

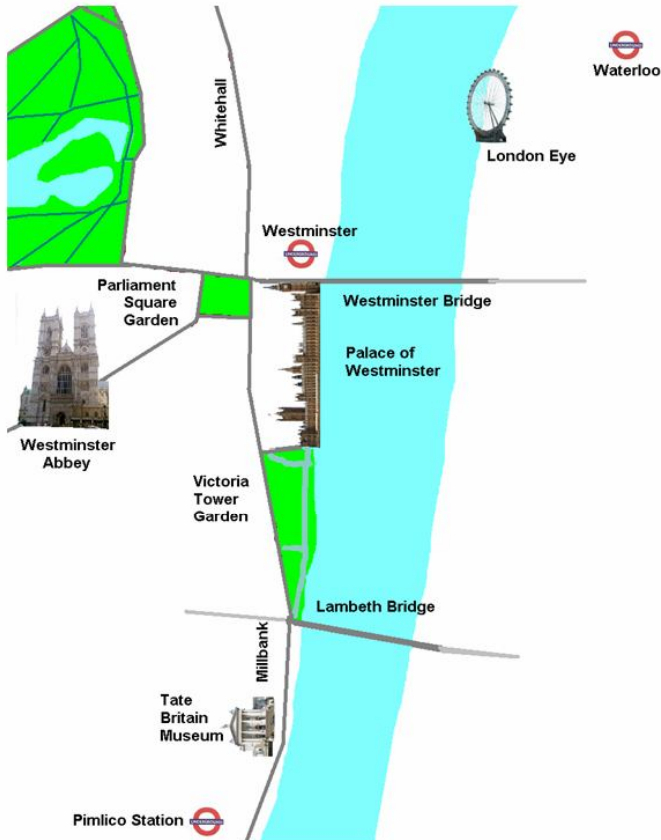
B. Draguns

London in Three Days

A brief travel guide to London with pictures.

Design, photographs and drawings are by the author
Pages 51. Photos 145. Sketch maps 8

© COPYRIGHT Sergejevs. 2021 London UK
www.d-show.co.uk



Lets' start our acquaintance with London from the centre of the city. For this, I suggest going to **Westminster** Underground station first.

When you come out of the station onto the Bridge Street, you will see Big Ben clock tower on your left.

The **Big Ben** is the nickname for the Great Bell of the striking clock at the north end of the Palace of Westminster in London and is usually extended to refer to both the clock and the clock tower. The official name of the tower in which Big Ben is located was originally the Clock Tower, but it was renamed Elizabeth Tower in 2012 to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Elizabeth II.

The tower was designed by Augustus Pugin in a neo-Gothic style. When completed in 1859, its clock was the largest and most accurate four-faced striking and chiming clock in the world.

The tower stands 315 feet (96 m) tall, and the climb from ground level to the belfry is 334 steps. Its base is square, measuring 39 feet (12 m) on each side.

Dials of the clock are 23 feet (7.0 m) in diameter. Big Ben is the largest of the tower's five bells and weighs 13.5 long tons (13.7 tonnes; 15.1 short tons). Four quarter bells chime at 15, 30 and 45 minutes past the hour and just before Big Ben tolls on the hour. The clock uses its original Victorian mechanism, but an electric motor can be used as a backup.

Right here you need to decide which turning to take – left or right. If you turn left, in about 70 metres you will reach Westminster Bridge. If you turn right and walk 50 metres you will get to a crossroads. The Parliament Square Garden will be straight ahead and on your left.

Let's have a look at what's on your left first.



The **Westminster Bridge** is a road-and-foot-traffic bridge over the River Thames in London, linking Westminster on the west side and Lambeth on the east side. The bridge is painted predominantly green, the same colour as the leather seats in the House of Commons which is on the side of the Palace of Westminster nearest to the bridge, but a natural shade similar to verdigris.

The bridge offers a great view of the Palace of Westminster. I would say that this, perhaps, is the best spot to take a picture with the Big Ben in the background.



The Palace of Westminster SW1A 0AA

The Palace of Westminster serves as the meeting place for both the House of Commons and the House of Lords, the two houses of the Parliament of the United Kingdom. Commonly known as the Houses of Parliament

Its name, which derives from the neighbouring Westminster Abbey, The architect Charles Barry. The Palace contains over 1,100 rooms organised symmetrically around two series of courtyards and which has a floor area of 112,476 m² (1,210,680 sq ft). Part of the Palace's area of 3.24 hectares (8 acres) was reclaimed from the River Thames, which is the setting of its nearly 300-metre long (980 ft) façade, called the River Front.

If you want to get to the other bank of the Thames, you'll have to walk over Westminster Bridge, which is about 270 metres long. On the opposite bank of the river you'll see the London Eye, a big observation wheel, and three attractions in front of it: The London Dungeon, Shrek's Adventure! London and The Sea Life. The bridge and the observation wheel are 300 metres apart.

The London Eye SE1 7PB

Or the Millennium Wheel, is a cantilevered observation wheel on the South Bank of the River Thames in London. It is Europe's tallest cantilevered observation wheel, and is the most popular paid tourist attraction in the United Kingdom with over 3.75 million visitors annually. The structure is 135 metres (443 ft) tall and the wheel has a diameter of 120 metres (394 ft).

When it opened to the public in 2000 it was the world's tallest Ferris wheel. Its height was surpassed by the 160-metre (525 ft) Star of Nanchang in 2006, the 165-metre (541 ft) Singapore Flyer in 2008, and the 167-metre-tall (547.9 ft) High Roller (Las Vegas) in 2014. Supported by an A-frame on one side only, unlike the taller Nanchang and Singapore wheels, the Eye is described by its operators as "the world's tallest cantilevered observation wheel".



The nearest Underground station **Waterloo** is 500 metres away from observation wheel.



The **Sea Life** London Aquarium. It opened in March 1997 as the London Aquarium and hosts about one million visitors each year.

More than 10,000 sea creatures. 3 floors, more than 60 aquariums. 14 thematic sections.

The **London Dungeon** was opened in 1974 by Annabel Geddes. The attraction was originally a wax exhibition of gory and macabre history, comprising themed tableaux under the Tooley Street arches. Early characters included Boudica, Mary Tudor and Thomas Becket and had scenes from the Norman Conquest.

From the late 1980s to mid 90s, it evolved to feature walkthrough theatrical shows, such as the Great Fire of London and Jack the Ripper.

The **Shrek's Adventure! London**, an indoor walk-and-ride attraction inspired by the hit DreamWorks film.

This unique experience, developed by Merlin Entertainments in conjunction with DreamWorks Animation, brings to life the hilarious world of Shrek and friends.



Now, let's see what you can see by turning right from Westminster Underground Station.

The first thing you'll see is Parliament Square Garden, and Sir Winston Churchill Statue. But this isn't the only statue here. You can also see Abraham Lincoln Statue, Mahatma Gandhi Statue, Millicent Garrett Fawcett Statue, and Sir Robert Peel Statue. Overall, there are twelve sculptures at the square.

The street on the left is called Parliament Square, and the street on the right is called Parliament Street.



If you go left along the Palace of Westminster, you can pop to the Jubilee Shop (the Houses of Parliament Gift Shop).

Across the road is St Margaret's Church, with Westminster Abbey next to it.

The Church of St Margaret



Margaret Dedicated to Margaret of Antioch. Until 1972, the Anglican parish church of the House of Commons. In the church of sv. Margarets are buried by William Caxton and Walter Raleigh, as the figured stained glass windows with their images recall. Also buried here is John Chamber,

clergyman, doctor Henry VII and Henry VIII. Here, by tradition, many generations of the English aristocracy were married, including Winston Churchill. The church organ is famous.

A little further, next to the Palace of Westminster, stands the Statue of Oliver Cromwell. Close by, in 50 metres away, there is the Statue of King Richard I of England. At the end of the building, across the street, you can see the Statue of King George V.



The **Oliver Cromwell** was Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of England, Scotland and Ireland between 1653 and 1658.

The statue was designed by Hamo Thomycroft and erected in 1899. Oliver Cromwell (25 April 1599 – 3 September 1658) was an English general and statesman who led the Parliament of England's armies against King Charles I during the English Civil War and ruled the British Isles as Lord Protector from 1653 until his death in 1658. He acted simultaneously as head of state and head of government of the new republican commonwealth.

The **Richard I** (8 September, 1157 - 6 April, 1199), statue of the 12th-century English monarch Richard I, also known as Richard the Lionheart, who reigned from 1189–1199

The **Statue of George V** George Frederick Ernest Albert; 3 June 1865 – 20 January 1936) was King of the United Kingdom and the British Dominions, and Emperor of India, from 6 May 1910 until his death in 1936.

