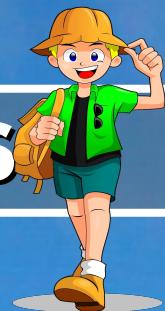


FREE

TRIPOGOGO TRAVEL GUIDES



**LONDON
UNITED KINGDOM**

Copyright, affiliate disclosure, and disclaimer

Before publishing a guidebook, Tripogogo writers and editors always visit and spend days or weeks at the specific destination.

Tripogogo editors then write and compile content supplied by multiple sources. The information is provided as is without warranty of any kind. For your convenience, Tripogogo has found suppliers and links to lodging, tours or services etc. Tripogogo is not responsible for the content or privacy practices of such websites. The text in this free guidebook is available under the [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0 license](#)

The cover photo is taken by Klaus Hall. All other photos are copyrighted to their respective owners, accredited in the last chapter of this guidebook. Occasionally, affiliate links are inserted in links to lodging, tours or services etc., that we recommend. If you click on an affiliate link and make a purchase, Tripogogo earns a small commission. There is no increase in cost to you.

Tripogogo Travel Guide
Find your own way
- no matter where you go.

City guide to London, England

The city with the oldest subway in the world, the second largest church, and with more than 11,000 restaurants and cafes - yes, it's London, one of the world's largest metropolises!

London is one of Europe's largest cities. Like any big city, the easiest way to see the London is to sit down on one of the red buses that offer a guided tour. With it, you can easily discover or all the charms of the English capital. If you prefer disorganized tour, the best way is to go to one of the many subway lines, usually called the 'Tube'. For traveling the 'Tube' buy yourself a 'travel card' or an 'Oyster Card'.

Piccadilly Circus and Trafalgar Square are certainly two of the most popular squares (with good reason). Trafalgar is also the largest London Square and there is the National Gallery. It is important to say that the city's top museums and galleries are free. Also, you will see four lion statues on which you often can see people climbing and taking pictures. If you want to stop and take a breath, there are lots of parks to chill out in.

A few editors choice and tips

Many of the world's most instantly recognizable landmarks are here. So, what to see in London?

- London Eye
- Buckingham Palace
- Houses of Parliament
- Piccadilly Circus
- St. Paul's Cathedral
- Tower of London
- Westminster Abbey

When we think about weather in London, we think of the rain and gloomy weather. It's truth, it rains very often. Boring and light drizzle rain is

characteristic for England. Never come to London without a raincoat, rubber boots and umbrella.

If you are a fan of beer, you will surely gladden the fact that London is home to over 5,000 pubs! The atmosphere in them is really special so if you want to feel the real atmosphere of life in London, visit one of them! Some of the popular clubs are Fabric, Ministry of Sound and Notting Hill Arts Club. Go east rather than west for nightlife. Are you ready to party? Of course, you are!

In London, the accommodation is very expensive and can be found throughout the city. The rooms are often very tight, due to the high price of squares. You can find cheap accommodation mostly pretty far from the city center, so it's advisable to be near a subway station because otherwise, you will lose a lot of time on transportation.

Some of the top hotels in London are:

- London Bridge Hotel
- Hilton Hotel Canary Wharf London
- Draycott Hotel London
- Apex City Hotel London
- 41 Hotel London

Some of the affordable hotels in London are:

- Days Hotel North London
- Crowne Plaza Hotel Heathrow London
- Comfort Inn Edgware London
- Caring Hotel London
- Best Western Burns Hotel London

London is one of the most iconic cities in the world and one of the best cities for a shopping. Girls, are you ready for the newest fashion at affordable prices? Prepare yourself because London is calling for you!

Contents

1	England	1
1.1	Regions	1
1.1.1	Southern England	1
1.1.2	Midlands	1
1.1.3	Northern England	1
1.2	Cities	1
1.3	Other destinations	2
1.4	Understand	2
1.4.1	Orientation	2
1.4.2	Climate	2
1.4.3	People	3
1.5	Talk	4
1.5.1	Accents and dialects	4
1.6	Get in	5
1.6.1	By road	5
1.6.2	By plane	6
1.6.3	By train	6
1.6.4	By boat	6
1.6.5	By bus	6
1.7	Get around	6
1.8	See	7
1.8.1	Preservation trusts	8
1.9	Do	8
1.10	Eat	8
1.10.1	What to try	9
1.10.2	Where to eat	10
1.11	Drink	10
1.11.1	Places	10
1.11.2	Alcoholic drinks	11
1.11.3	Non-alcoholic drinks	12
1.12	Sleep	12
1.13	Buy	13

1.14	Learn	13
1.15	Work	13
1.16	Stay safe	13
1.17	Stay healthy	14
1.18	Respect	14
1.19	Connect	15
2	London	16
2.1	Districts	16
2.1.1	Central London	16
2.1.2	Inner London	17
2.1.3	Outer London	17
2.2	Understand	17
2.2.1	History	17
2.2.2	The City and Westminster	17
2.2.3	Climate	18
2.2.4	Tourist information centres	19
2.3	Get in	19
2.3.1	By plane	19
2.3.2	By train	23
2.3.3	By coach	25
2.3.4	By car	26
2.4	Get around	26
2.4.1	Using your credit card as ticket	27
2.4.2	Oyster card	27
2.4.3	Connections	29
2.4.4	By foot	29
2.4.5	By Underground	30
2.4.6	By bus	33
2.4.7	By DLR	35
2.4.8	By train	35
2.4.9	By Overground	36
2.4.10	By Tramlink	36
2.4.11	By bicycle	36
2.4.12	By taxi	37
2.4.13	By car	37
2.4.14	By boat	38
2.4.15	By skate	38
2.4.16	By cable car	38
2.5	See	38
2.5.1	Landmarks	39
2.5.2	Museums and galleries	39

2.5.3	Parks	40
2.5.4	Blue Plaques	40
2.5.5	London Pass	40
2.6	Do	41
2.7	Learn	43
2.7.1	Learn English	43
2.8	Work	43
2.9	Buy	43
2.9.1	Markets	44
2.9.2	Airports	44
2.9.3	Practical	44
2.10	Eat	45
2.10.1	Restaurant streets	46
2.10.2	Restaurant areas	46
2.10.3	Chains	47
2.10.4	Vegetarian and vegan	47
2.10.5	Religious	48
2.10.6	Convenience stores and supermarkets	48
2.11	Drink	48
2.11.1	Pubs & bars	48
2.11.2	Nightclubs	49
2.11.3	Gay and lesbian	50
2.12	Sleep	50
2.12.1	Hotels	50
2.12.2	Hostels	51
2.12.3	Apartments	51
2.12.4	Alternative accommodation	51
2.12.5	Holiday rentals	52
2.13	Connect	52
2.13.1	Wi-Fi access	52
2.14	Stay safe	52
2.14.1	Crime	52
2.14.2	Scams and cons	53
2.14.3	Street collections	54
2.14.4	Transport	54
2.15	Stay healthy	54
2.15.1	Emergencies	54
2.15.2	General medical advice	55
2.15.3	Private healthcare	55
2.16	Cope	55
2.16.1	Embassies and High Commission	55

2.17	Go next	55
3	Gatwick Airport	60
3.1	Understand	60
3.2	Flights	60
3.3	Ground transportation	61
3.3.1	By train	61
3.3.2	By bike	61
3.3.3	By taxi	61
3.3.4	By car	62
3.3.5	Car parks	62
3.3.6	Connecting to/from Heathrow	62
3.4	Get around	63
3.4.1	By “monorail”	63
3.4.2	To departure gates	64
3.5	Wait	64
3.6	Eat and Drink	64
3.6.1	South Terminal	64
3.6.2	North Terminal	64
3.7	Buy	64
3.8	Connect	65
3.9	Cope	65
3.10	Sleep	65
3.10.1	At the airport	65
3.10.2	Further afield	65
3.11	Nearby	65
4	Heathrow Airport	66
4.1	Understand	66
4.2	Flights	66
4.3	Ground transportation	67
4.3.1	By car	67
4.3.2	Public transport to and from London	67
4.3.3	Public transport to the rest of the UK	70
4.4	Get around	71
4.5	Wait	71
4.6	Eat and Drink	71
4.6.1	Terminal 3	71
4.6.2	Terminal 4	72
4.6.3	Terminal 5	72
4.7	Buy	73
4.8	Connect	73

4.8.1	Internet access	73
4.9	Cope	73
4.10	Sleep	73
4.11	Nearby	74
5	London Stansted Airport	75
5.1	Understand	75
5.2	Flights	75
5.3	Ground transportation	75
5.3.1	Connecting to Heathrow	76
5.4	Get around	76
5.5	Wait	76
5.6	Eat and Drink	76
5.7	Buy	77
5.8	Connect	77
5.9	Cope	77
5.10	Sleep	77
5.10.1	Sleeping in the terminal	77
5.10.2	Airport hotels	77
5.11	Nearby	78
6	London/Bloomsbury	79
6.1	Understand	79
6.2	Get in	79
6.2.1	By tube	79
6.2.2	By train	80
6.2.3	By bus	80
6.3	Get around	80
6.4	See	80
6.4.1	Landmarks and parks	80
6.4.2	Museums and exhibitions	80
6.4.3	Other	81
6.5	Do	82
6.6	Buy	82
6.6.1	Bookshops	83
6.6.2	Other	83
6.7	Eat	83
6.7.1	Budget	83
6.7.2	Mid-range	83
6.7.3	Splurge	83
6.8	Drink	84
6.9	Sleep	84

6.9.1	Budget	84
6.9.2	Mid-range	85
6.9.3	Splurge	85
6.10	Connect	86
6.11	Go next	86
7	London/Camden	87
7.1	Understand	87
7.1.1	Orientation	87
7.2	Get in	88
7.2.1	By tube	88
7.2.2	By bus	88
7.2.3	By Overground	88
7.2.4	By rail	88
7.3	See	89
7.4	Do	90
7.5	Buy	90
7.5.1	Camden Town Markets	90
7.5.2	Shops	90
7.6	Eat	91
7.7	Drink	91
7.7.1	Pubs, bars and cafes	91
7.7.2	Clubs and music venues	92
7.8	Sleep	92
7.8.1	Budget	92
7.8.2	Mid-range	92
7.8.3	Splurge	92
7.9	Stay safe	93
7.10	Go next	93
8	London/City of London	94
8.1	Understand	94
8.1.1	Tourist Information Centre	95
8.2	Get in	95
8.2.1	From the airport	95
8.2.2	By tube	95
8.2.3	On foot	95
8.2.4	By train	96
8.2.5	By boat	96
8.3	Get around	96
8.4	See	96
8.4.1	Landmarks	96

8.4.2	Churches, graveyards and open spaces	98
8.4.3	Museums and Galleries	99
8.4.4	Other points of interest	100
8.5	Do	101
8.5.1	Bus tours	101
8.6	Buy	101
8.7	Eat	102
8.7.1	Budget	102
8.7.2	Mid-range	102
8.7.3	Splurge	103
8.8	Drink	103
8.8.1	Pubs	104
8.8.2	Bars	105
8.8.3	Clubs	105
8.9	Sleep	105
8.9.1	Budget	105
8.9.2	Mid-range	105
8.9.3	Splurge	106
8.10	Connect	106
8.11	Cope	106
8.11.1	Health	106
8.12	Go next	106
9	London/Covent Garden	107
9.1	Understand	107
9.2	Get in	107
9.2.1	By Tube	107
9.2.2	By train	108
9.2.3	By bus	108
9.3	See	108
9.3.1	Landmarks	108
9.3.2	Museums and Galleries	108
9.4	Do	109
9.4.1	Theatres	109
9.4.2	Opera	109
9.5	Buy	110
9.6	Eat	110
9.6.1	Budget	110
9.6.2	Mid-range	111
9.6.3	Splurge	111
9.7	Drink	112
9.7.1	Pubs	112

9.7.2	Bars	112
9.7.3	Gay and Lesbian	112
9.8	Sleep	112
9.8.1	Budget	112
9.8.2	Mid-range	112
9.8.3	Splurge	113
9.9	Connect	113
9.10	Go next	113
10	London/East	114
10.1	Understand	114
10.2	Get in	114
10.2.1	By Tube	114
10.2.2	By DLR	115
10.2.3	By Train	115
10.2.4	By Overground	115
10.3	See	115
10.3.1	Walthamstow	115
10.3.2	Ilford	115
10.3.3	Barking	115
10.4	Do	115
10.4.1	Stratford	115
10.4.2	Walthamstow	115
10.5	Buy	115
10.5.1	Walthamstow	115
10.5.2	Ilford	116
10.6	Eat	116
10.6.1	Walthamstow	116
10.7	Drink	116
10.7.1	Walthamstow	116
10.8	Sleep	116
10.9	Connect	116
10.10	Go next	116
11	London/East End	117
11.1	Understand	117
11.1.1	Docklands	118
11.2	Get in	119
11.2.1	By Tube	119
11.2.2	By Docklands Light Railway (DLR)	119
11.2.3	By train	119
11.3	See	119

11.4 Do	120
11.4.1 Walks	120
11.4.2 Other	120
11.5 Buy	121
11.6 Eat	122
11.6.1 Canary Wharf	122
11.6.2 Mile End	123
11.6.3 Brick Lane	123
11.6.4 Other places	124
11.7 Drink	124
11.7.1 Canary Wharf	125
11.7.2 Mile End	125
11.7.3 Brick Lane	125
11.7.4 Shoreditch	126
11.8 Sleep	127
11.8.1 Budget	127
11.8.2 Mid-range	127
11.8.3 Splurge	127
11.9 Stay safe	128
11.10 Connect	128
11.11 Go next	128
12 London/Greenwich	129
12.1 Understand	129
12.1.1 Tourist Information Centre	129
12.2 Get in	129
12.2.1 By boat	129
12.2.2 By Docklands Light Railway (DLR)	129
12.2.3 By rail	129
12.2.4 By tube	130
12.3 Get around	130
12.4 See	130
12.5 Do	131
12.6 Buy	131
12.6.1 Greenwich market	131
12.6.2 Shops	131
12.7 Eat	132
12.7.1 Greenwich town centre	132
12.7.2 Outside Greenwich town centre	132
12.8 Drink	132
12.9 Sleep	133
12.10 Connect	133

12.11 Go next	133
13 London/Hackney	134
13.1 Understand	134
13.2 Get in	134
13.2.1 By bus	134
13.2.2 By train	134
13.2.3 By tube	134
13.3 Get around	134
13.4 See	134
13.4.1 Landmarks	135
13.4.2 Parks	135
13.4.3 Museums	135
13.4.4 Galleries	135
13.5 Do	135
13.6 Buy	136
13.6.1 Shopping centres & markets	136
13.7 Eat	136
13.7.1 Budget	136
13.7.2 Mid-range	137
13.8 Drink	137
13.9 Sleep	137
13.10 Stay safe	137
13.11 Go next	137
14 London/Hammersmith and Fulham	138
14.1 Understand	138
14.2 Get in	138
14.2.1 By tube	138
14.2.2 By bus	139
14.2.3 By train	139
14.2.4 By road	139
14.3 Get around	139
14.4 See	139
14.5 Do	140
14.5.1 Cinema, theatre and concerts	140
14.5.2 Football	140
14.6 Buy	140
14.7 Eat	141
14.7.1 Budget	141
14.7.2 Mid-range	141
14.7.3 Splurge	141

14.8 Drink	141
14.9 Sleep	142
14.9.1 Budget	142
14.9.2 Mid-range	142
14.9.3 Splurge	143
14.10Go next	143
15 London/Hampstead	144
15.1 Understand	144
15.2 Get in	145
15.2.1 By tube	145
15.2.2 By train	145
15.2.3 By bus	145
15.2.4 By road	145
15.3 Get around	146
15.3.1 By bus	146
15.4 See	146
15.4.1 Hampstead Heath	148
15.5 Do	149
15.6 Buy	150
15.7 Eat	150
15.7.1 Budget	150
15.7.2 Mid-range	151
15.7.3 Splurge	152
15.7.4 Vegetarian	152
15.8 Drink	152
15.8.1 Hampstead Village and around	152
15.8.2 Elsewhere	153
15.9 Sleep	153
15.10Connect	154
15.10.1 Internet outlets	154
15.11Stay safe	154
15.12Cope	154
15.13Go next	154
16 London/Holborn-Clerkenwell	155
16.1 Understand	155
16.2 Get in	155
16.2.1 By tube	155
16.2.2 By train	155
16.3 See	155
16.3.1 Landmarks	156

16.3.2	Museums	156
16.4	Do	157
16.5	Buy	157
16.6	Eat	158
16.6.1	Budget	158
16.6.2	Mid-range	158
16.6.3	Splurge	159
16.7	Drink	159
16.7.1	Pubs and bars	159
16.7.2	Clubs	160
16.8	Sleep	161
16.8.1	Budget	161
16.8.2	Mid-range	161
16.8.3	Splurge	161
16.9	Connect	161
16.10	Cope	161
16.10.1	Newspapers and magazines	161
16.11	Go next	161
17	London/Hornchurch	162
17.1	Get in	162
17.1.1	By tube	162
17.1.2	By train	162
17.1.3	By bus	162
17.1.4	By car	163
17.2	See	163
17.2.1	Hornchurch cultural centre	163
17.2.2	Upminster heritage sites	163
17.2.3	Rainham and the River Thames	163
17.2.4	Parks	163
17.2.5	Sports	164
17.3	Do	164
17.4	Buy	164
17.5	Eat	164
17.5.1	Independent	164
17.5.2	Chains	164
17.5.3	Indian restaurants	164
17.6	Drink	165
17.6.1	Coffee shops	165
17.6.2	Pubs and bars	165
17.7	Sleep	165
17.8	Connect	165

17.9 Go next	166
18 London/Islington	167
18.1 Understand	167
18.2 Get in	167
18.2.1 By tube	167
18.2.2 By train	168
18.2.3 By bus	168
18.3 See	168
18.4 Do	168
18.5 Buy	169
18.6 Eat	169
18.6.1 Budget	169
18.6.2 Mid-range	170
18.6.3 Splurge	170
18.7 Drink	170
18.7.1 Angel and Highbury areas	170
18.7.2 Archway	170
18.7.3 Finsbury Park	171
18.7.4 Holloway area	171
18.8 Sleep	171
18.8.1 Budget	171
18.8.2 Mid-range	171
18.8.3 Splurge	171
18.9 Connect	171
18.10Go next	171
19 London/Lambeth	172
19.1 Understand	172
19.2 Get in	173
19.2.1 By tube	173
19.2.2 By train	173
19.2.3 By bus	173
19.3 See	174
19.4 Do	174
19.5 Buy	175
19.6 Eat	176
19.7 Drink	177
19.7.1 Pubs	177
19.7.2 Bars and clubs	178
19.7.3 Gay and Lesbian	178
19.8 Sleep	179

19.9 Connect	179
19.10 Stay safe	179
19.11 Connect	179
19.12 Go next	179
20 London/Leicester Square	180
20.1 Understand	180
20.1.1 Chinatown	180
20.1.2 Trafalgar Square	180
20.1.3 Leicester Square	181
20.2 Get in	181
20.2.1 By Tube	181
20.2.2 By train	181
20.3 Get around	181
20.4 See	181
20.5 Do	182
20.5.1 Cinemas	182
20.5.2 Theatre	183
20.5.3 Other	184
20.6 Buy	184
20.6.1 Books	184
20.7 Eat	184
20.7.1 Chinatown	185
20.8 Drink	185
20.9 Sleep	186
20.10 Connect	186
20.11 Go next	186
21 London/Mayfair-Marylebone	187
21.1 Understand	187
21.2 Get in	187
21.2.1 By tube	187
21.2.2 By train	188
21.2.3 By bus	188
21.3 See	188
21.3.1 Landmarks	188
21.3.2 Museums and Galleries	189
21.4 Work	190
21.5 Do	190
21.6 Buy	190
21.7 Eat	191
21.7.1 Budget	191

21.7.2	Mid-range	191
21.7.3	Splurge	191
21.8	Drink	191
21.9	Sleep	192
21.9.1	Budget	192
21.9.2	Mid-range	192
21.9.3	Splurge	192
21.10	Stay safe	193
21.11	Connect	193
21.12	Go next	193
22	London/North	194
22.1	Understand	194
22.1.1	Boroughs	194
22.1.2	London Borough of Enfield	195
22.1.3	Finchley	195
22.1.4	Kilburn	195
22.1.5	Tottenham	195
22.2	Get in	196
22.2.1	By Tube	196
22.2.2	By train	196
22.2.3	By road	196
22.2.4	Crouch End	196
22.2.5	Tottenham	196
22.2.6	Wembley	196
22.3	Get around	197
22.4	See	197
22.4.1	Enfield	197
22.4.2	Harrow	197
22.4.3	Kilburn	197
22.4.4	Wood Green	197
22.4.5	Wembley	198
22.4.6	Tottenham	198
22.4.7	Hendon	198
22.5	Do	198
22.5.1	London Borough of Haringey	198
22.5.2	Wembley	198
22.6	Buy	198
22.6.1	Harrow	198
22.6.2	Wood Green	199
22.6.3	Wembley	199
22.6.4	Tottenham	199

22.6.5	Golders Green	199
22.7	Eat	199
22.7.1	Crouch End	199
22.7.2	Edgware	199
22.7.3	Harringay	199
22.7.4	Harrow	199
22.7.5	Wood Green	199
22.7.6	Wembley	199
22.7.7	Tottenham	199
22.7.8	Golders Green	199
22.8	Drink	200
22.8.1	Wembley	200
22.8.2	Crouch End	200
22.8.3	Harringay	200
22.8.4	Kilburn	200
22.9	Sleep	200
22.9.1	Hostels	200
22.9.2	Wembley	200
22.9.3	Golders Green	200
22.9.4	Hotels	200
22.10	Stay safe	200
22.10.1	Tottenham	200
22.11	Connect	200
22.12	Go next	200
23	London/Notting Hill-North Kensington	201
23.1	Understand	201
23.2	Get in	202
23.2.1	By tube	202
23.2.2	By bus	202
23.3	Get around	202
23.4	See	202
23.5	Do	202
23.6	Buy	203
23.7	Eat	203
23.8	Drink	204
23.9	Sleep	204
23.9.1	Budget	204
23.9.2	Mid-range	205
23.9.3	Splurge	205
23.10	Connect	205
23.11	Go next	205

24 London/Paddington-Maida Vale	206
24.1 Understand	206
24.2 Get in	206
24.2.1 By tube	206
24.2.2 By train	206
24.2.3 By bus	206
24.3 See	206
24.4 Do	207
24.5 Buy	207
24.6 Eat	207
24.7 Drink	208
24.8 Sleep	208
24.8.1 Budget	208
24.8.2 Mid-range	209
24.8.3 Splurge	209
24.9 Connect	209
24.10 Go next	209
25 London/Richmond-Kew	210
25.1 Understand	210
25.2 Get in	210
25.2.1 By tube	210
25.2.2 By train	210
25.2.3 By car	211
25.2.4 By bus	211
25.2.5 By boat	211
25.3 Get around	211
25.3.1 Kew	211
25.4 See	211
25.4.1 Richmond	211
25.4.2 Kew	212
25.5 Do	213
25.5.1 Richmond	213
25.5.2 Kew	213
25.6 Learn	213
25.7 Buy	213
25.7.1 Richmond	213
25.7.2 Kew	214
25.8 Eat	214
25.8.1 Richmond	214
25.8.2 Kew	215
25.9 Drink	215

25.9.1	Richmond	215
25.9.2	Kew	215
25.10	Sleep	216
25.10.1	Richmond	216
25.10.2	Kew	216
25.11	Connect	216
25.12	Cope	216
25.13	Go next	216
26	London/Soho	217
26.1	Understand	217
26.1.1	Orientation	217
26.1.2	History	217
26.1.3	Reading	218
26.2	Get in	218
26.2.1	By tube	218
26.2.2	By train	218
26.2.3	By car	218
26.2.4	By rickshaw	218
26.2.5	By bicycle	218
26.3	See	219
26.4	Do	219
26.4.1	Explore	219
26.4.2	Watch	219
26.5	Buy	219
26.5.1	Clothing and accessories	220
26.5.2	Music and record shops	220
26.5.3	Gay-related	220
26.5.4	Others	220
26.6	Eat	220
26.6.1	Budget	220
26.6.2	Mid-range	221
26.6.3	Splurge	221
26.6.4	Patisseries	222
26.7	Drink	222
26.7.1	Pubs	222
26.7.2	Jazz joints, bars and clubs	223
26.7.3	Predominantly gay	223
26.8	Sleep	224
26.8.1	Budget	224
26.8.2	Mid-range	224
26.8.3	Splurge	224

26.9 Connect	224
26.10 Go next	224
27 London/South	225
27.1 Understand	225
27.1.1 Boroughs	225
27.1.2 Bromley	226
27.1.3 Croydon	226
27.1.4 Sutton	226
27.2 Get in	227
27.2.1 By tube or London Overground	227
27.2.2 By train	227
27.2.3 Bromley	227
27.2.4 Croydon	227
27.3 Get around	228
27.3.1 Bromley	228
27.3.2 Croydon	228
27.4 See	228
27.4.1 Bexley	228
27.4.2 Bromley	229
27.4.3 Croydon	229
27.4.4 Kingston	230
27.4.5 Sutton	230
27.5 Do	230
27.5.1 Bexley	230
27.5.2 Bromley	231
27.5.3 Croydon	231
27.5.4 Kingston	231
27.6 Buy	232
27.6.1 Bromley	232
27.6.2 Croydon	232
27.6.3 Kingston	233
27.7 Eat	233
27.7.1 Bexley	233
27.7.2 Bromley	233
27.7.3 Croydon	233
27.7.4 Kingston	234
27.7.5 Sutton	234
27.8 Drink	235
27.8.1 Bromley	235
27.8.2 Croydon	235
27.8.3 Kingston	235

