# European Association of Sinological Librarians

# Forty-fifth Annual Conference

# London, 10-12 September 2025

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The [British Library](http://bl.uk) in London will host EASL 2025 from Wednesday 10th to Friday 12th September. The Library is conveniently located in St Pancras, in the north part of Zone 1 at the heart of London, with excellent access to public transport: buses, tube lines, national and international trains.

There are several hotels and restaurants in the neighborhood.

**Venue:**

**The British Library**

**96 Euston Road**

**NW1 2DB London**

The British Library

We are the national library of the United Kingdom and our shelves hold over 170 million items – a living collection that gets bigger every day. Although our roots extend back centuries, we aim to collect everything published in the UK today, tomorrow and far into the future. Our London and Yorkshire sites hold collections ranging from newspapers and maps to sound recordings, patents, academic journals, as well as a copy of every UK domain website and blog.

We work with partners and libraries across the UK and the world to make sure that as many people as possible have the chance to use and explore our collections, events and expertise.

Items in Chinese or from China can be found in many of our Department and Sections: the East Asian Section and the Visual Arts Section in the Asian and African Collections Department, the Maps Collections, the Philatelic Collections and the India Office Library. The main Chinese collection in the Asian and African studies Department comprises more than 130,000 items, from 3,000-year-old oracle bones to contemporary material. It includes manuscripts, printed books, periodicals, rubbings, maps, scrolls, bank notes, letters, posters and paintings.

The earliest acquisitions of Chinese material date back to 1753, when Sir Hans Sloane bequeathed his collection to the nation, including three Chinese books. Sloane’s bequest created one of the major foundational collections of the British Museum.

The Chinese collection includes 484 Shang-dynasty oracle bones, 24 volumes of the Ming encyclopaedia *Yongle Dadian*, imperial manuscripts, fine woodblock-printed editions from the Ming dynasty, early printed and manuscript material from Dunhuang and the Silk Roads (Stein collection) and Ming-dynasty banknotes.

How to get to us

London is linked to 5 international airports with several direct connections to major cities in Europe and East Asia. All the airports are well connected to the city center via trains, the Tube, taxis and buses.

[Heathrow Airport](https://www.heathrow.com/)

[Gatwick Airport](https://www.gatwickairport.com/)

[London City Airport](https://www.londoncityairport.com/)

[Stansted Airport](https://www.stanstedairport.com/)

[Luton Airport](https://www.london-luton.co.uk/)

[London St Pancras International](https://stpancras.com/) train station is very close to the British Library and connects London to Paris, Lille, Brussels and Amsterdam via [Eurostar](https://www.eurostar.com/uk-en).

Public transport in London

London’s public transport is well developed and convenient, with tube trains and buses that run every 5 to 7 minutes. Tickets and Oyster cards can be bought from machines at the stations and you can also tap contactless bank cards or mobile devices at the ticket readers at entrance and exit barriers for the tube and on boarding buses, for the same price. Single one-way journeys within Zone 1 on the tube cost £2.80. Bus journeys cost £1.75.

You can plan your journey, check prices and download transport maps from the [Transport for London](https://tfl.gov.uk/) website. The closest Tube and train station for reaching the British Library is **King’s Cross-St Pancras station** and **Euston station** is also very close.

IT / Technical info

We politely remind you that conference presentations should be sent in advance. For security reasons no USB keys can be plugged into the Library’s devices.

Free public Wi-Fi is available onsite. No username or password is required but you will need to agree to the Terms and Conditions in order to access it.

Building facilities

Opening times and other useful information about the British Library building can be found [here](https://www.bl.uk/visit/).

**Cloakrooms and lockers:** if you're visiting our exhibition galleries you will need to leave backpacks in the cloakroom. Our cloakroom and digital lockers are free to use and are located on the Lower Ground Floor of the main Library building.

**Large luggage:** the size of luggage you can bring into the Library is restricted to airline ‘carry on’ size. Any luggage larger than 56 (H) x 45 (W) x 25 (D) cm will not be allowed into the British Library for safety and security reasons. There is a size gauge outside our entrance.