You have to walk a bit more than 300 metres to reach the end of Westminster Palace. Here, you can find the Victoria Tower, where you can pop into Victoria Tower Garden and view the Buxton Memorial Fountain.

The **Buxton Memorial Fountain** is a memorial and drinking fountain in London, the United Kingdom, that commemorates the emancipation of slaves in the British Empire in 1834, and in particular, the role of British parliamentarians in the abolition campaign.





The **Victoria** is a square tower at the south-west end of the Palace of Westminster in London. At 98.5 metres (323 ft), it is slightly taller than the Elizabeth Tower (formerly known as the Clock Tower and popularly known as Big Ben. At the time of its construction it was tallest square tower in the world. It was designed by Charles Barry in the Perpendicular Gothic style and was completed in 1860.

The main entrance at the base of the tower is the Sovereign's Entrance, through which the Monarch passes at the State Opening of Parliament. On top of the Victoria Tower is an iron flagstaff from which flies the Union Flag or, when the Sovereign is present in the Palace, the Royal Standard. The flag used to be flown only on days when either House of Parliament sat, but since January 2010 it has been flown every day.

A bit further down there is Lambeth Bridge. It's about 700 metres from the crossroads at the Parliament Square Garden to the bridge.



Lambeth Bridge, is a road traffic and footbridge crossing the River Thames in an east-west direction in central London. The most conspicuous colour in the bridge's paint scheme is red, the same colour as the leather benches in the House of Lords, which is at the southern end of the Palace of Westminster nearest the bridge. This is in contrast to Westminster Bridge, which is predominantly green, the same colour as the benches in the House of Commons at the northern end of the Houses of Parliament.

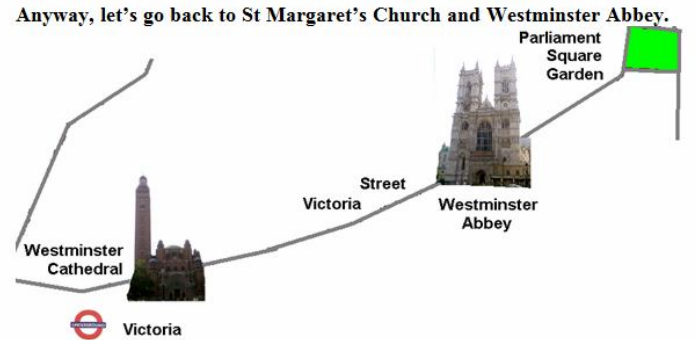
If we continue ahead Millbank Street for another 450 metres, we will reach Tate Britain Museum

The **Tate Britain Museum** SW1P 4RG Tate Britain (known from 1897 to 1932 as the National Gallery of British Art and from 1932 to 2000 as the Tate Gallery) is an art museum. It is part of the Tate network of galleries in England, with Tate Modern, Tate Liverpool and Tate St Ives. It is the oldest gallery in the network, having opened in 1897. It houses a substantial collection of the art of the United Kingdom since Tudor times, and in particular has large holdings of the works of J. M. W. Turner, who bequeathed all his own collection to the nation. It is one of the largest museums in the country.

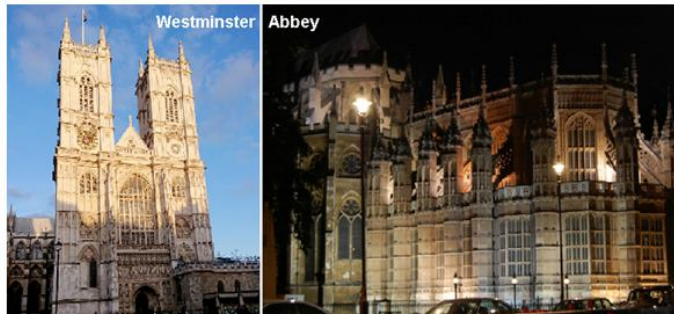


Pimlico Station, which is the closest underground station, is nearly 700 metres to the north-west.

Anyway, let's go back to St Margaret's Church and Westminster Abbey.



The **Westminster Abbey** SW1P 3PA formally titled the Collegiate Church of Saint Peter at Westminster, is a large, mainly Gothic abbey church.



It is one of the United Kingdom's most notable religious buildings and the traditional place of coronation and burial site for English and, later, British monarchs. The building itself was a Benedictine monastic church until the monastery was dissolved in 1539. Between 1540 and 1556, the abbey had the status of a cathedral. Since 1560, the building is no longer an abbey or a cathedral, having instead the status of a Church of England "Royal Peculiar"—a church responsible directly to the sovereign.

Construction of the present church began in 1245, on the orders of King Henry III.

Since the coronation of William the Conqueror in 1066, all coronations of English and British monarchs have been in Westminster Abbey. There have been 16 royal weddings at the abbey since 1100.

As the burial site of more than 3,300 persons, usually of prominence in British history (including at least sixteen monarchs, eight Prime Ministers, poets laureate, actors, scientists, military leaders, and the Unknown Warrior), Westminster Abbey is sometimes described as 'Britain's Valhalla', after the iconic burial hall of Norse mythology.

If you reach the end of the Westminster Abbey building, which is 200 metres away from Parliament Square Garden, you'll get to Victoria Street. You can see there From here the **Crimea and Indian Mutiny memorial** set in 1861.

By walking from this spot down Victoria Street, you will come to Westminster Cathedral, which is quite far away (about 950 metres).

The **Westminster Cathedral** is the mother church of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales. The site on which the cathedral stands in the City of Westminster was purchased by the Diocese of Westminster in 1885,

and construction completed in 1903. It is the largest Roman Catholic church in England and Wales and the seat of the Archbishop of Westminster.

Designed by John Francis Bentley in neo-Byzantine style, and accordingly made almost entirely of brick, without steel reinforcements. John Betjeman called it "a masterpiece in striped brick and stone" and said that it shows that "the good craftsman has no need of steel or concrete".



The nearest underground station is Victoria which is a two minute walk.

Victoria station, also known as London Victoria, is a central London railway terminus and connected London Underground station in Victoria.



Now, let's go back to the Parliament Square Garden

By walking past St. Margaret's Church we bypassed Parliament Square Garden on its left side. Now let's try to go round it from its right side. Here is George Street, which after 250 metres will bring us to St. James's Park.



St James's Park is a 23-hectare (57-acre) park in the City of Westminster, central London. It is at the southernmost tip of the St James's area, which was named after a leper hospital dedicated to St James the Less.

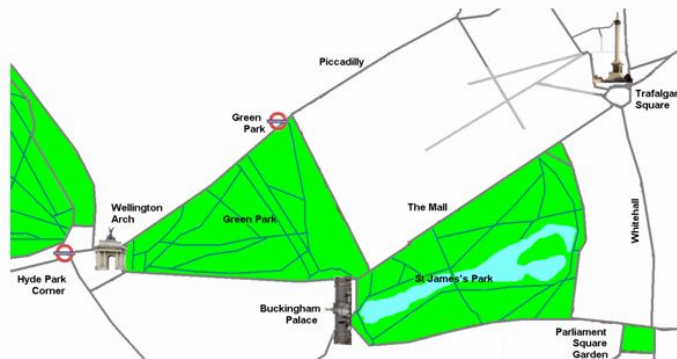


If you turn right and walk along Horse Guards Road, in 50 metres you can see the Churchill War Rooms on your right.

The Churchill War Rooms SW1A 2AQ

The museum comprises the Cabinet War Rooms, a historic underground complex that housed a British government command centre throughout the Second World War, and the Churchill Museum, a biographical museum exploring the life of British statesman Winston Churchill. Construction of the Cabinet War Rooms, located beneath the Treasury building in the Whitehall area of Westminster, began in 1938. They became fully operational on 27 August 1939, a week before Britain declared war on Germany. The War Rooms remained in operation throughout the Second World War, before being abandoned in August 1945 after the surrender of Japan.

War Museum was asked to take over the administration of the site, and the Cabinet War Rooms were opened to the public in April 1984.



Let's come back to the crossroads and walk along the Parliament Street.

The **Parliament Street** The street ends at the Cenotaph memorial. The next street is called **Whitehall**. The street is recognised as the centre of the Government of the United Kingdom and is lined with numerous departments and ministries, including the Ministry of Defence, Horse Guards and the Cabinet Office. Consequently, the name 'Whitehall' is used as a metonym for the British civil service and government, and as the geographic name for the surrounding area.

