



Journey Connected
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Three Perfect Days in London - A Journey Connected Travel Guide

Trip Summary

Day 1

St Paul's Cathedral - St Paul's Cathedral

Tate Modern - Tate Modern

London Eye - London Eye

Houses of Parliament - Houses of Parliament

Day 2

British Museum - British Museum

London Bus Tour, Hop On – Hop Off - London Bus Tour, Hop On – Hop Off

Museum of London - Museum of London

Kew Gardens - Kew Gardens

Day 3

Buckingham Palace - Buckingham Palace

Hyde Park - Hyde Park

Victoria & Albert Museum - Victoria & Albert Museum

Natural History Museum - Natural History Museum

London City Guide

London - The City

Top Things to See and Do in London

London - Do & See - Buckingham Palace, Houses of Parliament, London Eye, London Bus Tour, Hop On – Hop Off, British Museum, River Thames Cruise, Stonehenge, Windsor Castle & Bath from London, Tower of London, Soho, Platform Nine & Three-Quarters, Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, Chinatown, Natural History Museum, Warner Bros. Studio Tour London – The Making of Harry Potter, Shakespeare's Stratford-upon-Avon & Cotswolds Tour from London, Jack the Ripper Tour, St Paul's Cathedral, National Gallery, Hyde Park, Leicester Square, Brixton & the Electric Avenue, Hoxton & Shoreditch, Brick Lane, Victoria & Albert Museum, Sherlock Holmes Museum, Madame Tussauds London, Hampstead Heath, Tate Modern, British Film Institute — The BFI, Kew Gardens, SEA LIFE London Aquarium, Legoland Windsor, Hampton Court Palace, WWT London Wetland Centre, London Dungeon, Museum of London, London Mithraeum

London Top 10

Buckingham Palace - Buckingham Palace

London Eye - London Eye

Houses of Parliament - Houses of Parliament

London Bus Tour, Hop On – Hop Off - London Bus Tour, Hop On – Hop Off

British Museum - British Museum

River Thames Cruise - River Thames Cruise

Stonehenge, Windsor Castle & Bath from London - Stonehenge, Windsor Castle & Bath from London

Tower of London - Tower of London

Soho - Soho

Platform Nine & Three-Quarters - Platform Nine & Three-Quarters

London Dining, Bars, and Nightlife

London - Bars & Nightlife - Ministry of Sound, Vaulty Towers, Marksman Public House, Mayor of Scaredy Cat Town, The Four Quarters, Ladies & Gents, The Vaults, The Argyll Arms, Soho, The Top Secret Comedy Club, Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club, The King's Head Theatre Pub, The Atlas Pub, Gordon's Wine Bar, The Roxy, The Prince Alfred, The Hippodrome Casino

London - Restaurants - Arcade Food Hall, Kanada-Ya Piccadilly, Bang Bang Oriental Food Hall, M.Manze, J Sheekey, Inamo Soho, The Wolseley, Restaurant Gordon Ramsay, Borough Market, Dinner by Heston Blumenthal, Wild Heart, Poppie's Fish & Chips, OXO Tower Restaurant, Bar and Brasserie, Mestizo Mexican Restaurant & Tequila Bar, Gaucho Piccadilly, Sketch, Masala Zone Bayswater, Sarastro, Rainforest Cafe, The Blues Kitchen — Shoreditch, Locanda Locatelli, Brick Lane, Duke of Cambridge, Hide

London Tourist Resources

London - Tourist Information - Passport / Visa, Frequently Asked Questions about London (FAQs), Best Time to Visit, London Heathrow Airport (LHR), London Gatwick Airport (LGW), London Stansted Airport (STN), London Luton Airport (LTN), Airport — London City (LCY), Public Transport — Bus, Public Transport — the Tube, Public Transport — Docklands Light Railway, Public Transport — Thames River Bus, Public Transport — Local Trains, Public Transport — Trams, Public Transport — Cycle Hire Scheme, Public Transport — Emirates Air Line, Taxi, Post, Pharmacy, Telephone, Electricity

Day 1



St Paul's Cathedral

The 17th century St Paul's Cathedral on Ludgate Hill is one of the capital's most iconic buildings. Designed by the illustrious Sir Christopher Wren, St Paul's was the tallest building in London until as late as 1962. Use the touchscreen multimedia guides or take a guided tour to learn about the famous interior or, if you're feeling fit, climb up to the Whispering Gallery and try out the acoustics. From there you can carry on making your way up to the Golden Gallery atop the dome, where you'll be rewarded with breathtaking views of London. You can also descend into the crypt where you'll find memorials of important historical figures such as Admiral Lord Nelson.



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St Paul's Churchyard, London
+44 20 7246 8350

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Tate Modern

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Riverside Building, County Hall
+44 870 990 8883

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Houses of Parliament

Take a tour of the Palace of Westminster, also referred to as the Houses of Parliament, and experience 1,000 years of history. Visitors are welcomed into the building through Westminster Hall, before following in the footsteps of the Queen at the State Opening of Parliament. Marvel at the Victorian splendour of the Lords Chamber and see the famous green benches in the Commons Chamber. Audioguides and tours are available in English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Russian and Mandarin.



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Westminster, London
+44 20 7219 3000

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Day 2



British Museum

One of the largest and most interesting museums in the world, the British Museum is home to some of the most treasured historical artefacts ever found. The extensive exhibition includes the Rosetta Stone, Assyrian treasures, Egyptian mummies and the museum's spectacularly illuminated Great Court, where you can find the museum's new restaurant. This restaurant is an ideal spot for taking afternoon tea under the court's spectacular roof. Free tours of the museum and guides are also available. The tours are led by knowledgeable experts in their field of study — don't miss this amazing learning opportunity.



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London Bus Tour, Hop On – Hop Off

Enjoy the Perfect Introduction to London.

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Museum of London

Discover the story of the world's greatest city at The Museum of London. The tale begins with prehistoric London, moving on to the influence of the Romans and Saxons on the city, and then on towards Medieval London. Along the way you will encounter civil wars, deathly plagues and rampant fires. Journey through the Galleries of Modern London along Victorian streets and marvel at the lavish Lord Mayor's Coach display.



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150 London Wall, City of London
+44 20 7001 9844

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Kew Gardens

London's largest UNESCO World Site, the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, is the largest conservation project of its kind in the world. Visit the Davies Alpine House and experience the high-altitude conditions that allow alpine plants to grow, take a trip the desert to the jungle at Princess of Wales Conservatory, marvel at treacherous carnivorous plants and take in sweeping views of London from atop the Great Pagoda.





Kew Gardens

Richmond, United Kingdom

+44 20 8332 5655

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Day 3



Buckingham Palace

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Victoria & Albert Museum



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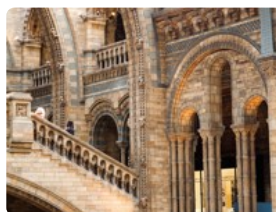
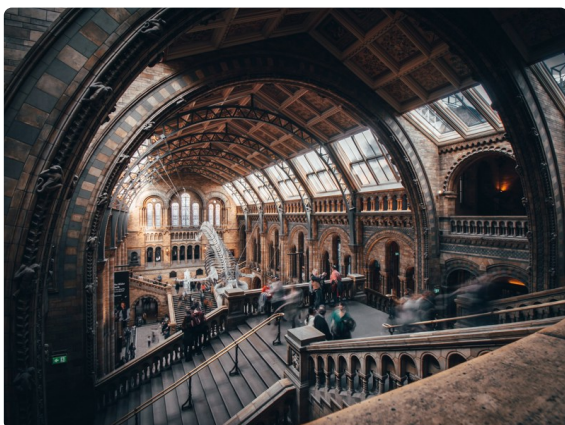
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Natural History Museum

The Natural History Museum houses hundreds of amazing exhibits from the natural world in one of London's most beautiful landmark buildings. Highlights include the popular Dinosaurs gallery, the model blue whale and the Cocoon specimen centre special. Events and debates are held in the Darwin Centre high-tech Attenborough Studio, where you'll have the chance to meet important scientists.



