

IanVisits

How deep is every tube station on the Underground?

🕒 JULY 1, 2011 👤 GEEKERY 💬 21 COMMENTS

A question you have probably never ever asked yourself is what is the depth of every single tube station on the Underground, but now the question has been asked, you are probably really curious to know the answer.

Someone else was also curious, and filed a Freedom of Information request, so the data is now in the public sphere for us to crawl over.

The figures are (apparently) in metres above sea level – but then weirdly adjusted by LU by 100 metres. I'm sure there is a exceptionally good reason for that buried in the archives somewhere.

For example, at Camden Town station the two Northbound platforms are at the same depth (111.8 metres), but the Southbound platforms differ by 90 centimetres from each other (109.3 and 108.4 metres).

Gosh!

Other such amazing facts were revealed in an Excel spreadsheet, which I have cleaned up a bit and you can download [from here](#).

I suspect someone is busy updating a detailed map of the underground network as you read this.

Other exciting facts about the Underground for use in your next pub quiz can be [found here](#).



📍 LONDON UNDERGROUND

21 thoughts on “How deep is every tube station on the Underground?”



Terence Eden says:

JULY 1, 2011 AT 4:58 PM

Will certainly make for some interesting 3D maps.

REPLY ↩



IanVisits says:

JULY 1, 2011 AT 6:31 PM

As it happens, the track layout schematics are held at the TfL archive and they could probably be converted into digital diagrams of some sort.

I was peering at some only yesterday as it happens.

REPLY ↩



nick says:

JANUARY 15, 2013 AT 9:27 PM

CAN I PLEASE HAVE THE DATA PLEASE? EMAIL ME IF YOU COULD

THANKS

REPLY ↩

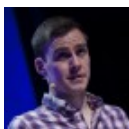


IanVisits says:

JANUARY 15, 2013 AT 9:37 PM

Why would I email the file to you when you can just click on the link I put in the article above?

REPLY ↩



Robin Hawkes says:

JULY 20, 2014 AT 11:49 AM

I didn't use Ian's nicely-cleaned Excel spreadsheet but I did use the raw FoI request data to produce a 3D visualisation using my ViziCities platform (<https://github.com/robhawkes/vizicities>).

You can see the result here, with live trains too: <http://vimeo.com/67869313> (we also did the same for buses here: <http://vimeo.com/90420682>)

Let me know if you have any questions about it!

REPLY ↩



Joe D says:

JULY 1, 2011 AT 5:06 PM

“

I'm sure there is a exceptionally good reason for that buried in the archives somewhere.

Avoids having to work in negative numbers?

REPLY ↩



JohnB says:

JULY 2, 2011 AT 11:01 AM

...errr....."The figures are (apparently) in metres above sea level"so high numbers are shallowest ?
or has your adjustment turned the figures into "real" depths

REPLY ↩



IanVisits says:

JULY 2, 2011 AT 11:06 AM

I haven't changed the numbers at all – which is why I wrote (*apparently*) as I am not entirely sure how they calculate it. Looking at – for example – Waterloo which is said to be the deepest station below sea level, and on the tables shows as quite a small number I presume that is what happened.

REPLY ↩



Forest Pines says:

JULY 3, 2011 AT 7:19 AM

The figures will be altitude, with the 100m adjustment to datum to avoid negative numbers. So the data doesn't really tell you the depth of each station, unless you can also find out the altitude of each entrance.

REPLY ↩



IanVisits says:

JULY 3, 2011 AT 8:37 AM

Which is presumably what the street level figure is for?

REPLY ↩



Forest Pines says:

JULY 6, 2011 AT 11:17 AM

Aaaah – now that would make sense!

REPLY ↩



Chris M says:

JULY 8, 2011 AT 7:44 PM

The 100m is due to LU using a "tunnel datum" of ordnance datum -100m. See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ordnance_Datum#Tunnel_Datum

REPLY ↩



SimonD says:

DECEMBER 14, 2011 AT 3:58 PM

Hi Ian,

So subtracting 100m from the track values, and then subtracting the result from the ground above sea level (outside station), should give us the track depth below ground level for any given station location. I get some significant negatives, such as Greenford (-10.2). Can you explain this?

Thanks for acquiring the data, i can't find any other source, good work.

REPLY ↩



IanVisits says:

DECEMBER 14, 2011 AT 5:01 PM

As Greenford station is above ground, it should register a negative figure.

REPLY ↩



Keith ward says:

JUNE 13, 2014 AT 5:06 PM

Green ford probably minus as on high embankment ? 10 metre probably about right

REPLY ↩



Steve says:

FEBRUARY 18, 2013 AT 1:27 AM

Some of the data does not seem to match up with the fact link on this page i.e. bank...

Key facts 41.4 meters below street level, data is 70.4 below street level. Or am I getting this all wrong? Please advise

REPLY ↩



IanVisits says:

FEBRUARY 18, 2013 AT 9:04 AM

Both sets of data come from TfL – any queries about anomalies will need to be directed at them.

REPLY ↩



Philip says:

JUNE 12, 2013 AT 8:50 PM

Interestingly the spreadsheets shows values for Wembley Central on the Piccadilly line. This should be Bakerloo.

REPLY ↩



Alan says:

AUGUST 12, 2013 AT 4:59 PM

The whole of the Bakerloo line beyond Kilburn Park has been transferred to the Piccadilly line for some reason

REPLY ↩



Hannah says:

OCTOBER 30, 2013 AT 6:12 PM

To workout the depth from street level to the platform, do I just have to subtract the mean level from the Ground Level outside station? I am confused where the extra 100 metres has been added on. Thank you!

REPLY ↩

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