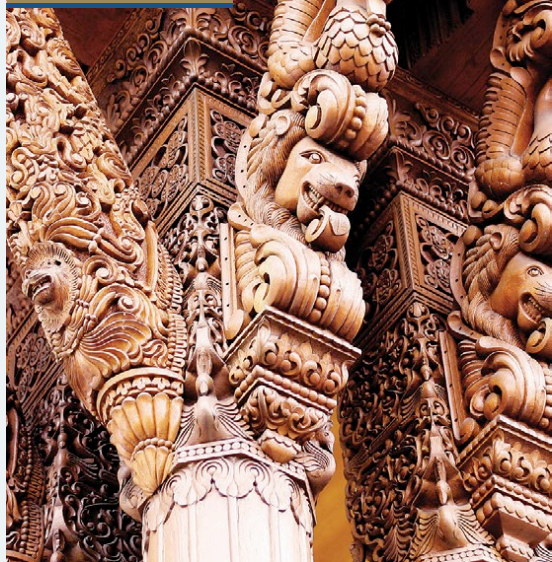
His Holiness Pramukh Swami Maharaj (1921-2016) (*left*) was the fifth spiritual successor of Bhagwan Swaminarayan. It was his vision, inspiration and tireless efforts that created the Mandir. He was succeeded by His Holiness Mahant Swami Maharaj (*right*).



One of  
London's  
Seven  
Wonders

Time Out City Guides

One of the most amazing sights in the world.  
The World of Interiors



## Grand Haveli Foyer

The Mandir is entered through the richly carved portico of the adjoining Haveli (cultural complex), welcoming you into a majestic wooden courtyard with soaring teak columns and oak panels. Elegant peacocks, delicate lotus flowers and royal elephants beckon in greeting, with the carpet uniquely designed to complement the motifs. Wood for the Haveli was sourced from sustainable forests, and for each tree felled, ten saplings were planted.

## Exhibition

Appreciated by both children and adults, the 'Understanding Hinduism' exhibition on the lower floor guides you through a journey of discovery into the beliefs, values and wisdom of the world's oldest living faith. It also includes a short video presentation explaining how and why the Mandir was built.



## Inner Sanctum

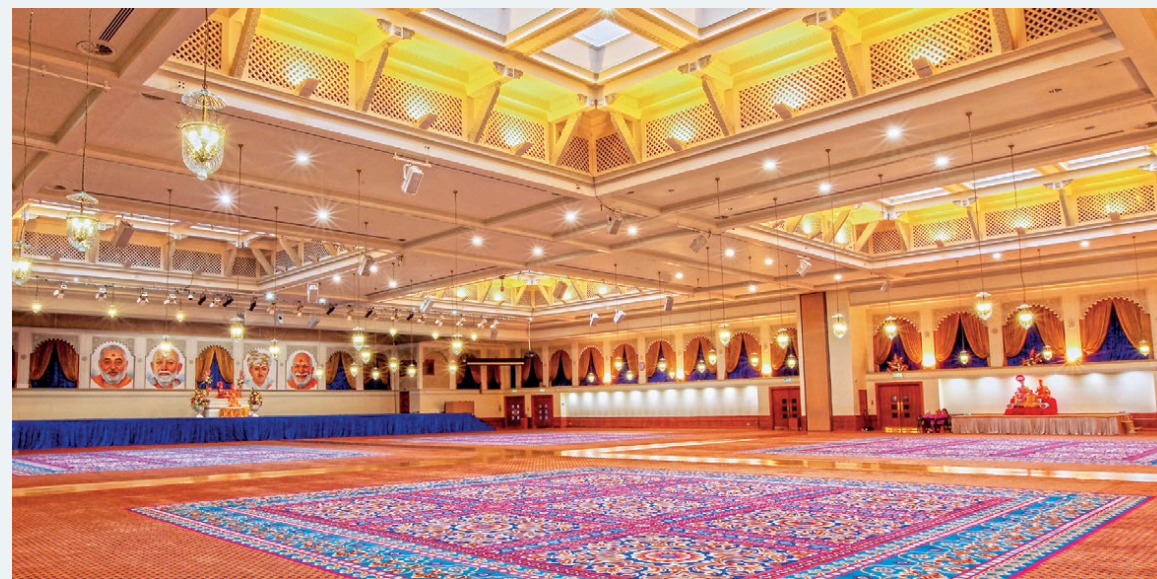
The heart of the Mandir is the inner sanctum on the upper floor, where seven ornate shrines house murtis (sacred images) of the Deities. Marvel at the exquisite carvings of the pillars, ceilings and central dome. Or pause for a moment to pray, reflect, or absorb the peaceful ambience.