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London City Guide



London - The City

London is a world-class city and the heart of British politics, culture and commerce. Its history stretches back thousands of years, and remnants of this fascinating past can still be found across the capital — from the Tower of London, a gruesome site of Medieval torture, to the majestic Buckingham Palace.

A captivating mix of old and new, London is also renowned for its creativity, innovation and originality in art, theatre, music, design and cuisine. It is home to countless art galleries and museums, including the Tate Modern, National Gallery and British Museum, which possesses some of the world's finest treasures. And best of all, entry to most of these museums and galleries is free!

To catch all the 'big-hitters' in one go, you can't beat a walk along the River Thames. Strolling from Tower Bridge to the Houses of Parliament you'll pass the Tower of London, Shakespeare's Globe, Tate Modern, the Southbank Centre, the National Theatre, the London Eye, the SEA LIFE London Aquarium and London Dungeon. In addition to these world-famous attractions, there are many more to discover during your stay.

The West End is the place to go to see London's top theatre shows and musicals. Alongside classics including Les Misérables, Phantom of the Opera and The Woman in Black, you will find hit contemporary shows, such as Billy Elliot, The Lion King and Thriller – Live. Don't forget to explore the many off-West End venues too, such as the National Theatre, The Old Vic and (during the summer months) Regent's Park Open Air Theatre.

In the West End you will also find some of London's top shopping destinations, from Oxford Street to Seven Dials. Different neighbourhoods are known for other unique opportunities for shopping: Notting Hill is renowned for its antiques and Portobello Market, Greenwich has an excellent arts and crafts markets, while Westfield London City and Westfield Stratford are the city's most famous malls.

If you would rather save money than spend it, the eight Royal Parks are well worth a visit — and a great spot for a picnic. Visit Greenwich Park to drop in on the Royal Observatory, walk through Kensington Gardens to see Kensington Palace, take a paddle on the Hyde Park boating lake, see Buckingham Palace from scenic St James's Park, spot deer at Richmond Park and Bushy Park, and meet the animals at London Zoo, which lies within Regent's Park.

Along the way indulge your taste buds with delicious food at one of London's many restaurants, gastropubs and pop-up eateries. You can eat food prepared by a celebrity chef, discover modern British cuisine, or eat food from anywhere in the world — be it Indian, Chinese, Persian, Greek, Italian or Lebanese. Top off your perfect day with a fancy cocktail, excellent wine or locally brewed beer at a top London pub or bar — and maybe a boogie at one of the capital's buzzing nightspots and clubs.



Top Things to See and Do in London



London - Do & See

London is full of things to do and see. From famous attractions such as the London Eye, the Palace of Westminster, the Big Ben and the Tower of London to much lesser known ones that are almost secret. There are also exciting shopping destinations, vast areas of green parkland in the middle of the city and much, much more.

Read on for inspiration and handy tips on places you just can't miss while you're in the capital. Many attractions on this list are free to enter, giving you another great reason to fall in love with London.



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River Thames Cruise

See London from a different angle by taking a cruise along the famous River Thames. Glide by some of London's top attractions from Westminster to Greenwich, and listen to the entertaining live commentary as you pass sights such as the Shakespeare's Globe, Tower Bridge, and the Tower of London.



Stonehenge, Windsor Castle & Bath from London

Discover three gems outside of London on a fun day trip to Stonehenge, Windsor Castle, and the historic town of Bath.

First, pay a visit to Windsor Castle, home to the British royal family, for a tour of the State Apartments and St George's Chapel. Then, continue to Salisbury, where you'll get to see the enigmatic Stonehenge rock formations. Later, explore the UNESCO World Heritage-listed city of Bath, known for its elegant Georgian architecture and Roman baths.



Tower of London

Tower Hill, London
+44 20 3166 6000

Tower of London is one of the most famous fortified buildings in the world. It's also a mysterious place full of dark secrets, strange stories and historic relics. Here you can admire the priceless Crown Jewels, explore the Medieval Palace, visit the infamous Bloody Tower, and go on a tour with a Yeoman Warder to learn about the many executions that took place here.



Soho

Soho, West End

Soho is an absolute must-see, since it's so multifaceted. Dean, Frith, Beak, and Old Compton streets are lively around the clock, and long-running Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club can be found here. Shaftesbury Avenue attracts theatre-goers, while Carnaby, Oxford and Regent streets and the iconic Liberty's department store are there for your shopping needs. Music shops, small cafes and quaint bakeries are on every corner!

The energetic streets of Soho are the most popular nightlife destination. The neighbourhood still retains a somewhat risqué vibe with bars, cafes and restaurants that cater to hip crowds of international creatives. Soho is also known as the centre of LGBTQA+ community, so don't miss out on all the gay and lesbian party spots in the area.



Platform Nine & Three-Quarters

King's Cross railway station, London

Locals know King's Cross as one of the city's busiest train stations serving much of the country since 1852. The place became internationally famous when Harry Potter used the station on his train journey to Hogwarts. Take a picture with a trolley disappearing into the brick wall and get some wizarding memorabilia from the Potter-themed souvenir shop.



Shakespeare's Globe Theatre

21 New Globe Walk, Bankside

+44 20 7902 1400

Shakespeare's Globe Theatre is a reconstruction of the original open-air theatre where playwright, William Shakespeare, first staged many of his famous plays such as Romeo and Juliet, Hamlet, and Midsummer Night's Dream.

On the banks of the Thames, just a few hundred yards away from its original location, the Globe stages classic and modern interpretations of Shakespeare's works as well as of brand new plays. There is also an exhibition with audio guides available in English, French, German, Spanish, Italian, and Japanese as well as expert guided tours.



Chinatown

Gerrard Street, London

London's Chinatown is a vibrant neighbourhood full of authentic Asian restaurants, stores, supermarkets and secret bars, adorned with red lanterns and red arches. Try some authentic buns at BaoziInn Romilly Street, Cantonese staples such as roast duck on rice at Café TPT or drop by Gerrard's Corner for a generous portion of nostalgia and the adorable retro vibe. There is always something new to explore here!



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Warner Bros. Studio Tour London – The Making of Harry Potter

Studio Tour Drive, Leavesden

Step into the magical world of Harry Potter and visit the film sets where the movies were shot in the Warner Bros. Studio Tour London — The Making of Harry Potter. On the tour, you can nose around Dumbledore's office, enter the Great Hall, walk down Diagon Alley, see how they made Harry Potter fly on his broomstick and watch special effect animatronics come to life. A must-do for fans of the world's favourite wizard.



Shakespeare's Stratford-upon-Avon & Cotswolds Tour from London

Leave the hustle and bustle of London behind to discover England's storybook villages as you tour the charming Cotswolds and the medieval town of Stratford-upon-Avon.

Walk in the footsteps of England's most iconic playwright as you tour Shakespeare's birthplace and Anne Hathaway's Cottage in Stratford-upon-Avon.