The **Cenotaph** is a war memorial. Designed by Edwin Lutyens, was built from Portland stone between 1919 and 1920 by Holland, Hannen & Cubitts. An annual Service of Remembrance is held at the site on Remembrance to November (Armistice Day) each year. Lutyens' cenotaph design has been reproduced elsewhere in the UK and in other countries of historical British allegiance.

The **Women of World War II** is a British national war memorial. It was sculpted by John W. Mills, unveiled by Queen Elizabeth II and dedicated by Baroness Boothroyd in July 2005.



Parliament Street



The Cenotaph



The Women of World War II

You can see the Downing Street on your left and further down, on your right, is the Banqueting House. Opposite it, on your left, is the Household Cavalry Museum.



The **Downing Street** is used as a metonym for the Government of the United Kingdom. For more than three hundred years, it has held the official residences of both the First Lord of the Treasury, the office now synonymous with that of the Prime Minister, and the Second Lord of the Treasury, the office held by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The Prime Minister's official residence is 10 Downing Street

The **Banqueting House** Whitehall, is the grandest and best known survivor of the architectural genre of banqueting house. It is the only remaining component of the Palace of Whitehall, the residence of English monarchs from 1530 to 1698. The building is important in the history of England.

The **Horse Guards** is a historic building . It was built in the mid-18th century, replacing an earlier building, as a barracks and stables for the Household Cavalry. Although still in military use, part of the building houses the **Household Cavalry Museum** which is open to the public.



If you walk to the end of the street you reach the Trafalgar Square. The first monument that catches your eye there will be the Equestrian Statue of Charles I.

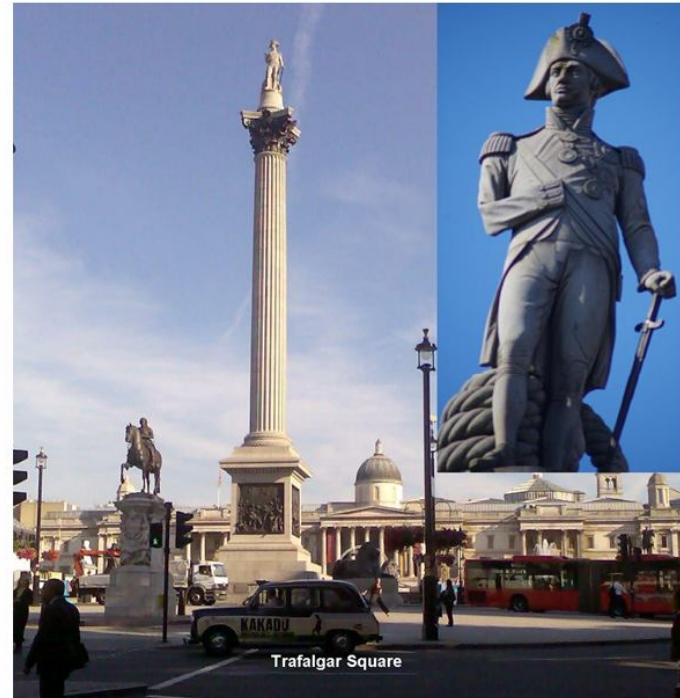
The **Equestrian Statue of Charles I.** Is a work by the French sculptor Hubert Le Sueur, probably cast in 1633.

Its location at Charing Cross is on the former site of the most elaborate of the Eleanor crosses erected by Edward

I, which had stood for three and a half centuries until 1647.

Charing Cross is used to define the centre of London and a plaque by the statue indicates that road signage distances are measured from this point.

The statue faces down Whitehall towards Charles I's place of execution at Banqueting House.



The **Trafalgar Square.** WC2N 5DN

Trafalgar Square is a public square, built around the area formerly known as Charing Cross. Its name commemorates the Battle of Trafalgar, the British naval victory in the Napoleonic Wars over France and Spain that took place on 21 October 1805 off the coast of Cape Trafalgar.

The 169-foot (52 m) Nelson's Column at its centre is guarded by four lion statues.

On the right side is the large building that houses the South African High Commission, and opposite it, on the other side of the square and on our left, is the High Commission of Canada (Canada House). Straight in front of you is a building with columns. This is the National Gallery.

The **National Gallery** is an art museum. Founded in 1824, it houses a collection of over 2,300 paintings dating from the mid-13th century to 1900. It is among the most visited art museums in the world, after the Louvre, the British Museum, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.



Unlike comparable museums in continental Europe, the National Gallery was not formed by nationalising an existing royal or princely art collection. It came into being when the British government bought 38 paintings from the heirs of John Julius Angerstein in 1824. After that initial purchase the Gallery was shaped mainly by its early directors, notably Sir Charles Lock Eastlake, and by private donations, which today account for two-thirds

of the collection. The collection is small compared with many European national galleries, but encyclopaedic in scope; most major developments in Western painting "from Giotto to Cézanne" are represented with important works. It used to be claimed that this was one of the few national galleries that had all its works on permanent exhibition,] but this is no longer the case.

The present building, the third to house the National Gallery, was designed by William Wilkins from 1832 to 1838. Only the façade onto Trafalgar Square remains essentially unchanged from this time, as the building has been expanded piecemeal throughout its history.

Here, at Trafalgar Square, is a big intersection and you can choose any direction.

For example, the street called The Mall will get you to Buckingham Palace, Charing Cross Road is famous for its book stores. You can quickly walk to Leicester Square, or The Strand will take you to the City of London.

Let's start with the first option. By passing through Admiralty Arch, you'll get to the street called The Mall. On the left-hand side is St James's Park – you've seen it before from the other side. It's about 1200 metres from Trafalgar Square to Buckingham Palace. In front of Buckingham Palace you can see the Queen Victoria Memorial. On the right-hand side, Green Park starts.

Admiralty Arch is a landmark building in London providing road and pedestrian access between The Mall, which extends to the southwest, and Trafalgar Square to the northeast. Admiralty Arch, commissioned by King Edward VII in memory of his mother, Queen Victoria, and designed by Aston Webb.

In the past, it served as residence of the First Sea Lord and was used by the Admiralty. Until 2011, the building housed government offices. In 2012, the government sold the building on a 125-year lease for £60m for a proposed redevelopment into a Waldorf Astoria luxury hotel and four apartments.



The **Victoria Memorial** is a monument to Queen Victoria, and designed and executed by the sculptor (Sir) Thomas Brock. Designed in 1901, it was unveiled on 16 May 1911, though it was not completed until 1924. It was the centrepiece of an ambitious urban planning scheme, which included the creation of the Queen's Gardens to a design by Sir Aston Webb, and the refacing of Buckingham Palace (which stands behind the memorial) by the same architect.



The **Buckingham Palace** SW1A 1AA

Buckingham Palace is the London residence and administrative headquarters of the monarchy of the United Kingdom. Located in the City of Westminster, the palace is often at the centre of state occasions and royal hospitality. It has been a focal point for the British people at times of national rejoicing and mourning.

Originally known as Buckingham House, the building at the core of today's palace was a large townhouse built for the Duke of Buckingham in 1703.

Buckingham Palace became the London residence of the British monarch on the accession of Queen Victoria in 1837.

The last major structural additions were made in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, including the East Front, which contains the well-known balcony on which the royal family traditionally congregates to greet their subjects and visitor.



A German bomb destroyed the palace chapel during World War II; the Queen's Gallery was built on the site and opened to the public in 1962 to exhibit works of art from the Royal Collection.

The nearest underground station is Green Park about 550 m. north-west.

The **Hyde Park Corner** Underground station is 650 metres to the west. It's easier to go around the palace on the right side and walk along a wide path called Constitution Hill.

Before reaching the underground station, you'll see Wellington Arch and several monuments. If you cross the street you can get to Hyde Park.



The **Wellington Arch** W1J 7JZ 7JZ also known as Constitution Arch, is a Grade I-listed triumphal arch by Decimus Burton that forms a centrepiece of Hyde Park Corner, between corners of Hyde Park and Green Park; it stands on a large traffic island with crossings for pedestrian access. Installed in 1882–1883. It originally supported a colossal equestrian statue of the 1st Duke of Wellington by the sculptor Matthew Cotes Wyatt, as a result of which it has acquired the name "the Wellington Arch" in the vernacular. A bronze quadriga by Adrian Jones has summounted it since 1912.

Hyde Park is a major park in Central London.