## What is a Mandir

A mandir is a Hindu place of worship. In the ancient Indian language of Sanskrit, 'mandir' literally means a place where the mind becomes still and the soul floats freely to seek the source of life, bliss and meaning. It is a place where people can unite to serve God and society.

## Haveli Prayer Hall

The pillar-less assembly hall measures 2,750 square metres and seats over 2,500 worshippers. It incorporates environment-friendly features such as light wells, energy-saving lighting, and a heat exchanger which reuses thermal energy dissipated by the congregation to heat other parts of the complex. It is the venue for weekly assemblies and regular festivals.



## What is a Murti

A murti is a sacred image ritually infused with the presence of God. Hindus worship murtis to express and enhance their loving relationship with the Divine. They are the soul of the Mandir, making it a sacred place of worship wherein God resides – the home of God.



## Souvenir Shop

The Souvenir Shop is filled with a wide selection of books, postcards, CDs, DVDs, herbal products, and gifts for all ages and budgets. They can serve as a great memento of your visit or make wonderful presents. Be sure to visit before you leave.

## Shayona Restaurant & Shop













Why not complete your visit with a meal at this delightful vegetarian restaurant? With traditional Indian décor and mouth-watering food, it is the perfect way to experience some authentic tastes of India. Indian delicacies, groceries and snacks can also be purchased from the adjoining shop.



# BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Neasden, London

The Mandir is open to all visitors and entry is free

## Visitor Information

-  Parking: Free
-  Dress Code: Respectable clothing; shorts and skirts to be below knee-length. It is customary to remove footwear upon entering the Mandir Complex.
-  Bags & Camera: Small (palm-sized) purses and wallets are allowed. Cameras are not. Please deposit all large bags and cameras in the Baggage Cabin prior to entering.
-  Smoking: Not allowed on the premises.
-  Food & Drink: No food, drink or chewing gum allowed on the premises.
-  Video & Photography: May only be taken for personal use, from the outside, not inside.
-  Mobile Phone: Must be switched off or on silent whilst inside.
-  School & Group Visits: Advance booking required and welcomed. Please contact [booking@londonmandir.baps.org](mailto:booking@londonmandir.baps.org).
-  Exhibition & Video: Adults £2.00. OAP & children (6-16) £1.50. Special rates for schools and group visits. Please contact [booking@londonmandir.baps.org](mailto:booking@londonmandir.baps.org).
-  Other Services: Guided tours, lifts and wheelchair access, and baby changing facilities.
-  Info: Entry, timings and services are subject to change. Please visit [londonmandir.baps.org](http://londonmandir.baps.org) for full details and latest updates.
-  Visiting Times: 9am to 6pm daily  
Viewing Sacred Deities: 9am to 12.15pm and 4pm to 6pm daily  
Midday Arti Ritual (Service): 11.45am daily  
Allow around 1½ hours for an enjoyable visit.

## How To Find Us

- \* Only 30 minutes from West End. Signposted as 'Neasden Temple' on A406.
- \* Metropolitan/Jubilee Line to Wembley Park and catch Bus 206 to the Mandir.
- \* Overground/Bakerloo line to Harlesden and catch Bus 206 or 224 to the Mandir.
- \* Bus 112 from Brent Cross and Ealing Broadway to IKEA.



BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir

105-119 Brentfield Road, Neasden, London NW10 8LD

☎ +44 (0)20 8965 2651 | ✉ [info@londonmandir.baps.org](mailto:info@londonmandir.baps.org)

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