Revel in the quintessentially English villages and thatched-roof cottages of the Cotswolds as you visit Bibury, Burford, and Bourton-on-the-water.



Jack the Ripper Tour

Uncover the legend of the notorious Jack the Ripper on a spine-chilling London night tour.

Follow your expert guide through the dimly lit backstreets of Whitechapel and listen to the disturbing tales and conspiracy theories surrounding one of history's most infamous serial killers. See the streets of Victorian London brought to life with innovative RIPPER-VISION™ projections.



St Paul's Cathedral

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National Gallery

Trafalgar Square, London

+44 20 7747 2885

You will find vast collections of some of the most famous, beautiful and awe-inspiring paintings in the world at the National Gallery. Treat yourself to some of the best artistic production there is and ever has been. Feast your eyes on masterpieces by Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Titian, Rembrandt, Vermeer, Turner, Monet or Van Gogh.



Hyde Park

Hyde Park, London

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Leicester Square

West End, London

Leicester Square is a pedestrianised square surrounded by a number of nationally significant cinemas with some of the city's biggest screens, as well as a variety of restaurants. The Odeon Leicester Square, Empire, Leicester Square is often used for film premieres, so why not do a bit of Hollywood star-spotting while you're in London.

The lush garden in the middle of the square is the perfect spot for cooling off in during the summer or resting your feet. Cinephiles should definitely check out the programme of the Prince Charles Cinema. This independent cinema does screenings of cult films and marathon film runs.



Brixton & the Electric Avenue

Brixton's Electric Avenue got its name for being the first market street in London to be lit with electric lights. Today, the avenue is a diverse and eclectic food market, mostly specialising in African and Caribbean cuisine.

Apart from the food, the area is attracting bargain hunters in search of cameras, audio equipment, all manner of household goods, hair and beauty products and services, wigs, fishmongers, butchers, bakers, fruit and flower shops — you name it.

Brixton Village is a covered arcaded area of the market that brims with quirky shops, fruit and vegetable stands, and a plethora of cafes and restaurants.

Brixton Academy is an iconic venue that hosts some of the biggest rock and pop acts in the world. The venue was originally opened as a theatre and cinema called the Astoria, but has since evolved into a concert venue: Madonna, Sex Pistols and The Smiths have all performed here.



Hoxton & Shoreditch

Hoxton and Shoreditch are creative hubs brimming with colourful street art, hip cafes and bars, experimental galleries and popular nightclubs. Check out the many themed bars that serve endlessly inventive and delicious dishes from a long list of world cuisines. Vintage and design shops are plentiful.



Brick Lane

Brick Lane is the heart of London's Bangladeshi community. Road signs here appear in both English and Bengali, and the restaurants are authentic and unpretentious. Some iconic restaurants like the the Bengal Village, Aladin, Smokestack, Hawksmoor, All Star Lanes can be found here. Beigel Bake, where you can get a traditional Jewish-style filled bagel with salt beef or smoked salmon is an absolute must.



Victoria & Albert Museum

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Sherlock Holmes Museum

221b Baker Street, London
+44 207 224 3688

The official home of the famous fictional detective Sherlock Holmes is 221b Baker Street. According to the books by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, he lived here from 1881 to 1904. The museum features Holmes' detailed study, life-size waxworks representing scenes from Holmes and Watson's adventures and a souvenir shop.



Madame Tussauds London

Marylebone Road, London

There's plenty to keep you entertained at Madame Tussauds London, with more than 300 wax figures, the Marvel Super Heroes 4D movie experience and Spirit of London Taxi Ride. The uncannily lifelike wax figures of famous (and infamous) individuals from throughout history are the obvious highlight. From Johnny Depp and One Direction to Muhammad Ali and the Queen, you are sure to recognise everyone who makes an appearance. Who is your favourite celebrity?



Hampstead Heath

Hampstead Heath is one of the largest parks in London. It sits atop one of the highest points in London, excellent views of the London skyline. The skyscrapers of Canary Wharf can be seen along with St Paul's Cathedral and other landmarks.

The Heath features grassy fields, wooded areas, and a number of large ponds. The water is never particularly warm, but do pack swimwear just in case the mood strikes you.



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British Film Institute — The BFI

Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road

The British Film Institute (BFI) is an absolute must for film aficionados. This film and television charitable organisation shows films every day: from the latest and biggest blockbusters screened in their spectacular IMAX theatre, to old-time classics and indie darlings in their smaller, more intimate halls.

The renovated BFI venue is located in Southbank, which is the perfect spot to take in the riverfront views and hang out in the creative company of local film and theatre lovers. The BFI's waterfront restaurant and bar is great for dates or discussing the latest movie with friends.



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Richmond, United Kingdom
+44 20 8332 5655

London's largest UNESCO World Site, the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, is the largest conservation project of its kind in the world. Visit the Davies Alpine House and experience the high-altitude conditions that allow alpine plants to grow, take a trip the desert to the jungle at Princess of Wales Conservatory, marvel at treacherous carnivorous plants and take in sweeping views of London from atop the Great Pagoda.



SEA LIFE London Aquarium

County Hall, Westminster Bridge Road
+44 20 7967 8025

Located on the South Bank, right next to London Eye, SEA LIFE London Aquarium harbours one of Europe's largest collections of global marine life covering more than 500 species, 14 themed areas and two million litres of water. The exhibition includes favourites such as seahorses, octopus, zebra sharks and clown fish. There are also interactive experiences, so you can see diving displays, watch the sharks being fed, or even try and feed the stingrays yourself. And don't forget to take a dive 'under the ocean' in the glass tunnel walkway.



Legoland Windsor

Winkfield Road, Windsor

Built on 150 acres of parkland, the LEGOLAND Windsor Resort is located just outside of London. It is home to more than 55 rides, shows, attractions and workshops, all geared towards children up to 12 years of age. This theme park is a great place for a family day trip. Jump on board a Lego submarine, take a good look at London's iconic landscape in miniature form, get soaked at the water rides and put your skills to the test at The Driving School.



Hampton Court Palace

East Molesey, Surrey
+44 844 482 7777

Hampton Court Palace was King Henry VIII's favourite royal residence. It is brimming with thrilling stories and beautiful sights. Inside the building you can visit the medieval Great Hall where William Shakespeare's company once performed, as well as the huge Tudor kitchens and the Haunted Gallery. There is also much to see on the outside of the palace, what with the puzzling maze, the palace's beautiful gardens and a large park. Other highlights include daily tours and talks, as well as the annual Hampton Court Palace Flower Show.



WWT London Wetland Centre

Queen Elizabeth's Walk, Barnes
+44 20 8409 4400

The 105-acre WWT London Wetland Centre is a wildlife reserve on the outskirts of Central London. Here you will find plenty of rare birds, beautiful lakes, tranquil gardens and calming meadows to walk amongst and admire. Keep your eyes open because you might be lucky enough to spot a family of otters. You can also take a free guided tour before relaxing at the Water's Edge Cafe. There are indoor and outdoor adventure areas for kids.



London Dungeon

County Hall, Riverside Building
+44 333 321 2001

London's history is filled with gruesome tales and scary characters. The London Dungeon attraction on the south bank of the Thames retells some of those bloody stories. Using costumes, 360° sets and a multitude of special effects, London Dungeon takes you through 1000 years of the city's gory, gruesome and terrifying past in 90 minutes. Look out for Jack the Ripper and Sweeney Todd along the way. This is not an attraction for those of nervous disposition.