27.9 Sleep	235
27.9.1 Bromley	235
27.9.2 Croydon	235
27.10 Stay safe	236
27.10.1 Croydon	236
27.11 Go next	236
28 London/South Bank	237
28.1 Understand	237
28.2 Get in	238
28.2.1 By tube	238
28.2.2 By rail	238
28.2.3 By bus	238
28.2.4 By boat	238
28.2.5 By foot	238
28.2.6 By bicycle	239
28.3 See	239
28.3.1 Landmarks	239
28.3.2 Museums and galleries	241
28.4 Do	242
28.4.1 Theatres	242
28.4.2 Tours	243
28.4.3 Itineraries	243
28.5 Buy	243
28.6 Eat	243
28.6.1 Budget	243
28.6.2 Mid-range	244
28.6.3 Splurge	244
28.7 Drink	244
28.7.1 Pubs and bars	244
28.7.2 Clubs	246
28.8 Sleep	246
28.8.1 Budget	246
28.8.2 Mid-range	246
28.8.3 Splurge	246
28.9 Connect	246
28.10 Go next	246
29 London/South Kensington-Chelsea	247
29.1 Understand	247
29.1.1 Albertopolis	248
29.1.2 History of Chelsea	248

29.2	Get in	248
29.2.1	By tube	248
29.2.2	By bus	249
29.3	See	249
29.3.1	Museums	249
29.3.2	Parks and gardens	250
29.3.3	Blue plaques	252
29.3.4	Churches and buildings	252
29.3.5	Other	253
29.4	Do	254
29.5	Buy	255
29.6	Eat	256
29.6.1	Budget	256
29.6.2	Mid-range	256
29.6.3	Splurge	257
29.7	Drink	257
29.7.1	Chelsea	257
29.7.2	Earls Court–Brompton	258
29.7.3	Knightsbridge–Sloane Square	258
29.8	Sleep	259
29.8.1	Hostels	259
29.8.2	Budget	259
29.8.3	Mid-range	260
29.8.4	Splurge	260
29.9	Connect	261
29.9.1	Internet cafés	261
29.9.2	Libraries	261
29.10	Cope	261
29.10.1	Emergencies	261
29.10.2	General supplies	262
29.11	Go next	262
30	London/Southwark and Lewisham	263
30.1	Understand	263
30.2	Get in	263
30.2.1	By train and Tube	264
30.2.2	By bus	264
30.3	See	265
30.3.1	Museums and galleries	265
30.4	Do	266
30.5	Buy	267
30.6	Eat	268

30.7 Drink	269
30.7.1 Lewisham area	269
30.7.2 Peckham	269
30.8 Sleep	269
30.9 Go next	270
31 London/Wandsworth	271
31.1 Understand	271
31.2 Get in	271
31.2.1 By tube	271
31.2.2 By train	271
31.2.3 By bus	272
31.3 Get around	272
31.4 See	272
31.5 Do	272
31.6 Buy	273
31.7 Eat	273
31.7.1 Budget	273
31.7.2 Mid-range	273
31.7.3 Splurge	274
31.8 Drink	274
31.8.1 Balham	274
31.8.2 Clapham	274
31.8.3 Tooting	274
31.8.4 Putney	274
31.8.5 Battersea	275
31.9 Sleep	275
31.10 Connect	275
31.11 Go next	275
32 London/West	276
32.1 Understand	276
32.1.1 Boroughs	276
32.2 Get in	277
32.2.1 By tube	277
32.2.2 By train	277
32.2.3 By bus	277
32.2.4 By road	278
32.2.5 By plane	278
32.3 Get around	278
32.4 See	278
32.4.1 Landmarks	278

32.4.2	Parks	278
32.4.3	Museums	279
32.4.4	Galleries	279
32.4.5	Other	279
32.5	Do	279
32.5.1	Ealing	279
32.5.2	Brentford	279
32.6	Buy	280
32.6.1	Markets	280
32.6.2	Shopping centres	280
32.6.3	Shops	280
32.6.4	Clothing	280
32.7	Eat	280
32.7.1	Budget	280
32.7.2	Mid-range	281
32.7.3	Splurge	281
32.8	Drink	281
32.8.1	Acton	281
32.8.2	Ealing	281
32.8.3	Uxbridge	281
32.8.4	Feltham	281
32.8.5	Brentford	282
32.9	Sleep	282
32.9.1	Budget	282
32.9.2	Mid-range	282
32.9.3	Splurge	282
32.10	Connect	282
32.11	Go next	282
33	London/Westminster	283
33.1	Understand	283
33.2	Get in	283
33.2.1	By bus	284
33.2.2	By tube	284
33.2.3	By train	284
33.2.4	By coach	284
33.2.5	By boat	284
33.3	See	284
33.3.1	Palace of Westminster	284
33.3.2	Buckingham Palace	285
33.3.3	Parliament Square	286
33.3.4	Pimlico	286

33.3.5	Royal Parks	286
33.3.6	Statues and monuments	287
33.3.7	Victoria	287
33.3.8	Whitehall	287
33.4	Do	288
33.4.1	Guards	288
33.4.2	Cinema	289
33.4.3	Theatres	289
33.4.4	Music	289
33.4.5	Tours	290
33.5	Buy	290
33.5.1	Clothing	290
33.6	Eat	290
33.6.1	Budget	290
33.6.2	Mid-range	290
33.6.3	Splurge	291
33.7	Drink	291
33.7.1	Belgravia	291
33.7.2	Pimlico & Millbank	292
33.7.3	Victoria	292
33.7.4	Westminster	293
33.8	Sleep	293
33.8.1	Budget	293
33.8.2	Mid-range	293
33.8.3	Splurge	293
33.9	Cope	294
33.9.1	Public toilets	294
33.10	Go next	294
34	London/Wimbledon	295
34.1	Understand	295
34.2	Get in	295
34.2.1	By tube	295
34.2.2	By train	295
34.2.3	By plane	296
34.2.4	By tram	296
34.2.5	By car	296
34.3	Get around	296
34.3.1	By bus	296
34.3.2	By car	296
34.4	See	296
34.5	Do	297

34.5.1 Wimbledon	297
34.6 Buy	297
34.7 Eat	297
34.8 Drink	298
34.9 Sleep	299
34.10 Connect	299
34.11 Go next	299
34.12 Text and image sources, contributors, and licenses	300
34.12.1 Text	300
34.12.2 Images	304
34.12.3 Content license	315

Chapter 1

England

Not to be confused with the United Kingdom, of which England is a constituent country.

England is the largest and most populous of the four “home nations” that make up the **United Kingdom**. A ‘green and pleasant land’, England is home to much more than this famous description implies. From urban bustle to rural idylls via spectacular coastline and dramatic natural scenery, England has an incredible variety of landscapes and attractions to experience. Historical sites and cultural attractions abound here, whilst modern architecture and exciting technological innovations litter England’s largest cities; many of which have seen vast programmes of regeneration over recent decades. A diverse and culturally-rich country, visitors to England can seldom help being entranced by its charm and character.

1.1 Regions

England can be divided most generally into three sections, with deep historical and linguistic roots for each of them. These can be further divided into regions, which in turn consist of counties (most of which also have long histories, but have been revised in many cases for administrative reasons).

1.1.1 Southern England

Southern England is roughly the area south of the Thames Valley and the Bristol Channel.

1.1.2 Midlands

The English Midlands are roughly the area east of **Wales** and across to the North Sea.

1.1.3 Northern England

Northern England is anywhere north of Staffordshire in the west and roughly north of the River Trent in the east, up to the Scottish border.



Regions of England

1.2 Cities



Tower Bridge at sunset, London

England has many large cities. Listed below are **nine** of the most popular:

- **London** — the largest metropolitan area in Western Europe, with a range of attractions so rich, varied and - well - bloody enormous, you won't know where to start
- **Birmingham** — England's second largest city in the country's heartland; “workshop of the world” it was, now boasts super shopping

- **Brighton** — Regency seaside resort and university town with quirky shopping, good eating, rich culture and eclectic gay nightlife
- **Bristol** — vibrant music scene, lovely historic buildings and an attractive waterfront, with many festivals to enjoy in the summer
- **Liverpool** — booming cosmopolitan city, famous for its grand landmarks, world-changing music heritage and footie-mad population
- **Manchester** — the north's cultural, sporting, entertainment, shopping and media hub is often viewed as Birmingham's main rival to second-city status
- **Newcastle upon Tyne** — seriously good nightlife and "Geordie" inhabitants warm enough to offset the north-eastern chill
- **Nottingham** — the "Queen of the Midlands" is home to **Robin Hood**, Sherwood Forest and Nottingham Castle
- **York** — ancient capital of Yorkshire, with Roman, Viking and Medieval architecture
- **Peak District National Park** — rugged moors and hills in the north, secluded dales and limestone escarpments in the south.
- **South Downs National Park** — the gentle rolling chalk downs of southern England, which culminate at the coast in massive white cliffs.
- **Stonehenge** — the iconic Neolithic and Bronze Age monument; as mysterious as it is famous.
- **Yorkshire Dales National Park** — charming, picture postcard villages set in some of the finest landscapes anywhere in Britain.

1.3 Other destinations



The Lake District

England has many outstanding landmarks and sites of interest. Listed below are nine of the most notable:

- **Hadrian's Wall** — the Romans built this 87 mile wall to protect their province of Britannia from northern raiders.
- **Isles of Scilly** — magical archipelago of tiny islands off the south western coast of Cornwall.
- **Lake District National Park** — glorious mountains, lakes and woodlands; the land of Wordsworth.
- **New Forest National Park** — one of the few remnants of the great oak and hornbeam woodland that once covered southern England.
- **North York Moors National Park** — with heather-clad hills, woodlands, impressive sea cliffs and secluded beaches, this area is one of the true English gems.

1.4 Understand

1.4.1 Orientation

Don't confuse "England" with the larger "Britain" or "United Kingdom"; see the **United Kingdom** article for details. Within the island of Great Britain, **Scotland** sits to the north of England and **Wales** is to the west. **Northern Ireland** (also part of the UK) and the **Republic of Ireland** lie across the Irish Sea to the west of England (and Wales). **France** and the **Channel Islands** are across the English Channel to the south, and to the east is the North Sea.

1.4.2 Climate

England has been stereotyped as being cold, grey and rainy since the ancient Romans wrote home, but this is not an entirely accurate picture. Temperatures rarely get very cold or very hot, and while the country certainly gets rain, it's really not as wet as rumour has it. London alone has lower annual rainfall than Paris, New York and Sydney, and it's not uncommon for parts of the country to go without rain for weeks. Parts of southern England often have summer water restrictions due to a lack of adequate rainfall during the previous winter. All the same, make sure you've got a raincoat.

Northern and western parts are usually wetter than the rest of England due to the prevailing wind from the north west bringing down cold moist air from the North Atlantic, and the sunniest and warmest areas are in the far south and south east.

Winter and autumn are usually the wettest seasons where the weather is often very changeable and at times quite windy, especially in the north and west, where cold Arctic winds arrive. Spring conditions are very changeable: a day of hot sunshine is likely as not to be followed by a week of cold wind and rain; and vice-versa. Occasional snow even as late as May is not unheard of in northern England, but it will melt quickly. Snow is particularly rare in the south east. Summer is generally warm in the

south with average highs usually ranging from 18-23°C, but be prepared for unsettled weather at any time of the year and make sure to check a weather forecast if you plan to be outdoors.

Hot spells of weather can occur from May to September where temperatures may reach 30°C in the warmest areas of England, typically London and parts of the South East. Central Europe has very hot summers and very cold winters, but England is both less extreme (surrounded by water) and milder in the winter (influenced by the warmth of the North Atlantic Drift). If it were not for the North Atlantic Drift, England would be much much colder.

Heavy, prolonged, snow is rare and temperatures are rarely below freezing for more than a few days. Some years there will be a few days of road and rail disruption from snow - even the slightest amount of snow often causes delays on public transport, especially rail. Very severe weather conditions are rare and remedial action is usually taken promptly. Flooding and droughts are unlikely to affect the traveller. High winds occasionally disrupt travel, most often outside summer.

English people are said to have a passion for debating the weather: actually this is usually just an opening gambit to start a conversation with a stranger. Often, these conversation openers are heard among the elderly members of society. Most discussions that do involve weather usually include criticisms of it - including (though perhaps not at the same time) both that it's "too cold" and it's "too hot". Well-known conversational gambits (with due acknowledgement to Peter Kay) : "It's too cold for snow"; "It's that fine rain that soaks you through".

1.4.3 People

The people of England, like their language, are a mixed bunch who have regularly been infused with new blood - from the Romans nearly 2000 years ago taking control of the ancient British in the region, to the later influences of Angles, Saxons and others from Europe after which created the original idea of the English, to the Vikings and then the Normans about a thousand years ago. Since then, there have been Huguenots, Chinese, Jews fleeing pogroms, people from former British colonies in the Caribbean in the 1950s and 60s, Indians expelled from newly independent former African colonies, workers from new EU member states such as Poland, not to mention people from other UK nations and the Republic of Ireland. The full list is very long, but England has long been used to outsiders making it their home - even before England existed! It is true to say that not all English people welcome foreigners and some distastefully racist political organisations exist, but it's a very small fraction of the population who subscribe to such views and are looked down on with disgust by the overwhelming majority of the country. Almost everyone will treat you well if you are polite and make an effort to fit in. Smile, be

polite, don't be pushy if you can help it: that's how to get on with the English.

The English are well used to foreign visitors and you can expect them to be friendly and polite. One thing to bear in mind is that many (mostly elderly) English people are terrified of causing offence and dislike lying, and so will try to avoid potential pitfalls by sticking to safe (often boring) topics of conversation. They will occasionally attempt to avoid offence by evading a question which worries them, while also trying not to offend you by point blank refusing you an answer. This sort of thing generally wears off as people get to know you. The younger generation are often more open with their opinions and emotions, but you can still expect them to be polite.

Big cities and even some rural areas, as in any country, have their social problems, but England is predominantly an affluent country with little visible poverty. Rough areas see their fair share of petty and semi-serious crime: muggings, car theft, and other street crime are unhappily common in some districts of many towns and cities, but England is by and large a very safe country as long as you use common sense. Unless you are in a very touristy area (such as **Covent Garden** in London), you the traveller are no more likely to be targeted by criminals than is anyone else. However in places that are very popular with visitors, less careful tourists can sometimes be victims of scams and crimes such as pickpocketing. Don't be one of them!

In tourist destinations you will meet mostly friendly people who will take the time to answer a stranger's question, and who may speak English in a colourful or accented way but will usually be willing to standardise and simplify their speech if you make it clear that you're struggling to understand. Some say that there is a north-south divide with regard to friendliness of people, with people in the North seen as more friendly and approachable, while those in the South (particularly in urban areas such as London) tending to be less willing to stop and speak to strangers. Remember not to take offence, however; most people you see on the streets will usually be rushing to get to somewhere (e.g. work) and simply don't have the time to talk. However in rural areas, particularly East Anglia and the West Country, people can be more inclined to spare their time to have a chat with strangers. You should bear in mind that these are generalisations and do not apply to all people in the areas mentioned. In any case, you will usually find that if you are polite and friendly, you'll get the same in return from anybody you speak to.

London itself is a very international city where you may meet a variety of nationalities, depending on what part of the city you are in.

1.5 Talk

Unsurprisingly, English is the main language in England, though it is spoken with many different accents throughout the country. Generally, English accents can be broadly divided into Northern and Southern accents. However, within these two main 'regions', accents can vary widely between different counties, towns and cities. For example, natives of Liverpool (called 'Liverpudlians' or more informally 'Scousers') have a distinctive accent that is easily distinguishable from that of someone from nearby Manchester and even from the surrounding countryside. Some cities even have multiple accents depending on the area of the city and the social class of the speaker. For example, working class 'Cockneys' of the East End of London sound very different to more well-heeled denizens of west London.

In Cornwall, a very small number of people speak Cornish, a Celtic language similar to Welsh and completely separate from English. However, with fewer than a couple of hundred speakers of the language, any experience of Cornish you get is likely to be confined to road signs or information boards.

No other languages are widely spoken, but with widespread immigration to England from other Commonwealth and European Union countries in the past few decades, you might also hear other languages spoken in the big cities. Expect to hear (and even see signs in) Urdu, Punjabi, Hindi, Gujarati, Polish, Italian, Greek, Turkish and varieties of Arabic. Because of links with Hong Kong, many Chinese people live here (London and Manchester in particular have thriving communities).

The English are not known for being particularly fond of learning foreign languages, and often rely solely on English when they travel abroad! French (and to a lesser extent Spanish, Italian and German) is usually taught in schools, but they are no longer compulsory. Few English people are fluent in a foreign language but they may remember enough to be willing to help a stranger in difficulties (if they can get over the embarrassment of being seen to "show off"). For this reason, you should be prepared to have to use English to make yourself understood.

There are some peculiar words and phrases that even a native speaker of another variant of English may not understand. For example, when an English person says "Meet me at half five", they mean "Meet me at 5:30". If the directions say "go to the top of the road", that means the end of the road. Some words mean one thing to Americans and something else entirely to English people. When an English man says he shared a "fag" with his "mate" that means only that he smoked a cigarette with a friend. If he adds that they also had a "gorgeous" meal, it means it was followed by a nice dinner. Then there are the words unique to British English; a sneaker or tennis shoe, for instance, is called a "trainer." The expression "cheers!" is used both when drinking with somebody and as a substi-

tute for "thank you."

Another English peculiarity is the use of terms of endearment for strangers such as "darling", "pet", "love", "hun", "duck", "bab", "mate", "sweetheart", "flower", "queen" and a few others. It can be confusing, or perhaps even embarrassing, for somebody who is not accustomed to this to be called "darling" by a total stranger and it can also contrast quite sharply with the popular image of English people as being very reserved. However, this is something which is nowadays mainly used by the older generation and found less in the younger generation except for between friends, although some younger males may call a woman "Darlin". This is usually either as a form of cat calling (and can often be followed by derogatory demands or language but is often harmless) or directed towards a female friend.

You will hear English people say "sorry". This is not down to guilt or self-consciousness but simply because it is synonymous with "excuse me", and is used to get somebody's attention. Alternatively it can be synonymous with "pardon". Any comments along the lines of "What are you sorry about?" are pointless and likely to be received with blank looks.

1.5.1 Accents and dialects

The diverse history of England, and the constant influx of various cultures and peoples over the centuries (e.g. Vikings, Normans, Romans, Celtic peoples, all the way up to recent immigration from Commonwealth and EU countries), have produced a wide range of accents, and there are still traces of regional dialects (vocabulary and grammar). Best not to imitate the accents, you will be seen as mocking.

An **accent** will usually reveal where someone was brought up — sometimes to within quite a small area (there exists an urban legend of criminals being caught because their accents on recorded phone calls were traceable to a single neighbourhood). Today, even well-educated professionals are happy to keep their regional accent: the unhappy days when people from outside the South East felt that they had to hide their accent to "get on" have gone. It is now only people who go to public (i.e. private, fee-paying) schools who learn to speak in a "geography-free" way (the "upper-class accent" of colonial rulers, well-known from old British films, or modern parodies). Differences in accent are very real: a visitor who is expecting a particular accent they are familiar with from the cinema or television (perhaps "Dick van Dyke Cockney" or "Hugh Grant Silly Ass Upper Crust") will usually have to wait a day or two to get really accustomed to the real accents they hear around them. Even English people, familiar with other accents from TV or by knowing neighbours or colleagues who have moved from other areas, can still struggle when far from home. "Geordie", the accent/dialect of Tyneside, is a famously strong accent

when spoken quickly among a group of people who do not know that a stranger is trying to tune in. Most people are happy to tone down (or slow down) their accent when a stranger is in difficulty. When encountering a broad Geordie accent it can be quite difficult for someone who is not accustomed to it to understand it, and there are still various dialectic words in common use such as *hyem* = *home*, *gan/gannin* = *going*, *wor* = *our*, *divvint* = *don't* and *howay* = *come on*. Many of these regional terms are similar to words in modern Scandinavian languages due to the Viking influence on the area.

Dialects exist, but to the traveller this should be a matter of interest, not confusion. People across England would expect to understand anyone from anywhere else in England, because the few everyday dialect words are usually well known from TV. Some examples from the north of England: “ey up” (“Hello”), “aye” (“yes”, as in Scotland and the North of England); “tha” (“you”, as in thee and thou, still common in Yorkshire). Real differences are subtle and of little consequence these days: for instance, people growing up in Manchester, Leeds and Sheffield use “jennel”, “jinnel”, and “ginnel” respectively as the word for a particular type of narrow alley between houses. Other common words are “wee”, “bonnie”, “lass” (small, beautiful and girl, respectively in the north east, as well as over the border in Scotland).

A few useful words which may help you understand the English (particularly in the Midlands and North): “ta” = thank you, “ta ra/ta ta” = goodbye, “summat/summit/summink” = something, “nowt” = nothing, “owt” = “anything”, “dunna/dunno” = don't know, “canna/cannit = cannot.

1.6 Get in

See the [United Kingdom](#) article for information on immigration and visa requirements.

1.6.1 By road

From outside Great Britain

Since England is on an island, it is not possible to drive directly into England from outside Great Britain. Motorists have two choices to enter England from outside Great Britain, by various car ferry routes, or the Channel Tunnel.

Car ferries

- From mainland [Europe](#). - there are a wide variety of routes and operators from various countries. [Ferry routes to British Mainland](#)



The white cliffs of [Dover](#)

- From the [Channel Islands](#). Services connect [Jersey](#) and [Guernsey](#) with the south of England.
- From the [Isle of Man](#). Services connect [Douglas](#), [Isle of Man](#) with the north west of England
- From [Ireland](#). There are only limited car ferry services connecting [Ireland](#) directly with England. Alternatively it is possible to take a ferry from [Ireland](#) to [Wales](#) or [Scotland](#) and then continue the journey by road to England.

See “by boat” for further details.

Channel Tunnel

- From [France](#). [Eurotunnel](#) run a frequent train service from [Calais, France](#), to [Folkestone](#) which carries vehicles and their passengers.

From elsewhere in Great Britain

A number of roads cross England's borders with its British neighbours. These roads range from the simple country lanes to motorways. There are no border controls with [Scotland](#) or [Wales](#); indeed, on smaller roads the border may not be noticed at all.

There are no tolls to cross into England; however, motorists need to be aware that crossing from England into [Wales](#) via the M4 and M48 Severn Bridges will need to pay a toll. Also, there is a M6 toll road to bypass the congestion of [Birmingham](#) (England's second largest city) on the main M6 motorway.

The most important road connections into and out of England are.

- A1 from Edinburgh to Eastern Scotland
- M4 from South Wales
- M74/A74/M6 from Western Scotland
- A55 from North Wales.

1.6.2 By plane

Most people flying to England from outside Europe are likely to land in London Heathrow, London Gatwick or Manchester. Those flying from inside Europe have a great many options with low cost carriers connecting large European cities with many regional airports within England. Flying to England from Scotland, Northern Ireland and Ireland is popular, although there are almost no flight connections from Wales.

London and the South East

- **London Heathrow** - By far the largest airport in UK, it is also the third busiest in the world.
- **London Gatwick** - London's second most important airport
- **London Stansted** - Important low cost carrier airport near Cambridge
- **London Luton** - Smaller airport to the north west of London
- **London City** - Small airport in the centre of London, mostly targeting business travellers who want to get into the city's financial districts quickly

The South: Southampton and Bournemouth are both located on the south coast.

The South West: Bristol, Exeter, Newquay and Plymouth mostly serve domestic and European destinations.

The Midlands: Birmingham International, East Midlands Airport, Coventry Airport and Norwich

The North: Manchester International, Liverpool John Lennon, Newcastle International, Leeds-Bradford, Robin Hood Doncaster-Sheffield, Humberside, Durham Tees Valley and Blackpool

1.6.3 By train

See also Rail travel in the United Kingdom

Eurostar links mainland Europe to England. Its high speed trains run from Paris, France and Brussels, Belgium as well as other cities in France (Avignon, Calais, Lille, Lyon and Marseille), crossing into England via the Channel Tunnel (and often stopping at either Ebbsfleet or Ashford) before continuing to St. Pancras Station in London. Occasional services run from other destinations in France. Book as early as possible as fares can be considerably more expensive if trying to book at the last minute.

The rail system with Wales and Scotland is fully integrated, with regular services crossing the borders into England.

BritRail Passes are also available to non-UK citizens which allow the traveller unlimited rail travel in England on one ticket.

1.6.4 By boat

With so much coastline and so many ports, England has extensive shipping links with many countries worldwide. Major ports are Dover, Folkestone, Harwich, Hull, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Southampton, Liverpool, Ipswich and Newcastle. See Ferry routes to British Mainland.

1.6.5 By bus

While Britain has had long distance buses for decades and many of them serve various points inside and outside of England, France only opened its long distance bus market in 2015. Of course, several companies have jumped at the opportunity and London-Paris (via the Chunnel) is probably the most obvious international route, which is offered by several companies, including French ouibus, British Megabus or German Flixbus. While travel times are usually a lot longer than by plane or train, the prices tend to be rather low and fares below 20€ are not unheard of.

1.7 Get around



The Humber bridge, Hull

England is well serviced by domestic air, land and sea routes.

There are taxi firms everywhere (many are by booking only—find the phone number of the local company and phone ahead), and every town has a bus service. 'Black cabs' are also common in cities and can be hailed from the side of the road. Sometimes in city centres, usually just after the nightclubs have closed, there will be queue for taxis which will sometimes be monitored by marshals or police.