Please note that this size restriction does not apply to pushchairs, foldaway bicycles, umbrellas or walking sticks.

Hotels

London offers plenty of choice for accommodation, catering to a range of budgets. Some of the hotels within walking distance of the British Library are listed below.

[The Standard, London](https://book.standardhotels.com/?adult=2&arrive=2024-11-03&chain=18474&child=0&currency=GBP&depart=2024-11-04&dest=STANDARD&filter=META&hotel=2053&level=chain&locale=en-GB&productcurrency=GBP&rate=STANADV%2CADV%2CSTAN%2CSTANBB%2CBAR1&rooms=1&tt_ad_type=free&tt_adults=2&tt_checkin=2024-11-03&tt_checkout=2024-11-04&tt_children=0&tt_claim_key=claim%3A15ce7396028b367e9f72e81f87812998990e68b60aa404aa7870f061f54ae07a%3Af9d638c24ec240f9a0c81ba6234e5715%3A1727956359199&tt_date_type=default&tt_googlepv=1&tt_los=1&tt_meta=Google&tt_partner_id=209038&tt_user_country=GB&tt_user_device=desktop&utm_campaign=Meta&utm_content=Localuniversal&utm_medium=Triptease&utm_source=Google&wh_token=c2d25561-0ba0-4f4f-8c45-b84d4e9f80e7-209038-pms) \*\*\*\*\* 10 Argyle Street, WC1H 8EG

[St Pancras Renaissance Hotel](https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/lonpr-st-pancras-renaissance-hotel-london/overview/?scid=f2ae0541-1279-4f24-b197-a979c79310b0) \*\*\*\*\* Euston Road, NW1 2AR

[Crown Plaza London King’s Cross](https://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/gb/en/london/lonkc/hoteldetail?cm_mmc=GoogleMaps-_-CP-_-GB-_-LONKC) \*\*\*\* 1 Kings Cross Road, WC1 9HX

[Hilton London Euston](https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/loneuhi-hilton-london-euston/?SEO_id=GMB-EMEA-HI-LONEUHI) \*\*\*\* 17-18 Upper Woburn Pl, WC1H 0HT

[Premier Inn, London St Pancras Hotel](https://www.premierinn.com/gb/en/hotels/england/greater-london/london/london-st-pancras.html?cid=GLBC_LONSTP) \*\*\* 88 Euston Road, NW1 2RA

[Premier Inn, London Kings’ Cross](https://www.premierinn.com/gb/en/hotels/england/greater-london/london/london-kings-cross.html?cid=GLBC_KINPTI) \*\*\* 26-30 York Way, N1 9AA

[Mabledon Court Hotel](https://www.crowngroupofhotels.com/mabledon-court-hotel/) \*\*\*, 10-11 Mabledon Place, WC1H 9AZ

[The California Hotel](https://www.thecalifornialondon.com/) \*\*\*, 4-8 Belgrove Street, WC1H 8AB

[Belgrove Hotel](https://www.belgrovehotel.com/) \*\*, 1-3 Belgrove Street, London WC1H 8AB

[The Fairway Hotel](https://fairwaylondon.com/) \*\*, 13/15 Argyle Street, WC1H 8EJ

[Crestfield Hotel](https://www.crestfieldhotel.co.uk/) \*\*, 3-4 Crestfield Street, WC1H 8AT

[Central Hotel London](https://centralhotellondon.com/) \*\*, 16/18 Argyle Street, WC1H 8EJ

Restaurants close to the Library

Please note that many restaurants and bars require payment **by card only** (no cash accepted).