Museum of London

150 London Wall, City of London
+44 20 7001 9844

Discover the story of the world's greatest city at The Museum of London. The tale begins with prehistoric London, moving on to the influence of the Romans and Saxons on the city, and then on towards Medieval London. Along the way you will encounter civil wars, deathly plagues and rampant fires. Journey through the Galleries of Modern London along Victorian streets and marvel at the lavish Lord Mayor's Coach display.



London Mithraeum

12 Walbrook, London
+44 20 7330 7500

Reopened recently at the very site of its original discovery, the ruins of this Roman Temple of Mithras are open for public visits in the basement of Bloomberg's European headquarters at number 12 Walbrook. There are also a few other exhibitions that include both historic artefacts and contemporary artwork. Entrance is free of charge.

London Top 10



Buckingham Palace

During the summer months, Buckingham Palace — the official residence of King Charles III — opens the doors of its elegant State Rooms to the public. As well as proving a very fancy backdrop for many official royal engagements, the rooms contain some of the finest treasures from the Royal Collection, including paintings, sculptures and fine French furniture.



Buckingham Palace

Buckingham Palace, London
+44 20 7766 7300

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London Eye

At a staggering height of 135 metres (443 ft), The London Eye offers a superb view of the capital's most famous attractions. A full rotation around the observational wheel in one of the glass capsules lasts some 30 minutes and it is so popular that each year it receives more visitors than the Taj Mahal and the Great Pyramids of Giza. And once you've taken a 360-degree ride on the wheel you'll understand why.



London Eye

Riverside Building, County Hall
+44 870 990 8883

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Houses of Parliament



Take a tour of the Palace of Westminster, also referred to as the Houses of Parliament, and experience 1,000 years of history. Visitors are welcomed into the building through Westminster Hall, before following in the footsteps of the Queen at the State Opening of Parliament. Marvel at the Victorian splendour of the Lords Chamber and see the famous green benches in the Commons Chamber. Audioguides and tours are available in English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Russian and Mandarin.



Houses of Parliament

Westminster, London

+44 20 7219 3000

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London Bus Tour, Hop On – Hop Off

Enjoy the Perfect Introduction to London.

Embark on an adventure with Big Bus Tours. Our Non-stop London sightseeing tour allows you to soak up the city's atmosphere with ease. Relax and enjoy fascinating facts about London's rich culture and dramatic history as you pass its famous landmarks and attractions. And, on selected Red Tour buses, pick up tips from our experienced guides to help you uncover London's secrets and stories.

Our bus route has been carefully planned to ensure that you'll capture all the best sights of London, including Big Ben, the London Eye, Tower Bridge and Buckingham Palace.





London Bus Tour, Hop On – Hop Off

Green Park station, London
+4420 7808 6753

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British Museum

One of the largest and most interesting museums in the world, the British Museum is home to some of the most treasured historical artefacts ever found. The extensive exhibition includes the Rosetta Stone, Assyrian treasures, Egyptian mummies and the museum's spectacularly illuminated Great Court, where you can find the museum's new restaurant. This restaurant is an ideal spot for taking afternoon tea under the court's spectacular roof. Free tours of the museum and guides are also available. The tours are led by knowledgeable experts in their field of study — don't miss this amazing learning opportunity.



British Museum

Great Russell Street, London
+44 20 7323 8000

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River Thames Cruise

See London from a different angle by taking a cruise along the famous River Thames. Glide by some of London's top attractions from Westminster to Greenwich, and listen to the entertaining live commentary as you pass sights such as the Shakespeare's Globe, Tower Bridge, and the Tower of London.



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Stonehenge, Windsor Castle & Bath from London

Discover three gems outside of London on a fun day trip to Stonehenge, Windsor Castle, and the historic town of Bath.

First, pay a visit to Windsor Castle, home to the British royal family, for a tour of the State Apartments and St George's Chapel. Then, continue to Salisbury, where you'll get to see the enigmatic Stonehenge rock formations. Later, explore the UNESCO World Heritage-listed city of Bath, known for its elegant Georgian architecture and Roman baths.



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Tower of London

Tower of London is one of the most famous fortified buildings in the world. It's also a mysterious place full of dark secrets, strange stories and historic relics. Here you can admire the priceless Crown Jewels, explore the Medieval Palace, visit the infamous Bloody Tower, and go on a tour with a Yeoman Warder to learn about the many executions that took place here.



Tower of London

Tower Hill, London

+44 20 3166 6000

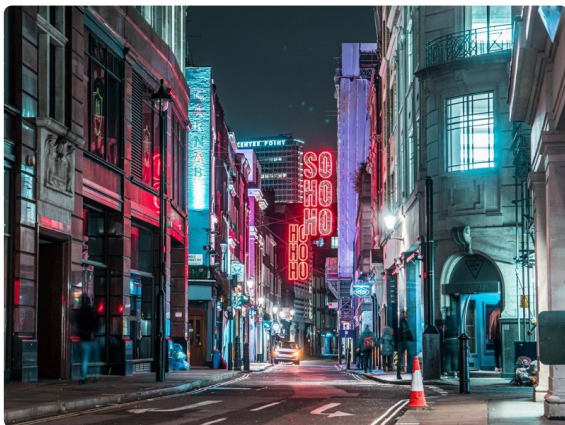
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Soho

Soho is an absolute must-see, since it's so multifaceted. Dean, Frith, Beak, and Old Compton streets are lively around the clock, and long-running Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club can be found here. Shaftesbury Avenue attracts theatre-goers, while Carnaby, Oxford and Regent streets and the iconic Liberty's department store are there for your shopping needs. Music shops, small cafes and quaint bakeries are on every corner!

The energetic streets of Soho are the most popular nightlife destination. The neighbourhood still retains a somewhat risqué vibe with bars, cafes and restaurants that cater to hip crowds of international creatives. Soho is also known as the centre of LGBTQA+ community, so don't miss out on all the gay and lesbian party spots in the area.



Soho

Soho, West End

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Platform Nine & Three-Quarters

Locals know King's Cross as one of the city's busiest train stations serving much of the country since 1852. The place became internationally famous when Harry Potter used the station on his train journey to Hogwarts. Take a picture with a trolley disappearing into the brick wall and get some wizarding memorabilia from the Potter-themed souvenir shop.



Platform Nine & Three-Quarters
King's Cross railway station, London

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London Dining, Bars, and Nightlife



London - Bars & Nightlife

London's nightlife is one of the most vibrant and varied in the world, with everything from mega clubs to live music. And from trendy bars to traditional British pubs.

Spots in central London like Soho and Leicester Square attract visitors most nights of the week, but if it's the more trendy venues you're interested in why not try neighbourhoods like Hoxton and Shoreditch in East London, or Brixton and Clapham in South London.

Here's just a taster of what London has to offer on a night out, including quality pubs and bars, world-renowned clubs, live music venues and much more.



Ministry of Sound

103 Gaunt Street, Elephant & Castle
+44 20 7740 8600

Converted from an old bus station in the 90s, the Ministry of Sound is a legendary spot in London's clubbing scene, and it's an international brand, too. Located close to Elephant and Castle, south of Waterloo, the club boasts five rooms, four bars, a VIP lounge, a courtyard area and what's said to be the world's best sound system.



Vaulty Towers

34 Lower Marsh, Bishop's
+44 20 7928 9042

Run by the creative minds behind The Vaults, Vaulty Towers is a bar that perfectly captures the whimsical essence of the experimental art space beneath. It's packed with curios like an exaggeratedly tall bar stool, or a table disguised as a secret tree house. Whimsy runs through the drink menu, too: negronis are served on tap, and there is a genuine creative touch to everything they do, down to a makeshift spinning wheel to determine your pick of drink if you're so inclined.