To be safe, make sure you take a registered taxi or black cab; despite government action, many unlawful unregistered private taxi drivers exist—these do have a reputation for being unsafe, particularly if you are a woman.

England has one of the highest densities of railway lines per square mile in the world. There has been much improvement and investment in recent years to the railway network and rolling stock but delays and cancellations do occasionally occur. Overcrowding can be a problem in large cities, especially at 'rush-hour' times (7AM–9AM and 5PM–7PM, Monday to Friday) so it is best to avoid these times when tickets can be expensive as well. See also [Rail travel in the United Kingdom](#).

Buses are numerous, frequent and reliable in most of the larger towns and cities and an ideal way of getting around. Rural areas are less well served and hiring a car is often the best option to explore the countryside and villages.

The roads are of generally excellent quality (although can deteriorate in rural areas) and the signs and markings are clear. The main problem with driving in England is the sheer volume of traffic on the roads. Unfortunately this is not only limited to rush-hours and large cities, and even cross-country motorways can slow to a stop as they pass urban areas. Prepare for travel times being longer than you'd normally anticipate in relation to the mileage. The speed limit, unless otherwise stated, is 30 or 40 mph in built-up areas, 50 or 60 mph (approx 95 km/h) elsewhere and 70 mph (approx. 110 km/h) on motorways and other controlled-access roads. Speed cameras and traffic police are numerous so caution is advised. The traditional British 'reserve' and politeness may occasionally dissolve under the stress of congestion on the major routes, especially with the traffic problems in some of England's larger cities, but generally driving around Britain is an enjoyable experience and it is polite to acknowledge the courtesy of another driver with a nod or the raising of the hand as a form of thank you. Drivers will often flash their headlights to indicate that you are clear to pull out, or otherwise to give way to you, and it is considered polite to say thank you by giving a wave or a quick flash of your headlights.

Flashing your hazards (i.e., both indicators at the same time) is only used as an indication of danger. Usually it's used to indicate that the car has broken down or to warn other drivers that there's a hazard up ahead. But flashing your hazards a couple of times is another way of saying thank you.

Brown road signs with white text indicate nearby tourist attractions, and the blue *i* sign denotes Tourist Information.

The UK isn't as cycle-friendly as some other European countries, but cycling is still a great way to get around. You'll see a lot more from a bicycle, have the freedom to stop wherever you want, no parking headaches and once you've got the bicycle there is nothing to pay. It is unquestionably the fastest way around London and other major

cities—it does have its dangers but it's well worth the risk.

There are many lovely cycle paths where you can avoid the traffic and soak in the cityscape or countryside. Rough examples of journey times at moderate speed: Buckingham Palace to Tower Bridge: 20 minutes; Buckingham Palace to Windsor Castle: 2 hours; Central London to Oxford: 5 hours. A national online route planner can be found at [Cycle Streets](#)

You can hire a bicycle from some local bicycle shops, or purchase a decent one privately for less than £100 secondhand as the UK has a surplus of old bicycles. Make sure you get a helmet, particularly for city cycling, and lights, especially in winter as the days are very short. Helmets aren't compulsory but the police will fine you for not using lights when it's dark. A decent lock is also essential, particularly in the cities; bicycle theft is a common problem—do not leave your bicycle unattended, not even for a minute.

Most of the London underground trains and local buses do not accept cycles, but overground trains and long-distance coaches will normally let you on with a bicycle, as long as they're not too full. Arrive early for coaches so you get a space in the luggage hold.

1.8 See



Yorkshire Moors

London is the start and finish point for most international tourists. It offers countless museums and historical attractions. To truly experience England, however, you must venture out of the hustle and bustle of the capital and see what the rest of England has to offer. You will find the rest of England very different to its capital city; indeed, if you only visit London, you haven't seen 'England'—you've seen one city that differs in many ways to the rest of the country.

If short on time, you may find it more convenient to base yourself in a regional city and take day trips to the National Parks, coast and smaller towns. If you have plenty of time, then you could base yourself in a B&B (Bed and

Breakfast) in any of the above. You will find that public transport to and within cities and large towns is acceptable, but that in smaller places off the beaten track then you should research your journey carefully, or consider hiring a car.

Popular places to visit include the counties of **Yorkshire** and **Cornwall**, the National Parks listed above, and the historic cities such as **York**, **Bath** and **Lincoln**.

If short on time, you can use larger cities as a base for day trips, either by train or coach. For example **Leeds**, the largest city in **Yorkshire**, makes a great base for day trips to the **Yorkshire Dales**, **North Yorkshire Moors**, **York** and **Whitby**, whilst offering its own selection of attractions such as the Royal Armouries, famed nightlife, theatre and designer shopping in stunning Victorian-era arcades.

Similarly **Plymouth** makes a good base for exploring **Dartmoor** and making day trips to **Cornwall**, whilst offering its own range of attractions and museums.

If you have a little longer, you may be able to spend a week more locally based, for example staying in **Ambleside** in the **Lake District**.

England, together with the other parts of Britain, was the cradle of the Industrial Revolution in the 18th to 20th centuries. Though many industries were shut down in the late 20th century, there is still much to see of **Industrial Britain**; mines, factories, and **heritage railways**.

1.8.1 Preservation trusts

A number of 'umbrella' organisations are devoted to the preservation and public access of both natural and cultural heritage. Membership with them, even on a temporary basis, means priority free access to their properties thereafter—travellers to England seeking to see a large number of sights would do well to join one or more of them:

- **English Heritage.** English Heritage has an especially wide-ranging remit and manages more than 400 significant buildings and monuments in England. They also maintain a register of thousands of “listed” buildings, those considered of most importance to the historic and cultural heritage of the country. **W**
- **The National Trust** (*National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty*). The National Trust manages over 350 properties and over 950sq miles of land. Many of the country’s manor houses are under the trust’s ownership and management. **W**

1.9 Do

- **Golf:** see the **Golf in England** article.

- **Walking/hiking:** England has many places for **walking in the country**, which may be called *hill-walking* or *fellwalking* in some areas. The **Lake District** and **Peak District** are some of the places for more serious walks—see also the itinerary **Hikes in the Lake District**. The **Pennine Way** (463 km) and **Coast To Coast Walk** (309 km) are the best-known long-distance walks. There are **public footpaths** and public bridleways all over the country, and most areas of open land are now generally designated for unlimited access (more noticeably in upland areas). People have the right to walk along these and local councils are obliged to maintain records of the routes and keep access open, but do not maintain the paths. Paths are usually signposted where they meet a road, but may not be marked across fields. The paths are shown on the Ordnance Survey Explorer (1:25,000) and Landranger (1:50,000) maps. Enquire locally for details of the best walks, and what kit (boots, waterproofs, etc.) you will need.

- **Beaches:** Cornwall and Devon have some spectacular natural beaches that would rival those of Australia and California, although they are often much colder.

- **Music:** See **Music in Britain and Ireland**.

1.10 Eat

England has traditional dishes famous the world over from **beef Wellington** and **steak and kidney pie** to the humble **sandwich**. However, a modern English meal is just as likely to be lasagne or chicken tikka masala, with these international meals taking on a decidedly English flavour. The English are great adopters of other countries’ food, and you will find a wide selection of restaurants serving cuisine from all over the world wherever you go.

England has for many decades held an often-deserved reputation for bad food, and until recently pubs and restaurants were known for serving unappetising fare. There are still many low-quality establishments and mediocre chain restaurants, and the motorway services can often manage to produce food that is barely edible while charging you a small fortune; however, in recent years England’s food scene has been revitalised and the bad food reputation is disappearing. Nowadays you can generally expect pubs and restaurants to provide delicious and well-presented meals. It is nonetheless advisable to 'do your research' before going out, scout establishments in person, check out online reviews, see what Wikivoyage has to say about them! If in doubt, ask the locals where’s best to eat.

A meal out is the usual way to celebrate a special family or social event, and people expect the meal to live up to

the occasion. Cooking programmes are now among the most popular on the television, supermarkets have turned many previously unknown foods into everyday items, and farm shops and farmers' markets have surprised all the commentators by becoming extremely popular weekend "leisure" destinations where people can buy excellent local meat, fruit, vegetables, cheeses, breads and other delicacies.

1.10.1 What to try

See also: English cheese

Here are some traditional meals which are usually referred to as "national dishes" and which you can reasonably expect to find anywhere in England.



A typical "Full English"

- **Fish and chips** — deep-fried, battered cod, haddock or another white fish with chips. This is best bought from specialist fish and chip shops, known colloquially as "chippies", "fisheries" or "frieries" in different parts of England, where it is usually better than the fish and chips on a general restaurant or pub menu. Available throughout the country, but best eaten out of newspaper while overlooking the waves on a beach.
- **Full English breakfast** — At its fullest, it might consist of fried bacon, fried eggs (the two basic elements essential to any "fry up"), fried sausages, fried bread, fried black pudding, fried bubble and squeak, hash browns, mushrooms, scrambled eggs, baked beans in tomato sauce, and toast and butter - washed down by a large amount of hot strong tea or coffee with milk. Served in less refined versions in truckers' stops, and posher versions in hotels, where there will often be a buffet of these items from which you can help yourself. It is sometimes said that this meal is only a legend foisted on tourists, because the English are now too busy and too health-conscious to regularly consume such a huge breakfast. There is a certain element of truth to this, as the English

now perceive the breakfast to be a weekend or holiday treat, or as a suitable meal to consume when hungover after a night of drinking. Any inexpensive "greasy spoon" café will have "all-day breakfast" on the menu, as do many more upmarket establishments.

- **Lancashire hotpot** — a hearty vegetable and lamb stew from Lancashire
- **Roast dinner**, also known as the "Sunday roast", due to the day it is traditionally consumed is considered by many the archetypal English meal. The dish consists of a roasted meat (usually chicken, turkey, beef, pork or lamb), served with roast potatoes, and between two and six other roasted, boiled, steamed or braised vegetables. This meal is inevitably more popular in the colder half of the year, and the exact components often depend on the season (turkey is the traditional meat consumed around Christmas, while lamb is most popular in the spring, and each vegetable has its particular season). The roast is available on Sundays between lunchtime and early evening in virtually any English pub serving food. Quality can vary greatly depending on how freshly cooked the food is, with home cooked being invariably better.
- **Sausages and mash**, often called **bangers and mash** — hot sausages and creamy mashed potato, often served with vegetables and a slightly sweet onion gravy. There are many kinds of sausage available in England, from the peppery, spiral-shaped Cumberland, and fat, saggy Gloucester to the short, herby Lincolnshire, via beef and lamb varieties and pork mixed with almost anything you can think off (apples, leek, chives, chillies, paprika, nutmeg, ginger, Stilton cheese, breadcrumbs, ale, cider, chocolate, stinging nettles...), not forgetting the humble plain pork "banger" which is most common. The English take their sausages very seriously, maybe even more so than the Germans, and there are numerous national and regional contests where butchers and enthusiasts alike can enter to battle for the prestigious title of 'champion sausage' in various categories.
- **Savoury pies** — are meat and / or veg usually in a sauce or gravy served in a pastry case. Among the most popular varieties are steak and ale, steak and kidney, chicken and mushroom and meat and potato. Slightly different, but similar, is the **Cornish pasty** — beef and vegetables in a pastry case
- **Toad in the hole** — sausages in Yorkshire pudding batter
- **Yorkshire pudding** — a batter pudding served with a roast (usually beef); originally used instead of a plate and eaten with the meal. In Yorkshire and

neighbouring parts of northern England, giant versions often appear on pub menus as a main meal item, with a filling, e.g. *Giant Yorkshire Pudding filled with beef stew*.

There are many other regional dishes and foodstuffs which are covered in the relevant region articles.

1.10.2 Where to eat

Pubs are a good place to get reasonably priced food, though most stop serving food at around 9-9:30PM. Others may stop serving food between lunch and dinner. Pub food has become quite sophisticated in recent years and, as well as serving the more traditional hearty English fare, more exotic dishes are now prepared in the majority of the larger pubs and specialist “gastropubs”.

English food has recently undergone a revolution with many larger cities having award-winning restaurants run by the many ‘famous’ TV chefs who have now become part of the English obsession with food. London has 60 Michelin-starred restaurants, almost as many as Paris’ 77. Eating out at a high-quality restaurant can be an expensive experience: at the very top end (Michelin-star level) expect to pay £100 per head including wine. A decent three-course meal out at a respectable restaurant will normally cost around £30–£40 per head including wine. It is possible to dine for cheaper than this, but the quality usually drops when the bill is below £20–25 per head.

If good-quality and cheaply priced food is more your choice, try one of the many ethnic restaurants such as Chinese, Asian or Mexican. Eating a curry or balti in an Indian restaurant is tantamount to an English obsession. These restaurants are found everywhere—even the larger villages have them—and usually the food is of good quality and they will cater for most tastes. A good curry with side dishes can be had for around £10–15 per head, and some without liquor licences allow you to bring your own alcoholic beverages in. Eating a curry out is a social occasion and often you will find the men try to challenge their own taste buds to a duel, opting for spicier curries than they find comfortable! In the towns and cities these restaurants are usually open late (especially on a Friday and Saturday night) to cater for people eating after the pubs have closed. It is at this time that they can get very busy and lively, so if you want to avoid the crowds then visit the restaurants before the local pubs shut.

Unlike many other European countries, vegetarian (and to a lesser extent, vegan) food is widely available and appreciated in pubs and restaurants, with several dishes usually appearing on the menu alongside the more normal meat and fish options. However, vegetarians may still find the variety of dishes rather limited—particularly in pubs, where certain dishes such as “veggie” lasagne or mushroom stroganoff feature all too regularly.

Tipping is generally expected in restaurants unless a ser-

vice charge has been added to the bill, with a tip of around 10% considered to be the norm. Tipping in bars and cafes is less common.

1.11 Drink

1.11.1 Places

The traditional drinking establishment is the “pub” (short for “public house”). These are normally named after local landmarks or events, and most will have a heraldic (or pseudo-heraldic) symbol on the sign outside; more recent establishments may poke fun of this tradition (e.g. “The Queen’s Head” featuring a portrait of Freddie Mercury, lead singer for the rock band Queen). England seems to have an incredible number of pubs. While in a city you are usually not more than a 5-minute walk from a pub.

The pub is an English institution, though a declining one. Tastes are changing, smoking has been banned inside pubs, beer is ever cheaper in supermarkets, drink-driving is illegal and a social taboo, and pub landlords are often squeezed by sharp practice by the big firms that supply beers to and own many pub buildings.

There are many different kinds of pub. Some are traditional ‘locals’, and a real part of the community. In most neighbourhood pubs you will find all generations mingling together, which often gives patrons a feeling of community. It would not be uncommon to see three generations of one family congregating in a neighbourhood pub. Nevertheless, pubs can vary widely in character. Depending on the area, you can find a warm and friendly welcome, or drunken youths spoiling for a fight.

However, pubs are becoming more and more specialized. In city centres, many have been taken over by big chains; some are soulless, some are moderately pleasant. Some independent pubs have become wine bars or cocktail bars; perhaps the least pleasant are those pubs which pack in customers on their way to a nightclub, with loud music, no space, and super-cheap spirits to make sure their clients are as drunk as possible by 11pm.

However, many pubs are evolving in a more healthy direction. There are now many pubs that pride themselves on serving ‘real ales’—beer brewed on a smaller scale to traditional English methods and recipes. Any visiting beer lover should track these down. Many pubs, both in the countryside and in cities, have moved towards serving good food. And while most pubs will serve food, it’s in these ‘gastropubs’ that you’ll find well-prepared food, generally a mixture of traditional English dishes and international influences. The prices will tend to match.

Pubs have a little of their own etiquette. At any proper pub, service is always at the bar. It’s polite to strike up a conversation with anyone else who is standing or sitting at the bar. And if someone buys you a drink, you

will be expected to 'stand your round' later on, buying for whoever you're drinking with. If you're planning to leave promptly, or don't have enough money, then you should politely decline the offer.

Although traditional pub licensing laws severely restricted their hours of operation, laws enacted in 2005 allow pubs to request more flexible opening hours. Few pubs have requested anywhere near the "24-hour drinking" that is theoretically possible: as a general rule more traditional pubs will close at 11PM still. Some of the more trendy bars will close nearer to 1AM, filling a niche in the market between traditional pub and nightclub. However in most cities and many towns, centrally located pubs and bars will stay open any time from 2AM till 6AM, especially on Friday and Saturday nights. Also, at public holiday times, many pubs extend their closing times—especially on New Year's Eve.

If you abstain from alcohol, you need not to worry, many pubs also serve non-alcoholic drinks.

1.11.2 Alcoholic drinks

England is home to a huge variety of alcoholic drinks; the drinking age in England is 18, and those that appear under 25 will theoretically (rarely implemented) be asked to provide ID such as a passport or driving license. As well as wines and spirits (mainly imported, but *some* local), all pubs sell several beers and at least one cider. The main types of beer you will come across are **lager**, **bitter** and **stout**. **Real ale** is not a separate classification, it refers to beer made and served by traditional methods.

Lager — Predominantly the pilsner type: pale, fizzy and cold. Because of the popularity of this type of beer among the young, there are many mass-market national brands brewed in the UK (and widely advertised with "having fun" type ads) which may disappoint anyone wanting more than simply cold, fizzy, alcohol. Some national brands are much better, and often stronger, and may be sold in bottles as well as on draught. Purists often prefer imported European-brewed lagers.

Bitter — The most common example of the English type of beer technically called "ale" (see below). They are typically darker than lagers—they are called bitter because they have more hops than mild (another less-common kind of ale). Again, there are well-advertised national brands for the mass market, usually less strong than lagers. Most are now not "real ales": they are not matured in the barrel; they are often called "smooth" or "cream" (which means that they are infused with nitrogen to give a small-bubbled head) and are often served very cold from a small tap on a tall, illuminated stand.

Stout — A dark, heavy, usually very bitter beer. Originally called Porter, Arthur Guinness decided he could do better and made Guinness which he branded a Stout Porter. Guinness is one world-famous Irish brand that is

available almost everywhere in England, often in "normal" and "extra cold" versions.

All of the mass-market types above can be bought in cans—often with a "widget" that when the can is opened, forces nitrogen bubbles through the beer to simulate "draught" beer.

Ale — This is not simply another word for "bitter" or "beer". Technically it simply means any beer other than lager (i.e. it is a beer brewed at cellar temperatures using floating yeast, i.e. bitters, milds and stouts). However, these days "ale" is often used a little self-consciously, usually either as a "matey" word for any type of beer ("Anyone fancy a few ales?") or in a consciously "traditional" way ("Try a pint of good old English ale"). To ask for "A pint of ale, please." would sound like a line from a period film. However "real ale" is an accepted term, so to ask "What real ales do you have on?" would be quite normal.

Real Ale — The Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) has been a very successful consumer campaign; its aims have been to ensure that mass-market beers do not completely force out beers made in the traditional way. CAMRA created the term "Real Ale" to summarise the type of beer they wanted to keep alive: it must be allowed to continue maturing after it leaves the brewery (i.e. not be pasteurised or filtered to remove living yeast; be stored and served without additional gas (i.e. does not have carbon dioxide or nitrogen forced into the beer); and be served at the appropriate temperature for the style: traditional ales are not generally served warm, as many people believe, but at the temperature of the 'cool' cellar they have been maturing in for several days (ideally, 8–12°C). Most real ales are served from the distinctive "handpumps" which allow a pint to be "pulled" from the cellar by several full-length strokes requiring visible effort on the part of the server. Most "real ales" served in ordinary pubs are bitters, but these come in a wide range of strengths, colours, and bitterness. A majority of pubs now serve at least one or two national brands of real ale, and perhaps one or even two local ones.

"Real ale pubs" — At a pub which especially caters to lovers of real ale, or at a beer festival, there will be more local brands (and "guests" from some distance away) and a wider range of bitters, and even a good choice of other types. Expect to see summer ales, winter ales, exotic beers (containing ingredients such as heather, honey or ginger), light milds, dark milds, lagers, stouts and, increasingly, porters (like a stronger dark mild, or a lighter, sweeter stout). These will be served from a long row of handpumps or (even more traditionally) straight from barrels sitting on the bar or (especially at beer festivals) in racks. There will also be a wide range of "bottle-conditioned" beers ("real ale in a bottle") usually either versions of English bitters, often called "pale ales", or very strong beers from France or Belgium. There will also be several ciders and perries.

Cider — In England this means an alcoholic drink made

from apples (often much stronger than beer). These are generally brewed in the West Country (Somerset, Devon & Cornwall) but not exclusively so, as Herefordshire and Suffolk are other regions famous for their cider. The West Country is more known for the traditional cloudy, still 'scrumpy' cider, whereas the other regions produce more clear, fizzy cider. The more commercial brands of cider, served from pressurised kegs and so available at any pub, are clear, fizzy and cold, and quite strong (they are usually moderately or very sweet, so the high alcohol content may go unnoticed by a novice). A real ale pub will usually sell at least one "real", unpressurised, cider, perhaps from a barrel sitting on the bar. This may be clear or slightly cloudy, but will almost certainly be still, not too sweet, and very strong (7% alcohol is only average for this type of cider). The most traditional cider is called **scrumpy** and is usually very strong, very cloudy and possibly (but not always) rather sour. Some commercial ciders have "scrumpy" in their name, but these are not *quite* the same as a gallon jug bought at the farmhouse door.

Perry — Similar to cider but made from pears (is sometimes called *pear cider*, especially if imported). Farmhouse perry was always difficult to get hold of outside the West Country, but this is improving, and there will nearly always be some available at a beer festival. Keen perry-spotters might notice the sweetish "undercover" commercial versions: advertised nationwide with a "girls night out" theme and sold in wine-shaped bottles with "inexpensive white wine"-type labels bearing the legend "Perry" in small letters.

1.11.3 Non-alcoholic drinks

Tea is widely drunk throughout the country, almost always hot, usually strong, usually with milk, and quite often with sugar. There are many popular brands (the most recognisable brands are PG Tips and Tetley). Tea is usually drunk at home or at work or to accompany breakfast in inexpensive restaurants (where it will usually arrive with milk in a separate jug), or with afternoon tea (scones, cream, jam, and cakes) at a "tea-room" (less frequently seen these days, except in expensive hotels or in holiday areas). It is often the cheapest drink in coffee shops. Tea is often served in pubs and bars too.

Coffee is as popular as tea. Instant coffee (made with hot water, hot milk, or "half and half") is much used at home and work, and in inexpensive restaurants. If it is made with just hot water, then it is "black coffee"; with added cold milk it becomes "white coffee". Percolators are little used, and machines with paper filters are less common than they once were: they often fill a restaurant with a coffee aroma, but a mediocre restaurant will often leave the made coffee heating for too long. Therefore, at dinner parties or good restaurants, the "french press" (cafetière) has become the standard way to serve "real" ("ground") coffee: the customer can leave the coffee infusing until it is as strong as they like, then press the filter down to stop

the brew and restrain the grounds from getting into the cup. The drinker then adds their own milk (hot milk is often provided; cream less often) and sugar. Seattle-style coffee bars serve the usual types of espresso-based coffees (but with a less-bewildering choice of combinations of coffee, milk, sugar, and flavourings). Decaffeinated coffee is available, but not standard. A pub *may* serve coffee, and indeed chains (especially Wetherspoons) invariably do, but "bar" type of pub (at a non-busy time of day) is a better option. International coffeeshops such as Starbucks, Costa's and Caffè Nero are very common in large towns and cities. These often serve a wide range of coffees, teas and hot chocolate. The traveller may have a more rewarding experience in an independent coffee house, where the drinks are often better, and there are homemade cakes and pastries available.

- **Hot Chocolate**

- **Fruit juices** are popular, particularly apple, and the ever-present orange. Smoothies are becoming big too, and you will find many varieties at places like Starbucks.

1.12 Sleep

England offers the usual Western assortment of sleeping options, including:

- **Hostels** Both private institutions and those part of a hosting network (which may require membership so check ahead) usually offer dorm-style accommodation, sometimes with a simple breakfast included (think toast and tea). Many hostels in popular destination cities fill up during the busy summer season, so try to book ahead or at least call before you arrive.
- **Bed and Breakfasts** can range from a single room in a private home to large historical buildings with dozens of rooms. In many towns the tourist office has a list of rooms available and can help you call around.
- **Hotels** in cities and towns, and near motorway junctions, as well as some grand *Country House Hotels*. Budget hotel chains include 'Travelodge' and 'Premier Inn'; these are simple, yet clean and comfortable.
- **Motels** Mostly in the form of large chains such as Travel Inn and Travelodge, with hundreds across the country.
- **Camping** There is a widespread network in country locations of campsites that welcome tents, caravans, or motorhomes. Sites may welcome some or all of these. But don't expect to find many close to cities and major tourist attractions.

- **Universities** It has been possible to get accommodation in some Universities and Colleges out of term time for a while. However is a bit better than most previous sites, in that it provides good information and tips about the places it covers, which include Oxford and Cambridge. However it does not cover all the places where accommodation is available.

While the rooms are generally comfortable, rooms at the lower end of the price scale may be small and usually come without air conditioning, cable TV, coffee machines, and other amenities. In very inexpensive accommodation, for example in dormitory-style hostels, towels and soap may not be provided. Most hotels that provide breakfast will offer a choice between a full English (see above) or continental. The continental normally consists of bread rolls, croissant, cereal, pain au chocolat and cold meats such as ham and salami. Beverages such as fresh fruit juice, tea, coffee and hot chocolate are served too.

1.13 Buy

Currency is Pounds Sterling (GBP). Euros are sometimes accepted (particularly in larger stores), but it is best to assume otherwise. Note that although Bank of England notes are accepted all over the United Kingdom, you may have trouble using Northern Irish and Scottish notes in England due to shop staff being unfamiliar with them.

