

# Welcome to my home

## Quick intro

I'm Vai. Welcome to my humble home – I hope you will fall in love with the panoramic water views and natural light and find the doorstep location to London very convenient. There's more about me at the end. Important things first:

*The Wi-Fi password is "aeronaut" (connect to either of the two Vai's Hyperoptic 1GB Wi-Fi's).*

## Emergency contact

Contact me at +447910394459 (use WhatsApp when I'm abroad). If I don't respond and it's an emergency, contact my family at +447540402594 (Priya) or +447928326358 (Vibhi).

For police / fire-brigade / ambulance emergency, dial 999.

## About Newlands Quay

Newlands Quay is a Grade II listed building by Historic England (this means it is recognised as a building of national historic interest) and is located in the heart of Wapping, London. It was designed by renowned architect MacCormac, Jamieson, Pritchard & Wright (1985-1987) to echo the original warehouses that once surrounded the Shadwell basin (the water body you see outside). This is why you the design feels a bit like a dock / submarine / ship e.g. the circular windows.

Today Shadwell Basin is one the most significant bodies of water surviving from the historical London docks. It is situated on the north side of the river Thames and east of the Tower of London and Tower Bridge. Unlike some of the other docs which have been landfilled, Shadwell Basin has been retained. It is now a maritime square of 2.8 hectares used for recreational purposes (including sailing, canoeing and fishing). If it's a good summer day, you will see boats, canoes, kayaks, dragon-boats (and sometimes even swimmers – thought it's not allowed!) in the water. This picture shows me at the basin in summer 2019 >>

If you'd like to book boating/canoeing/kayaking etc, the shop is on the East side of the basin.



## In-flat entertainment

- TV – curved 65" 4K Smart television - please do feel free to watch movies!
  - Note: you can connect a tablet/mobile to TV and cast YouTube, Netflix etc (use Vai's 2.4Ghz wi-fi)
- Gaming – PlayStation 4, Xbox 360, Nintendo Wii U – please don't override my game progress
- Google Echo – placed in front of TV and responds to "Ok Google". Can play music and give lots of useful information.
- Board games – available in the book shelf (my favourites are Exploding Kitten and Sushi Go)
- Guitar & Ukulele – go ahead, have a try – it's fun. Please be gentle removing from the hooks
- Books – please read away in the comfy rocking chair 😊

## What's nearby

### To see & do

- Beautiful water-ways - start by walking around the Shadwell basin and then walk towards the West (past the mini park) and you'll go past the Tobacco Dock. The water ways lead all the way to Tower Bridge with some beautiful views (start 2min walk)
- Thames path & Wapping river side: allows you to walk down to Thames (10min walk)
- St Kathrine docks - London's most famous dockside, starting point of 2019 clipper race (15min walk)
- Tower Bridge - check online (<https://www.towerbridge.org.uk/lift-times/>), and catch the bridge opening (20min walk)
- Tower of London - see the crown jewels in London's famous castle (30min walk)
- Shoreditch market - this is a super trendy market (best on Sunday) (30min walk)
- Sky Garden - a free, huge rooftop garden space in the city (suggest you reserve in advance - <https://skygarden.london/>) (30min walk)

### To eat & drink

- Prospect of Whitby – Wapping's oldest pub for drinks with cool river views & British pub food (5min walk)
- Riverview restaurant – great Chinese restaurant with good river views (5min walk)
- The Turk's head – Old school pub with great English food – English Breakfast, Fish & Chips etc. (12min walk)
- Town of Ramsgate – Riverside pub with great English food – Sausage & Mash, Fish & chips, British Pies, Burgers etc. (14min walk)
- St Kathrine docks – these beautiful docks are great to admire and stop for some amazing meal choices (20min walk)
- Brick lane – trendy street with great curry restaurants (20min walk)
- Waitrose – if you want groceries then there are two convenience shops (2min walk) or a Waitrose (15min walk) nearby

## Keeping safe

This is a safe neighbourhood is safe but always flat's main door closed and check it's locked when leaving. It auto-locks itself if you pull/push to close. To open, use the key provided in the middle lock.

Keep all balcony doors locked when away (especially as two of the four balconies are connected with neighbour's balcony).