Marksman Public House

254 Hackney Road, London

Marksman Public House is an award-winning establishment in London's flourishing East End features a revamped 150-year-old pub, unmistakably modern yet layered with history, and an upstairs dining room where you can fully expect to be served one of the city's finest Sunday roasts.



Mayor of Scaredy Cat Town

12-16 Artillery Lane, Spitalfields
+44 20 7078 9639

Sure, the concept of "insider-only" speakeasy is far from new, but we think this little place is worth seeking out. It's not just the satisfaction of being somewhere secret — Mayor of Scaredy Cat Town takes itself with a refreshingly healthy dose of irony, which shines through its "rules of engagement" (as point 2 reads, "The town is Scaredy Cat Town, not Cool Cats Town, the Mayor demands the highest standards of self deprecation"), all the while serving a great selection of inventive cocktails and finger foods; there's also a weekend brunch at 39£ a piece.

To get here, enter through The Breakfast Club (Spitalfields) and head straight for the Smeg fridge. Don't even think of leaving the same way you came in lest you blow their cover: there is a separate exit through the toilet.



The Four Quarters

187 Rye Lane, Peckham
+44 7943 366 002

The Four Quarters is a no-frills bar in Peckham with major nostalgia-factor packed full of retro arcade games. Each game is only 25 pence to play, so you can have them all, plus great vegetarian and vegan grub.



Ladies & Gents

2 Highgate Rd, Kentish Town
+44 20 7813 7562

What could easily have been a gimmick actually became one of Kentish Town's favourite watering holes: a former public toilet transformed into a below-ground bar. There is another one in Camden now — walk up or down Kentish Town Road if either is full.



The Vaults

Leake Street, Bishop's ward
+44 20 7401 9603

Housed deep below the ground (underneath London's Waterloo station) are The Vaults: a one-of-a-kind venue for experimental art in all its forms. Their calendar is updated regularly, and since anyone can rent a space to host an event (all rooms are for hire), the selection is expectedly both quirky and robust.



The Argyll Arms

18 Argyll Street, London
+44 20 7734 6117

Known for its real ales, traditional pub grub and beautiful Victorian decor with mahogany panelling, The Argyll Arms is a slice of old London in the bustling shopping district of Oxford Street. Completed in 1742, the Grade II listed pub is named after the second Duke of Argyll and there is a rumour that a secret tunnel once connected the pub to the duke's mansion.



Soho

Soho, West End

The energetic streets of Soho are the most popular nightlife destination. The neighbourhood still retains a somewhat risqué vibe with bars, cafes and restaurants that cater to hip crowds of international creatives. Soho is also known as the centre of LGBTQA+ community, so don't miss out on all the gay and lesbian party spots in the area.

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The Top Secret Comedy Club

170 Drury Lane, London
+44 7956 539 784

In keeping with its name, the Top Secret Comedy Club is perhaps London's best kept secret when it comes to comedy entertainment. But watch out — it's unlikely to stay this way for long! Dishing out the jests, the quips and the witticisms every night of the week are a range of both well-established and up-and-coming comedians. At prices accessible beyond belief, you can find yourself spending the evening (and only a pound or two) at one of the city's most interesting comedy venues.



Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club

47 Frith Street, Soho
+44 20 7439 0747

Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club is perhaps the capital's most iconic jazz venue. Up and running since 1959, Ronnie Scott's has had the pleasure of hosting some of the world's most renowned musicians. Whether it's the weekly jam sessions in the upstairs cocktail bar or any of the top notch live bands playing in the main club, it is guaranteed you will enjoy the evening in style in one of the coolest and classiest places in London.



The King's Head Theatre Pub

115 Upper Street, Islington
+44 0207 226 8561

A cheaper and more authentic alternative to the glamour of London's West End can be found hidden away upstairs or downstairs in many pubs across the capital. The King's Head in Islington was the first theatre pub to open since Shakespearean times. And if you're willing to leave the city centre for an evening, The King's Head offers theatre, musicals and stand-up comedy. This is where a handful of world-renowned actors started off before being propelled to fame and where many a successful West End production was born. Make sure to have a look at the shows on their website and see if anything catches your eye before booking tickets.



The Atlas Pub

16 Seagrave Road, Fulham
+44 20 7385 9129

The Atlas Pub is a warm and relaxing venue, where you'll find stylish wood panelling, fresh flowers and a brick fireplace. It also has a fine selection of wines and ales, a menu full of delicious and diverse dishes, and is the location of The London Wine Academy's popular wine workshops.



Gordon's Wine Bar

47 Villiers Street, London
+44 20 7930 1408

Thought to be London's oldest wine bar — established in 1890 — Gordon's is a wonderfully atmospheric venue that feels like something from another era. This candlelit cellar-bar serves a wide range of wines, sherries and ports from the barrel, as well as big hearty meals. Always busy, you're advised to arrive around 4pm if you want to bag a table.



The Roxy

3-5 Rathbone Place Marylebone, London
+44 20 7255 1098

Below the busy streets of London's West End lies informal basement bar The Roxy. Popular with everyone from students to the after-work crowd, The Roxy has six weekly club nights pumping out popular, electronic and alternative music. Happy hour kicks off at 5pm and ends at 8.30pm.



The Prince Alfred

5a Formosa Street, London
+44 20 7286 3287

Established in 1863, The Prince Alfred has retained much of its period features, including the original Victorian snugs — each with its own door onto the street and separated from each other by a wooden partition with a small access door. The PA, as it is known locally, also serves food in the adjoining Formosa dining room, and is located close to the picturesque waterside of Little Venice.



The Hippodrome Casino

Leicester Square, London
+44 207 769 8888

Just like Leicester Square, where it is located, the five-floor Hippodrome Casino is glitzy and vibrant. Aside from the gaming areas, there are live shows, six bars, a restaurant, two lounges and an outdoor smoking and cigar bar. The heart of it all is the Heliot bar on the first floor balcony, serving classic cocktails with a Hippodrome twist.



London - Restaurants

The British culinary scene is abuzz in London, with innovative chefs rethinking traditional British classics and creating new favourites — all with an emphasis on fresh, local produce.

Thanks to London's rich mix of cultures, the capital's restaurants serve up delicious food from all corners of the globe. Whatever cuisine you fancy, you're sure to find it in London. Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Caribbean, Polish, French, Italian, Afghan, Ethiopian, American, Spanish, South African, Persian — the list goes on.

With Michelin Star restaurants, family-friendly eateries, cosy gastropubs, fast food joints and quirky cafes dotted all over the city, there's something for every budget too. Food halls and street food are on the rise, too, with new ones popping up seemingly every month.



Arcade Food Hall

103-105 New Oxford St, London

Arcade Food Hall is an upscale, digital food hall — London's first — housing multiple restaurants, cafes and bars from up-and-coming food and drink talent under one roof.

Guests are treated to culinary offerings from all over the world: from Thai curries, Indonesian street food, and North Indian fast food to Spanish tapas, Japanese sushi, and American-style burgers. Plus, daily provisions counter serving coffee, lunchtime sandwiches and pastries, and an immersive dessert experience from the UK's most exciting confectionery connoisseurs.



Kanada-Ya Piccadilly

3 Panton Street, London
+44 20 7930 3511

Arguably London's best ramen chain now has three locations across town. They specialise in tonkotsu (pork broth) ramen; some bowls feature chicken bone broth or a combination of the two. All locations except the original one in Covent Garden serve a vegetarian option.