Credit cards are accepted in most shops and restaurants. Visa and MasterCard are the most widely accepted, though debit cards with the Maestro logo are also taken. American Express cards are accepted in fewer establishments, but most restaurants will accept them. Credit cards with a Chip and PIN have become nearly compulsory. Credit card agreements mostly require merchants to accept cards with a swipe and signature; however, it is wise to carry enough cash in case the retailer does not comply.

One thing to keep in mind is that due to credit card surcharges, some establishments and shops will only allow cards (including debit cards) to be used for purchases over £5 or £10. While others, notably smaller shops and convenience stores may charge around £0.40 below a certain amount or forbid them entirely. It's worth checking the sticker on the shop window to see what's permitted.

Most shops are open from around 9AM to 5PM Mon-Sat. Supermarkets, newsagents and corner shops often open earlier and stay open until 8PM or later most days. On Sundays, larger shops are only permitted to open for 6 hours, which is often 10AM to 4PM and sometimes open early for "browsing", when you can look but not buy.

1.14 Learn

England has many options for foreign students to study; from language, history, and cultural short courses to advanced degrees at internationally renowned universities. Most cities have at least one institute of higher learning.

Students from countries within the European Union/Switzerland do not require a visa to study in England. University fees have two tiers, a home fee for UK and EU students, presently capped at £9000 per year, and a higher tier for students from outside of the EU, from £10,000 to £18,000 per year.

1.15 Work

Options for short-term employment include bar tending and waiting tables as well as more specialised work such as in the high tech/computer industry. Visitors from Commonwealth countries will have a much easier time getting a work permit, especially those under 30 as there are several programs.

Citizens of countries belonging to the European Union (Germany, France, Spain, etc.) do not require a permit and are free to live and work in England; however, certain restrictions currently apply to certain new EU member states (such as Bulgaria, Romania, etc.), so you will need to check this out on the [Uk Border Agency website](#) before travelling.

Visitors on a **student visa** can work up to 20 hours per week while in school and 40 hours per week while on break.

1.16 Stay safe

In any **emergency** call **999** or **112** and ask for Ambulance, Fire, Police or Coast Guard when connected. If you need more than one service that includes an ambulance (e.g. a road collision) then ask for Ambulance and they will contact the relevant services themselves.

England by and large is a safe place to live and visit; violent crime against tourists is rare, but you should always use general common sense to ensure you keep out of trouble. In most of the major cities, you will find outlying suburban and inner city areas where poverty, crime and gang violence are common. These areas can be quite risky (by western standards) and should be avoided. Again, common sense is the best way to stay safe, and a visitor would be very unlikely to end up in such areas anyway. In a situation where you feel uncomfortable out on the street (for example, if a gang of youths block your path and are behaving in a rowdy manner), it's usually fine to simply cross the road and walk past and not to respond to them as they are not generally interested in harassing people as

they may appear and will ignore you in most cases.

Crime rates are generally very low in rural areas, although some small poorer towns can be surprisingly rough. Having said that, caution is advisable when travelling alone in remote areas. You should always try to tell somebody you trust where you're going; even if they are not in England themselves, they can alert the UK police if you encounter problems. Take care when driving on country lanes as they can become very narrow and the lesser travelled ones are often in poor condition.

It is worth taking care on some public transport at night, as rowdy drunks can be a problem. Also, in some cities, there have been incidents of street gangs carrying out robberies on buses and trains at night. Visitors should not be too concerned, however, as these are very rare occurrences.

Some town and city centres should be approached with caution during the later evening on Fridays and Saturdays in particular, as high levels of drunkenness can be rife. Many English drunks can all too often become aggressive, and outbreaks of unprovoked violence have happened, but again, common sense can help avoid problems with drunken people. At night it is also recommended that you use licensed taxis or licensed mini cabs. Taxis are available at taxi ranks or by phone, while mini cabs are by phone booking only—asking at the bar will usually provide you with numbers. Unofficial/unlicensed mini cabs that cruise the street looking for fares have a reputation as dangerous for lone females (and in rare instances, males); the most common incident is the passenger is driven to a secluded area, and then raped. In any case, it is completely within the passenger's rights to ask to see a taxi driver's licence and to turn down the service if he or she cannot show it.

1.17 Stay healthy

There is no cost to any patient to be treated as an outpatient in hospital for accidents and emergencies that arise while you are in England. If you aren't a resident or covered by a reciprocal arrangement (for example have a European Health Insurance Card) you will be charged if you are admitted to hospital - so it is wise to have [travel insurance](#).

In a medical emergency, dial 999. These numbers are free of charge from any telephone. For advice on non-emergency medical problems, you can ring the 24 hour [NHS 111](#) service on 111 or check their [website](#) for advice.

Emergencies can be dealt with under the NHS (National Health Service) at any hospital with an **A & E** (Accident & Emergency) department. At A&E departments, be prepared to wait for up to 2–3 hours during busy periods before being given treatment if your medical complaint is not too serious. Obviously, more serious ailments are usually treated immediately. Evenings are normally busi-

est, particularly on Fridays and Saturdays and in city centres.

For advice on minor ailments and non-prescription drugs, you can ask a pharmacist (there are many high-street chemists). These are increasingly using green signs similar to ones seen in Europe to identify them. Small pharmacies are also found inside many larger supermarkets. Major pharmacies are Boots and Lloyds: at least one of these can be found in any city or large town and quite often some smaller towns too. These two firms can issue drugs prescribed by a doctor as well as any over-the-counter drugs. Superdrug, Semi-Chem, Bodycare and Savers do sell some over-the-counter medication but are not to be considered as places to go for advice about minor ailments. A smaller range of medication can also be found in most supermarkets. ID is usually required when buying medication if you look under 25.

Smoking is prohibited in all public buildings, and the ban is almost universally enforced. All enclosed workplaces are lawfully required to be smoke free. Some restaurants provide separate rooms for smokers and many pubs now have outdoor beer gardens where smoking is permitted, while many places will have a group of people standing outside the front door or off to one side to smoke.

1.18 Respect

See the [UK](#) article for more information

The English are in general very polite people, and like most other places it is considered bad manners not to say "please" or "thank you". A nod or a smile are also often the response. Sometimes, strangers and friends address each other by "mate", as they do in Australia. Thus it is common to hear "Cheers mate" or "Thanks mate" or "You all right, mate?", etc.

The English are said to be reserved, and this is often thought to mean that they are reluctant to communicate with strangers. This is a misconception. You will find that most people are happy to talk to strangers; it probably won't be a deep conversation, but mostly small talk about where you come from, if you're enjoying your visit, etc. The weather and football (more among men) are easy conversation starters.

It is said that the English invented queueing, and they become very annoyed if anyone jumps the line, although this is probably the same for most countries. Don't be surprised if you get shoved to the back of the line. (The same "patient queueing" applies in pubs and waiting in traffic jams as well: don't use the horn excessively as most people in England seemed to have grasped that it doesn't make the traffic go any faster and it is seen as impatient and rude.)

When you find yourself in a restaurant or being invited to someone's home for a meal, just general table manners

apply. Normally when visiting a house, the host will say “shall I put the kettle on?” or “would you like a brew?” which means you are being offered a cup of tea, or another type of drink. Depending on the house you are visiting, manners can be either extremely important (you can be seen as a disrespectful person) or it can cause you to be looked well upon. Bring a small gift such as a bottle of wine or chocolates to show your appreciation, though this isn't mandatory when visiting an English household. In some cases, bad table manners can be seen as uncivilised and as indicative of a bad upbringing. Regardless, it is generally important to have good table manners in any situation. Remember also to let your host know if you are vegetarian or vegan, as most English people will invariably cook a meat dish unless told otherwise.

Once your plate has been served, it is customary to wait for your host to sit down and eat before you begin eating, unless otherwise indicated by the host themselves. It is considered rude to put your elbows on the table whilst eating, it is rude to speak whilst eating or eating with your mouth open (eat with your mouth closed). Always ask for an object on a table, do not reach over someone to grab it. Use both the knife and fork whilst eating, with the head of the fork facing down. The host may offer you a second plate of food (if in his/her home), and it is not necessarily considered rude to decline the offer as long as you express it in a polite manner (say something along the lines of “Thank you that was delicious but I'm full”, then the host will not take offence as a satisfied guest is what they are aiming for). When leaving the table, always ask permission if you can leave; a simple phrase such as “May I be excused for a moment?” will suffice.

1.19 Connect

See 'Contact' section in [United Kingdom](#) article for national information on telephone, internet and postal services.

In the United Kingdom, area codes are three, four, or, rarely, five digits long (after the initial zero). Regions with shorter area codes, typically large cities, permit the allocation of more telephone numbers as the local number portion has more digits. Local customer numbers are four to eight figures long. The total number of digits is ten, but in a very few areas the total may be nine digits (after the initial zero). The “area code” is also referred to as an 'STD (code)' (subscriber trunk dialling) or a 'dialling code' in the UK.

The code allocated to the largest population is (020) for London.

See 'Contact' entries under individual cities for local information.

Chapter 2

London

For other places with the same name, see London (disambiguation).



Double-decker Routemaster bus at a stop outside St Paul's Cathedral

Noisy, vibrant and truly multicultural, **London** is a megapolis of people, ideas and frenetic energy. The capital and largest city of the **United Kingdom**, it is also the largest city in Western **Europe** and the European Union. Situated on the River Thames in **South-East England**, **Greater London** has an official population of a little over 8 million, but the estimate of between 12 and 14 million people in the greater metropolitan area better reflects its size and importance. Considered one of the world's leading "global cities", London remains an international capital of culture, music, education, fashion, politics, finance and trade. Among international tourists, London is the most-visited city in the world.

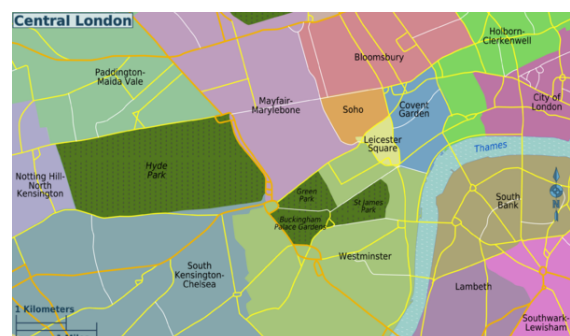
2.1 Districts

The name London originally referred only to the once-walled "Square Mile" of the original Roman (and later medieval) city (confusingly called the "City of London" or just "The City"). Today, London has taken on a much

larger meaning to include all of the vast central parts of the modern metropolis, with the city having absorbed numerous surrounding towns and villages over the centuries, including large portions of the surrounding "home counties", one of which - Middlesex - being completely consumed by the growing metropolis. The term Greater London embraces Central London together with all the outlying suburbs that lie in one continuous urban sprawl within the lower Thames valley. Though densely populated, London retains large swathes of green parkland and open space, even within the city centre.

Greater London is all of the area surrounded by the M25 orbital motorway, and consists of 32 London Boroughs and the City of London that, together with the office of the Mayor of London, form the basis for London's local government. The Mayor of London is elected by London residents and should not be confused with the Lord Mayor of the City of London. The names of several boroughs, such as **Westminster** or **Camden**, are well-known, others less so, such as **Wandsworth** or **Lewisham**. This traveller's guide to London recognises cultural, functional and social districts of varying type and size:

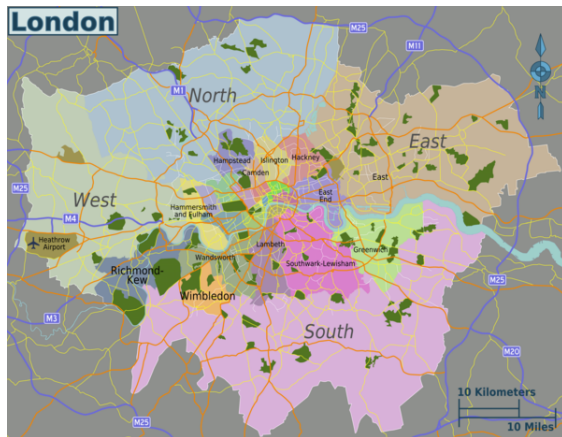
2.1.1 Central London



Central London and inner districts.



London regions - Color-coded map



Greater London map showing the outer London districts.

2.1.2 Inner London

2.1.3 Outer London

2.2 Understand



The Tower of London

“When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life; for there is in London all that life can afford” — Samuel Johnson

2.2.1 History

Settlement has existed on the site of London since well before Roman times, with evidence of Bronze Age and Celtic settlement. The Roman city of *Londinium*, established just after the Roman conquest of Britannia in the year 43, formed the basis for the modern city (some isolated Roman period remains are still to be seen within the City). After the end of Roman rule in 410 and a short-lived decline, London experienced a gradual revival under the Anglo-Saxons, as well as the Norsemen, and emerged as a great medieval trading city, and eventually replaced **Winchester** as the royal capital of England. This paramount status for London was confirmed when William the Conqueror, a Norman, built the **Tower of London** after the conquest in 1066 and was crowned King of England in **Westminster**.

London went from strength to strength with the rise of England to first European then global prominence, and the city became a great centre of culture, government and industry. London's long association with the theatre, for example, can be traced back to the English renaissance (witness the **Rose Theatre** and great playwrights like **Shakespeare** who made London their home). With the rise of Britain to supreme maritime power in the 18th and 19th centuries (see **Industrial Britain**) and the possessor of the largest global empire, London became an imperial capital and drew people and influences from around the world to become, for many years, the largest city in the world.

England's royal family has, over the centuries, added much to the London scene for today's traveller: the **Albert Memorial**, **Buckingham Palace**, **Kensington Palace**, **Royal Albert Hall**, **Tower of London**, **Kew Palace** and **Westminster Abbey** being prominent examples.

Despite the inevitable decline of the British Empire, and considerable suffering during **World War II** (when London was heavily bombed by the German Luftwaffe in the Blitz), the city is still a top-ranked world city: a global centre of culture, finance, and learning. Today London is easily the largest city in the United Kingdom, eight times larger than the second largest, **Birmingham**, and ten times larger than the third, **Glasgow**, and dominates the economic, political and social life of the nation. It is full of excellent bars, galleries, museums, parks and theatres. It is also the most culturally and ethnically diverse part of the country, making it a great multicultural city to visit. Samuel Johnson famously said, “when a man is tired of London, he is tired of life”. Whether you are interested in ancient history, modern art, opera or underground raves, London has it all.

2.2.2 The City and Westminster

If you ask a Londoner where the centre of London is, you are likely to get a wry smile. This is because historically



The Queen Elizabeth II Tower, until 2012 unnamed, is the iconic tower that is home to the bell known as 'Big Ben'

London was two cities: a commercial city and a separate government capital.

The commercial capital was the **City of London**. This had a dense population and all the other pre-requisites of a medieval city: walls, a castle (The Tower of London), a cathedral (St Paul's), a semi-independent City government, a port and a bridge across which all trade was routed so Londoners could make money (London Bridge).

About an hour upstream (on foot or by boat) around a bend in the river was the government capital (**Westminster**). This had a church for crowning the monarch (Westminster Abbey) and palaces. As each palace was replaced by a larger one, the previous one was used for government, first the Palace of Westminster (bet-

ter known as the Houses of Parliament), then Whitehall, then Buckingham Palace. The two were linked by a road called The "Strand", old English for riverbank.

London grew both west and east. The land to the west of the City (part of the parish of Westminster) was prime farming land (**Covent Garden** and **Soho** for example) and made good building land. The land to the east was flat, marshy and cheap, good for cheap housing and industry, and later for docks. Also the wind blows 3 days out of 4 from west to east, and the Thames (into which the sewage went) flows from west to east. So the **West End** was up-wind and up-market, the **East End** was where people worked for a living.

Modern-day London in these terms is a two-centre city, with the area in between known confusingly as the West End.

2.2.3 Climate



London Eye

Despite a perhaps unfair reputation for being unsettled, London enjoys a dry and mild climate on average. Only one in three days on average will bring rain and often only for a short period. In some years, 2012 being an example, there was no rain for several weeks.

Extreme weather is rare. Occasionally there may be heavy rain that can bring localised flooding or strong winds that may down trees, but overall you are unlikely to encounter anything too lively.

Winter Winter in London is mild compared to nearby continental European cities due to both the presence of the Gulf Stream and the urban heat effect. The average daily maximum temperature is 8°C (46°F) in December and January. Daylight hours become increasingly shorter with darkness falling at 15:00 in December.

Snow does occur, usually a few times a year but rarely heavily (a few years being exceptions such as the winters of 2009 and 2010, with temperatures dipping down to sub-zeros regularly). Snow in London can be crippling,

as seen at the end of 2010. Just 7 cm (3 in) of snow will cause trains to stop running, airports to see significant delays, and the postal service to come to a halt. London is a city which does not cope well with snow; walkways, stairs, and streets will not be cleared by shovels or ploughs. The streets will be salted/gritted, but will remain slick and snow/slush covered until the sun melts it away. This is due to a lack of widespread snow-clearing infrastructure as the city does not often see snow.

Spring Spring in the capital can be something of a weather rollercoaster with big variations in temperature day by day. It can be a very wet time of year, but the increases in day length from March onwards and steady temperature increases as the season progresses can make it a pleasant time to visit.

Days can be mild and warm, but the temperature will often dip at night as the sun's warmth dissipates.

The beginning of spring in March can be as cold as winter, so be sure to bring something warm to wear!

Summer Summer is perhaps the best season for tourists as it has long daylight hours as well as mild temperatures. The average daily high temperatures in July and August are around 24°C (75°F). The highest temperature ever seen in London stands at 38.1°C (100.6°F), which was recorded on 10 August 2003 at Kew Gardens.

Humidity across the city can increase and stay high over the course of several days and nights, leading to unexpectedly muggy conditions. Also, upon occasion, clouds of dust from storms in the Sahara desert can be blown across Europe and lead to increases in pollution levels.

Despite the increased warmth, the weather in summer can be variable. Occasional prolonged instances of rain and unexpected dips in temperature can occur. If you're coming during the summer it is still advised to dress in layers and bring some waterproofs!

Autumn Autumn in London can vary from year to year: In some years September and October can see temperatures not far below those seen in summer due to a phenomenon known as an "Indian summer", but in other years the temperature can decrease rapidly to winter levels and stay there. Day length at the beginning of autumn is near that of summer, meaning that a September trip can still be as easy to plan as an August one. Mid-autumn is also a wonderful time to wander one of London's many tree-filled parks as the leaves fade from green to gold.

Autumn tends to be the wettest and windiest season but, again, this can vary from year to year.

It's best to see autumn in London as being like a box of chocolates: You never know what you're going to get!

2.2.4 Tourist information centres

Since the closure of the Britain and London Visitor Centre in December 2011 due to cost-cutting by the government, London has no centrally located tourist information centre.

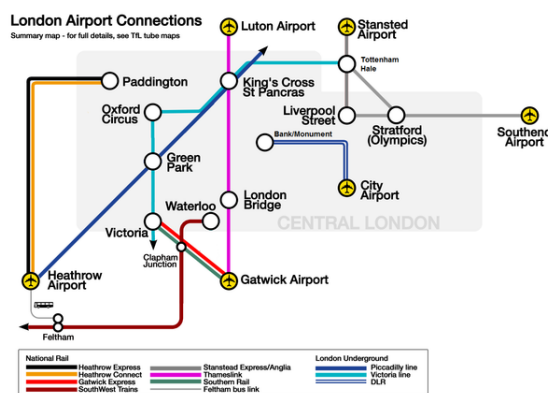
The City of London Information Centre, as the last remaining information centre in any of the Central London boroughs, is now the only impartial, face-to-face source of tourist information in Central London. It is located in St. Paul's Churchyard, next to St. Paul's Cathedral, and is open every day other than Christmas Day and Boxing Day, from 09.30-17.30 Monday to Saturday, and 10.00-16.00 on Sunday.

There is no office for tourist information for the whole of the UK nor for the whole of England.

2.3 Get in

?"UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU"?"
Map of London

2.3.1 By plane



Summary map of rail connections to London airports

London receives more flights than any other city in the world. It is served by five airports (all airports code: **LON**). Travelling between the city and the airports is made relatively easy by the many public transport links.

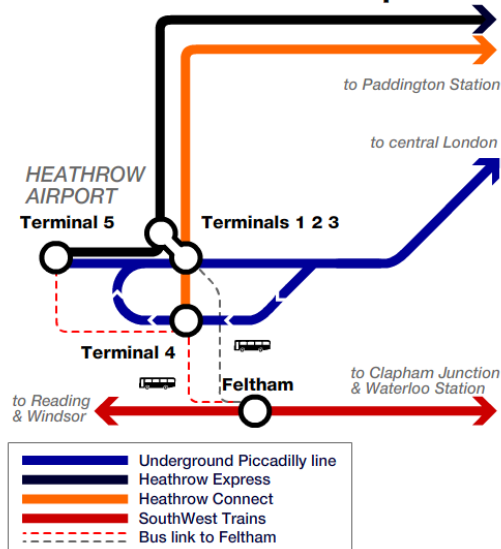
If transiting through London, check the arrival and departure airports carefully as transfers across the city may be quite time consuming. Other regional UK airports are conveniently accessible from London. They offer a growing number of budget flights, which may be faster, depending on where in London your destination is.

National Express offers fast, direct inter-airport coach service between Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted and Luton at least hourly. Heathrow-Gatwick take 65 min (£18),

and Heathrow-Stansted services take 90 min (£20.50). Services between Stansted and Luton run every two hours. It's essential to allow leeway, as London's motorways are often congested to the point of gridlock. Some of these coaches have toilets on board.

London Heathrow

Rail & Tube to Heathrow Airport



Rail and Tube lines go to different terminals at Heathrow

Main article: *Heathrow Airport*

1 Heathrow Airport (IATA: LHR), is London's largest airport and the world's busiest airport in terms of international passenger movements, with services available from most major airports world-wide. It has 4 active terminals. Terminal 1 has been closed and is being demolished. (updated Apr 2015)

Terminals:

- **Terminal 2, the Queen's Terminal** is the Star Alliance terminal. It reopened in June 2014 following redevelopment and until October 2014 there was a timetable of airline moves to this new terminal.
- **Terminal 3** has a few *Oneworld* flights: Virgin Atlantic, British Airways (Barcelona, Budapest, Gibraltar, Helsinki, Lisbon, Prague, Vienna, Warsaw), various international carriers such as American, Cathay Pacific, Emirates and Qantas. Some Delta flights.
- **Terminal 4** is the SkyTeam terminal. It is located to the south of the airport.
- **Terminal 5** is the Oneworld terminal. It is west of the airport, close to the M25.

Here's a quick summary of transport options from Heathrow to central London:

- **Fastest: by Heathrow Express rail** (*Paddington Station - Heathrow 1, 2, 3 & 5*), ☎ +44 845 600 1515. Every 15 min, journey time 15 min. **Travelcard & Oyster card not valid.** These train lines terminate at London Paddington. Despite the Heathrow Express & Connect's speed, they are often not the fastest way to a final destination in London. One way, adult prices: £5.50 (90 day advance purchase) £18 (if purchased online or from ticket machine/office), and £23 when purchased onboard; round trip is £34. (updated Feb 2017)
- **Second fastest: by Heathrow Connect rail** (*terminal 3*), Arriva Hotel (*Paddington Station - Heathrow 1, 2, 3 & 4*), ☎ +44 845 678 6975. **Travelcard & Oyster card not valid to Heathrow.** Often requires a change for Terminals 4 or 5. Follows same route as Heathrow Express but stops at several stations to London Paddington so journey is 25 minutes and trains less frequent. Heathrow Connect trains are poorly marked both at the airport and at Paddington. Ask a Heathrow Express attendant how to get to the train from the airport. For the return trip, Heathrow Connect leaves from Paddington Platform 12. One way £9.10, round trip £17.80.
- **Cheapest: by London Underground (Piccadilly line)**, ☎ +44 845 330 9880. Every few minutes, journey time approximately 1 hour, depending on your destination. For the cheapest single fare ask for an *Oyster* card (£5 refundable deposit). A Zone 1-6 Travelcard is valid. The first train for central London leaves at 05:02 and the last train leaves at 23:45 (Monday to Thursday). During the weekend, trains run non stop Friday 05:02 to Sunday 23:28. When travelling from central London, some Piccadilly trains don't go to the airport. During the day trains are at least every 10 minutes and usually more frequent. Weekend engineering works can result in replacement buses being run in place of the trains - check with the Transport for London website beforehand. With Oyster one way £2.90 (off-peak) to £4.80 (peak).
- **Bus N9** operates service from midnight-05:00 between Heathrow and Piccadilly Circus and Trafalgar Square, roughly following the Piccadilly Line into central London. Buses depart every 20 minutes and take about 1 hour 15 minutes to reach central London. Flat fare of £1.50, accepts Oyster Card or Contactless Credit/Debit, but not cash.
- **Taxi.** A taxi ("black cab") from Heathrow to central London will cost £45-60. You may wish to consider

taking a taxi if you have a lot of baggage or small children.

- **Pre-booked Mini Cab.** A pre-booked sedan transfer from Heathrow to central London will cost £39-44. The fare is fixed, regardless of traffic conditions or route. There are dozens of companies serving Heathrow, just google 'heathrow minicab'. Once booked, the driver will be waiting for you with a sign bearing your name in the arrivals area. Tipping when using minicabs is not required, although it is certainly welcome.
- **Also: to South London,** ☎ +44 845 748 4950. Bus 285 or taxi to Feltham railway station (20 minutes) then a train to London Waterloo on the **South Bank** or Clapham Junction in **South West London**. Bus X26 is an express route calling at Hatton Cross, Teddington Broad St., Kingston Wood St., Kingston Cromwell Rd., New Malden Fountain, Worcester Park, Queen Victoria, Cheam Broadway, Sutton Police Station, Carshalton High St., Wallington Green, East Croydon & West Croydon St Michaels bus station. Zone 1-6 Travelcard valid on all London buses and trains. £2 single.
- **Airport Parking.** Heathrow Terminal 5 Parking.