There are cafés and restaurants in the Library building. More information can be found here: <Https://www.bl.uk/visit/eat-drink-shop/>

Some of the restaurants within walking distance of the Library are listed below:

[Albertini](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmaps.app.goo.gl%2FQiNXdDJQxfUCTb5Q8&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cb0718f3f7f854c7d157208dcf1bd847b%7C21a44cb7f9c34f009afabd1e8e88bcd9%7C0%7C0%7C638651043474873947%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2FOS9mTSQUSbmYmp0B9Jkj01CxRSZFFUP9PK0gVpVGqI%3D&reserved=0) (Italian), 16-20 Chalton St, NW1 1JH

[Bao](https://baolondon.com/restaurant/bao-kings-cross/) (Taiwanese), 4 Pancras Square, N1C 4AG

[Chilli Cool](https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Restaurant_Review-g186338-d2256101-Reviews-Chilli_Cool-London_England.html) (Sichuanese), 15 Leigh St, WC1H 9EW

[Fatto a Mano](https://www.fattoamanopizza.com/) (Pizza), Unit 1, 3 Pancras Sq, N1C 4AG

[Kimchee](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fmaps.app.goo.gl%2FN4LgW3BBMaLsGkEu7&data=05%7C02%7C%7Cb0718f3f7f854c7d157208dcf1bd847b%7C21a44cb7f9c34f009afabd1e8e88bcd9%7C0%7C0%7C638651043474897197%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=I2l1hqEhRcyPiGblPrRdiN6aiu2ud7wmw6TzZeFbSWE%3D&reserved=0) (Korean), Unit 4, 2 Pancras Sq, N1C 4AG

[Mai Sushi](http://www.maisushi.co.uk/kings-cross-japanese-restaurant-menu.html) (Japanese), 36-38 Chalton St, NW1 1JB

[Murger Han](https://murgerhan.com/about-murger-han/) (Xi’an), 62 Eversholt Street, NW1 1DA

[Nonos](https://nonos.co.uk/menu/) (Greek), 112 Judd St, WC1H 9NT

[Somers Town Coffee House](https://www.thesomerstowncoffeehouse.co.uk/) (British pub food), 60 Chalton St, London NW1 1HS

[Xin Kai](https://www.xinkai.co.uk/menus) (Chinese), 50 Caledonian Rd, N1 9DP

[Yatri](https://yatrieuston.com/) (Indian), 9 Chalton St, NW1 1JD

There are several chain restaurants in the area and more casual options, including ‘pop-up’ and street vendors, in places like Granary Square and Coal Drops Yard (15-20-minute walk from the British Library).

Climate

Weather in September is usually mild. On average, high temperatures will reach 20 degrees Celsius and low temperatures will stay around 13 degrees Celsius. Light showers and wind are common. We recommend packing a light jacket and a sweater for chilly evenings.

Electricity

In the UK, plugs and sockets in use are ‘Type G’. The standard voltage is 230 V at a frequency of 50 Hz. Visitors coming from abroad are advised to bring adapters.

Passports, Travel Authorisations and Visas

To enter the UK, **you will need a valid passport**. If you need to renew your passport, remember that this can take time.

Check if you need a UK visa: <https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa>

Visa centre locations by country: <https://www.gov.uk/find-a-visa-application-centre>

**From 2025, citizens of countries who can enter the UK without a visa need to apply for an electronic travel authorisation (ETA). This includes all European Union nations (except Ireland).** [Apply for an electronic travel authorisation (ETA) - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-an-electronic-travel-authorisation-eta)

Medical assistance

If you are visiting the UK from an EU country or Switzerland and you fall ill or have a medical emergency during your temporary stay in England, you can use a valid EHIC issued by your home country to access healthcare. For more information, visit [Healthcare for visitors to the UK from the EU - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/healthcare-for-eu-and-efta-citizens-visiting-the-uk)

Currency

The pound sterling (£), or GBP, is the official currency of the United Kingdom.

Exchange rates at can be seen at [Xe Currency Converter - Live Exchange Rates Today.](https://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/)

Tourist information

You can find information about London and its attractions here: <https://www.visitlondon.com.> For England and attractions outside London you can visit <https://www.visitengland.com>

We are looking forward to welcoming you to the British Library!

Chinese section and the International Office team