Bang Bang Oriental Food Hall

399 Edgware Road, London
+44 20 8205 9098

Quite possibly the only place of its kind in Europe, Bang Bang Oriental Food Hall is a massive food court with spacious seating. Totally worth making the trip to Colindale. The top floor hosts a couple dozen restaurants representing cuisines from all across the Asian continent, with a 360-seater Chinese restaurant occupying the ground level.



M.Manze

87 Tower Bridge Road, Bermondsey
+44 20 7407 2985

M.Manze is a bit of Cockney heritage dates back to 1902 and serves an all-time classic menu of pie, mash and jellied eel. Arrive Mon–Sat before 2pm to get your serve.

This Tower Bridge eatery holds significance in the gastronomic history of the area, but it's also earned a place in British popular culture appearing in numerous books, TV shows, and films, and formed the backdrop for Elton John's music video for his single 'Made in England'. Celebrities pop in for a meal quite often, too!



J Sheekey

28-34 St Martin's Court, London
+44 20 7240 2565

Tucked away between Leicester Square and Covent Garden, J Sheekey has been in business since the 1890s and is the place to go for sustainably sourced fish, oysters and shellfish. From Sheekey's Fish Pie to potted shrimps (plus vegetarian and meat options), there's plenty of selection for everyone.



Inamo Soho

134-136 Wardour Street, Soho
+44 20 7851 7051

Inamo is a pioneering Oriental fusion restaurant and bar where the control of the dining experience is placed firmly in your own hands, thanks to an interactive ordering system. Instead of reading a long list of dish names, you simply pick your favourite from an illustrated food and drinks menu projected onto your table surface. The pan-Asian menu includes influences from Japan, China, Thailand, Korea and beyond.



The Wolseley

160 Piccadilly, London
+44 20 7499 6996

Housed in a former car showroom on Piccadilly, The Wolseley is an elegant cafe-restaurant inspired by the grand European style of years gone by. The food follows the same classic European thread, with favourite dishes including veal Holstein and chicken soup with dumplings. Pop in for breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea or dinner.



Restaurant Gordon Ramsay

68 Royal Hospital Road, London
+44 20 7352 4441

If the name alone doesn't sell it, the three Michelin stars that Restaurant Gordon Ramsay was honoured with should. Located in affluent Chelsea, the restaurant serves up modern French food from carefully picked ingredients in an elegant, intimate atmosphere. Wear something smart to feel right at home.



Borough Market

8 Southwark St, London

London's Borough Market is unsurprisingly popular — it's been gaining momentum since the 12th century, after all — but those who arrive for an early lunch can take advantage of this London fixture's ample offering of street food from all over the world, followed by a stroll through the stalls vending local produce.



Dinner by Heston Blumenthal

66 Knightsbridge, London
+44 20 7201 3833

Heston Blumenthal's restaurant Dinner is known for its inventive menu of historically inspired British dishes. Choose from dishes such as Earl Grey Tea cured Salmon (c.1730), Spiced Pigeon (c.1780) and Topsy Cake (c.1810). Alternatively, let the chef do the choosing by going for the Set Lunch Menu or splashing out on a seat at the Chef's Table, which directly faces the restaurant's custom-built show kitchen. Garden terrace tables are perfect for warmer days.



Wild Heart

20 Warwick Street, Soho
+44 20 7292 6100

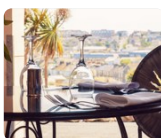
Located on the ground floor of the stylish Sanctum Soho Hotel, Wild Heart serves modern, seasonal British cuisine from breakfast through afternoon tea to dinner. A bar as well as a restaurant, it's also a great spot for a coffee, evening cocktail or glass of wine on their covered roof terrace.



Poppie's Fish & Chips

30 Hawley Crescent, London
+44 020 7267 0440

On your way back from Camden Market and want to stop for a meal? At Poppie's you can experience the traditional dish of the British working classes the way it should be enjoyed. Why not sit down to a nice portion of tasty cod with a serving of crisp and fluffy chips complete with tartare sauce and a slice of lemon on the side. Decorated in the style of 1940s London, Poppie's is known as one of the capital's finest fish and chip shops. As well as the branch in Camden, you'll find another two in Spitalfields and Soho.



OXO Tower Restaurant, Bar and Brasserie

Barge House Street, Oxo Tower Wharf
+44 20 7803 3888

Dine in true British style with a beautiful raised view across the River Thames. The OXO Tower restaurant, bar and brasserie is a great place for a romantic meal, especially when combined with a casual stroll along the South Bank before and after your meal. Book ahead to make sure you get an alfresco table on the outdoor terrace and enjoy the scene with St Paul's Cathedral in the background. You can also expect to enjoy live jazz in the brasserie.



Mestizo Mexican Restaurant & Tequila Bar

103 Hampstead Road, London
+44 20 7387 4064

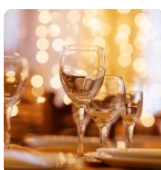
Colourful and welcoming, Mestizo Mexican Restaurant and Tequila Bar serves quality, traditional Mexican cuisine with a refined touch. Downstairs from the relaxing restaurant you'll also find a stylish tequila bar serving cocktails, tequila and 'antojitos' (Mexican tapas).



Gaucho Piccadilly

25 Swallow Street, London
+44 20 7734 4040

The glitzy Piccadilly branch of Argentinian restaurant Gaucho spans four floors. Alongside the main restaurant is the Cavas De Gaucho wine boutique, a ground-floor wine bar and a supper lounge on the top floor. Steaks, of course, are high on the menu, but there are many other dishes to try too, from Ecuadorian ceviche to Scamorza and potato ravioli.



Sketch

9 Conduit Street, Mayfair
+44 20 7659 4500

Sketch is an eccentric, original and elegant venue off Regent Street founded by French master chef Pierre Gagnaire and restaurateur Mazouz. The unique millennial pink space comprises five dining areas: The Parlour patisserie and restaurant, The Glade bar, The Gallery brasserie, the two Michelin-starred Lecture Room & Library dining room and The East Bar.



Masala Zone Bayswater

75 Bishops Bridge Road, Bayswater
+44 20 7221 0055

Colourfully decorated with Indian folk art and collages of firecracker labels, the Bayswater branch of Masala Zone is as warm and welcoming as the other restaurants in this growing chain. The menu takes inspiration from Indian street food and home-cooked dishes, with Indian grills and regional curries as well as tapas-style Thali platters.



Sarastro

126 Drury Lane, London
+44 20 7836 0101

Sarastro is renowned for its flamboyant interior: part stage set, part old curiosity shop. Taking a nod from the nearby West End theatres, the dining room features opera boxes, luxuriant velvet tablecloths and cosy booths. The menu is Mediterranean and live shows regularly take place, with live opera on Sundays and Mondays, swing and Motown on Thursdays and Latin rhythms on Fridays.



Rainforest Cafe

20 Shaftesbury Avenue, London
+44 20 7434 3111

Rainforest Cafe brings the sights and sounds of the jungle to London's famous Piccadilly Circus, with trumpets of elephants, gorilla roars, tropical fish tanks, an indoor waterfall and roaring thunderstorm sounds. Feeding time is a fun, family-friendly affair, with steaks, burgers, pasta and salads on the menu.



The Blues Kitchen — Shoreditch

134-146 Curtain Road, Shoreditch
+44 020 7729 7216

The Blues Kitchen is a well-established live music and burger restaurant in London's trendy East End. Pop in for lunch, brunch, dinner or an evening of cocktails at the bar while you enjoy the blues and soul acts on almost every day of the week. Bite into the big brisket burger, share the shrimp taco salad or dig into the szechuan chicken wings with creamy mango dip. And don't forget to choose a succulent side dish of onion rings and fries to accompany your meal.