London Gatwick

Main article: Gatwick Airport

1 Gatwick Airport (IATA: LGW). is London's second airport, also serving a large spectrum of places worldwide. It is the world's busiest single runway airport and is split into a *North Terminal* and *South Terminal*. The two terminals are linked by a free shuttle train (5 minutes). The British Rail train station is located in the South Terminal. (updated Nov 2015)

Transport options into central London:

- **By rail: Gatwick Express,** ☎ +44 845 850 1530. Every 15 min, journey time 30-35 min. To London Victoria. Travelcard not valid. One way £19.90, round trip £33.20, for the cheapest fare visit their website.
- **By rail: Southern Railway,** ☎ +44 845 127 2920. At least every 15 min, journey time 35-40 min. To London Victoria via Clapham Junction (same route as *Gatwick Express* - but with intermediate stops). Much cheaper than Gatwick Express - £13.50 (cheaper if booked in advance).
- **By rail: Thameslink,** ☎ +44 871 200 2233. To London Bridge, Blackfriars, City Thameslink, Farringdon, St Pancras International, Luton Airport and

further north. Much cheaper than Gatwick Express - about £10 (they occasionally have advance tickets priced at half that).

- **By bus: easyBus.** Every 15-20 min, journey time 60-90 min. To Earl's Court/West Brompton. One way prices start from £2. Book online.
- **By bus: National Express.** Every 30 min, journey time 75-110 min. To London Victoria. One way prices start from £7. Book online.
- **By Minicab,** ☎ +44 7505 616915. Journey time 90-120 min. approx £70.
- **By car.** 47 km (29 mi).
- **By cycle.** There is a long-distance cycle path into Central London, but as it involves an indirect route, going over the North Downs and through South-East London, it will likely be quite a ride. For adventurous people.

When departing, no drinking fountains are to be found in the South Terminal departure lounge after passing through security.

London Stansted

Main article: London Stansted Airport

1 Stansted Airport (IATA: STN). is London's third airport, and is dominated by the two low-cost airlines *EasyJet* and *Ryanair*. (updated Nov 2015)

Transport options into central London:

- **By rail: Stansted Express to London Liverpool Street,** ☎ +44 845 600 7245. Every 15 min, journey time 45-60 min. Single £23.40, return £37.50. Book 30 days in advance: single £8, return £16. Travelcards not valid. First class fares available. Children aged 5-15 travel at half fares. Most budget carriers' websites offer reduced price deals for the Stansted Express..
- **By rail then London Underground: Stansted Express to Tottenham Hale then London Underground (Victoria line),** ☎ +44 845 600 7245. Every 15 min. If you are going to South London, the West End or West London then take the Stansted Express to Tottenham Hale then the London Underground (Victoria line). At Tottenham Hale ask for an *Oyster* card for the best fare. Single £21.00, return £33.50, then £3.20 (peak)/£2.70 (off-peak) for single Oyster fares to central London by Underground. Cash Underground fares cost considerably more..

- **By coach: National Express**, ☎ +44 870 580 8080. Every 15-30 min. Journey time to Stratford: 1 hour. To Liverpool Street: 80 min. To Victoria: 90 min. To Stratford (tube: Stratford) or Victoria (tube: Victoria). Folding bicycles only. To Stratford: £8 single, £14 return. To Liverpool Street: £7.50 single (online in advance?). To Victoria: £10 single, £16 return. Travelcards not valid.
- **By minibus: EasyBus**. To Baker Street (tube: Baker Street) From £2 (advance web purchase) to £8 single. Travelcard not valid..
- **By taxi**, ☎ +44 20 8577-0009. Journey time 90-120 min. The airport is a long way from central London. It's normally a better idea to take a train to Liverpool Street and continue by taxi from there. approx £70.
- **By Minicab**, ☎ +44 1279 816901. Journey time 90-120 min. Stansted Airport Cars, located just outside of the terminal complex. approx £70.

London Luton



London Luton Airport - main entrance

1 London Luton Airport (IATA: LTN). is London's fourth airport after Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted. It's nearer to central London than the latter two airports at 35 mi (57 km) north of central London and situated 1.7 mi (2.8 km) east of Luton town centre. It's a major hub for *easyJet*, *Ryanair*, *Wizz Air*, *Thomson Airways* and *Monarch Airlines*. The vast majority of routes served are within Europe, although there are some charter and scheduled routes to destinations in Northern Africa and Asia. (updated Nov 2015)

Like Stansted, it is commonplace for some passengers on early morning flights to sleep in the terminal before their flights. There can be heavy traffic congestion on the access road caused by the surge of early flights. The Parkway Airport station, which serves the terminal, is about 20 minutes walk back into town, although there is a regular shuttle bus charging £1.60 to take you to the station. If your train ticket says Luton Airport (rather than Luton Airport Parkway), then the bus ride is included in the ticket.

Other airlines using the airport include Aer Arann, FlyBE and El Al, to cities primarily in Scotland, Europe, North

Africa and the Mediterranean Basin. If leaving on a morning flight (departing between 0700-0830), it is advisable to leave extra time to check in and clear security.

- **By rail**. Journey time: 20-55 min. £12.50 one way. Travelcard not valid. The airport has its own railway station "Luton Airport Parkway", served by trains 24 hours a day from Central London using "Thameslink" or "East Midlands Trains" from St Pancras International. There are up to 10 trains an hour, depending on the time of day. All trains go to London St Pancras International, but many also continue on to Blackfriars, London Bridge and Elephant & Castle, Gatwick Airport and Brighton. The station is nearly 2 km (1 mi) from the terminal building, a shuttle bus service connects the terminal and airport every 10 minutes, costing £1.60 each way. At rush hour times, this journey can take up to 25 minutes. Railway ticket offices can now sell through tickets to Luton Airport that include the shuttle bus, although some ticket office staff may not be aware of this if the station doesn't have direct trains to Luton. If the destination on your ticket says "Luton Airport" the shuttle bus is included, but if it says "Luton Airport Parkway" you will have to buy a bus ticket.

- **By coach: Green Line number 757**, ☎ +44 844 801 7261. Every 20 min, journey time 90 min. To Victoria (tube: Victoria) via Brent Cross, Finchley Rd tube station, Baker St, Marble Arch and Hyde Park Corner. £14 one way if bought from the driver, tickets can be purchased in advance online from £2. Service is run by Greenline and in conjunction with easyBus (but can be used by all travellers regardless of airline you travel with). Travelcard not valid.

- **By coach: National Express**, ☎ +44 870 580 8080. Every 20 min, journey time 90 min. To Victoria (tube: Victoria) via Golders Green and Marble Arch. From £1 (advance web purchase) one way. Travelcard not valid.

- **By car**. 60 km (34 mi) north of London, just off the M1 motorway which connects London with the Midlands and the North of England. Depending on where you are travelling from in London and time of day, journey times take 45-90 mins. Road users should plan their journey and check traffic conditions, as if an incident occurs on London's busy roads, journey times can dramatically increase. It costs £2 to stay in the "drop off zone" for a maximum of 10 minutes (non-extendable without penalty). There is also a short stay car park nearby. The "Medium stay" car park allows a short period of free parking (30 minutes), so passengers may be left here to catch the shuttle bus to the airport and collected, if the arrival time is known with certainty. No parking or drop-off is permitted at any other

roadside locations - this is enforced by cameras and “parking charges” of £80 (£40 if paid promptly).

London City Airport



London City Airport

1 London City Airport (IATA: LCY). is London's fifth largest airport. A commuter airport close to the City's financial district, and specialising in short-haul business flights to other major European cities. There are also routes to holiday destinations that include **Malaga**, **Ibiza** and **Mallorca**. (updated Nov 2015)

The airport is located 11 km / 6.9 miles east of the City of London and a short distance from Canary Wharf. It mainly offers flights to major European cities by full service carriers. British Airways operates two services a day to **New York JFK** on weekdays and a daily service on weekends using an Airbus A318 in an entirely business class configuration.

You may indeed find that in some instances this may be your cheapest London airport to fly to, especially if you add £10 or more in transfer costs from outlying airports. It has a convenient link to the Docklands Light Rail (DLR). Minimum check-in time for most airlines is around 30 minutes, with some offering 15 minute check-in deadlines. Queues for security can be long at peak business times. Touchdown to the DLR (including taxi, disembarkation, immigration and baggage reclaim) can be as fast as 5 minutes, although 15 minutes is normal.

To get to the city centre the following options exist:

- **By Docklands Light Railway (DLR)**. See also: **Get around**. The DLR runs to Bank station. Change to the Jubilee line at Canning Town (for Canary Wharf or Stratford). Travelcard valid.
- **By taxi**. Journey time approximately 30 min. £20-35.
- **By car**. 10 km (6 mi).

- **By bus**. Take the 474 bus to Canning Town station and then the 115 or N15 into central London. See also: **Get around**. Travelcard valid.

Other airports near London

- **London Southend Airport (IATA: SEN)**, ☎ +44 1702 608100, e-mail: enquiries@stobartair.com. Southend airport serves a range of destinations in Europe with Aer Lingus Regional and easyJet. **By rail**, a journey time of 55-65 min. Travelcard not valid. The airport has its own railway station “Southend Airport”, and is served from Liverpool Street, via **Stratford** by trains 17 hours a day. There are up to 8 trains an hour, depending on the time of day. The station is approximately 200m from the terminal building.
- **Lydd Airport (IATA: LYX)**. (aka *London Ashford Airport*) has seasonal, limited services and is used primarily for businesspeople. (updated Nov 2015)
- **Southampton Airport (IATA: SOU)**, ☎ +44 870 040 0009. Every 30 min, journey time 1 hour. This is not a London airport, but it is accessible enough to conveniently serve the capital, especially South West London. A couple of budget carriers serve European destinations are based here. Direct trains connect Southampton airport to London Waterloo station. £30-35 round trip. **Bournemouth Airport** similarly operates a couple of Ryanair flights and others, and is not too far west on the train line from Southampton.
- **Birmingham International Airport (IATA: BHX)**, ☎ +44 870 733 5511. Every 20 min, journey time 72 min with Virgin Trains. This is another non-London airport worth considering as a less congested and hectic alternative to Heathrow, being just over an hour away from London. As a major airport serving the UK's second largest city, there is a good choice of long distance and European destinations. Direct trains connect Birmingham International to London Euston and Watford. The train station is connected to the terminal via a free shuttle train (2 minutes). From £10 (advance web purchase) one way, £35-100 round trip.
- Other small airports, such as **Oxford Airport** can also be useful. **Kent International Airport** and **Shoreham Airport** (near Brighton) are similarly small.

2.3.2 By train

Wikivoyage has a guide to Rail travel in the United Kingdom.

London is the hub of the British rail network - every major city in mainland Britain has a frequent train service to the capital, and most of the smaller, provincial cities and large towns also have a direct rail connection to London of some sort - although the frequency and quality of service can vary considerably from place to place.

Rail fares to London vary enormously from very cheap to prohibitively expensive - the golden rules are to book Advance tickets for a particular train time, don't travel into the city on Friday afternoons and Sundays, and avoid leaving buying tickets until the day of travel. There are three basic types of ticket, which are summarised below. Much of the advice applies to rail travel in general within the United Kingdom.

- **Anytime** - travel on any train, any operator at any time, returning within one month with few restrictions. Very expensive however - on a long distance journey from Northern England or Scotland for example - an Anytime return ticket to London won't leave you with any change out of £250!
- **Off-peak** - travel on certain trains within a specific time-frame; again returning within one month. Typically this excludes anything that arrives into London during the morning rush hour (before 10:00 typically), or any train which departs during evening rush hour (16:30-18:30). Weekends generally carry no restrictions on the use of Off-Peak tickets. There are however, a monumentally complex number of exceptions for which Off-Peak tickets are and aren't valid which are barely fathomable to the British, never mind overseas visitors. If you are in any doubt at all about the validity of an Off-Peak ticket, ask a guard at the station or a ticket office *before* getting on a train - as on-train conductors can be notoriously unforgiving. **Super Off-Peak** tickets have further restrictions on the time at which they can be used and differ depending on the train operator. Again, ask at the ticket office or the guard *before* boarding the train.
- **Advance** - travel on a specific day and train time, booked up to 12 weeks in advance either in person at a railway station, over the telephone, or online. Two Advance single tickets for the outward and return legs of the journey are generally cheaper than the Off-Peak return ticket. Better deals can often be had by going directly to the train operator's website. The earlier you book, the more you save - you can get down to as little as £12.00 one-way from Scotland for example, but these tickets are non-refundable, and cannot be used on anything other than the date, train time and operator that is printed on the reservation. Go on any other train and get caught and you will be obliged to pay the *Anytime* fare for the journey you are making - which, as we've said before, is hideously expensive!

The local and commuter rail companies within the London and Home Counties area also have a bewildering array of special fares which are all in essence, variations of the Off-Peak ticket and are far too detailed to cover here, go directly to the website of the operator concerned for more information. If you only intend to use trains within the Greater London boundary, then the **Oyster Card** (explained below) is by far the easiest and cheapest option to use.

Seats can be reserved for free on all long-distance trains to London - the reservation is always issued automatically with an Advance ticket, and with most Off-Peak and Anytime tickets bought on-line. If, for whatever reason you hold an Anytime or Off-Peak ticket and there is no seat reservation coupon, then it is highly recommended you get one from any railway station ticket office - if you want to avoid camping out in the vestibule for all or part of the journey!! First Class is available on all long distance services to London, the standard of service varies from operator to operator, but in general you get a wider, more comfortable seat, free tea/coffee for the duration of the journey, and some sort of complimentary catering service. It can be great value if you get an Advance first-class fare, but it is extremely expensive otherwise, and to be honest - not really worth it. You can pay a Weekend supplement (generally £15-£20) to sit in the first class section of the train on Saturdays and Sundays, - useful if the service you are on is hideously overcrowded - but you don't get the same catering service as during the week.

If you are the holder of a **Britrail** pass, things are simpler - reservations are not required. However, if you wish to be guaranteed a seat, rather than standing for a lengthy journey (trains can be very busy, especially at peak times) then you can make a seat reservation at any station. If you intend to use the overnight Sleeper trains to London, you will have to pay a berth supplement for every member of your party - provided there is berth availability on the train.

London has one international high speed rail route (operated by **Eurostar** 0870 518 6186) from Paris (2hr 15min), Brussels (1hr 50 min) and a selection of French cities, diving under the sea for 35 km (22 mi) via the Channel Tunnel to come out in England. It terminates at Saint Pancras International Station. For domestic train services, there are no fewer than 12 main line **National Rail** terminals (although in conversation you may hear the brand **National Rail** infrequently if ever it differentiates main line and London Underground services; journey planner online or phone 0845 748 49 50). With the exception of Fenchurch Street (tube: Tower Hill) these are on the London Underground. Most are on the Circle line. Clockwise starting at Paddington, major **National Rail** stations are:

- **1 London Paddington**, serves South West England and Wales including Slough, Maidenhead, Reading, Oxford, Bath, Bristol, Taunton, Exeter, Plymouth

and Cardiff and Swansea. Also the Central London terminus of the Heathrow Airport Express (see above) and serves some suburban stations such as Acton Main Line and Ealing Broadway.

- **1 London Marylebone**, serves some north western suburban stations such as Amersham, Harrow on the Hill and Wembley Stadium. Also serves Aylesbury, High Wycombe, Banbury, Stratford-upon-Avon and the city of Birmingham. It is much cheaper but slightly slower to take a train from Marylebone to Birmingham instead of a train from London Euston.
- **1 London Euston**, serves the Midlands, north-west England and west Scotland: Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Chester, Oxenholme Lake District, Carlisle, Glasgow, and Holyhead for connecting ferries to/from both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. Sleeper trains to Scotland leave from Euston.
- **1 London St Pancras International**, serves Avignon, Brussels, Calais, Lille, Lyon, Marseille and Paris, as well as Luton Airport, Bedford, Brighton, Gatwick Airport, several destinations in Kent and the East Midlands: Leicester, Nottingham, Derby and Sheffield.
- **1 London King's Cross**, serves East Anglia, north-east England and east Scotland: Cambridge, Doncaster, Leeds, York, Kingston upon Hull, Newcastle upon Tyne, Edinburgh and Aberdeen. Platform 9 3/4 from the Harry Potter books is marked with a special sign, although platform 9 itself is actually in the fairly unpleasant metallic extension used by Cambridge trains.
- **1 London Liverpool Street**, serves East Anglia: Ipswich and Norwich. Also the Central London terminus of the Stansted Airport Express.
- **1 London Fenchurch Street**, serves commuter towns north of the Thames estuary to Southend.
- **1 London Bridge, 1 London Cannon Street, 1 London Waterloo East and 1 London Charing Cross**, serve south and south east London and England: Brighton, Dover, Eastbourne, Hastings and Ramsgate.
- **1 London Blackfriars**, serves Gatwick Airport and Brighton.
- **1 London Waterloo**, serves south west London and southern England: Portsmouth, Winchester, Southampton, Bournemouth, Weymouth, Salisbury and Exeter.

- **1 London Victoria**, serves south east London, Kent and Sussex Brighton, Dover, Eastbourne, Hastings and Ramsgate. Also the Central London terminus of the Gatwick Airport Express.

2.3.3 By coach

Most international and domestic long distance coach (U.S. English: bus) services arrive at and depart from a complex of coach stations off Buckingham Palace Road in Westminster close to London Victoria rail station. All services operated by National Express or Eurolines (see below) serve **1 London Victoria Coach Station**, which actually has separate arrival and departure buildings. Services by other operators may use this station, or the **1 Green Line Coach Station** across Buckingham Palace Road. The following are among the main coach operators:

- **National Express**, ☎ +44 870 580 8080. is by far the largest domestic coach operator and operates services to / from London from throughout England, Wales and Scotland. Advance ticketing is usually required and recommended practice in any case. Fares are low - especially when booked in advance via the web. A few journeys are fast but most are notably slower than using the train.
- **Eurolines**, ☎ +44 870 514 3219. is an associate company of National Express, and runs coach services to / from London with various cities in Northern Ireland, the Ireland and continental Europe. Advance ticketing is required.
- **Megabus**, ☎ +44 900 160 0900 (premium rate). operates budget coach services from/to London (Victoria Coach Station) to/from several major regional cities, it is even possible to get to Inverness in the Scottish Highlands. Also offers service to continental Europe including Paris, Brussels and Amsterdam. Fares are demand responsive but can be very cheap (£1.50 if you book far enough in advance). Megabus also offer a Sleeper service to Glasgow and Edinburgh.
- **Greyhound**, ☎ +44 900 096 0000 (premium rate). coach services with free wi-fi, newspapers and extra legroom. From/to London (Victoria Coach Station) to/from several cities. Fares can be very cheap.

From Paris

Since the opening of the French long distance bus market in 2015, several companies have entered the market and many also serve a London-Paris route, which crosses under the Channel via the Channel tunnel. Travel time tends

to be upwards of seven hours, but fares are accordingly low in order to compete with airlines and Eurostar. Companies offering this service include **ouibus**, **Flixbus** and the companies Megabus and Eurolines mentioned above

2.3.4 By car

London is the hub of the UK's road network and is easy to reach by car, even if driving into the centre of the city is definitely not recommended.

Comparatively few people will actually drive into (or anywhere near) the centre of London. The infamous M25 ring road did not earn its irreverent nicknames "The Road To Hell" and "Britain's biggest car park" for nothing. The road is heavily congested at most times of the day, and is littered with automatically variable speed limits which are enforced with speed cameras. Despite the controversial "congestion charge", driving a car anywhere near the centre of London remains a nightmare with crowded roads, impatient drivers and extortionate parking charges (if you can find a space in the first place, that is!). From Monday through Friday, though, parking in the City of London is free after 18:30; after 13:30 on Saturday and all day Sunday.

Renting a car

Pay-as-you-go car rental companies operating around London include **Sixt**, **Car Clubs** and **Season Car Hire**

Motorways

Greater London is encircled by the **M25 orbital motorway**, from which nearly all the major trunk routes to Scotland, Wales and the rest of England radiate. The most important are listed below.

- **M1:** The main route to/from the North, leading from the East Midlands, Yorkshire and terminating at Leeds. Most importantly, Britain's longest motorway - the M6, branches from the M1 at Rugby, leading to Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, the Lake District and onwards to the Scottish border, and ultimately Glasgow.
- **A1/A1(M)** The A1 is the original, historic "Great North Road" between England and Scotland's capital cities and has largely been converted to motorway standard; it runs up the eastern side of Great Britain through Peterborough, York, Newcastle and continues north through Northumberland and the Scottish Borders to Edinburgh.
- **M40/A40:** Arrives in London from a north westerly direction, linking the city with Oxford and providing an additional link from Birmingham.
- **M4:** The principal route to/from the West - leading to Bath, Bristol and cities South Wales (Cardiff and Swansea). It is also the main route towards Heathrow Airport.
- **M3:** The main route to London from the shipping port of Southampton.
- **M2/M20:** Together, these motorways are the main link to the coastal ferry (and Channel Tunnel) ports of Dover and Folkestone from Continental Europe.
- **M11:** The M11 connects Stansted Airport and Cambridge to London which terminates on the north-eastern periphery of the city.

A roads

A roads are major roads which can vary in scale from local routes to major thoroughfares.

- **A10:** Begins at the Monument in central London and heads north through Islington, Hackney, Haringey, Enfield and then out of London into Hertfordshire and onto Cambridge. Connects to the M25 in Enfield.

North Circular Road (A406)/South Circular Road (A205) The North Circular Road and South Circular Road are two roads are connected at the east end of the circle in North Woolwich by the Woolwich Free Ferry. The ferry runs approximately every 10–15 minutes and is free of charge, but has limited space and can get very busy at peak times. The ferry stops running after 22:00, so at night it's advisable to travel through Docklands and use the Blackwall Tunnel instead.

- **A406:** The A406 is a major road that passes through north London that connects east and west. It is a dual carriageway for most of its length and has direct connections with the M4, M40, M1 and M11 motorways as well as numerous other A roads. It is one of the main routes to **Brent Cross Shopping Centre**.
- **A205:** While the A406 is mostly a purpose-built road, the A205 was not fully built and instead incorporated local roads of varying width. It can become heavily congested. The road picks up where the A406 terminates at the opposite end of the Woolwich Ferry and passes through Woolwich, Catford, Dulwich, Clapham, Wandsworth and Richmond. It re-joins the A406 at the Chiswick Roundabout.

2.4 Get around

London has one of the most comprehensive public transport systems in the world. Despite residents' perpetual

(and sometimes justified) grumbling about unreliability, public transport is often the best option for getting anywhere for visitors and residents alike.

In central London use a combination of the transport options listed below - and check your map! In many cases you can easily walk from one place to another or use the buses. Be a Londoner and only use the Tube as a way of travelling longer distances. You're here to see London - you can't see it underground!

Transport for London (TfL) is a government organisation responsible for all public transport. Their website contains maps plus an excellent **journey planner**. TfL publishes a useful 'coping guide' specially designed for travellers who wish to use public transport during their visit to London. This can be downloaded in **PDF format** and printed as an 18-page brochure. TfL also offers a 24-hour travel information line, charged at premium rate: tel +44 843 222 1234 (or text 60835) for suggestions on getting from A to B, and for up to the minute information on how services are running. Fortunately for visitors (and indeed residents) there is a single ticketing system, Oyster, which enables travellers to switch between modes of transport on one ticket.

The main travel options in summary are:

- **By bus:** This is the cheapest and usually the best way to get around London as a tourist: on the Underground, you won't see anything!
- **By Tube / Underground:** 11 lines cover the central area and suburbs, run by TfL.
- **By Overground:** Urban rail system, part of TfL's network.
- **By National Rail:** A complex network of suburban rail services, privately run and not part of the TfL network, although all operators now accept Oyster payments within Greater London.
- **By Docklands Light Railway (DLR):** An automatic metro system running from the City to East London via the Docklands.
- **By foot:** In central London, walking to the next Tube station often takes under 5 minutes, and is more scenic than going underground. The street layout is confusing, so a street map is essential; many stations have central London maps for £2.
- **By boat:** Commuter ferries and pleasure cruises along the River Thames. Some services accept Oyster cards, but special fares apply, so check before you travel.
- **By bicycle:** There are hire bicycles (known to Londoners as "Boris bikes") operated by TfL available

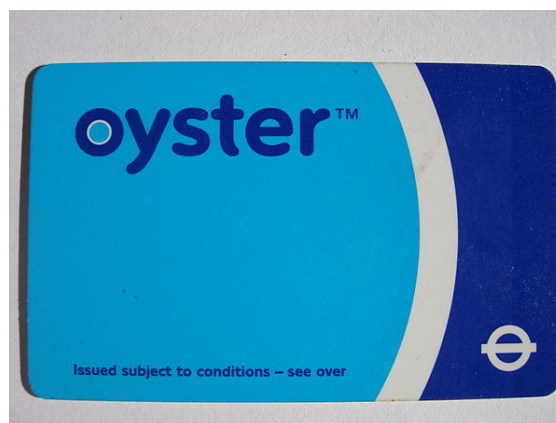
for pick up in inner London. You will need a credit or debit card with a PIN. If you bring your own bike, there are plenty of cycle lanes and traffic is normally considerate.

- **By tram (Tramlink):** A tram service that operates only in southern suburbs around Wimbledon and Croydon.

