



MCB

The Muslim Council of Britain

**Visit My
Mosque**

WELCOME

#VisitMyMosque / visitmymosque.org



WELCOME TO OUR MOSQUE!

We warmly welcome you to your local mosque.

As your Muslim neighbours, we are so happy that you can join us for a cup tea and a good chat. We hope we will be able to share with you what happens in this house of God, and are happy to talk to you about our faith and what we do.

But above all, we want to take this opportunity to make new friends and bring our community closer together: of all faiths and none.

#VisitMyMosque

is a national initiative where mosques across Britain organise an open day inviting in their neighbours for tea and an insight into the day-to-day goings on of a busy Muslim centre of worship.

Facilitated by the Muslim Council of Britain, the country's largest association of mosques, educational and charitable organisations, Visit My Mosque day aims to help the great British public get to know their Muslim neighbours and their places of worship.

Open mosque days are not new. Most mosques have an open door policy and anyone can walk in at any time of their year. Many mosques organise events where people of other faiths and none are welcome to attend and many mosques already organise open days regularly.

Visit My Mosque day is an initiative where mosques around the country have timed their open days to be on the same day.

FAQs



What is a mosque?

The mosque is the place of worship in the Islamic faith. It also acts as a hub for the local community, where people come to learn, meet and help one another. During busy periods such as Ramadan, the month of fasting, the mosque will see increased activity in the form of organised prayer sessions and community-sponsored meals to break the fast (iftars).



Masjid or mosque?

The word mosque has been derived from the Arabic word 'masjid' which means 'place of prostration'. The main feature of a mosque is a prayer room with a wall marked with a 'mihrab' – a niche indicating the direction of Makkah, which Muslims face when praying. Most mosques will have an 'Imam', who plays the role of a leader, teacher and advisor to the congregation.



What should a mosque look like?

The first mosques were very basic and modest, their pillars were palm trees and their walls were made of clay. Today a variety of architectures exists across the world from China to Central Asia to Africa. A typical large mosque may include a 'minaret', a slender tower from which the call to prayer is made, a dome for architectural significance and calligraphic inscriptions for decor and beauty.



What can I expect to see at a mosque today?

Each mosque will be different, but we hope you will take the opportunity to get to know your Muslim neighbours and ask questions about our faith and community.



Do mosques have a dress code?

Mosques will differ on dress code. Like many places of worship, such as historic church sites in Europe, mosques may ask guests to respect the sacredness of the building by for example, asking men to wear long trousers that cover their knees, or women to wear long skirts or a shawl to cover their shoulder and hair.



What is Islam?

Islam comes from the word 'Peace' in Arabic. It is the name given to the way of life observed by over 1.6 billion people across the world. Muslims believe that there is one God – who sent down many messengers including Jesus, Moses and Abraham to guide humanity. Muslims emulate the life of the last messenger, Prophet Muhammad, upon whom be peace, and follow the holy Qur'an, that was revealed to him. It is the central religious text of Islam.



Mosques in Britain are often open to the public



But on **#VisitMyMosque** day, mosques from around the country: from Inverness to Plymouth, Belfast to Ipswich, all come together on one day to let the country know that mosques serve not only local Muslims, but also the community around them, of all faiths and none.

Find participating mosques at: www.visitmymosque.org/find



For its 5th Year anniversary in 2019, #VisitMyMosque is going green and partnering with the national environment charity Keep Britain Tidy!

“When you ...remove stones, thorns and bones from the road, ...it counts for you as Sadaqah (Charity)”

- Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him)
[Hadith: Tirmidhi]

We're encouraging mosques and their local communities to get involved with the #CBSpringClean - inspiring half a million people to join forces to collect and safely dispose of litter from our streets, parks and beaches!

To find out more, visit www.keepbritaintidy.org

Facilitated by:

Supporting partners:



The Muslim Council of Britain is the UK's largest Muslim umbrella body with over 500 affiliated national, regional and local organisations, mosques, charities and schools.

Facebook: fb.com/MuslimCouncil.UK | **Twitter:** @MuslimCouncil | **JustGiving:** www.justgiving.com/mcbcf/Donate

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