Locanda Locatelli

8 Seymour Street, London
+44 20 7935 9088

Michelin-starred restaurant Locanda Locatelli serves top-quality, traditional Italian food created with panache by head chef Giorgio Locatelli. Stand-out dishes at the Central London eatery (according to the Michelin guide) include scallops, celeriac purée and saffron vinaigrette; and wild sea bass baked in salt and herb crust, escarole, sultanas and pine kernels.



Brick Lane

Brick Lane is the heart of London's Bangladeshi community. Road signs here appear in both English and Bengali, and the restaurants are authentic and unpretentious. Some iconic restaurants like the Bengal Village, Aladin, Smokestack, Hawksmoor, All Star Lanes can be found here. Beigel Bake, where you can get a traditional Jewish-style filled bagel with salt beef or smoked salmon is an absolute must.



Duke of Cambridge

30 St Peters Street, Islington
+44 20 7359 3066

The Duke of Cambridge is the first and only British pub to be certified as organic by the Soil Association. The menu at the Islington gastropub unsurprisingly features an excellent range of delicious organic food and drinks, and changes daily according to what seasonal food is available.

**Hide**

85 Piccadilly, Mayfair

+44 20 3146 8666

Distinguished with a Michelin star only 5 months after its opening, Hide is the result of an ambitious collaboration between acclaimed chef Ollie Dabbous and Hedonism Wines. The ground-level restaurant features great value lunches (prices aren't low, but adequate for the level), while the fine dining affair "Above" has made a splash with its refined dishes and extravagant presentation.

Interiors draw clear inspiration from Green Park across the road.

London Tourist Resources



London - Tourist Information



Passport / Visa

Citizens of the European Union member-states, Norway, Liechtenstein, Iceland, Switzerland, and Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) only require a valid passport to enter the UK. Residents of a further 10 countries do not require entry visas for stays under 6 months: the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, South Africa, Hong Kong, and Malaysia. Nationals of some further countries do not require a visa, but need to hold an entry certificate.



Frequently Asked Questions about London (FAQs)

FAQ

– What is the best way to explore London?

London is an extremely walkable city and most locals rely on public transportation to get around. As a tourist, you have a lot more to see when you are travelling overground, so consider picking busses and trams over the Tube just for that reason. Seeing London from the river is a great opportunity to understand the city's geography and get away from the crowds. Remember to carry comfortable walking shoes, some sort of rain protection and don't forget about sun cream. An Oyster card is your best tool for shrinking distances in this huge city, so get one as soon as possible.

– How many days in London is enough?

While you can see most of the main bucket list sights in London in a couple of days, spending at least 3-4 days in London is the best way to do this incredibly diverse city justice. You'll have enough time to get acquainted with the city and go beyond the most obvious sight. Save a day to do something that speaks to you and your interests in particular.

– Where can I get an Oyster card?

An Oyster card is an essential tool for every Londoner. You can buy one at the Oyster ticket stops in many newsagents, at all Tube, London Overground, most TfL Rail and some DLR stations. Visitor Centres sell them as well. The card itself costs £5 and you can recharge it in all the same places where you can buy them, plus through the TfL Oyster and contactless app.

– What's the tipping culture in London?

It is customary to leave 10–15% of the bill when eating out. Many restaurants will add a 12.5% service charge, especially if you're dining out with a large group. Check your bill if you don't want to tip twice. You can also ask for the service charge to be removed if you found the service to be completely unacceptable.

– Is London a safe city?

As most big cities, London does have a higher crime rate. According to the Economists Safe Cities Index, London is the 15th safest city in the world (tied with San Francisco).

– Is it safe to walk around London at night?

London streets at night are generally safe, but do remember that public transport doesn't run all night — you might be in for a very long walk to your hotel or a potentially costly cab ride.

– Where is the best place to stay in London?

London has many neighbourhoods to choose from, so spend some time researching what personalities each one has. Price is another important consideration, of course.

Brixton is a great residential area, known for its diversity, shops and street markets. Quite hip, but that also means it can get loud. Mayfair is right next to Hyde Park. Park yourself here for old British architecture and cute boutiques. The prices are somewhat high and Mayfair doesn't have the best airport connections. Shoreditch is a hipster paradise with excellent coffee shop culture — great for digital nomads. Shoreditch is not the most polished neighbourhood, though. Almost all neighbourhoods in London are very safe, so don't make that your main concern. Nightlife areas like Camden, West End and Deptford can turn a bit rowdy and loud at night, but you'll be in the middle of the action.

– Is London really always rainy and grey?

People tend to exaggerate. London does have decent weather, with full on sunny days. The best time to visit to avoid crowds and stay dry is early summer or early fall. Bring a jacket for the nights, even in the summer.

– What should I pack for my trip to London?

London is great for shopping, so don't worry too much about forgetting things at home. To stay comfortable, you'll definitely need a pair of good walking shoes. A water-resistant jacket won't hurt either. And do bring your favourite going out outfit for the weekend!



Best Time to Visit

London is graced with a mild climate and, as such, can be visited at any time of the year. However, a few things need to be considered. Most of the royal palaces and residences, like the State Rooms at Buckingham Palace, are only open to the public during the summer months. Many of the city's most important festivals, like the British Summer Time Music Festival, also take place during this time. Late June to mid July is also when some of the best sales are on in shops around the capital.

Spring is also a good season for a visit, since the weather is generally good and finding accommodation is both easier and cheaper (high season in London means a lot of tourists). And if you're not too bothered about the grey weather, then low season (January and February) can be a good option too, when there are fewer tourists and prices are lower.



London Heathrow Airport (LHR)

Heathrow Airport, Hounslow
+44 844 335 1801

London Heathrow Airport is one of the busiest airports in the world, with five terminals. There are various ways to travel from Heathrow Airport to your destination.

The cheapest and most versatile way of getting to and from the city centre to Heathrow is by tube. The fastest way is the dedicated airport train — the Heathrow Express — which takes just 15 minutes from Heathrow to Paddington Station and runs every 15 minutes.



London Gatwick Airport (LGW)

Gatwick Airport, West Sussex
+44 844 892 0322

London Gatwick Airport is the second largest airport in the UK (Heathrow Airport is the largest), with two terminals: North and South.

The fastest route from the airport into Central London is via the Gatwick Express, with trains departing every 15 minutes. The non-stop journey to Victoria Station takes 30 minutes. Try the trip planner on the official website to see which of the many transportation options works best for you.



London Stansted Airport (STN)

Stansted Airport, Essex CM24 1RW
+44 808 169 7030

London Stansted Airport is the third busiest airport in the UK, and many low-cost airlines serving Europe and the Mediterranean operate from here.

On the Stansted Express you can reach Liverpool Street station in 47 minutes. Trains run every 15 minutes.

You can see the full up-to-date list of transportation options on the official website



London Luton Airport (LTN)

London Luton Airport, Luton
+44 1582 405 100

London Luton Airport is located just 56km north-west of Central London, and is a popular base for low-cost airlines.

A regular shuttle bus transports passengers from the airport to the nearest station, Luton Airport Parkway, which takes about 10 minutes. From the station you can catch an East Midlands Trains or First Capital Connect service into Central London taking somewhere between 21 and 25 minutes. Other options include the easyBus express service, the Green Line 757 coach service to Victoria Coach Station or Terravision coaches to Victoria Coach Station. Each transport service stops at different destinations en route. A metered taxi ride to or from Central London costs around £80.