2.4.1 Using your credit card as ticket

On buses, trains and the Tube, you can use your **credit card, debit card, or prepaid card as a ticket**, if the card was issued in the UK and if it supports contactless payment. Your card supports contactless payment if it has a symbol of three waves on it. When you enter a station or get on the bus, you just touch the card against the yellow validation reader, as if it were an Oyster card. The price is the same as with an Oyster card (see below). The price per day is automatically capped at the price of a day ticket. You also avoid the (sometimes very long) queues at ticket machines, and the deposit of £5 for an Oyster card. The same card cannot be used by two or more different passengers.

2.4.2 Oyster card



Oyster Card

Oyster is a contactless electronic smartcard run by Transport for London. Unless you have a contactless credit card (see above), Oyster is the most cost-effective option if you plan to be in London for any more than a couple of days, or if you intend to make return visits to the city: the savings quickly recover the initial purchase cost. You can buy an Oyster card from any Tube station for a deposit of £5. You can "top up" an Oyster card with electronic funds. This money is then deducted according to where you travel. The cost of a single trip using the Oyster card is considerably less than buying a single paper ticket with cash. Prices vary depending on distance travelled, whether by bus or tube, and on the time of day. You

can also add various electronic seven-day, 1 month and longer-period Travelcards onto an Oyster, and the card is simply validated each time you use it.

The deposit is *fully refundable* if you hand it in at any staffed Tube station's ticket office, and you will also get any pay-as-you-go credit refunded. If you have less than £10 credit on your card, you can claim an instant refund of the credit and deposit at some ticket machines after 48 hours of purchase of your Oyster card. However, your Oyster card, and the credit on it, never expires, so keep it around in case you return to London. Be prepared to give your signature on receipts or even show ID for refunds over a few pounds.

Oyster is valid on all red London buses, and almost all trains in London: a list of destinations is available on the [London Tube and Rail Services map](#). Oyster is *not* valid on buses or trains outside London: if you need to travel beyond the stations on the map, you will have to pay for a paper ticket. (If you do not, you may be liable for a penalty fare or prosecution!) Oyster is also not accepted on long-distance coaches, nor on tour buses, charter buses or on the community bus [route 812 in Islington](#).

Also, Oyster can *not* be used on:

- the Heathrow Express;
- the Heathrow Connect, beyond Hayes and Harlington;
- High Speed One trains between St. Pancras International and Stratford International.

If you have a National Railcard, such as the 16-25 Railcard or the Senior Railcard, you can register this with your Oyster card at a Tube ticket office to receive substantial discounts on your off-peak pay-as-you-go fares.

Using your Oyster

When using your Oyster card to travel, make sure the reader is displaying an orange light, then place it flat against the reader. Listen carefully for a single beep, and watch for a green light: if this happens, it means your card has been accepted, and you can proceed. If you hear two beeps and see a red light, this means your card has not been accepted. Take the card off the reader, wait for the orange light, and try again; if this continues to happen, ask for help from a member of staff.

When getting on any kind of train, such as the Tube, the DLR or the London Overground, simply touch your Oyster card on the yellow circular reader at the start and end of your journey. At stations with ticket gates, these readers will be on the right-hand side of the gates; at stations without gates, they will be on free-standing cabinets. *Always make sure you touch in at the start, and out at the end of your journey!* If you do not, the system has no

way of knowing where you have travelled, and you will be charged the maximum fare.

Usually you will not need to touch your Oyster card on a reader when changing trains. However, some stations have pink Oyster “route validators” on the platforms: if you are getting off one train and getting onto another at one of these stations, touch your Oyster on the pink reader so that the system charges you the right fare for the route you have taken. There are a few other situations where you might need to touch out when changing trains: always ask a member of railway staff if you are in doubt.

When using a London bus, you only touch in once, when getting on the bus. Most buses have their Oyster reader on the ticket machine next to the driver. Some buses have Oyster readers on poles next to the middle and rear doors. You *don't* need to touch out when you get off the bus - if you do, you will be charged twice.

Some buses on routes 9 and 15 in central London are operated by heritage Routemasters. These buses have only one entrance, at the back, and are operated by conductors. Simply take your seat on the bus, and have your Oyster card ready: the conductor will take your card and scan it with a hand-held ticket machine.

When using a tram, simply touch your Oyster card on the reader on the tram platform before you get on a tram.

Tips

- Don't try to insert your Oyster card into the slot at the ticket gates! Touch it flat against the yellow reader, and wait for a single beep and a green light.
- On the Docklands Light Railway (DLR), and on some Overground and National Rail stations in the outlying parts of the city, there are no entry or exit gates (except at interchanges with the Tube like Bank or Stratford.) You have to be sure to touch your Oyster card on the readers (which are clearly signposted) as you enter and leave. Failure to do this when you begin a journey is regarded as fare dodging, and if you are caught you could be charged a Penalty Fare or prosecuted. Equally, failing to touch out when you leave a station will result in you being overcharged for your journey, as the system will make a default deduction of £8.60 since it doesn't know which station you left at.
- You should *always* keep your Oyster card separately from your wallet with your bank cards, cash, identity documents, etc. This is because if you take your wallet out to touch in at busy stations it makes you a prime target for pickpockets. It also means that if your wallet is stolen you will lose your means of travel as well as your money! Always keep your wallet in a secure inside pocket or a closed bag, and keep your Oyster card in a separate pocket. (If you buy

your Oyster from a Tube station, it will usually come in a wallet of its own.)

- You should also be very careful if you have contactless credit or debit cards or RFID identity cards from your employer, as these can interfere with your Oyster if you keep them in the same wallet. This usually results in an error message but may mean you get charged the full fare from your contactless credit or debit card instead.
- Be careful standing near the readers on some buses - they are often quite sensitive and may read your card from several centimetres away, even if you did not intend this.
- Try not to keep your Oyster in your back pocket. Not only does this make it easy to pickpocket, it also means it is likely to crack or bend when you sit down.

Pay-as-you-go (PrePay)

You can top up your Oyster card with cash at any Tube station ticket machine or ticket office (you can use a credit card if it has a PIN number) with Oyster pay-as-you-go, also known as PrePay. Money is then deducted from your Oyster card each time you travel. When travelling by train, the fare is calculated based on where you started and ended your journey. *Pay-as-you-go is much cheaper than paying by cash for each journey.* For instance, a cash fare on the Tube in Zone 1 costs £4.70, while with an Oyster Card it costs £2.40. Bus fares are flat and you will be charged the same fare every time you get on the bus, regardless of whether you're getting off after one stop or going right to the end of the route.

The amount of Oyster credit deducted from your card in one day is capped at the cost of the equivalent day Travelcard for the journeys you have made. This means that on a day-to-day basis, you will always get the best fares when using Oyster pay-as-you-go. If you travel by bus only, your total fares are capped at £4.40 each day: this makes bus travel very good value in central London if you are making lots of journeys.

Don't forget: when travelling by train, make sure you touch your Oyster in and out at the start *and end* of each journey, or you will be charged extra!

Travelcards

A Travelcard gives you unlimited travel on trains within the relevant zones, and unlimited travel on all red London buses, even outside the zones of your Travelcard. You can have your Travelcard loaded onto your Oyster, or you can have it as a paper ticket. For periods longer than 7 days, you will usually need to register your Oyster card or provide some form of photographic I.D. Especially for the

Zone 1-2 tickets, the paper Day Travelcard is substantially more expensive than the maximum Oyster fare (£12 vs. £6.40). Therefore, an Oyster card will generally offer much better value.

The above prices are adult prices and are correct throughout 2015. For an up-to-date and comprehensive list of fares, see [TfL's web site](#).

If you are using Oyster and travel beyond the zones of your Travelcard, you will be charged an extension fare from your pay-as-you-go credit when you touch out at your destination. If you are using a paper Travelcard and need to travel beyond your zones, you should get off at the boundary of your last valid zone and buy a ticket for the rest of your journey: if you do not, you will be charged a penalty fare and may be prosecuted!

Validity

The following table summarises the validity of the different tickets you can use on Oyster. For most tourists, trains and buses are the only transport you will use, but Oyster is not valid at all on airport express trains to Heathrow, Gatwick, Luton, Stansted or Southend. However, Oyster is valid on the Piccadilly line to Heathrow Airport, as this is an Underground train.

2.4.3 Connections

The London Underground has connections to all terminals at Heathrow (including Terminals 4 & 5) and most major London rail termini, with the exception of Fenchurch Street. Interchange hubs are also served, (such as Farringdon, Elephant & Castle, Harrow & Wealdstone and Stratford).

Marylebone||Bakerloo||Marylebone is also useful for 'fast' connections to Harrow and Amersham via National Rail. For Circle, Met, H&C and Jubilee lines, walk to Baker Street approx. 500m away and clearly signposted.

2.4.4 By foot

London is a surprisingly compact city, making it a walker's delight. In many instances, walking is the quickest method of transport between two points.

Because Britain drives on the left hand side of the road, for most foreign visitors it can be all too easy to forget that traffic will come at you from the opposite direction than you are used to when crossing a street - for this reason **remember to look right when you cross the road**. If you are using a pedestrian crossing, don't think it's safe to risk it, even if you can't see any traffic coming: always wait for the green man to appear, and then cross quickly and carefully.

Particularly on Central London's busiest streets, it is easy



A reminder on the streets of London to “Look Right” when you cross the road

to spot native Londoners as they weave in and out of the large crowds at fast speed; tourists who cannot will stand out. Make sure you're aware of your surroundings when in London—Londoners are usually very considerate, but a group of tourists standing in the middle of the pavement can be a major annoyance! Try standing to the side of busy pavements and footpaths, especially if you're with a group.

Walking alternatives to the Tube

In some instances it can be more pleasant or faster to walk your intended route instead of taking the Tube. Walking to another Tube station can also help you to avoid crowds. By looking at a map you'll notice that some central London Tube stations are very close to each other. TfL have produced a map detailing the walking time and number of steps between various popular stations. Here are some more specific instructions for some of the stations that tourists use:

- **Leicester Square station - Covent Garden station:** Come out of the station with the Hippodrome casino behind you. Cross Charing Cross Road and walk up Cranbourn Street. Walk straight over at the junction and continue onto Long Acre. Walk straight up Long Acre to arrive at Covent Garden station. **Approximate walking time:** 5 minutes
- **Embankment station - Waterloo station:** Come out of the station onto Victoria Embankment, walk up the stairs and head across the River Thames using the Hungerford Bridge. At the other end of the bridge keep walking straight and away from the River Thames. Follow the railway line. You will come to some blue metal work and a walkway underneath the railway line called Sutton Walk. Follow this, cross the road and Waterloo station is ahead of you. **Approximate walking time:** 15 minutes
- **Westminster station - Waterloo station:** Come

out of the station and head across the River Thames using Westminster Bridge. Keep heading straight until you come to a junction. Turn left and walk down York Road. Stay on York Road until you come to a railway bridge. Waterloo station will be on your right. **Approximate walking time:** 15 minutes

- **Green Park station - Hyde Park Corner station:** Come out of Green Park station onto the road. This is Piccadilly. Walk west along Piccadilly following the edge of Green Park. When you come to a roundabout head straight across it. Hyde Park and Hyde Park Corner station will be on your right. **Approximate walking time:** 10 minutes

Oxford Circus station Oxford Circus station can become extremely busy on weekday evenings and, if convenient, it is worth walking to other Tube stations.

- **Oxford Circus station - Bond Street station:** Head west along Oxford Street from the road junction. You should see the London College of Fashion and BHS. Keep walking west and you will come to Bond Street station. **Approximate walking time:** 10 minutes
- **Oxford Circus station - Tottenham Court Road station:** At the road junction head east along Oxford Street heading past Topshop. Keep walking past H&M and McDonalds and you will eventually see a skyscraper (surrounded by a construction site)—this is Centre Point. Keep heading straight and Tottenham Court Road station is on the road junction here. **Approximate walking time:** 25 minutes

2.4.5 By Underground



Geographic Central London Underground map

The **London Underground**, known popularly as **the Tube** due to its tube-like tunnels drilled through the London clay, is a network of 11 lines which criss-cross London in one of the largest underground rail networks in the world. It was also the first: the oldest section of the

Hammersmith & City Line opened as the Metropolitan Railway in 1863. The Tube is an easy method of transport even for new visitors to London and is equivalent to subway and metro systems in other world cities.

The routes operated by the London Underground fall into 2 broad types: the older “sub-surface” lines, encompassing the Metropolitan, District, Circle and Hammersmith & City lines, date from the 19th century. The “deep level” routes were largely constructed in the early-to-mid-20th century. The sub-surface lines are usually accessed by walking down a short set of stairs, whereas the deep-level lines are accessed by a complicated network of escalators or lifts. It is the deep lines which are served by the iconic tube-shaped trains which, despite their small size, can only just fit through the tunnels.

Each line has stations with interesting architectural and artistic features typical of the era they were opened. As you travel around the network, look out for Victorian finery, Edwardian glazed tiles, smooth Art Deco symmetry, and striking modern masterpieces. Various conservation pieces are also present, such as the heritage 1900s station name roundel sign at Caledonian Road on the westbound platform.

Trains on most days and on most lines run from around 05:30 to about 01:00. They are usually the fastest way to travel in London, the only problem being the relative expense, and that they can get extremely crowded during rush hours (07:30-10:00 and 16:30-19:00). On warm days take a bottle of water with you, as there is no air conditioning on most of the trains. Engineering works which can't be completed overnight usually take place during weekend. [TfL's website](#) has a notifying tracking delays, closures and planned engineering works, which you should check if you plan to travel on a Saturday or a Sunday, when entire lines may be shut down.

In central London, taking the Tube for just one stop can be a waste of time; Londoners joke about the tourists who use the Tube to travel between Leicester Square and Covent Garden stations, a journey which can take over 10 minutes on the Tube, despite the two stations being only a couple of minute's walk apart. This is especially true since the walk from a Tube station entrance to the platform at some central stations can be extensive. The Tube map also gives no information on London's extensive bus and rail network. For more information see the '[By foot](#)' section.

Night Tube

The **Night Tube**, introduced in 2016, is a limited 24-hour Tube service that operates on certain lines on Fridays and Saturdays. As of December 2016, it runs on the following lines:

- **Victoria line:** Trains run every 10 minutes on average

- **Central line:** Trains run approximately every 10 minutes between White City and Leytonstone and approximately every 20 minutes between Ealing Broadway to White City and Leytonstone to Loughton/Hainault. There is no service between North Acton and West Ruislip, Loughton and Epping, and Woodford and Hainault.
- **Jubilee line:** Trains run every 10 minutes on average
- **Northern line:** Trains run on average every 8 minutes between Morden and Camden Town and every 15 minutes from Camden Town to High Barnet/Edgware. Trains are not stopping at Charing Cross until July 2017. There is no service on the Mill Hill East and Bank branches.
- **Piccadilly line:** Trains run every 10 minutes on average between Cockfosters and Heathrow Terminal 5. There is no service on the Terminal 4 loop or between Acton Town and Uxbridge.

Ticketing

Travel on the Tube system will always require the purchase of a ticket or the use of an Oyster card or contactless payment card if you have one; fare evasion is treated as a serious matter.

Single tickets are charged at two rates, depending on the payment method. Cash fares are zonal, Zones 1-2 being £4.70 between any two stations in those zones, a zone 1-6 single ticket is £5.70. Single Oyster fares are charged by the number of zones crossed, starting at £2.20 for 1 zone up to £5 for 6 zones. There are additional fares payable for zones beyond 6, but these are mostly outside what is considered London. Paper travelcards valid for 1 day, 3 or 7 days are also available and can also be used on buses, National Rail trains, the DLR and Croydon Tramlink. They are priced by zones: a 1-day travelcard for Zones 1-2 costs £9 (Day anytime). Under operator-specific schemes, registered students, seniors and the disabled can claim specific discounts by showing a suitable photocard having been obtained in advance of travel.

Almost all stations have automatic ticket barriers. If you pay by Oyster card or a contactless payment card, just tap your card against the yellow pad to open the barriers (ensure that you do this upon both entrance and exit). If you have a paper ticket, insert it face-up into the slot on the front of the machine, and remove it from the top to enter the station. If you have a single-ticket it will be retained at the exit gate. If you have luggage or if your ticket is rejected there is normally a staffed gate as well.

Paper tickets can be purchased from vending machines in the station's ticket hall. There are two types of machine: the older machines that have buttons for different fare levels and accept only coins and the new touchscreen machines that have instructions in multiple languages, offer

a greater choice of ticket and accept bills and credit/debit cards (if your card has no embedded microchip, you cannot use these machines and you must pay at the ticket counter).

Navigation

All lines are identified by name (e.g. Circle line, Central line, Piccadilly line). Many lines have multiple branches rather than running point-to-point, so always check the train's destination (which is shown on the front of the train and the platform indicator screens, and will be broadcast on the train's PA). Some branches, such as at High Street Kensington station, run as shuttles and require a transfer onto the "main line".

Signs can be seen to be vague, especially if you are unfamiliar with what compass point direction (e.g. north-bound) you're travelling in, as these are most often given rather than destinations. A person new to the Tube can become very frustrated trying to work out where a particular connection at a particular station is found. Even regular travellers will tell you they can become confused when going to unfamiliar stations. Just be patient and realise mistakes can be made and you can recover. Each station is staffed by at least two personnel at all times who can advise you on your route and full system maps are on the walls of every platform and ticket office. Additionally, on every platform, there are individual line maps showing all the stations served by trains calling at that platform.

The **Northern line** has two routes through central London which split at Euston and rejoin at Kennington. One (the Charing Cross Branch) runs through the West End, while the other route runs via the City of London (called the Bank branch, or the City branch). It is fairly easy to work out which way your train is going; check the signs above the platform, and on the front of the train. The train's destination and central branch will also be announced on board, for example "This train is for Edgware, via Charing Cross."

Tube maps The Tube is made up of 11 lines each bearing a traditional name and a standard colour on the Tube map. You can change between lines at interchange stations (providing you stay within the zones shown on your ticket). Since the Tube map is well designed it is very easy to work out how to get between any two stations, and since each station is clearly signed it is easy to work out when to exit your train. The Tube map is a diagram and not a scaled map, making it misleading for determining the relative distance between stations as it makes central stations appear further apart and somewhat out of place - the most distant reaches of the Metropolitan Line for example are almost 60 km (40 mi) from the centre of the city.

Tube maps are freely available from any station, most

tourist offices, and are prominently displayed in stations. The **National Rail map** also shows National Rail services is displayed as a large poster at most Tube stations.

Finally, direction signs for the platforms indicate the geographical direction of the line, *not* the last stop of the line. It is always advisable to carry a pocket Tube map to help you with this.

Onboard

Be considerate of your fellow passengers as best you can.

Although the doors on some Tube trains have buttons, they have been disconnected from the electricity & don't do anything. Pushing a button will only mark you out as a tourist. If the train pulls into the station and the doors don't open immediately then wait for a few seconds - the driver undershot the station and will need to drive the train forward a short distance.

Crime and accidents

Crime levels on the Tube systems are comparable to but typically lower than many other subway systems, and traveller advice about watching luggage and valuables is reasonable. Owing to a heightened security climate, and a history of political violence targeting the Tube, unattended baggage may be treated as a suspect or explosive device and may be destroyed. Lost items (if not destroyed) will end up at the **Lost Property Office** (Tube: Baker Street). You can fill in a form online describing your lost item and TfL will contact you if it is found.

The Tube system is covered by an extensive CCTV system, although it is not advised to be reliant on this fact when travelling.

The London Underground considers its safety record to be a matter of professional honour, major accidents being incredibly rare. Front-line staff are well trained for emergencies and will follow well rehearsed procedures. In addition front-line staff are generally appreciative of traveller vigilance, if concerns are politely expressed. If you notice something that concerns you please speak to a member of staff or a British Transport Police officer.

Photography Although there is no specific bylaw barring casual photography, owing to the increased threat from terrorism, some front-line staff can be nervous about the intent and nature of photographers. If you are visiting a station for the sole purpose of photography, or you plan to be in the station for some time, you should let a member of front-line staff know your intentions. At busy stations you should take care not to cause an obstruction. Under no circumstances should direct photography of security critical equipment (such as CCTV cameras) be taken, and it is advised to ask before photographing

front-line staff. Flash photography is explicitly prohibited on safety grounds, as it could distract safety critical personnel. Tripods are also prohibited due to the obstruction they can cause.

Large scale or commercial photography or filming requires a specific permit which can be obtained through TfL. More information about filming on TfL property is available at [this website](#).

2.4.6 By bus

London's iconic red buses are recognised the world over, even if the traditional **Routemaster** buses, with an open rear platform and on-board conductor to collect fares, have mostly been phased out. These still run on the central section of route **15** daily between about 09:30 and 18:30, every 15 minutes.

Buses are generally quicker than taking the Tube for shorter (less than a couple of stops on the Tube) trips, and out of central London you're likely to be closer to a bus stop than a Tube station. Most buses in London are very frequent (at least every ten minutes.) Buses are usually accessible for buggies and wheelchairs. Buses also have a flat rate fare which stays the same no matter how far you travel (you will need to pay the fare again if you board a different bus).

Using the bus

Transport for London produces all [Bus route maps](#)

Over 5 million bus trips are made each weekday; with over 700 different bus routes you are never far from a bus. Each bus stop has a sign listing the routes that stop there. Bus routes are identified by numbers and sometimes letters. It is not possible to buy tickets for cash on the bus so you must have a valid Travelcard, Oyster card or contactless credit or debit card before you get on. Alternatively, tickets may be purchased from most newsagents in London, or from ticket machines at certain central London stops.

Buses have very clear *blinds* on the front, with their route number and their destination. When you see your bus approaching, **signal clearly to the driver** that you intend to get on their bus: the way to do this is to stick your hand out, with an open palm. The driver will indicate and pull into the stop.

Most buses have **two doors**. Form an orderly queue at the front door: when you reach the driver, touch your Oyster or contactless card on the reader, or show them your Travelcard or pass. Some buses are worked by the 'New Routemaster': you can get on this bus at any of its three doors, as long as you touch in your Oyster or contactless card as soon as you board. Some buses on routes 15 over the central section from Trafalgar Square to Tower Hill are run by the original heritage Routemasters: take a seat

on the bus, and wait for the conductor to come round to scan your Oyster card. Always wait for people to get out of the bus before you enter.

Hold on tight - especially if you can't find a seat! Buses can accelerate and brake very fast so always grab hold of one of the handrails.

Most buses have a system that provides visual and audible announcements of the bus's destination at every stop, the stops and nearby landmarks. On Routemasters, the conductor will usually make announcements.

When you are nearing your stop, press one of the red "STOP" buttons on the handrails **once only**. You'll hear a bell, or a buzzer, and the words "Bus Stopping" will appear on the iBus screen. Get off the bus using the middle or rear door.

If you're travelling on a heritage Routemaster, there are only two bell-pushers: alternatively, there is a cord hanging from the ceiling on the lower deck which you can pull to ring the bell. Be very careful only to ring it once: two bells is the signal the conductor uses to tell the driver to continue past the next stop!

Finally, **always watch out for moving traffic** when you get off the bus, especially if you are on a bus with an open platform at the back (a Routemaster or a New Bus for London) Don't try to get off the bus until it has stopped, or is moving very slowly, and **always** be careful of cyclists and pedestrians.

Tips

- Watch out for pickpockets! If you think you have been pickpocketed, always call out to the driver and other passengers. If you realise you have been pickpocketed after you've left the bus, call 101 (the police non-emergency number).
- If you are taking a pram/buggy with you, you must be prepared to fold it and carry your child if the bus is crowded or if a wheelchair user needs to get on the bus.
- Smoking and drinking alcohol is not allowed on buses. Non-alcoholic drinks and most food is fine, but be considerate: fast food is often smelly and leaves a mess.
- Stand on the lower deck only.
- Don't speak to the driver or try to get their attention when the bus is moving unless it is an emergency.
- Some buses terminate early and don't run the full length of the route. Always check the destination blind on the front of the bus, and if in doubt, ask the driver or the conductor. Drivers will usually announce a change in the bus's destination - but not always!

- You should always signal to the driver very clearly with your hand if you want the bus to stop, especially at quieter bus stops. The driver might drive past the stop if no one does this and no one on the bus is getting off.
- If your bus terminates early and you have paid using Oyster or contactless debit/credit card, ask the driver for a continuation ticket, sometimes called a transfer ticket. This will allow you to board another bus of the same route number to reach your destination without paying again.

Fares

The adult bus fare is £1.50. Cash is not accepted: so you must pay with an Oyster card, contactless credit or debit card or a paper Travelcard you have already bought.

Unlike on the Tube, you are charged for each bus you travel on. If you change buses then you will normally be charged a new bus fare up to the daily/weekly price cap. However, the **Hopper fare** allows you to make two bus or tram journeys for the price of one if you use an Oyster card or contactless payment method. Your second journey must be made within an hour of touching in on the first bus or tram you are travelling on and you must also use the same card for both journeys.

Oyster If you have a seven-day or monthly Travelcard or Bus and Tram Pass on your Oyster, that includes free bus travel across all of London, even outside the zones of your Travelcard (buses aren't subject to zones). You still need to touch in when you get on the bus, but you won't be charged.

If you do not have a Travelcard, the fare of £1.50 is taken from your Oyster pay as you go credit as soon as you touch in when you get on the bus. The most you will be charged for single bus journeys in one day is £4.40: daily bus and tram travel is 'capped' at this level.

If you have *some* money on your Oyster, but not enough for the full fare, the system will let you go into a negative balance to make one more journey, but you will not be able to use your Oyster again until you top up to clear the negative balance. You should be given a paper slip telling you that it is time to top up when this happens.

Touch your Oyster on the reader as soon as you get on the bus or may be liable to a Penalty Fare or prosecution.

Contactless credit, debit or prepaid cards You can also pay for with most contactless debit, credit or prepaid Visa, MasterCard/Maestro or American Express cards. You touch the card flat against the reader, like you would with an Oyster card, but your account is charged instead. Some foreign-issued cards will not work for contactless payment.