The park was established by Henry VIII in 1536 when he took the land from Westminster Abbey and used it as a hunting ground. It opened to the public in

1637 and quickly became popular. Free speech and demonstrations have been a key feature of Hyde Park since the 19th century. Speakers' Corner has been established as a point of free speech and debate since 1872, while the Chartists, the Reform League, the suffragettes, and the Stop the War Coalition have all held protests there. In the late 20th century, the park was known for holding large-scale free rock music concerts, featuring groups such as Pink Floyd, The Rolling Stones and Queen. Major events in the park have continued into the 21st century, such as Live 8 in 2005, and the annual Hyde Park Winter Wonderland from 2007.



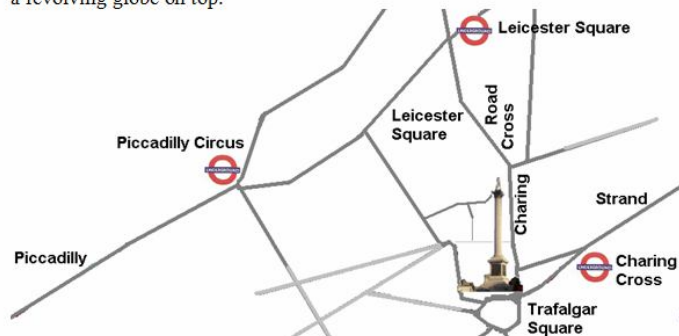
Hyde Park Before concert



Hyde Park Before concert

Let's return to the Trafalgar Square now.

If you go around the National Gallery on the right side, you'll find yourself in Charing Cross Road, and the National Portrait Gallery will be right in front of you. Further to the right you'll see St Martin's Lane, where the London Coliseum is. It's one of the biggest theatres in central London - a building with a revolving globe on top.



The **London Coliseum** (also known as the Coliseum Theatre) is a Renaissance theatre in St Martin's Lane, Westminster, built as one of London's largest and most luxurious "family" variety theatres.

Opened on 24 December 1904 as the London Coliseum Theatre of Varieties. The theatre has 2,359 seats making it the largest theatre in London. Today it is used primarily for opera as well as being the London home of the English National Ballet.



The **National Portrait Gallery (NPG)** is an art gallery in London housing a collection of portraits of historically important and famous British people. It was the first portrait gallery in the world when it opened in 1856. The gallery moved in 1896 to its current site at St Martin's Place, off Trafalgar Square, and adjoining the National Gallery. It has been expanded twice since then.

There's a quick way to get from Trafalgar Square to Leicester Square – you just need to go through a passage between the buildings on the left side of the National Gallery. (the façade of which is shown on the pictures). Follow the passage, then head along the narrow lane. In 100 metres you'll find yourself in Leicester Square.

Leicester Square WC2H 7LU is a pedestrianised square. It was laid out in 1670 and is named after the contemporary Leicester House, itself named after Robert Sidney, 2nd Earl of Leicester.



Leicester Square holds a number of nationally significant cinemas such as the Odeon Leicester Square, Empire, Leicester Square, which are often used for film premieres. The nearby Prince Charles Cinema is known for its

screenings of cult films and marathon film runs. The square remains a tourist attraction which hosts events.



In the middle of the 19th century, the William Shakespeare Fountain was erected here. In 1981 a statue to Charles Spencer Chaplin (1889 - 1977) - Comic actor, Director and Producer, was installed.

If you go left along Coventry street and walk about 250 metres, you'll get to Piccadilly Circus. If you go right and walk about 100 metres along Cranbourn Street, you'll come to Leicester Square underground station. There's no need to look for the names of these streets: from the spot where you entered Leicester Square, these streets run in opposite directions on the other side of the square.



First, let's look left.

Piccadilly Circus. W1J 9HS



In this photo we came along the street that you can see straight ahead, between the buildings.

Is located close to the main West End shopping and entertainment areas. Its status as a major transportation hub has made Piccadilly Circus a busy meeting point and an independent tourist destination. The area's famous features are the fountain and the giant video screens.

The following pictures show that Regent Street goes left and Regent Street Saint James goes right from Piccadilly Circus.



On the right you can see some interesting statues. For instance, at the bottom of the street is the Duke of York Column. The Column stands near The Mall, not far from Trafalgar Square. The first small street to the right is Jermyn Street. Here you will find shops for true gentlemen. The prices correspond to the exclusive product.

To the left is Regent Street, a major shopping area with many popular stores.

Piccadilly (behind you, if you look at the first photo of the square). The main thoroughfare, known in 1626 as Piccadilly Hall, was named after a house belonging to Robert Baker, a tailor famous for selling piccadills, or piccadillies - a term used for various types of collars.

Today Piccadilly is considered to be one of the main shopping streets in London, with several well-known shops and hotels.



The **Shaftesbury Memorial Fountain**, also (mistakenly) known as "Eros", is a fountain surmounted by a winged statue of Anteros. It was erected in 1892-1893 to commemorate the philanthropic works of Anthony Ashley Cooper, 7th Earl of Shaftesbury, who was a famous Victorian politician and philanthropist, and his achievement in replacing child-labour with school education.

Let's go back to the Leicester Square

If you no need to get to Leicester Square tube station from Leicester Square in a hurry, turn left on the first or second street before Charing Cross Road. You'll still have to cross it to enter the underground station. If you turn left, you'll get to Chinatown.

Chinatown is an ethnic enclave, bordering Soho to its north and west, Theatreland to the south and east. It contains a number of Chinese restaurants, bakeries, supermarkets, souvenir shops. By the way, not only the Chinese ones.



From Leicester Square Underground station, if you prefer not to go back to Trafalgar Square via the Leicester Square again, you need to turn right, down the Charing Cross Road. The Trafalgar Square will be at sight in about 350 metres.

Now we're back to Trafalgar Square and take our turn to Strand.

If to walk down the Charing Cross Road, the Strand will be on your left.



Strand (or the Strand) As we are moving from Trafalgar Square, the entrance to the street will be at your right hand side. As a rule, house numbering will be increasing. But then another street begins and the Strand right-hand numbering flops over to the left and continues increasing again. The last house along the street will stand close to Trafalgar Square but on the left hand side.

It is quite common in old London to have counter-clockwise numbering of the houses.



Let's move on by Strand. On the right we can see the Charing Cross station. By the way, Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Watson arrived and departed from Charing Cross station. There are plenty of shops on the Strand, the ones you can also find at other streets of London. But here you have

also some specialized shops for collectors of stamps, autographs and coins.

By walking further down the Strand you'll come to this crossroads. On the right, a wide Lancaster Palace Street leads to the Waterloo Bridge which takes you to the Waterloo Station. On the left you can see Wellington Street, the one we will choose to continue our tour.

And then we'll go ahead to the Strand.



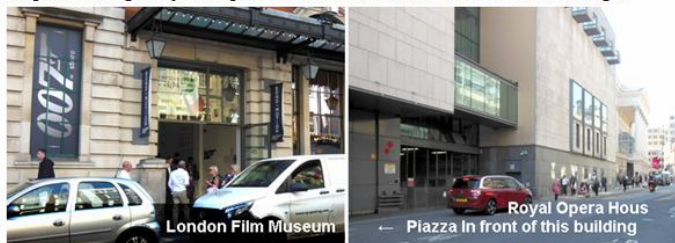
While on Wellington Street, on the left-hand side you'll see The Lyceum Theatre. Further down is The London Film Museum.

Continue up Wellington Street and you'll find yourself in Bow Street, where the Royal Opera House is.

The **Royal Opera House** WC2E 9DD

The Royal Opera House (ROH) is an opera house and major performing arts venue in Covent Garden. The façade, foyer, and auditorium date from 1858, but almost every

other element of the present complex dates from an extensive reconstruction in the 1990s. The main auditorium seats 2,256 people, making it the third largest in London, and consists of four tiers of boxes and balconies and the amphitheatre gallery. The proscenium is 12.20 m wide and 14.80 m high.



Turning left in front of the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden you'll find yourself in its main square, the **Piazza**.



The name of **Covent Garden** comes from a convent orchard garden that supplied fruit to Westminster Abbey in the middle ages. The Piazza, the main square of Covent Garden, was designed in the Italian style by the architect Inigo Jones in the 17th century. The prototype Covent Garden is thought to have been the main square of the Italian city of Livorno.

However, now only one building designed by Inigo Jones has been preserved in the square. It's the current St Paul's Church. The rest of the buildings in Covent Garden were built in the second half of the 19th century.

Until 1974, this area housed the main London wholesale fruit, vegetable, and flower market. Now this area, market and surrounding streets are always full of tourists, theatregoers and London youth.