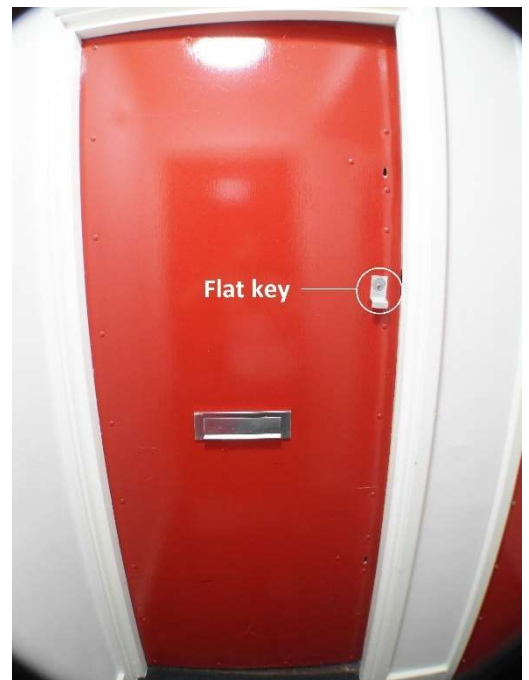
*Careful: flat's main door has auto-lock so if you go out, ensure you have the key with you!*

If you have a visitor, they can ring #61 from main gate and you can let them in using the phone (top button) near main door. They will have to ring again from downstairs.

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*Finally, while the neighbourhood is friendly, residents don't all like the idea of AirBnB so kindly avoid disclosing that.*

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## How things work

I've left post-it's throughout the flat to help you. If anything is unclear, use the instructions below or message me or my family.

### Sofa-bed

The red sofa-bed in the lounge becomes a double. To convert, slide the rug towards the TV by about 3 feet. Remove all the sofa cushions (including the three red sofa cushions). Then gently pull the strap in the lower-middle part of the sofa up from under the sofa to pull out the bed. There is bedding inside the sofa storage. Push the backrest down to complete conversion. Before sleeping, spread the bedsheet.



### Water

Hot water will be readily available for use (wait 20 seconds after turning tap/shower on) so you don't have to do anything. For your knowledge only, water heats up overnight (off-peak) and is stored in a large tank upstairs for use during the day. Don't worry, there is sufficient for several showers. If needed, more water can be heated by turning on peak-water heating button is located opposite main door in hallway under coat hooks (turn off after use please).

### Heating

The heating is already on so you don't have to do anything. But for your knowledge, the home has storage heaters, which means the heaters store energy during the night (off-peak) and release it during the day. The heaters in the lounge, hallway and one of the bedroom upstairs can additionally be turned on in Peak mode during the day for instant heating. There is also a small electric heater in the bedroom under my desk.

### Cooling

There are two black tower fans (with remotes) in the lounge, bedroom upstairs and a white fan in the master bedroom upstairs. Otherwise windows can be opened for some great breezes.

### Cooking

The kitchen has an electric hob (remember to turn off after use), an oven, a microwave and an air-fryer for your convenience. If you'd like tea/coffee, please help yourself to my collection in the top cabinet just above the bin.

### Dishwasher

You are welcome to use my dishwasher. The tablets are under the sink. Please feel free to use my utensils/cutlery for cooking/eating but kindly clean them after use.

### Washer dryer

You are welcome to use my washer-dryer (in the kitchen near balcony). The cleaning liquid sachets are under the sink.

### Toiletries & cleaning

The bathrooms and kitchen should be stocked well but if you need a top-up (or say, a new tooth brush), then look in the en-suite cabinet upstairs. If you need kitchen towels, cleaning sprays etc (e.g. if you spill something) then it's under the kitchen sink. Extra tissues are available in the downstairs first storage cupboard next to the entrance.

## About me

I was born in New Delhi, India but grew up in multiple parts of the world including Singapore, South Korea and parts of Europe. While I'm an aeronautical engineer by academics, I'm an entrepreneur and work as a consultant & investor. I enjoy travelling – my favourite recent trip was to Philippines in 2019.

Outside work, I'm a published author (you might find my book in the bookshelf) a keen sports-person (I play table tennis in London leagues). I am a trustee for an old age charity in London.

I hope you have a good trip!

## My privacy

I sometimes host guests when I'm away on holiday but otherwise live here. Kindly respect the cleanliness of my home and please be careful & gentle with my furniture, technology and appliances. Please refrain from moving stuff around or using my personal belongings. Most of my personal belongings are in the 2<sup>nd</sup> bedroom upstairs.