The total charges for that day are calculated and taken out of your account overnight. As with Oyster, you are charged £1.50 for each bus fare, up to a cap of £4.40 each day. In addition, a weekly price cap applies from Monday to Sunday, so you will never pay more than £21 for bus travel on a contactless card in any one week.

If you have more than one contactless card, or an Oyster and a contactless card, be careful and keep them in separate pockets, and only touch one on the reader. The system is supposed to reject both cards if it doesn't know which one you want to pay with, but there is a small chance you may be charged twice for the same journey. You may also be charged transaction charges with foreign cards, and some cards might not work if they are older or not programmed correctly: contact your card issuer in the event of problems.

NFC payment chips, for instance on a wristband or a mobile phone, may also work, but be prepared to have a backup payment method if they do not work.

For full information about contactless fares, including caveats, see [TfL's web site](#).

Concessions Children aged 10 and under travel for free on the bus when accompanied by an adult. Children between the ages of 11 and 15 must touch in using a Zip card, yet journeys are still free. If they do not have a Zip card they must pay the full fare using an adult Oyster or contactless card. 16-18 Student Oyster cards (only available to students studying in London) go up to age 18 and journeys are still free. Residents of England who have an ENCTS free bus pass (for the elderly or disabled) also get free travel: simply show your pass to the driver or conductor.

Night buses

Standard bus services run from around 06:00-00:30. Around half past midnight the network changes to the vast night bus network of well over 100 routes stretching all over the city. There are two types of night buses: 24 hour routes and N-prefixed routes.

24-hour services keep the same number as during the day and will run exactly the same route, such as the number 88, for example. N-prefixed routes are generally very similar to their day-route, but may take a slightly different route or are extended to serve areas that are further out. For example, the 29 bus goes from Trafalgar Square to Wood Green during the day; however, the N29 bus goes from Trafalgar Square to Wood Green and then continues to Enfield.

Night buses run at a 30 minute frequency at minimum, with many routes at much higher frequencies up to every 5 minutes.

Prices stay the same, and daily travelcards are valid until

04:29 the day after they were issued, so can be used on night buses. Most bus stops will have night bus maps with all the buses to and from that local area on it, although it is good to check on the TfL website beforehand, which also has all those maps easily available.

While Britons on public transport are normally a model of reserve, those using night buses have a bit of a reputation for loud and rowdy behaviour. This is mainly because passengers are often people who have been having a good time in central London's clubs and bars; particularly true on buses leaving central London between 01:00 and 03:00. While the buses are normally quite safe, if this is a concern for you, consider taking a pre-booked minicab instead, or failing that sit or stand on the lower deck of the buses nearer the driver. **Always call out to the driver if you are pickpocketed, threatened or attacked.**

2.4.7 By DLR

Docklands Light Railway (DLR) is a dedicated light rail network operating in **East London**, connecting with the Tube network at Bank, Tower Gateway (close to Tower Hill station), Canning Town, Heron Quays (close to Canary Wharf Tube station), and Stratford. As the trains operate automatically, it can be quite exciting - especially for children - to sit at the front and look out through the window, whilst feeling as though one is driving the train oneself. The DLR runs above ground on much of its route, and travels through many scenic parts of London, including the Docklands area where most of London's skyscrapers are located.

Unlike on the Tube, most DLR stations do not have ticket gates (except for Bank and Stratford). Also, unlike the Tube, you *do* need to push the buttons to open the doors. You can top up an Oyster card, buy a Travelcard or buy a paper ticket (at a substantial premium) from the ticket machines at the station. (Most stations are unstaffed, so if you want to pay by cash, make sure you have plenty of change!) As there are no gates, when travelling by Oyster you must always remember to touch in at the start of your journey and touch out at the end. Even if you are changing to the Underground at Canary Wharf/Heron Quays, you must still touch in/out at the DLR station: the system will recognise that you have made an interchange between the two stations and treat it as part of the same journey.

The DLR can be a little confusing as the routes are not easily distinguished. Check the displays on the platform, which will show you the destination and the wait for the next three trains, and also check the destination displays on the front and side of the train and listen for announcements. At busy times, some trains do not run the full length of the route. Take the first train, listen for announcements, and change where necessary.

Be extra careful at **Canning Town** station as it is very busy and the line divides into two sections - one heading

to Woolwich Arsenal and the other heading to Beckton. Always check the destination on the front of the train before getting on, especially at off-peak times.

2.4.8 By train

*Wikivoyage has a guide to **Rail travel in the United Kingdom**, with information applicable to using the National Rail system within London.*

The British railway system is known as **National Rail** (although some older signs still refer to it as "British Rail"). London's suburban rail services are operated by several private companies under tightly-written government contracts, and mostly run in the south of the city, away from the main tourist sights. Only one line (Thameslink) runs through central London - on a north-south axis between London Bridge or Blackfriars stations, and the underground level of St Pancras main line station. There is no one central station - instead, there are twelve main-line stations dotted around the edge of the central area, and most are connected by the Circle line (except Euston, Fenchurch St and those South of the river like Waterloo and London Bridge).

Most visitors will not need to use National Rail services except for a few specific destinations such as Wimbledon, Hampton Court, Kew Gardens (Kew Bridge station), Windsor Castle, Greenwich, or the airports, or indeed if they are intending to visit other destinations in the UK. It's important to know that the quickest route between two stations is often a combination of the Tube as well as National Rail trains. For instance, if you are going from central London to Wimbledon, it will usually be much quicker to go to Waterloo and take the first Wimbledon train (around fifteen minutes, maximum) rather than take the District line, which can take up to 45 minutes.

Your pay-as-you-go Oyster card is valid in London zones 1-6, but not beyond, so be careful—if you want to travel beyond, you will need to buy a paper ticket from the ticket office at the station. If you travel beyond the London zones with no valid ticket, you will be charged a Penalty Fare (on National Rail services this is usually £20), you will have to buy another ticket for the remainder of your journey, and you will also be charged the maximum Oyster fare because you didn't touch out. This adds up to a lot, so be careful and make sure you plan your journey! If in doubt, ask at the ticket office.

There are express trains to Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted airports. Tickets are often sold at a substantial premium, so you may want to consider taking the slightly slower 'stopping' services instead: for instance, an Anytime single from Victoria to Gatwick costs £19.90 on the Gatwick Express, and only £14.40 when marked "Route Southern Only"—taking a Southern train to Gatwick is only eight minutes longer. Don't forget: Oyster cards are **not valid** to the main airports, except for London City Airport and to Heathrow when travelling by Tube.

Don't throw your ticket away until you're out of the station at your destination! Many stations have ticket gates which you will need to put your ticket through to exit; also, you need to retain all the parts of your ticket throughout your journey, as a member of railway staff may need to see it.

2.4.9 By Overground

In common parlance, Londoners may refer to travelling by “overground”, meaning going by National Rail (as opposed to going by Underground). However, only **London Overground** is a Transport for London rail service, which serves most boroughs of the capital. Oyster cards are accepted. Trains will usually run a minimum frequency of every fifteen minutes, and some stations have a considerably more frequent service. The trains have big windows allowing for great “urban scenic” views.

The Overground appears on the Tube map as a double orange line. TfL also produces a **map only showing Overground services**. At many stations, trains leaving from the same platform will go to different destinations, so listen carefully for announcements and always check the destination on the front of the train. The Overground can be a great way to avoid changing trains in central London by skirting around the centre. It's also well-connected: you can frequently change for Underground trains, other Overground destinations, or for mainline National Rail services from Stratford, Clapham Junction and Watford Junction.

2.4.10 By Tramlink

The Tramlink network is centred on **Croydon**, where it runs on street-level tracks around the Croydon Loop, providing transit to an area not well-served by the Tube or National Rail. Route 3 (Wimbledon to New Addington - green on the Tramlink map) is the most frequent service, running every 7 or 8 minutes Monday to Saturday daytime and every 15 minutes at all other times. Beckenham is served by Routes 1 and 2 (yellow and red on the Tramlink map), which terminate at Elmers End and Beckenham Junction respectively. All services travel around the Loop via West Croydon and run every 10 minutes Monday to Saturday daytime and every 30 minutes at all other times. Between Arena and Sandilands, these two services serve the same stops.

2.4.11 By bicycle

Due to the expense of other forms of transport and the compactness of central London, **cycling** is a tempting option. Excellent **free cycle maps** can be obtained from your local tube stations, bike shop, or ordered online.

London now offers a city-wide bicycle hire scheme known as **Santander Cycles**, operated by Transport for

London. For an hourly charge, bicycles may be hired from automated hire stations around the city. The bikes, all coloured a distinctive bright blue, can be unlocked and ridden around the city with a credit card, and must be returned to another hire station by locking the bike into the rack.

Despite recent improvements, London remains a relatively hostile environment for cyclists. The kind of contiguous cycle lane network found in many other European cities does not exist. The safest option is to stick to minor residential roads where traffic can be surprisingly calm outside rush hours.

Most major roads in London will have a bus lane which is restricted to buses, taxis and bicycles.

Cycle-lanes exist in London with both on road and off road routes. The network is not comprehensive, and on the road lanes vary in quality (normally between one and two metres wide). Cycle superhighways (major cycle routes) are painted blue other cycle lanes are green or red; however, some are indicated just with an stencilled image of a bike on the road. If the line between the traffic lane is solid cars may not use it as it is a mandatory cycle lane. A dashed line indicates a recommended cycle lane and motorists may make use of this road space, but it is recommended they don't. Many improvements have been made for cyclists in the city over the last few years. Noticeably, there are many new signposted cycle routes and new cycle lanes as well as a review of junctions considered dangerous for cycling. A new network of “**Cycle super-highways**” has been launched: these are indicated by bright blue-painted tarmac. Motor vehicles often park on cycle lanes, rendering them unusable.

Normally a cyclist should keep to the left of the lane when cycling on a road with traffic, to allow faster-moving traffic to overtake. However, it is legal for a cycle to dominate a lane by maintaining a central road position like any other vehicle. This will make you unpopular with any traffic behind you but it is recommended in London on approach to right-hand turns at junctions. Making a right-hand turn from the normal left-position means crossing the lane of traffic, which may often ignore you and any turn signals you might have been using, leading to near misses and even collisions.

The towpaths in North London along the Grand Union Canal and Regent's Canal as well as in London's parks and green ways provide traffic-free cycle path in the capital. The Grand Union canal connects Paddington to Camden and the Regent's Canal connects Camden to Islington, Mile End and Limehouse in East London. It takes about 30-40 min to cycle from Paddington station to Islington along the towpaths.

Care should be taken lock your bike properly as many areas, some surprisingly busy, attract cycle thieves, while chaining a bicycle to a railing which appears to be private property can occasionally lead to said bike being removed.

Taking bikes on trains is very limited in London due to overcrowding. Non-folding bikes can be taken only on limited sections of The Tube network, mostly only on the above-ground sections outside peak hours. For this reason, folding bicycles are becoming increasingly popular. There is a map showing this on the Transport for London website. Most *National Rail* operators allow bicycles outside peak hours also.

Critical Mass London is a cycling advocacy group which meets for regular rides through central London at 18:00 on the last Friday of each month. Rides start from the southern end of Waterloo Bridge.

The **London Cycling Campaign** is an advocacy group for London cyclists. With active local groups in most of the city's boroughs, it is recognised by local and regional government as the leading voice for cycling in the capital.

2.4.12 By taxi

London has two types of taxis: the famous **black cab**, and so-called **minicabs**. Black cabs are the only ones licensed to "ply for hire" (i.e. pick people up off the street), while minicabs are more accurately described as "private hire vehicles" and need to be pre-booked.

The famous **black cab** of London (not always black!) can be hailed from the kerb or found at one of the many designated taxi ranks. It is possible to book black cabs by phone, for a fee, but if you are in central London it will usually be quicker to hail one from the street. Their amber TAXI light will be on if they are available. Drivers must pass a rigorous exam of central London's streets, known as 'The Knowledge', to be licensed to drive a black cab. This means they can supposedly navigate you to almost any London street without reference to a map. They are a cheap transport option if there are five passengers as they do not charge extras, and many view them as an essential experience for any visitor to London. Black cabs charge by distance and by the minute, are non-smoking, and have a minimum charge of £2.20. Tipping is not mandatory in either taxis or minicabs, despite some drivers' expectations - use your discretion. If you like the service you may tip. If the ride has been uncomfortable or unsafe, or if the driver was rude, don't. Most Londoners will simply round up to the nearest pound.

Taxis are required by law to take you wherever you choose (within Greater London) if their TAXI light is on when you hail them. However some, especially older drivers, dislike leaving the centre of town, or going south of the River Thames. A good way to combat being left at the side of the curb is to open the back door, or even get into the cab, before stating your destination.

Minicabs are normal cars which are licensed hire vehicles that you need to book by phone or at a minicab office. They generally charge a fixed fare for a journey, best agreed before you get in the car. Minicabs are usually

cheaper than black cabs, although this is not necessarily the case for short journeys. Licensed minicabs display a Transport For London (TfL) Licence - usually in the front window. One of the features of the license plate is a blue version of the famous London Transport "roundel". A list of licensed minicab operators can be found at **TfL Cabwise**.

Uber is available in London and generally charge cheaper fares than black cabs, although higher "surge" prices are charged at times of high demand. Vehicles can only be booked via the smartphone app.

Some areas in London are poorly served by black cabs, particularly late at night. This has led to many illegal minicabs operating - just opportunistic people, with a car, looking to make some fast money. Some of these operators can be fairly aggressive in their attempts to find customers, and it's now barely possible to walk late at night through any part of London with a modicum of nightlife without being approached. These illegal cars are also regularly unsafe: women are assaulted every week by illegal minicab operators (11 per month) and there is also a risk of robbery. You should avoid minicabs touting for business off the street and either take a black cab, book a licensed minicab by telephone, or take a night bus. Always remember: **if it's not licensed and it's not pre-booked, it's just a stranger's car. Never get into an un-booked minicab.**

TfL operate a service called **Cabwise**, which will determine your location and provide three local, licensed cab numbers. If you have an iPhone or an Android smartphone, you can use the Cabwise application (search your platform's app store) or text **CAB** to 60835 (be careful - this might not work from some phones!) You can also use an app such as **Hailo**, which allows you to summon a black cab to your location and will provide a map and approximate wait time for your taxi to arrive. Most railway stations will also be able to provide a list of good local cab firms (many will display this outside the station, even after the last train of the night has gone.)

2.4.13 By car

Londoners who drive will normally take public transport in the centre; follow their example. Unless you have a disability, there is no good reason whatsoever to drive a car in central London.

Driving into central London on weekdays during daylight hours incurs a hefty charge, with very few exemptions (that rental cars also attract the charge). Cameras and mobile units record and identify the number plates and registration details of all vehicles entering the charging zone with high accuracy. The **Central London Congestion Charge** M-F 07:00-18:00 (excluding public holidays) attracts a fee of £8 if paid the **same day**, or £10 if paid on the next charging day. Numerous payment options exist: by phone, on-line, at convenience stores displaying

the red 'C' logo in the window and by voucher. Failure to pay the charge by midnight the next charging day incurs a hefty automatic fine of £80 (£40 if paid within 2 weeks).

Despite the Congestion Charge, London - like most major cities - continues to experience traffic snarls. These are, of course, worse on weekdays during peak commuting hours (i.e. between 07:30-09:30 and 16:00-19:00). At these times public transport (and especially the Tube) usually offers the best alternative for speed and reduced hassle. Driving in Central London is a slow, frustrating, expensive and often unnecessary activity. There are many sorts of automatic enforcement cameras and it is difficult (and expensive) to park. A good tip is, that outside advertised restriction hours, parking on a *single* yellow line is permissible. Parking on a red line or a *double* yellow line is never permissible and heavily enforced. Find and read the parking restrictions carefully! Parking during weekdays and on Saturday can also mean considerable expense in parking fees - fees and restrictions are ignored at your extreme financial peril - issuing fines, clamping and towing vehicles (without warning!) has become a veritable new industry for borough councils staffed by armies of traffic wardens.

For the disabled driving can be much more convenient than using public transport. If disabled and a resident of a member state of the EU then two cars can be permanently registered, for free, for the congestion charge.

Motorcycles and scooters are fairly common in London as they can pass stationary cars, can usually be parked for free and are exempt from congestion-charging. Scooters and bikes with automatic transmission are much more preferable - a manually-gear racing bike is completely impractical unless you have excellent clutch-control (although it has to be said you will see plenty of them being ridden aggressively by motorcycle couriers and locals as it can be the fastest way to get around!) Likewise to bicycles, car-drivers can show disregard to anyone on two wheels and larger vehicles have an unwritten priority so take care when crossing junctions. Crash helmets are mandatory. Parking for bikes is usually free - there are designated motorcycle-parking areas on some side-streets and some multi-level parking lots will have bike parking on the ground level.

2.4.14 By boat

London is now promoting a network of river bus and pleasure cruise services along the River Thames from Hampton Court in the west to Woolwich Arsenal in the east. **London River Services** (part of Transport for London) manages regular commuter boats and a network of piers all along the river and publishes timetables and **river maps** similar to the famous Tube map. While boat travel may be slower and a little more expensive than Tube travel, it offers an extremely pleasant way to cross the city with unrivalled views of the London skyline. Sailing under

Tower Bridge is an unforgettable experience.

Boats are operated by private companies and they have a separate ticketing system from the rest of London transport; however if you have a Travelcard you get a 33% discount on most boat tickets. Many boat operators offer their own one-day ticket - ask at the pier kiosks. Generally, tickets from one boat company are not valid on other operators' services. Oyster cards can be used as payment for the 'Clipper'-styled commuter services but not for tour boats.

All the central London sights in Westminster and the South Bank tourist attractions are easily accessible by boat as are:

Consider a trip along an old Victorian canal through the leafy suburbs of North London. The **London Waterbus Company** runs scheduled services (more in summer, fewer in winter) from Little Venice to Camden Lock with a stop at the London Zoo (pick up only). The 45-minute trip along Regent's Canal is a delightful way to travel.

2.4.15 By skate

Inline skating on roads and pavements (sidewalks) is completely legal, except in the "square-mile" of the **City of London**. Roads are not the greatest but easily skateable. Central London drivers are more used to skaters than those in the outskirts.

2.4.16 By cable car

The **Emirates Air Line** is a cable car that runs across the River Thames in east London and connects the Greenwich Peninsula on the south bank (near The O2) and the Royal Docks on the north bank (near the ExCeL Exhibition Centre). The Greenwich Peninsula terminal connects to the North Greenwich Tube station on the Jubilee line. The Royal Docks terminal connects to the Royal Victoria DLR station. Although it is part of the TfL network and uses Oyster cards, the Air Line is mostly used by tourists.

If you are travelling to The O2 that the Emirates Air Line service usually finishes much earlier than the Tube and DLR. If the event you are attending is finishing late then you should have an alternative mode of transport to get back across the river.

Operating hours

2.5 See

London is a huge city, so all individual listings are in the appropriate **district** articles and only an overview is presented here.

2.5.1 Landmarks

- **Buckingham Palace.** The London residence of the Queen, in **Westminster**. Open for tours during the summer months only, but a must-see sight even if you don't go in. (Tube: Green Park)
- **London Eye.** The world's fourth-largest observation wheel, situated on the **South Bank** of the Thames with magnificent views over London. (Tube: Waterloo)
- **Marble Arch** is a white Carrara marble monument designed by John Nash. It is located in the middle of a huge traffic island at one of the busiest intersections in central London where Oxford Street meets Park Lane in **Mayfair**. (Tube: Marble Arch)
- **Piccadilly Circus** is one of the most photographed sights in London. The Shaftesbury Memorial, topped by the statue of Anteros (now popularly identified as Eros), stands proudly in the middle of Piccadilly Circus while the north eastern side is dominated by a huge, iconic neon advertising hoarding. Occasionally there will be scaffolding or fencing around the Eros statue in order to protect it during times when large crowds are anticipated. (Tube: Piccadilly Circus)
- **St Paul's Cathedral**, also in **the City**, is Sir Christopher Wren's great accomplishment, built after the 1666 Great Fire of London - the great dome is still seated in majesty over The City. A section of the dome has such good acoustics that it forms a "Whispering Gallery". There is also a viewing area that offers views of the surrounding area including the Millennium Bridge that lies nearby. (Tube: St Paul's)
- **Tower Bridge.** The iconic 19th century bridge located by the Tower of London near **the City**. It is decorated with high towers featuring a drawbridge. The public are allowed access to the interior of the bridge via the **Tower Bridge Exhibition**, tickets for which can be purchased on the **website** or at the bridge. (Tube: Tower Hill)
- **Tower of London.** Situated just south east of **the City**, is London's original royal fortress by the Thames. It is over 900 years old, contains the Crown Jewels, is guarded by Beefeaters, and is a **World Heritage** site. It is also considered by many to be the most haunted building in the world. If you are interested in that sort of thing its definitely somewhere worth visiting. Sometimes there are guided ghost walks of the building. You can even have a good meal in one of the buildings on the property. (Tube: Tower Hill)
- **Trafalgar Square.** Home of Nelson's Column and the lions, and once a safe haven for London's pigeons until the recent introduction of hired birds of prey. The "Fourth Plinth" has featured a succession of artworks since 1999. Overlooked by the National Gallery, it's the nearest London has to a "centre", and has been pedestrianised. (Tube: Charing Cross)
- **Westminster Abbey** and the **Palace of Westminster**, including the **Queen Elizabeth II Tower** (the clock tower commonly known as the name of its bell, **Big Ben**) and the **Houses of Parliament**, in **Westminster**. The seat of the United Kingdom parliament and **World Heritage** site, as well as setting for royal coronations since 1066, most recently Queen Elizabeth II in 1953. The Palace of Westminster is open to the public only for viewing parliamentary debates, tours of the building are available in July – August when Parliament is away on summer recess. Westminster Abbey also has a restaurant and a café that both serve good food. (Tube: Westminster)
- **30 St Mary Axe** or **The Gherkin**, a peculiarly-shaped 180 m (590 ft) building in the City. There is no public access to the building itself but it can be viewed from the roads and small paved areas directly in front of and behind the building. Security guards can be overzealous in this area and you may be asked to move on or stop taking photographs if you are doing so (although this may seem overbearing, it is private land and they can ask you to leave if they wish). Commanding views of this building can also be obtained from public roads near the site such as **Leadenhall Street**. Of minor interest to history fans is an inscription on **Bury Street** dedicated to a young Roman girl who was found buried here by archaeologists in 1995. Her remains were moved to the Museum of London while the Gherkin was being constructed, and were reburied in 2007 at the original site.
- **The Shard**, e-mail: enquiries@theviewfromtheshard.com. 1 April - 31 October 10:00 - 22:00, 1 November - 31 March 10:00 - 19:00. A futuristic triangular skyscraper that dominates the London skyline and is the tallest building in the EU. There is a viewing deck on the 72nd floor that is open to the public, tickets for which must be booked via the website. There are also restaurants and the expensive luxury hotel **Shangri-La** on the lower floors.

2.5.2 Museums and galleries

Central London hosts an outstanding collection of world-class museums and galleries, several of truly iconic status. Even better, London is unique among global capitals

in that the majority of the museums have no entrance charges, allowing visitors to make multiple visits with ease. Special or temporary exhibitions usually attract an admission charge.

London museums and galleries with no general admission charge (free entry!) include:

- **British Museum** (Tube: Holborn)—a treasure trove of world cultures from across the ages, on a par with the Paris Louvre and New York’s Metropolitan Museum
- **National Gallery** (Tube: Charing Cross)—houses the national collection of paintings in the Western European tradition from the 13th to the 19th centuries
- **National Portrait Gallery** (Tube: Charing Cross)
- **Victoria and Albert Museum** (Tube: South Kensington)
- **Natural History Museum** (Tube: South Kensington)
- **Science Museum** (Tube: South Kensington)
- **Tate Modern** (Tube: Southwark, Blackfriars)
- **Tate Britain** (Tube: Pimlico)
- **Wallace Collection** (Tube: Marble Arch)

and most museums in **Greenwich**.

Aside from these world famous establishments, there is an almost unbelievable number of minor museums in London covering a very diverse range of subjects. The British Government lists over 240 genuine museums in the city.

Notable smaller museums

- London Transport Museum (Tube: Covent Garden)
- Museum of London (Tube: Barbican or St. Paul’s)
- Museum of London Docklands (DLR: West India Quay)

2.5.3 Parks

The “green lungs” of London are the **many parks**, great and small, scattered throughout the city including **Hyde Park**, **St James Park** and **Regent’s Park**. Most of the larger parks have their origins in royal estates and hunting grounds and are still owned by the Crown, despite their public access.

- **Hyde Park and adjoining Kensington Gardens** make up a huge open space in central London and are very popular for picnics. (Tube: High Street Kensington, Marble Arch, Green Park or Hyde Park Corner)

- **Regent’s Park** is wonderful open park in the northern part of central London. (Tube: Camden Town, Regent’s Park)
- **St James’s Park** has charming and romantic gardens ideal for picnics and for strolling around. St. James’s Park is situated between Buckingham Palace on the west and Horse Guards Parade on the east.
- **Hampstead Heath** is a huge open green space in north London. It’s not a tamed park as such and is remarkably wild for a metropolitan city location. The views from the Parliament Hill area of the heath overlooking the city skyline are quite stunning. (Tube: Hampstead, Overground: Hampstead Heath, Gospel Oak)
- **Richmond Park** also is a huge green space, but has a thriving deer population that is culled in the spring. Excellent place for cycling. (Tube: Richmond then Bus:371)
- **Bushy Park**, near to Hampton Court Palace, is the second-largest park in London. More low-key than its larger cousin, Richmond Park, it too has a large deer population. Bushy Park contains numerous ponds, bridleways, two allotments, and at its northern edge, the National Physical Laboratory.