Numerous cafés and restaurants, clothing and souvenir stores were opened in the square and surrounding streets. In the centre is the market building, consisting of three connected gallery passages. Along the galleries are rows of small shops selling souvenirs, books, delicacies and all kinds of tourist trinkets.

The neighbouring building is another quite large market called the Jubilee Market, with a similar assortment of goods at lower prices. They also sell second-hand goods and various crafts.

The nearest tube station is Covent Garden, which is 70 metres north-west of the Piazza.

Now we go back to the Strand.

In front of you on the right-hand side you can see Somerset House WC2R 1 Next to it is King's College London. On the left is the High Commission of Australia, then St. Clement Danes' Church, and next to that are the Royal Courts of Justice. It's only 300 metres from the intersection with Wellington Street to Royal Courts of Justice.



Museum Somerset House



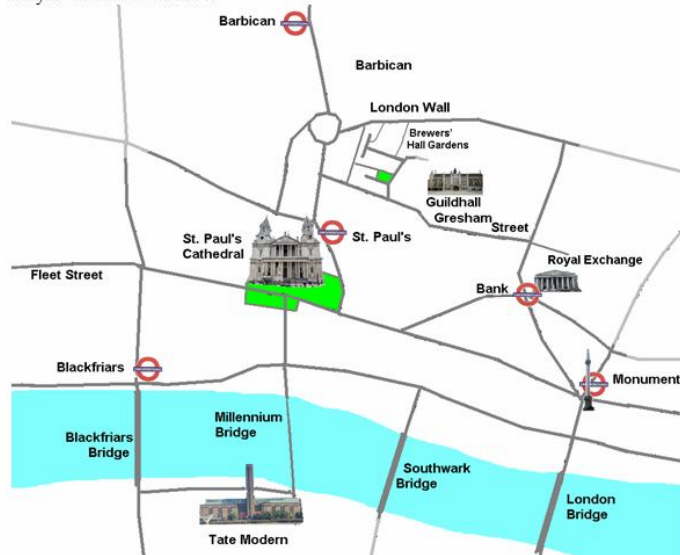
High Commission of Australia



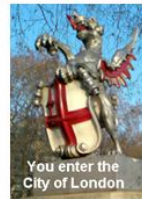
Royal Courts of Justice.

The **Royal Courts of Justice** or the High Court of Justice in London, together with the Court of Appeal and the Crown Court, are the Senior Courts of England and Wales. Its name is abbreviated as EWHC for legal citation purposes. The High Court deals at first instance with all high value and high importance cases, and also has a supervisory jurisdiction over all subordinate courts and tribunals, with a few statutory exceptions.

A little further down, the Strand ends and Fleet Street begins. Ahead, you can already see St. Paul's Cathedral which is about 650 metres away from the Royal Courts of Justice.



Fleet Street is a major street mostly in the City of London. It runs west to east from Temple Bar at the boundary with the City of Westminster to Ludgate Circus at the site of the London Wall and the River Fleet from which the street was named. Having been an important through route since Roman times, businesses were established along the road during the Middle Ages. Senior clergy lived in Fleet Street during this period where there are several



churches including Temple Church and St Bride's. Fleet Street became known for printing and publishing at the start of the 16th century and it became the dominant trade so that by the 20th century most British national newspapers operated from here. Much of the industry moved out in the 1980s after News International set up cheaper manufacturing premises in Wapping, but some former newspaper buildings are listed and have been preserved. The term Fleet Street remains a metonym for the British national press, and pubs on the street once frequented by journalists remain popular.



St Paul's



St Paul's



The **St. Paul's Cathedral** EC4M 8AD is an Anglican cathedral, the seat of the Bishop of London and the mother church of the Diocese of London. It sits on Ludgate Hill at the highest point of the City of London. Its dedication to Paul the Apostle dates back to the original church on this site, founded in AD 604. The present cathedral, dating from the late 17th century, was

designed in the English Baroque style by Sir Christopher Wren. Its construction, completed in Wren's lifetime, was part of a major rebuilding programme in the City after the Great Fire of London. The cathedral building largely destroyed in the Great Fire, now often referred to as Old St Paul's Cathedral, was a central focus for medieval and early modern London, including Paul's walk and St Paul's Churchyard being the site of St Paul's Cross.

The cathedral is one of the most famous and most recognisable sights of London. Its dome, framed by the spires of Wren's City churches, has dominated the skyline for over 300 years. At 365 feet (111 m) high, it was the tallest building in London from 1710 to 1967.

Services held at St Paul's have included the funerals of Admiral Nelson, the Duke of Wellington, Winston Churchill and Margaret Thatcher; jubilee celebrations for Queen Victoria; peace services marking the end of the First and Second World Wars; the wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer; the launch of the Festival of Britain; and the thanksgiving services for the Silver, Golden and Diamond Jubilees and the 80th and 90th birthdays of Queen Elizabeth II. St Paul's Cathedral is the central subject of much promotional material, as well as of images of the dome surrounded by the smoke and fire of the Blitz.

The nearest tube station is St Paul's, which is 100 metres to the north-west.

At this point you again have to choose where to go next.

You can immediately turn south and head along Millennium Bridge to the other side of the Thames, or head north to the Barbican and the Museum of London, then west to Guildhall, the Bank of England Museum and The Royal Exchange, and then south to London Bridge. So you can walk through the City of London.

To start, let's turn to the south. Here we have to go through a square called Carter Lane Gardens and we will get to the pedestrian street Peter's Hill, which will lead us to the Millennium Bridge.

The **Millennium Bridge**, officially known as the London Millennium Footbridge, is a steel suspension bridge for pedestrians. Construction began in 1998, and it initially opened in June 2000. Londoners nicknamed it the "Wobbly Bridge" after pedestrians experienced an alarming swaying motion on its opening day. The bridge was closed later that day and, after two days of limited access, it was closed again for almost two years so that modifications and repairs could be made to keep the bridge stable and stop the swaying motion. It reopened in February 2002.

On the other bank you'll see the Tate Modern museum, which is almost next door to Shakespeare's Globe Theatre – it's on the left side of the bridge.

The **Tate Modern SE1 9TG** is a modern art gallery. It is Britain's national gallery of international modern art and forms part of the Tate group. It is based in the former Bankside Power Station, in the Bankside area of the London Borough of Southwark. Tate holds the national collection of British art from 1900 to the present day and international modern and contemporary art. Tate Modern is one of the largest museums of modern and contemporary art in the world. As with the UK's other national galleries and museums, there is no admission charge for access to the collection displays, which take up the majority of the gallery space, while tickets must be purchased for the major temporary exhibitions.



Millennium Bridge
view from the window
of Tate Modern



Tate Modern
from the
Millennium Bridge



Now, it's time to get acquainted with the City of London.

If you are facing St. Paul's Cathedral, the side we came from, look at your left and you will see the Temple Bar Gate arch. We need to walk in straight to the arch. In the small square you can see the Paternoster Lodge. It's better to turn right here and walk to the end of the street where you can turn left. Here, where St. Paul's Underground station is.

We turned up to be at the crossroads. We need to go north, down the Martin's-le-Grand Street that flips into the Aldersgate Street

soon. The Museum of London will be right ahead on our way

The **Museum of London EC2Y 5HN** documents the history of the UK's capital city from prehistoric to modern times and is located in the City of London on the London Wall, close to the Barbican Centre and is part of the Barbican complex of buildings created in the 1960s and 1970s to redevelop a bomb-damaged area of the City.

The museum is the largest urban history collection in the world, with more than six million objects.

At the back of the museum, on the right-hand side and straight, you can find quite an interesting area of the City called the Barbican.



Museum of London



Barbican Estate Centre

The **Barbican Estate** is a residential estate that was built during the 1960s and the 1980s within the City of London in Central London, in an area once devastated by World War II bombings and today densely populated by financial institutions. It contains, or is adjacent to, the Barbican Arts Centre, the Museum of London, the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, the Barbican public library, the City of London School for Girls and a YMCA forming the Barbican Complex.

Now we are moving along London Wall Street, the street which goes to the right side off the place where we approached the Museum of London. Now, by passing under the house that overhanged the street, we need to find the Brewers' Hall Gardens, a small street on your right-hand side. When we reach the end of the street, we need to turn left down the Aldermanbury Square.

