



Travel Things Museum 2026

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Travel Things Museum presents 'Everyday Objects Shape Our World' at London Design Festival 2026

London — 29 July 2026— A global collection exploring nostalgia, daily rituals, female experiences, colour, form, and the hidden stories behind everyday objects



Travel Things Museum presents 'Everyday Objects Shape Our World', a new exhibition exploring how ordinary objects connect people, cultures, memories, and experiences across the globe. Presented as part of London Design Festival 2026, the exhibition reveals how thoughtful design, materiality, and personal meaning enrich our everyday lives.

From ideas of nostalgia and daily routines to round shapes, vivid yel-

lows, and the world of books, the collection invites visitors to look differently at familiar objects and discover the cultural stories, human experiences, and creative thinking behind them.

London Design Festival 2026 Activities

We presents a collection of objects exploring six interconnected themes:

**Nostalgia | Daily Rituals & Routine | Round Objects | The Female World |
The Hue of Yellow| The World of Books**

Exhibition place:
The House of ICON
Shoreditch Town Hall
380 Old Street
LONDON
EC1V 9LT (Provisional)

Exhibition dates:
London Design
Festival
12- 20 September
2026 (Provisional)

Admission free

Design District:
[Shoreditchdesign-week](https://shoreditchdesign-week.com/)

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Press images available upon request.

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Bringing together objects from around the world — from Irish peat blocks to Cypriot tumbleweed — the exhibition celebrates both familiarity and curiosity. Each object reveals how people shape, adapt, and personalise the things that surround them. By slowing down and noticing the forms, colours, textures, and materials within our everyday environments, visitors are invited to rediscover the invisible design decisions that influence how we live.

Six Perspectives on Everyday Life

The exhibition begins with nostalgia, presenting objects that carry childhood memories, personal stories, and shared cultural experiences. These familiar items reveal how objects can become vessels of emotion, identity, and belonging.

The theme of daily rituals & routine explores the repeated actions that connect people across cultures — the small habits and everyday practices that define our shared human experience.

Through round objects, the exhibition celebrates the playful and functional qualities of circular design, featuring unexpected examples such as Jamaican Dutch pots and Mauritian mosquito-coil packs.

The female world explores global female experiences through a collection of printed materials, clothing, and everyday products, offering a thoughtful and sometimes humorous reflection on what it means to navigate daily life as a woman across different cultures.

In the world of books, visitors encounter objects including Chinese Little Red Books and Polish miniature poetry books, exploring how texts, publishing, and storytelling shape our perspectives and understanding of the world.

The final theme, the colour yellow, celebrates joy, emotion, and design psychology through a vibrant collection of yellow objects, highlighting the powerful relationship between colour and human experience.

We are delighted to welcome Iza van Riemsdijk, our special guest from Rotterdam, whose remarkable collection of flyswatters offers a fascinating glimpse into the everyday, the unexpected, and the overlooked. She will showcase a selection of fascinating pieces from her collection, joining us to explore how seemingly ordinary objects can shape the way we see and understand our world.

Interactive Experiences & Programme

Visitors are invited to participate in the '**Curiosity Quiz**', an interactive experience encouraging discovery throughout the exhibition, with the chance to win a special prize at the end of the showcase.



The exhibition also marks the launch of **Travel Things Vol. 3**, the museum's annual publication exploring global object stories and celebrating how creativity and design transcend cultural boundaries.

Selected objects from the **Travel Things Museum concept store** will also be available, allowing visitors to take home their own piece of global design storytelling.

Special Collaboration: Tea, Technology & Tradition

As part of the exhibition programme, Travel Things Museum presents a special collaboration with London **Chá-Fé**, an independent speciality coffee shop offering authentic Taiwanese and Japanese teas and cakes.

The collaboration combines the ritual of tea drinking with a celebration of invention and design. Guests will be invited to experience Taiwanese tea prepared through vintage Teasmade machines, bringing together traditional tea culture and playful technological innovation.

Three special tea sessions will take place during London Design Festival 2026, introducing the vision for a future full **Teasmade Teahouse** experience.

Exhibition Support

Travel Things Museum is proud to present Everyday Objects Shape Our World with the support of UK university placement students and volunteers:

Alison Grace Zheng | Anna Ly | Chen Hsun Lee | Huihsuan Chou | Jenna Lubinski | Koushik Upadhyay | Krishan Kumar | Liv Curnen | Martha Gane | Nika Vopilova | Pachara Tonsir-anusorn | Sabrina Kad-Bay Rodriguez | Sara Aslani | Sara Pastorelli | Shu Fei Hsu | Cheng Chuen Yam | Yeji Kim | Yi Ciao Huang

About Travel Things Museum

Travel Things Museum CIC is a London-based not-for-profit museum and cultural organisation founded and curated by Jill Tsai in 2020. Through travel, design, and material culture, the museum explores how everyday objects connect people, places, and cultures across the world.

Our exhibitions, publications, and events invite visitors to see familiar objects in new ways, sparking curiosity, conversation, and shared experiences. By bringing together artists, designers, makers, students, and communities, we create inclusive projects that celebrate cultural diversity and encourage people to discover the world through everyday things.

As a Community Interest Company (CIC), we welcome collaborations with funders, sponsors, volunteers, and community partners who share our passion for connecting people through design, travel, and material culture. Together, we can expand access to creative cultural experiences and inspire future generations.