Airport — London City (LCY)

London City Airport, Hartmann Road
+44 20 7646 0000

London City Airport is a single runway airport located 9.5km east of Central London, and serving mainly short-haul and business flights.

The airport is on the Docklands Light Railway, which connects to London's Tube network at Canning Town, Stratford and Bank and uses the same price structure. Buses serve the airport too, with numbers 473 and 474 providing a connection to other East London destinations. You can also take a cab from the taxi rank outside the airport.



Public Transport — Bus

+44 343 222 1234

London's bus network stretches right across the capital, and provides a frequent and accessible service. If you're using an Oyster card, a single trip costs £1.55. All you have to do is 'touch in' when you get on the bus. And remember there is a daily cap of £4.65 if you're using only bus and tram services. Seven-day, one-month and annual bus passes are also available. Cash is no longer accepted in busses and trams. You might be able to pay by tapping your contactless bank payment card.

To navigate your way around the network, pick up a Central London Bus Guide from travel information centres at larger Tube stations or use Transport for London's online Journey Planner. A reduced service of night buses operates throughout the night and the early hours of the morning. Most late-night routes will stop at Trafalgar Square. Various concessions are available for children, students, the elderly and disabled travellers.



Public Transport — the Tube

+44 343 222 1234

There are 11 Underground or 'Tube' lines serving Greater London, which connect at various points to the Docklands Light Railway (DLR) and local rail network. The Tube usually operates from 5am to midnight from Monday to Saturday, with a reduced service on Sunday. Plan your route by picking up a free Tube map from any Underground station, or using Transport for London's online Journey Planner. Fares vary depending on which of London's six travel 'zones' you travel through, though they are considerably cheaper with an Oyster card than buying paper tickets. Various concessions are available for children, students, the elderly and disabled travellers.



Public Transport — Docklands Light Railway

+44 343 222 1234

The Docklands Light Railway (DLR) serves East London and connects with the Tube network at Bank, Tower Gateway (Tower Hill), Shadwell, Stratford, Bow, Heron Quays, Canning Town and Canary Wharf. It also connects to the Emirates Air Line cable car at Royal Victoria. Fares are the same as on the Tube, and the DLR runs from 5:30am to 12:30am Monday to Saturday and from 7am to 11:30pm on Sunday. Fares are the same as those on the Tube, and both Oyster card and Travelcard holders can use the DLR.



Public Transport — Thames River Bus

+44 343 222 1234

Travel with ease along the Thames on board a river bus. There are six different routes that all stop at destinations along the riverbank between Putney and Woolwich Arsenal. Popular services include the Thames Clippers route between Hilton London Docklands Riverside and Canary Wharf, the Tate-to-Tate boatripe between Tate Britain and Tate Modern, and the journey between London Eye and Greenwich village. Depending on the service you'll be able to buy your ticket either before boarding or on board. Discounts are available when using Travelcards and Oyster cards.



Public Transport — Local Trains

+44 343 222 1234

As well as the Underground, London has its own local train network, which connects to the Tube at many points. The main train operators serving London are Silverlink, First Capital Connect, SouthEastern Railway, Southern Railway, London Overground and Greater Anglia. These local lines are, in turn, connected to the national rail network and the Eurostar. You can use your Oyster card on all trains operating within Zones 1-9, with the exception of Heathrow Express and a few other select services. Several different railcards are available too, providing discount fares to their holders.



Public Transport — Trams

+44 343 222 1234

London's tram network, Tramlink, was introduced in the year 2000 and it runs in specific parts of South London – between Wimbledon, Croydon, Beckenham and New Addington. Trams run approximately every seven minutes to New Addington and every 10 minutes to Wimbledon, Elmers End and Beckenham Junction during the day from Monday to Saturday. If you're using an Oyster card, a single trip costs £1.75. All you have to do is 'touch in' when you get on the tram. And remember there is a daily cap of £5.70 if you're using only bus and tram services. Seven-day, one-month and annual bus passes are also available. Cash is no longer accepted in busses and trams. You might be able to pay by tapping your contactless bank payment card.



Public Transport — Cycle Hire Scheme

+44 343 222 6666

Hop on a 'Boris bike' and zip around London using the city's public bike-sharing scheme. Named after London's former mayor Boris Johnson, the popular red bikes can be picked up at over 550 bicycle docking stations across London, which means you're never far away from one. After you've paid your registration fee (from £2), you can hire a bike for a day. The bikes are free to use for the first 30 minutes, after which the price increases by £2 every extra 30 minutes. When you've finished your journey, simply return the bike to your nearest docking station – you can find out where that is using the Santander Cycles app.



Public Transport — Emirates Air Line

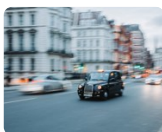
Emirates Greenwich Peninsula, Greenwich

+44 343 222 1234

Cross the Thames in style on board the Emirates Air Line, London's cable car connecting Greenwich Peninsula and the Royal Docks. As well as taking you across the river in less than 10 minutes, it provides an amazing bird's eye view of London and the Thames.

The fare is £4 using an Oyster card or Contactless card. Multi-journey boarding passes (£17 for 10 single trips) and private cabin packages are also available.

After 7pm the line runs at half the speed, giving you more time to enjoy the view and relax.



Taxi

+44 343 222 4000

Taking a ride in one of London's iconic black cabs makes for a very comfortable and spacious ride. Hail a cab in the street or pick one up at a taxi rank. Your journey is calculated using a meter, with a minimum charge of £3.20. Watch out though, because the price can go up pretty quickly and the roads in central London are often packed with cars. London also has many private vehicles for hire, as well as minicabs: these are unmetered so check the fare when booking. To find a local, reputable firm download Transport for London's free CabWise app or check the Hailo app to find a nearby black cab.

Uber, Bolt, Ola, Via, Wheely, xooox, Free Now, Gett and Addison Lee rideshare apps all operate in London.



Post

Postage stamps are available across London at post offices, newsagents and supermarkets. To post a package or small souvenirs, drop into a post office — you can find your nearest branch on their official website. Post offices are generally open Monday–Friday from 9 am to 5:30 pm and Saturday from 9 am to 12:30 pm.



Pharmacy

Boots London Piccadilly Circus, 44-46 Regent St
+44 207 7346 126

Whether you need to buy over-the-counter medication or collect a prescription, there are plenty of pharmacies all over the capital. Boots and Superdrug are two big chemist chains. You will also find pharmaceutical products at some of the larger supermarket branches.



Telephone

The international dialling code for the UK is +44 or 0044, which replaces the first 'zero' of the phone number. So, for example, to call the number 020 7946 0000 from abroad you would dial +44 20 7946 0000.

The area codes for London are (020) 7, (020) 8 and (020) 3. If you're dialling a London number from another fixed phone line within Greater London you don't need to dial the '020' before the number, just the rest of the number starting with 7, 8 or 3.



Electricity

Electrical appliances are connected to the UK mains supply using a three-pin plug known as plug type G. The sockets come with on-and-off switches, unlike in many other countries.

The average voltage of a UK power socket is 230v or slightly higher, so check the voltage of your device before plugging it in. Voltage adaptors and convertors are available from London airports and high-street electrical chains such as Argos or Curry's.

Power sockets are available at many coffee shops with WiFi and on some overground trains. Need to charge your mobile? Download the 'find-a-chargebox' iPhone app to find your nearest ChargeBox.