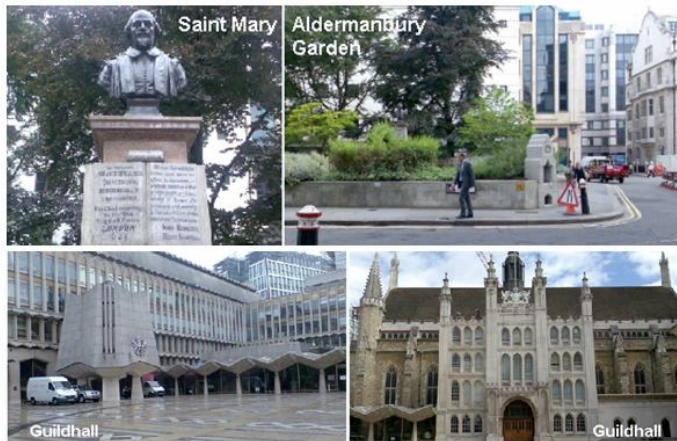
At the crossroads we take right to Aldermanbury Street. Soon, we will see the Saint Mary Aldermanbury Garden located on your right. On your left you can view the City of London Police Museum, the Guildhall and the Guildhall Art Gallery.

From the Museum of London, it's only 500 metres to Guildhall.

The **Guildhall EC2V 7HH** is a municipal building in the Moorgate area of the City of London, England. It is situated off Gresham and Basinghall streets, in the wards of Bassishaw and Cheap. The building has been used as a town hall for several hundred years, and is still the ceremonial and administrative centre of the City of London and its Corporation. It should not



be confused with London's City Hall, the administrative centre for Greater London. The term "Guildhall" refers both to the whole building and to its main room, which is a medieval great hall.



Next we need to look for the Gresham Street. To get there, if we stand back to the Guildhall, we start walking east from St Lawrence Jewry C of E Church. The Church is right there, you can't miss it.

Down the Gresham Street we will approach the crossroads from where you can see the Bank of England on your right and it takes you 250 metres of walk from the Guildhall. From here you won't see a front door but a bare wall with no doors or windows. By going around the building (ahead and then right) you'll come to the Bank of England Museum. The main entrance will be right and then left. When get to the main entrance, we'll see another interesting building of The Royal Exchange.

The **Bank of England** EC2R 8AH is the central bank of the United Kingdom and the model on which most modern central banks have been based. Established in 1694 to act as the English Government's banker, and still one of the bankers for the Government of the United Kingdom, it is the world's eighth-oldest bank. It was privately owned by stockholders from its foundation in 1694 until it was nationalised in 1946.

The Bank became an independent public organisation in 1998, wholly owned by the Treasury Solicitor on behalf of the government, but with independence in setting monetary policy.

The Bank is one of eight banks authorised to issue banknotes in the United Kingdom, has a monopoly on the issue of banknotes in England and Wales and regulates the issue of banknotes by commercial banks in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

The **Royal Exchange** in London was founded in the 16th century by the merchant Sir Thomas Gresham on the suggestion of his factor Richard Clough to act as a centre of commerce for the City of London

It has twice been destroyed by fire and subsequently rebuilt. The present building was designed by Sir William Tite in the 1840s. The site was notably occupied by the Lloyd's insurance market for nearly 150 years. Today the Royal Exchange contains a Courtyard Grand Cafe, Threadneedle Cocktail Bar, Sauterelle Restaurant, luxury shops, and offices.



The nearest underground station is Bank, near the crossroads.

We can take a walk around this area bit more if turn left, for example, on Cornhill Street on the right side of The Royal Exchange, but it's easy to get lost here. In order to avoid that, I would recommend looking carefully both ways and spot the street maps of the place you are around. This area is full of street maps.

I'd suggest to continuing our tour down the William King Street in direction to Monument Underground station, by passing the Bank building and Bank tube station. In 300 meters we'll reach the Monument to the Great Fire of London nearby.

Monument to the Great Fire of London EC3R 8AH more commonly known simply as the Monument, is a Doric column. Commemorating the Great Fire of London, it stands at the junction of Monument Street and Fish Street Hill, 202 feet (62 m) in height and 202



feet west of the spot in Pudding Lane where the Great Fire started on 2 September 1666. Constructed between 1671 and 1677, it was built on the site of St. Margaret's, Fish Street, the first church to be destroyed by the Great Fire.

It was designed by Christopher Wren and Robert Hooke. Its height marks its distance from the site of the shop of Thomas Farriner (or Farynor), the king's baker, where the blaze began. The viewing platform near the top of the Monument is reached by a narrow winding staircase of 311 steps.

Now let's go north from the station Monument.

You need to find the Gracechurch Street and walk straight for another 150-200 meters. At your right you will see the Leadenhall Market.



The arcade at **Leadenhall market** is the best picture of Victorian covered market with ornate painted roof structure. It was used as Diagon Alley in "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone". The entrance to wizard's pub, the Leaky Cauldron,

is in real life the optician in Bull's Head Passage.

If you wish to visit the other places of Harry Potter, you need to go to **King's Cross Station** first.



The Hogwarts Express departs from Platform 9¾ at King's Cross Station, which is in the arched wall between platforms 4 and 5. If that seems short on magic, head towards the real-life entrance to platforms 9, 10 and 11 on the west side of the station. There you'll find a trolley disappearing into the magical realm through a wall with the sign: Platform 9¾.

First you need to find the entrance to King's Cross Station. His will be from the square on the left side in the building that you see in this photo.

This is an entrance.

Here you need to go straight.→

At the end of the hall, on the right side is the platform 9¾



Furthermore, you can also have a tour to **Warner Bros. Studio Tour London**.

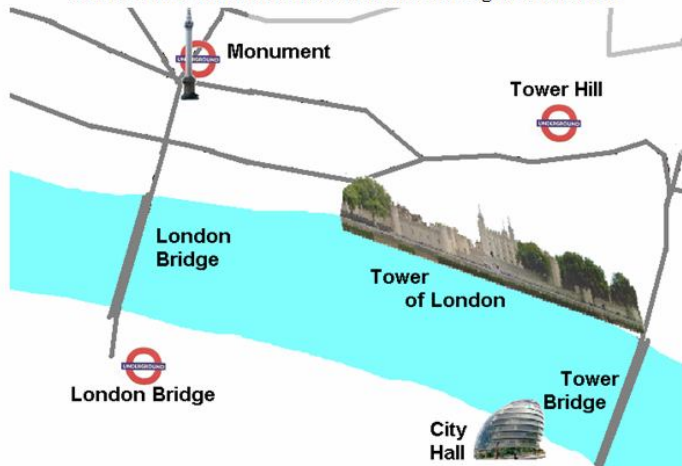


To do that you need to buy a ticket at Euston Station to Watford Junction Station. The trip takes about 30 minutes.

But the only way you can get the tickets to Warner Bros is online.

If you have already your ticket, then take a bus at platform 4 that takes you to the Harry Potter Museum at Warner Bros. Studio.

For now let's come back to Monument Underground station.



Not far to the south the London Bridge is.



Several bridges named **London Bridge** have spanned the River Thames between the City of London and Southwark, in central London.

The current crossing, which opened to traffic in 1973, is a box girder bridge built from concrete and steel. It replaced a 19th-century stone-arched bridge, which in turn superseded a 600-year-old stone-built medieval structure.

This was preceded by a succession of timber bridges, the first of which was built by the Roman founders of London. The current bridge stands at the western end of the Pool of London and is positioned 30 metres (98 ft) upstream from previous alignments. The approaches to the medieval bridge were marked by the church of St Magnus-the-Martyr on the northern bank and by Southwark Cathedral on the southern shore. Until Putney Bridge opened in 1729, London

Bridge was the only road-crossing of the Thames downstream of Kingston upon Thames.

From Monument Underground station you need to walk about 450 metres in order to get to the other bank of the river. Not far from here there is the London Bridge Underground station and the Shard. You can visit London Bridge attractions and Tomb Experience. Further down the promenade you will see HMS Belfast ship museum. A little bit further on is the City Hall. You can enjoy the view of the Tower of London on the other bank of the river.

The **Shard** SE1 9SG

The Shard's construction began in March 2009 and inaugurated on 5 July 2012. Practical completion was achieved in November 2012. The tower's privately operated observation deck, The View from The Shard, was opened to the public on 1 February 2013.

The glass-clad pyramidal tower has 72 habitable floors, with a viewing gallery and open-air observation deck on the 72nd floor, at a height of 244 metres (801 ft).

The Shard was developed by Sellar Property Group on behalf of LBQ Ltd and is jointly owned by Sellar Property (5%) and the State of Qatar (95%).



From The Shard



From The Shard

The **HMS Belfast** is a Town-class light cruiser that was built for the Royal Navy. She is now permanently moored as a museum ship on the River Thames in London

and is operated by the Imperial War Museum.





