



TURNER'S HOUSE
TWICKENHAM

Date 10.10.2019

Turner's House celebrates unveiling of the new £20

The new £20 featuring J.M.W. Turner and his work was unveiled today by The Bank of England, to which Turner's House Trust has responded by planning a series of events in 2020 to celebrate.

It was announced this morning that the new note, which will be printed on polymer, will be issued on 20 February 2020.

The design will feature:

- J.M.W. Turner's self-portrait, painted c. 1799 and currently on display in Tate Britain.
- Turner's painting *The Fighting Temeraire*; a tribute to the ship HMS Temeraire which played a decisive role in Nelson's victory at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805. In 2005, it was voted Britain's greatest painting in a BBC poll.
- The quote - "Light is therefore colour" from an 1818 lecture by Turner referring to his innovative use of light, shade, colour and tone in his pictures.
- Turner's signature from his Will, the document with which he bequeathed many of his paintings to the nation.

The Bank's Governor, Mark Carney, said, "Our banknotes celebrate the UK's heritage, salute its culture, and testify to the achievements of its most notable individuals. And so, it is with the new £20 banknote, featuring JMW Turner, launched today at Turner Contemporary in Margate. Turner's contribution to art extends well beyond his favourite stretch of shoreline. Turner's painting was transformative, his influence spanned lifetimes, and his legacy endures today. The new £20 note celebrates Turner, his art and his legacy in all their radiant, colourful, evocative glory."

Turner designed his house in Twickenham, his only 3D artwork, and enjoyed it as his rural retreat at the time he made the famous quote about light. His portrait, signature and most popular painting will now feature on another 2 billion works of art – the new £20 notes.

Turner's House Trust are supporting the issue of the new note next year by planning a programme of events throughout 2020. These include their first exhibition of Turner's original work; a *Turner Day* on June 11th featuring talks on his life and work, including the painting *The Fighting Temeraire*; family printmaking workshops creating personalised banknotes, and studying Turner's self-portrait – the image that will appear on the £20 note. You can find out more and book these events via their website turnershouse.org/whats-on/.

"Turner's House Trust are delighted to be working with The Bank of England to explore ways of celebrating the new £20 and introducing new audiences to one of Britain's most important artists, his house and ground breaking work," said Michael Deriaz, Vice-Chair of Turner's House Trust.

Turner's House, Sandycombe Lodge, 40 Sandycombe Road, St Margarets, Twickenham TW1 2LR is open Wednesday-Sunday: 12–1pm: Self-guided visits, and 1-4pm: Guided Tours turnershouse.org.
Social Media [Twitter: @TurnersHouse](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#).

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Dropbox folder of images
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/nf9to3x6p1uyhax/AABoZ07EGdhYEEaJ5Qg-6Dt8a?dl=0>

Notes for Editors

Turner's House

Turner's House was designed by the great landscape painter, JMW Turner as a rural retreat. It has won a string of awards since its restoration and opened to the public in the summer of 2017. It came first in The People's Award and Highly Commended in the Historic Buildings category of last year's The Civic Voice Design Awards. These awards followed other accolades awarded to Butler Hegarty, the house's conservation architects, scooping two honours in last year's prestigious Royal Institute of British Architects awards where the house was named the overall winner for London as well as receiving an award for South-West London. The house also won two Time Out Love London Awards for Favourite Cultural Spot and Favourite Landmark in Richmond and was commended in the recent Brick Awards. Its garden recently won Silver in Richmond in Bloom.

Bank of England Selection process

The new £20 marks the first time the Bank of England has used a more transparent character selection process in which members of the public could suggest a figure from the visual arts. The Bank received 29,701 nominations covering 590 eligible characters. The Banknote Advisory Committee, with input from public focus groups, then produced a shortlist which it discussed in detail with the Governor who made the final decision.

What were the criteria?

An unquestioned contribution to the visual arts; a wider contribution to British society; and an enduring influence.

The strength of the other four characters on the final shortlist – filmmaker Charlie Chaplin, sculptor Barbara Hepworth, painter William Hogarth, and designer Josiah Wedgwood – gives a sense of the exceptional pedigree of British visual arts – and contextualises Turner's contribution.

You can link through to a video about the selection process including interviews with the Banknote Advisory Committee John Akomfrah, Sir David Cannadine, Andrew Graham-Dixon, Sandy Nairne, Alice Rawsthorn, Baroness Lola Young, and, from the Bank, Deputy Governor Ben Broadbent and Chief Cashier Victoria Cleland.

The Turner £20

The polymer £20 note contains sophisticated security features making it the most secure Bank of England banknote yet. For the first time, the note incorporates two windows and a two-colour foil, making it very difficult to counterfeit. Polymer notes last longer than paper notes and they stay in better condition during day-to-day use. This note, like the polymer £10, will contain a tactile feature to help vision impaired people identify the denomination. The public will begin to see the new £20 from 20 February next year as the notes

leave cash centres around the country and enter general circulation. The public can continue to spend paper £20 notes as usual and these will be gradually withdrawn as they are banked by retailers and the public. Notice will be given six months ahead of legal tender status of the paper £20 being withdrawn.

Further information on the note can be found at www.thenew20.co.uk