The **City Hall SE1** is the headquarters of the Greater London Authority (GLA), which comprises the Mayor of London and the London Assembly. It was designed by Norman Foster and opened in July 2002, two years after the Greater London Authority was created.

The **Tower of London EC3N 4DR** officially Her Majesty's Royal Palace and Fortress of the Tower of London. It was founded towards the end of 1066 as part of the Norman Conquest of England. The White

Tower, which gives the entire castle its name, was built by William the Conqueror in 1078 and was a resented symbol of oppression, inflicted upon London by the new ruling elite. The castle was used as a prison from 1100 (Ranulf Flambard) until 1952 (Kray twins), although that was not its primary purpose. A grand palace early in its history, it served as a royal residence.



The Tower of London has played a prominent role in English history. It was besieged several times, and controlling it has been important to controlling the country. The Tower has served variously as an armoury, a treasury, a menagerie, the home of the Royal Mint, a public record office, and the home of the Crown Jewels of England.

You have to walk about 250 metres to get to the other side of the river and another 300 metres of walk to reach the entrance to Tower of London or ticket offices.

The nearest underground station is **Tower Hill**, which is not far to the north.



The **Tower Bridge** is a combined bascule and suspension bridge in London, built between 1886 and 1894. The bridge crosses the River Thames close to the Tower of London and has become an iconic symbol of London. As a result, it is sometimes confused with London.

British Museum WC1B 3DG

If you miss visiting the British Museum, one of the most famous museums in the world, you might feel you have seen nothing of such comparative importance in London. But I should warn you that even a day spent there will not be enough to explore every one exhibition.

It's very easy to get to the museum: head to Tottenham Court Road Underground Station, then go out on the crossroads. Here, Oxford Street is crossed by the now familiar Charing Cross Road, which runs from Trafalgar Square. It ends at the intersection, becoming Tottenham Court Road northwards. You need to go along Tottenham Court Road to the first intersection, then turn right onto Great Russell Street. You only need to go 350 metres along the street to reach the British Museum.



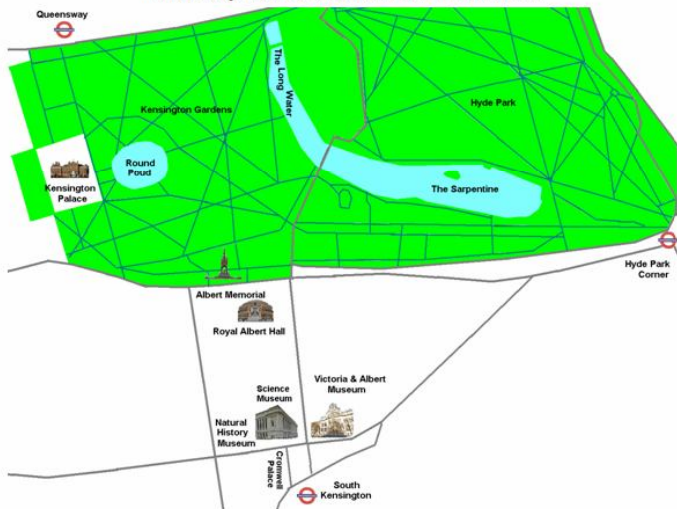
The **British Museum WC1B 3DG** is a public institution dedicated to human history, art and culture. Its permanent collection of some eight million works is among the largest and most comprehensive in existence, having been widely sourced during the era of the British Empire. It documents the story of

human culture from its beginnings to the present. It was the first public national museum in the world.

The British Museum was established in 1753, largely based on the collections of the Irish physician and scientist Sir Hans Sloane. It first opened to the public in 1759, in Montagu House, on the site of the current building. Its expansion over the following 250 years was largely a result of expanding British colonisation and has resulted in the creation of several branch institutions, the first being the Natural History Museum in 1881.

Its ownership of some of its most famous objects originating in other countries is disputed and remains the subject of international controversy, most notably in the case of the Elgin Marbles of Greece and the Rosetta Stone of Egypt.

Now I suggest visiting the Kensington area
which may well be called an area of Museums.



We will begin our tour from the **South Kensington** Underground station.

South Kensington Station has many exits onto the street, so to avoid getting lost, it's best to look for an exit in the station itself. Look for an arrow labelled "Museum." If you find an exit labelled "Pelham Street" or "Onslow Square," that's in the right direction too.

Actually, you don't need to go outside at all: just go through the underpass and follow the signs to the museums.

Cromwell Palace →

If you left the station and went out on the street, you need to find Cromwell Palace, a short street that soon ends at the crossroads with Cromwell Road.

Right in front of us on Cromwell Road, we will see the Natural History Museum.

We go right where we face a building of red colour. This is Victoria & Albert Museum. The street that goes left is Exhibition Road. We'll continue to walk down the Exhibition Road straight up to the entrance to the Natural History Museum and Science Museum.

The entrance to Victoria & Albert Museum is approximately 100 metres away down the Cromwell Road.



Natural History Museum



Victoria & Albert Museum

The **Natural History Museum** SW7 5BD in London is a natural history museum that exhibits a vast range of specimens from various segments of natural history. The museum is home to life and earth science specimens comprising some 80 million items within five main collections: botany, entomology, mineralogy, paleontology and zoology. The museum is a centre of research specialising in taxonomy, identification and conservation. Given the age of the institution, many of the collections have great historical as well as scientific value, such as specimens collected by Charles Darwin.

The **Victoria and Albert Museum**, (often abbreviated as the V&A) is the world's largest museum of applied and decorative arts and design, as well as sculpture, housing a permanent collection of over 2.27 million objects. It was founded in 1852 and named after Queen Victoria and Prince Albert.

The V&A covers 12.5 acres (5.1 ha) and 145 galleries. Its collection spans 5,000 years of art, from ancient times to the present day, from the cultures of Europe, North America, Asia and North Africa.



Victoria and Albert Museum



Science Museum

The **Science Museum** was founded in 1857 under Bennet Woodcroft from the collection of the Royal Society of Arts and surplus items from the Great Exhibition as part of the South Kensington Museum, together with what is now the Victoria and Albert Museum. It included a collection of machinery which became the Museum of Patents in 1858, and the Patent Office Museum in 1863. This collection contained many of the most famous exhibits of what is now the Science Museum. In 1883, the contents of the Patent Office Museum were transferred to the South Kensington Museum. In 1885, the Science Collections were renamed the Science Museum. The Science Museum's present quarters, designed by Sir Richard Allison, were opened to the public in stages over the period 1919–28

Further along Exhibition Road, behind the Science Museum, there is a large complex of education establishments of Imperial College that ends at the cross with Prince Concord Road. We take from there left for another 100 meters. The Royal Albert Hall is on your right-hand side. It is 900 meters of walk from the station.

The **Royal Albert Hall** SW7 2AP is a concert hall on the northern edge of South Kensington, London. One of the United Kingdom's most treasured and distinctive buildings. It can seat 5,272..

Since the hall's opening by Queen Victoria in 1871, the world's leading artists from many performance genres have appeared on its stage.

On the other side of Royal Albert Hall, a park called Kensington Gardens spreads out. The first thing that will catch your eye is the Albert Memorial.

The **Albert Memorial**, directly north of the Royal Albert Hall in Kensington Gardens, London, was commissioned by Queen Victoria in memory of her beloved husband Prince Albert, who died in 1861. Designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott in the Gothic Revival style, it takes the form of an

ornate canopy or pavilion 176 feet (54 m) tall, in the style of a Gothic ciborium over the high altar of a church, sheltering a statue of the prince facing south. The memorial was opened in July 1872 by Queen Victoria, with the statue of Albert ceremonially "seated" in 1876.



Royal Albert Hall



The Albert Memorial

Kensington Gardens, once the private gardens of Kensington Palace, are among the Royal Parks of London. The gardens are shared by the City of Westminster and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and sit immediately to the west of Hyde Park, in western central London. The gardens cover an area of 270 acres. The open spaces of Kensington Gardens, Hyde Park, Green Park, and St. James's Park together form an almost continuous "green lung" in the heart of London.



We can continue our walk across the Kensington Gardens. To get to the Kensington Palace from Albert Memorial, you need to choose the road which is on your left. There are plenty of signposts in the park therefore you won't be lost in there. The Kensington Palace is about 750 metres away from the Royal Albert Hall.

Kensington Palace W8 4PX is a royal residence set in Kensington Gardens. It has been a residence of the British Royal Family since the 17th

century, and is currently the official London residence of the British Royal Family.



You can see a flower garden, but only through the fence.

The closest underground station is **Queensway**, which is 600 metres to the north.

Sherlock Holmes, Madame Tussaud's, Regent's Park, Zoo.

Now I suggest heading towards the area of Regent's Park. What attracts everyone isn't just a beautiful park, but also two places that tourists from abroad adore - Sherlock Holmes Museum in Baker Street, and Madame Tussaud's Museum in Marylebone Road.

Let's start the journey from **Baker Street** underground station. Coming out of the station, you'll find yourself at the crossroads of Baker Street and Marylebone Road.



If you come out of the station onto Marylebone Road, on the left you'll see the monument to Sherlock Holmes. The building with the green dome behind it is Madame Tussaud's Museum. Baker Street is the street on the right, crossing Marylebone Road.

Walk about 100 metres along Baker street to get to the Sherlock Holmes Museum, which will be on your left. The museum is in an ordinary 4-storey building.



The **Sherlock Holmes Museum** NW1 6XE is a privately run museum in London, England, dedicated to the famous fictional detective Sherlock Holmes. It is the world's first museum dedicated to the literary character Sherlock Holmes. It opened in 1990 and is situated in Baker Street, bearing the number 221B by permission of the City of Westminster, although it lies between numbers 237 and 241.

The museum features exhibits items from several different adaptations of Sherlock Holmes, and recreations of scenes from the 1984 Granada Television series Sherlock Holmes.

There's also a souvenir shop where you can buy interesting trinkets related to the characters of Conan Doyle's books, for instance figurines, chess, scarves and caps, as well as the books themselves. You can even get the famous detective's business card for free, although it's obviously an advertisement for the museum and the shop.



Head down Marylebone Road, and it's not far to Madame Tussaud's Museum. If you've forgotten what queuing is, come here, especially on weekends. You'll spend at least an hour waiting in line in a multinational crowd speaking all the languages of the planet.

The **Madame Tussauds** NW1 5LR is a wax museum in London; it has smaller museums in a number of other major cities. It was founded by wax sculptor Marie Tussaud. Madame Tussauds is a major tourist attraction in London, displaying the waxworks of famous and historical figures, as well as popular film and television characters from famous actors.

After visiting Madame Tussauds Museum (or simply passing by, without going to the museum), head along Marylebone Road, turn left onto York Gate (first street to the left) at the end of the street and exit to Regent's Park.



There are a lot of colourful area maps in this park, so you won't get lost.

The most interesting bit, in my opinion, is Queen Mary's Gardens. An asphalt road separates it from the rest of Regent's Park. Here you can find an unlikely corner of nature, completely out of place in the centre of a big city.



Queen Mary's Gardens.

Relax and get acquainted with myriad varieties of roses.

To get to Queen Mary's Gardens, you need to continue straight, in the same direction you were going when you walked along the York Gate. From the tube station to the centre of the gardens is about 750 metres.



In the northern part of Regent's Park is ZSL London Zoo. To get to the entrance from Queen Mary's Gardens, you'll have to walk about 1500 metres

The **ZSL London Zoo** NW1 4RY London Zoo is the world's oldest scientific zoo. It was opened in London on 27 April 1828, and was originally intended to be used as a collection for scientific study. In 1831 or 1832, the animals of the Tower of London menagerie were transferred to the zoo's collection. It was opened to the public in 1847. Today, it houses a collection of 673 species of animals, with 19,289 individuals, making it one of the largest collections in the United Kingdom. The zoo is sometimes called Regent's Zoo. It is managed under the aegis of the Zoological Society of London (established in 1826).

The Society also has a more spacious site at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo in Bedfordshire to which the larger animals such as elephants and rhinos have been moved. As well as being the first scientific zoo, ZSL London Zoo also opened the first reptile house (1849), first public aquarium (1853), first insect house (1881) and the first children's zoo (1938).



From ZSL London Zoo, it's best to head back to Baker Street Station or Regent's Park Station, which is a bit closer at 1700 metres away. You can see two other underground stations that appear closer on the maps, but because of the winding streets they're impossible to get to. It's easier to just go through the park.

The Greenwich.

Greenwich is an area of South East London, England, centred 5.5 miles (8.9 km) east-southeast of Charing Cross.

There are three ways to get to Greenwich. The easiest way is to board a boat at any pier in the city centre and disembark at Greenwich Pier.



It's a bit more difficult to get there by train. You need to go to the Cutty Sark (for Maritime Greenwich) stop. However, the tube doesn't run there, only DRL (Docklands Light Railway), so you'll have to find a station where you can change to this type of transport.

The third option is the most impractical: to go by bus. Transfer from one bus to another, not many cases, but it takes a lot of time (I tried it

once).

There are several things worth seeing in Greenwich: the Cutty Sark museum ship, the National Maritime Museum, and, of course, the Royal Observatory Greenwich and the Greenwich Meridian. You can even walk through the tunnel under the Thames, to get to the Isle of Dogs.

The Royal Observatory Greenwich SE10 8XJ

(ROG; known as the Old Royal Observatory from 1957 to 1998, when the working Royal Greenwich Observatory, RGO, moved from Greenwich to Herstmonceux) is an observatory situated on a hill in Greenwich Park, overlooking the River Thames.



It played a major role in the history of astronomy and navigation, and because the prime meridian passes through it, it gave its name to Greenwich Mean Time. The ROG has the IAU observatory code of 000, the first in the list. ROG, the National Maritime Museum, the Queen's House and Cutty Sark are collectively designated Royal Museums Greenwich.

The observatory was commissioned in 1675 by King Charles II. The building was completed in the summer of 1676.

The **Cutty Sark** SE10 9HT is a British clipper ship. Built on the River Leven, Dumbarton, Scotland in 1869 for the Jock Willis Shipping Line, she was one of the last tea clippers to be built and one of the fastest, coming at the

end of a long period of design development, which halted as sailing ships gave way to steam propulsion.



The **National Maritime Museum** SE10 9NF (NMM) is a maritime museum in Greenwich, London. It is part of Royal Museums Greenwich, a network of museums in the Maritime Greenwich World Heritage Site. Like other publicly funded national museums in the United Kingdom, it has no general admission charge; there are admission charges for most side-gallery temporary exhibitions, usually supplemented by many loaned works from other museums.



Greenwich - View of the Docklands from the hill where the observatory is located. In the foreground is Greenwich Park and in the building on the left side (in this picture) is the National Maritime Museum.

The **Greenwich Foot Tunnel** The tunnel was opened on 4 August 1902. The tunnel replaced an expensive and sometimes unreliable ferry service allowing workers living south of the Thames to reach their workplaces in the London docks and shipyards in or near the Isle of Dogs. The cast-iron tunnel is 1,215 feet (370.2 m) long, 50 feet (15.2 m) deep and has an internal diameter of about 9 feet (2.74 m). The cast-iron rings are coated with concrete and surfaced with some 200,000 white glazed tiles.

If you decide to go to the other side of the river, the Island Gardens DLR station is 100 metres away from the exit and to the left. If you want to go further, it's better to take public transport. The distance between Island

Gardens and the centre of the Canary Wharf with its high-rise buildings is at least two kilometres. However, you can walk around this area.

About 3 kilometres from the Cutty Sark (for Maritime Greenwich) station is the O2 Arena. The best way to get here is to catch the tube and get off at North Greenwich station.

The **O2 Arena** SE10 is a multi-purpose indoor arena in the centre of The O2 entertainment complex on the Greenwich Peninsula in southeast London.



The arena was built under the former Millennium Dome, a large dome-shaped building built to house an exhibition celebrating the turn of the third millennium; as the structure still stands over the arena, The Dome remains a name in common usage for the venue.



Museum of London Docklands E14 4AL

In 2003, the Museum of London Docklands (formerly Museum in Docklands) was opened in a 19th-century grade I listed warehouse near Canary Wharf on the Isle of Dogs. The Museum of London Docklands charts the history of London as a port, beginning 2,000 years ago with the Roman trading post set up on the banks of the Thames and following London's expansion into the biggest port the world had ever known. In November 2007, it opened the capital's first permanent permanent gallery examining London's involvement in the transatlantic slave trade, "London, Sugar & Slavery".

For you closer look at the south-eastern part of London might be interesting, but it takes time. If you want to combine this with a trip to Greenwich, it won't work well.



Photo from Docklands



Greenwich Morning

Design, photographs and drawings are by the author
Pages 51. Photos 145. Sketch maps 8

© COPYRIGHT Sergejevs. 2021 London UK
www.d-show.co.uk