2.5.4 Blue Plaques

English Heritage runs the **Blue Plaques** programme in London. Blue Plaques celebrate great figures of the past and the buildings that they inhabited. These are among the most familiar features of the capital’s streetscape and adorn the façades of buildings across the city. Since the first plaque was erected in 1867, the number has grown steadily and there are now more than 800. Recipients are as diverse as Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Sigmund Freud, Charles de Gaulle, Jimi Hendrix and Karl Marx. Look out for these around the city.

2.5.5 London Pass

Whereas some London museums offer free entry, some other top London attractions are ridiculously expensive. For example, entry to Westminster Abbey costs £20 per person (adult), and entry to the Tower is £23.10 per person if bought online (2015). These prices can be sometimes mitigated by a purchase of London Pass, which needs to be done at the **London Pass website**. The pass comes in several varieties and gives access to over 60 attractions, including both Westminster Abbey and the Tower. For example, a day pass costs £52 for an adult (2015). The best strategy, if one wants to visit several expensive high-profile attractions, is to buy a day pass and

to try visiting all of them in the same day. This obviously requires some advanced planning.

2.6 Do

London is a huge city, so all individual listings are in the appropriate **district** articles. To make the most of the city's tremendous cultural offerings (performing arts, museums, exhibitions, clubs, eateries and numerous others), visitors will do well to pick up a copy of a cultural magazine like *Time Out London* (available at most corner shops and newsagents) which gives detailed information and critiques on what's around town including show times and current attractions. The *Time Out London* website also has major shows listed. There is also a *Time Out* iPhone/iPod app available although the print version tends to be more detailed.

Live music

London is one of the best cities in the world for concerts, spanning from new musical trends to well known bands. Between huge concert facilities and small pubs, there are hundreds of venues that organise and promote live music every week. Many concerts, especially in smaller or less known places are free, so there is plenty of choice even for tourists on a budget.

London has long been a launchpad for alternative movements, from the mods of the 60s, punks of the 70s, new romantics of the 80s, the Britpop scene of the 90s and in recent years the indie rock movement spearheaded by The Libertines and their ilk. It has one of the world's most lively live music scenes: any band heading a British, European or World tour will play London, not to mention the local talent. London's music scene is incredibly diverse, covering all genres of music from electro-jazz to death-metal, and all sizes of bands, from the U2s and Rolling Stones of the world to one man bands who disband after their first gig. This diversity is reflected in prices. As a rough guide: £20+ for 'top 40' bands in arena sized venues, £10+ for established bands in mid sized venues, £6+ for up and coming bands and clubnights in smaller venues, £5- for upstarting bands in bars and pubs.

London has hundreds of venues spread out over the city and the best way to know what's going on where is to browse online ticket agencies, *Music Magazine's* gig directories and individual bands' MySpace pages. A few areas which have higher concentrations of pubs and venues than others. Kilburn in North West London has long been known as an Irish area; though their numbers have somewhat declined, a visit to a local pub will show their influence remains today. Kilburn's *The Good Ship* is a favourite place for young aspiring bands to try to get a foot off the ground, due to its inclusive policies and fair payment system. Good for those who would like to see

bands "before they were big", who appreciate £5 entrance fees, good beer and friendly staff.

One of the easiest to use and most comprehensive listings websites is **LondonEars**.

Theatre

The West End, especially the areas concentrated around Leicester Square, Covent Garden, Shaftesbury Avenue and Haymarket, is one of the world's premier destinations for theatre, including musical theatre. Covent Garden has the only Actor sponsored school in the city called the **Actors Centre** which also gave way to the **London Acting Network**, a London acting community support group. In the centre of Leicester Square there is an official half-price **TKTS** booth. Be wary of other ticket offices - including those claiming to be the "Official Half-Price Ticket Office" - as these may have higher prices, and have been known to sell fake tickets. For up-to-date listings see the weekly magazine *Time Out* or check the **Official London Theatre** site.

The South Bank is another area well known for world class theatre, and is home to the National Theatre and the Globe Theatre, the latter of which is London's only thatched building and an attraction in itself. Each Globe performance has over 700 £5 tickets. London's theatre scene outside of these two main districts is known as "the Fringe". Several of the larger and more established fringe theatres are an excellent way to see top quality productions of plays that may move to the West End, but at lower than West End prices. The most significant of these are:

- **The Royal Court** (*Nearest Tube is Sloane Square*). This theatre specialises in new writing, and recent productions that have transferred to great acclaim include *Enron* by Lucy Prebble and *Jerusalem* by Jez Butterworth, which had long runs in the West End and on Broadway.
- **The Menier Chocolate Factory** (*Short walk from London Bridge station*). This small theatre adjacent to Borough Market has done spectacularly well with revivals of musicals, including *Sunday in the Park with George* and *A Little Night Music* both by Stephen Sondheim and which had runs in the West End and Broadway.
- **The Lyric Theatre** (*Short walk from Hammersmith Tube station*), e-mail: enquiries@lyric.co.uk. Not to be confused with its West End namesake this fascinating theatre comprises a Victorian interior transplanted into a modern office building. It offers a mix of modern interpretations of Shakespeare, musicals (*Sprink Awakenings* was a notable success) and plays that reflect the multicultural nature of its location, in particular serving the Asian and Afro-Caribbean populations of West London.

Other things to do

- Changing the Guard**, Buckingham Palace SW1A 1AA. Buckingham Palace: alternate days 11:30 (except daily May-Jul). Horse Guards Arch: M-Sa 11:00, Su 10:00. The 45 min ceremony which occurs every morning outside Buckingham palace often features Guards regiments with bearskins and red tunics together with military bands. All these soldiers are fighting troops and there will be times when other regiments mount the guard at Buckingham Palace while units are deployed on active service overseas. In Whitehall, cavalry of the Household division on horseback and foot make the formal changeover between the previous guards on duty and the new guards at Horse Guards Parade. The Household division has guarded the royal family since 1660 and continue to do so today.
- Take a walk through London's **Royal Parks**. A good walk would start at Paddington station, and head through Kensington Gardens, Hyde Park, Green Park (passing Buckingham Palace) and St James Park before crossing Trafalgar Square and the River Thames to the **South Bank** and Waterloo Station. At a strolling pace this walk would take half a day, with plenty of places to stop, sit, drink, eat en route.
- Watch a film**. As well as the world-famous blockbuster cinemas in the West End, London has a large number of superb art house cinemas. In the summer months, there are often outdoor screenings at various venues, such as Somerset House and in some of the large parks.
- Watch football**. Take in a home match of one of the city's 15+ professional football clubs for a true experience of a lifetime as you see the passion of the "World's Game" in its mother country. London will have five clubs in the top Premier League in the upcoming 2015–16 season—Arsenal, Chelsea, Crystal Palace, Tottenham Hotspur, and West Ham United. A level down, in the Football League Championship, finds Brentford, Charlton Athletic, Fulham, and Queens Park Rangers (QPR). Five other clubs are in lower levels of the professional league system—Millwall in Football League One; and AFC Wimbledon, Barnet, Dagenham & Redbridge and Leyton Orient in Football League Two. Many of the bigger clubs will require booking in advance, sometimes many months ahead, but smaller clubs allow you to simply turn up on match day and pay at the gate. (Owing to strict anti-tout regulations, the resale of tickets is not allowed.)
- Wimbledon**. Wimbledon is the oldest tennis tournament in the world and is widely considered the most prestigious. Naturally it is a regular feature on the Tennis calendar. London goes "tennis crazy" for two weeks when the competition commences in late June and early July. One of the greatest traditions is to eat Strawberries and Cream with sugar. **W** 🚶 (Tube:Southfields)
- Open House London Weekend**. Explore many of the city's most interesting buildings during the London Open House Weekend - usually held on the third weekend of September. During this single weekend, several hundred buildings which are not normally open to the public are opened up. See website for details of buildings opening in any given year - some buildings have to be pre-booked in advance - book early for the popular ones!
- Winter skating**. London has a outdoor ice rinks that open in the winter months. Considered by some to be somewhat overpriced and overcrowded, they nonetheless have multiplied, easing congestion and increasing competition. Most charge from £10-12 (adults) for an hour on the ice, including skate hire. See the district articles for the **City of London**, **East End** and **Leicester Square**.
- Summer skating**. In summer (and also in winter, for the more dedicated) there is also a thriving roller skating (on inline and traditional "quad" skates) scene in London, catering to many disciplines including street hockey, freestyle slalom, dance, general recreational skating (including three weekly marshalled group street skates) and speed skating. This mostly centres around Hyde Park (on the Serpentine Road) and Kensington Gardens (by the Albert Memorial). See the district articles for **Mayfair-Marylebone** and **South West London**.
- Tours**. If you don't feel like splashing out on one of the commercial bus tours, you can make your own bus tour by buying an **Oyster** card and spending some time riding around London on the top deck of standard London buses. Of course you don't get the open air or the commentary, but the views are very similar. You will likely get lost but that is half the fun; if it worries you go for a commercial tour. One tour, for instance, can be obtained from The London Pass. There is a website for this company. Essentially what it does is sell a 24-hour ticket to use the company's buses to see the essential sites of London and a boat tour on the Thames (with the same ticket) provides a river tour of some of metropolitan London. Taking a tour like this is a good way to spend much of a first day in London, so you can decide what you want to see up close later. Other commercial tours offer similar services.

You *will* be able to find a ticket to a quality football match on any Saturday during the season. (updated Jun 2015)

- **Spitalfields Markets**, 65 Brushfield St London E1 6AA (*Straight down Bell Lane past 66-68 and keep walking*). Visit the thriving old Spitalfields markets which were the original London fruit markets. They have a daily market selling amazing vintage odds and ends and new fresh clothes! Visit 66/68 Bell Lane nearby to see a wealthy merchants house, rumor has it John Lennon once played on the roof of this building with Yoko Ono.
- **Insider London** deliver a range of unique alternative London walking tours. Tours include **London Street Art**, **London Underground**}, **Sustainable Architecture**, **Death and Debauchery** and **bespoke tours**.
- **NFL international series**. NFL (**American Football**) games held in Wembley stadium. three per year since 2014. Usually held on Sunday evenings or afternoons between October and December of each year.

2.7 Learn

2.7.1 Learn English

London is a natural place to learn and improve spoken and written English. There are a huge range of options, from informal language exchange services to evening classes and formal language schools. There unaccredited schools charging hefty fees and offering qualifications that are viewed as worthless. If choosing a course from a privately-run school or college, it is important to ensure the institution is accredited by the British Council.

Some links to British Council accredited schools:

- **Linguaenglish London**. Lingua London is a family-run English language school and has been teaching English only courses in London for over 10 years.
- **Rose of York**. Rose of York has been teaching English language courses for over 21 years and they offer full-time, intensive or part-time English courses

2.8 Work

London is one of the world's leading financial centres and so professional services is the main area of employment, although this sector has been hit hard by the global financial crisis. As of mid-2010, the job market in London has recovered somewhat. It is best to check with recruiters and staffing agencies.

London is hugely popular as a working holiday destination - work in bars and the hospitality industry is relatively easy to find.

Wages are generally higher in London than the rest of the UK, in part due to the addition of London weighting, although the cost of living is higher still.

2.9 Buy

London is one of the world's most fashion-conscious cities: it has an abundance of clothing shops from the flagship stores of **Oxford Street** to the tiny boutiques of **Brick Lane**.

Though not particularly known for bargain shopping, nearly anything you could possibly want to buy is available in London. That being said, during major sales, such as the annual Boxing Day sale after Christmas, prices for certain items have been known to be slashed by up to 70%, meaning that it is possible to find bargains for genuine luxury-branded goods if you are there at the right time. In Central London, the main shopping district is the West End (Bond Street, Covent Garden, Oxford Street and Regent Street). On Thursdays many West End stores close later than normal (19:00-20:00).

- **Oxford Street**. Main shopping street, home to flagship branches of all the major British high street retailers in one go including **Selfridges**, **John Lewis** (includes a food hall), **Marks & Spencer** and other department stores. It is best to shop here in the morning as the street becomes increasingly busy during the day. (Tube: Oxford Circus)
- **Regent Street** (between Oxford Circus and Piccadilly Circus). Includes such gems as Hamleys, considered to be London's flagship toy store spread out on seven levels, and the London Apple Store. (Tube: Oxford Circus, Piccadilly Circus)
- **Bond Street**. Some of the world's most luxurious designer stores such as Cartier, D&G, Jimmy Choo, Louis Vuitton and Versace. (Tube: Bond Street)
- **Tottenham Court Road**. Contains some of the world's most luxurious designer interior stores such as Heals, whilst the southern end is famous for its large concentration of hi-fi, computer and electronics stores. (Tube: Tottenham Court Road, Goudge Street)
- **Covent Garden**. Fashionable area home to quaint outlets and relatively expensive designer stores. Around Seven Dials, chains include Adidas Originals, All Saints, Carhartt, Fred Perry, G Star Raw and Stussy. For shoes head for Neal Street. Also the London Transport Museum whose gift shop has some of the best souvenirs in the city (old maps, vintage Tube posters, etc.) London's second Apple Store is located here as well. (Tube: Covent Garden)

- **Charing Cross Road** (near Covent Garden). Traditionally a book lover's haven, it still has the giant general bookstore Foyles, and a few specialist and antiquarian shops survive south of Cambridge Circus and on the side streets to the east. (Tube: Tottenham Court Road, Leicester Square, or Charing Cross)
- **Denmark Street** (at the north end of Charing Cross Road near Tottenham Court Road station). Also known as Tin-Pan Alley, this is a music lover's paradise with an amazing array of music shops, bars and clubs in one short street. (Tube: Tottenham Court Road)
- **Soho**. Offers alternative music and clothes. Now home to Chappell of Bond Street's historic music shop. (Tube: Oxford Circus)
- **Camden Town**. Alternative clothing and other alternative shopping, popular with teenagers and young adults. Has the headquarters for Cyberdog - a large shop which sells clothing and accessories for the club and rave scene. Camden Lock Market is also worth a visit to see independent artists plying their wares. (Tube: Camden Town)
- **Chelsea**. The King's Road is noted for fashion, homeware and children's clothing. On Wednesday many stores close late. (Tube: South Kensington)
- **Knightsbridge**. Department stores include the world-famous **Harrods** (includes a food hall) and Harvey Nichols. On Wednesday many stores close late. (Tube: Knightsbridge)
- **Beauchamp Place**. Shop where royalty and celebrities shop! One of the world's most unique and famous streets. It is known as one of London's most fashionable and distinctive streets, housing some of the best known names in London fashion, interspersed with trendy restaurants, jewellers and speciality shops including **Fortuny**. (Tube: Knightsbridge)
- **Westminster**. Some of the world's most famous shirts are made on Jermyn Street. Savile Row is home to some of the world's best men's bespoke tailors including Henry Poole, Gieves & Hawkes, H. Huntsman & Sons, and Dege & Skinner. (Tube: Westminster)
- **Westfield London** in Shepherd's Bush is one of the two largest shopping mall complexes in Greater London. It is served by the London Overground and the Underground. It is easiest to get here via public transport, but there is reasonable car parking space available. (Tube: Shepherd's Bush)

- **Westfield Stratford City** in Stratford is a large shopping mall complex located on the edge of the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. There is ample car parking and you can also park here to access the Park itself. This Westfield is easier to access by car due to its close proximity to the A12 road. (Tube/DLR: Stratford)

2.9.1 Markets

Borough Market is a great (if expensive) **food market**, offering fruit, vegetables, cheese, bread, meat, fish, and so on, much of it organic. The market opens Th-Sa. For market shopping, it's best to go in the morning, or after 14:00, since it starts to get very crowded by around 11:30 when the lunch crowd comes in. Lunch here is good though because there are many stalls that offer fresh made fast food on the spot; from ostrich burgers to falafel, most tastes are catered for. (Tube: London Bridge)

Old Spitalfields Market is an excellent **market for clothes** from up-and-coming designers, records, housewares, food, and all things trendy. Find it at 65 Brushfield St, E1 6AA (straight down Bell Lane past 66-68 and keep walking). Visit 66/68 Bell Lane nearby to see a wealthy merchants house, rumour has it John Lennon once played on the roof of this building with Yoko Ono. (Tube: Liverpool Street)

Also be sure to check out **Brick Lane Market**, **Greenwich Market** and **Portobello Road Market**.

2.9.2 Airports

Tax-free shops in airports are not strong in variety, prices are equal to London, and they close rather early as well. Shop listings at airport web sites can help to plan your tax-free (vs traditional) shopping. In the evening allow an extra half hour as closing hours are not always strictly respected.

Many big department stores in central London have an information booth where they can give you the paperwork needed to reclaim tax on purchases made at the store when you get to the airport.

2.9.3 Practical

London, like the rest of the UK, uses the British Pound Sterling.

Retail prices for most items, with a few exceptions, always include VAT (at 20%). Visa and MasterCard/Maestro are the two most commonly-accepted debit/credit cards, although most large shops will also accept American Express. If your card does not have a microchip (for Chip & PIN) some machines (for instance, at Tube stations) will be unable to read your card. Some

shops may ask you for additional identification, especially in relation to high value items, or items that are under age-related restrictions. Most shops no longer accept personal cheques. Contactless or NFC-enabled VISA and MasterCard cards can also be used for purchases of usually up to £20 in lieu of Chip & Pin, even on London Underground fare gates and buses.

£50 notes are not often used in everyday transactions and most shops will not accept them. *When exchanging money at a bureau de change make sure to ask for **£5**, **£10** and **£20** notes only.* The Bank of England's [guide to bank notes](#) may be of use.

2.10 Eat

It is a huge task for a visitor to find the “right place” to eat in London - with the “right atmosphere”, at the “right price” - largely because, as in any big city, there are literally thousands of venues from which to choose, ranging from fast food joints, pubs, and mainstream chains all the way up to some of the most exclusive restaurants in the world which attract the kind of clientele that don't need to ask the price. Sorting the good from the bad isn't easy, but London has something to accommodate all budgets and tastes. As London is one of the world's most multi-cultural cities, it is possible to find virtually every cuisine from around the world here if you look hard enough.

Following is a rough guide to what you might get, should you fancy eating out:

- **Up to £5** - you can get a good English pub or cafeteria breakfast with a rack of bacon, beans in tomato sauce, egg, sausage, orange juice and coffee or tea. Most pubs stop this offer at 11:00, but there are literally hundreds of backstreet cafes (colloquially known as “greasy spoons”) which will serve this sort of food all day. Most supermarket chains offer a “meal deal”, consisting of a sandwich, a drink and a bag of crisps or fruit for £3 together, while buying the sandwich only can be the same price. If you are going to be on a budget for several days, the supermarkets are a good option.
- **£7** - will buy you a couple of sandwiches and a soft drink, some takeaway fish and chips, or a fast food meal. There are also mostly Chinese restaurants which serve an all-you-can-eat buffet for around this price. These are dotted about the West End and it is well worth asking a member of public or a shopkeeper where the nearest one is. These restaurants make much of their revenue on drinks although these are usually still moderately priced. The food while not being of the finest standard is usually very tasty and the range of dishes available is excellent. There are literally thousands of so-called takeaways in London and are a cheap alternative to a restaurant

meal. Check with your hotel management if they allow food deliveries before ordering in. Most take-aways will offer some form of (usually very limited) seating, but not all do.

- **£6-10** - will get you a good pub meal and drink or a good Chinese/Indian/Italian/Thai/Vietnamese buffet. Many pubs have a buy-one-get-one-free offer, and you can either order two main dishes for yourself or bring a friend.
- **£15** - some more expensive French, Mediterranean and international restaurants do cheaper two or three course lunch menus.
- **£25** - offers you a lot more choice. You can have a good meal, half a bottle of wine and change for the tube home. There are plenty of modest restaurants that cater for this bracket.
- **£50 (to almost any amount!)** - with more money to spend you can pick some of the city's finer restaurants. It may be a famous chef (like Michel Roux, Jr, or Gordon Ramsay) or simply a place that prides itself on using the finest ingredients. Worth the splurge to impress a special someone. These establishments often need to be booked well in advance, and most will enforce a dress code of some sort, like **Rules** of Covent Garden, the oldest restaurant still extant.

Prices inevitably become inflated at venues closest to major tourist attractions - beware the so-called tourist traps. The worst tourist trap food, in the opinion of many Londoners, is served at the various steak houses (Angus Steak House, Aberdeen Steak House, etc. - they are all dotted around the West End and near the main train stations). Londoners wouldn't dream of eating here - you shouldn't either! Notorious areas for inflated menu prices trading on travellers' gullibility and lack of knowledge are the streets around the British Museum, Leicester Square and Piccadilly Circus. Even the major fast food chains charge a premium in their West End outlets - so watch out.

Pubs in the touristy areas of London are usually a poor choice for food although there are some brilliant “gastro-pubs” hidden away. In general avoid all pubs that have graphic-designed and printed menus - it's people's experiences in these kind of places that gives Britain a bad name for food! Look around you - see any locals tucking in? No? - then you shouldn't either. The other rule to follow when avoiding poor food is the same as in any other part of Europe - is the menu available in multiple languages? If yes then start running!

In the suburbs, the cost of eating out is reduced drastically. Particularly in large ethnic communities, there is a competitive market which stands to benefit the consumer. In East London for example, the vast number of chicken

shops means that a deal for 2 pieces of chicken, chips (fries) and a drink shouldn't cost you more than £3 especially on **Brick Lane**. Brick Lane is also known for being home to London's version of the **beigel** (spelt "bagel" in the United States and Canada, but pronounced the same way), with **Brick Lane Beigel Bake** and **Britain's First & Best Beigel Shop** being among the sole remnants of what was once a thriving Jewish community in the neighbourhood. Another good (and cheap) lunch option is a chicken or lamb doner (gyro) at many outlets throughout the city, though meat quality is often poor.

For more authentic Cockney food, try **pie and mash**, which originates from the working-class in the East End. Usually minced beef and cold water pastry pie served with mashed potato, mushy peas and "liquor" gravy, it tastes a lot better than it sounds. Some of the best pie houses are **M. Manze** in Peckham or **F. Cooke** in Hackney Broadway Market. Water Souchet and London Particular (green-pea and ham) are classic Cockney soups, though hard to find on menus. For those game, **jellied eels**, pickled-cockles and whelks are all traditional London seafood.

Central London's **Borough Market** offers wholesale produce as well as individual stalls that sell small bites and drinks for a casual and cheap meal. **Kappacasein Dairy** has a popular stand in the market famous for their grilled cheese which has earned the praise of **Giada De Laurentiis** and **Ruth Reichl**.

Of course, the quintessential British dish **fish and chips** is widely available in London, but the standards can be pretty disappointing in the tourist trap pubs. The best-rated fish and chips shops in London are generally located in the suburbs, away from all the tourist fare in central London.

Tipping may also be different than what you're used to. All meals include the 20% VAT tax and some places include a service fee (10-12%). The general rule is to leave a tip for table service, unless there's already a service charge added or unless the service has been notably poor. The amount tipped is generally in the region of 10%, but if there's a figure between 10-15% which would leave the bill at a conveniently round total, many would consider it polite to tip this amount. Tipping for counter service, or any other form of service, is unusual - but some choose to do so if a tips container is provided.

2.10.1 Restaurant streets

While central London is full of restaurants and cafes, there are some areas where the majority of diners are Londoners, rather than tourists, and in general you will get a much more pleasant, better value, and less crowded eating experience than you will find in the West End. These places are best visited in the evenings.

Clapham Junction is not just a train station, but also

home to many good restaurants and bars, in particular on Lavender Hill and Battersea Rise. (Overground: Clapham Junction)

Drummond Street in the Euston area has a fine mix of Indian restaurants - a short walk from Euston railway station. (Tube: Euston)

High Street Croydon Croydon is derided by most Londoners, however this suburban gem of a road has at least 30 decent restaurants, including three Argentinians, a South African curryhouse, a couple of fancy modern European brasseries, and just about every other type of cuisine you can think of. (Overground: East Croydon)

Kings Street extends on to Chiswick High Road from Hammersmith Tube Station and is one long road of a choice of restaurants at very reasonable prices, some bargain mentions are the Thai restaurants offering 2 course lunch for £7. Nearby Shepherds bush is about a 15 minute walk and is alive with bars and pubs in the evening. (Tube: Hammersmith)

Lordship Lane in East Dulwich provides a good selection of European restaurants and a few award winning gastropubs. (train: East Dulwich)

Upper Street in Islington has dozens of excellent restaurants, popular with young professionals. (Tube: Highbury & Islington, Angel).

Wardour Street, in Soho, is full of nice cafes and restaurants. (Tube: Piccadilly Circus)

2.10.2 Restaurant areas

As one of the world's most cosmopolitan cities, you can find restaurants serving food cuisine from nearly every country, some of it as good as, if not better than in the countries of origin.

Indian food in London is especially famous and there is hardly a district without at least one notable Indian restaurant.

If you are looking for other particular regional foods these tend to be clustered in certain areas and *some* examples are:

- **Brick Lane** in the **East End** is famous for Bangladeshi curries. (Overground: Shoreditch High Street)
- **Brixton** for African/Caribbean. (Tube: Brixton)
- Chinatown just off **Leicester Square** for Chinese. (Tube: Leicester Square)
- **Edgware Road** in **Marylebone** and **Paddington** is popular for Middle Eastern cuisine. (Tube: Edgware Road, Paddington)

- Drummond Street (just behind Euston railway station in the **London/Camden** district) has lots of vegetarian restaurants - mostly Indian. (Tube: Euston)
- **Finsbury Park** and nearby areas, for Greek and Turkish. (Tube: Finsbury Park)
- **Golders Green** for Jewish fare. (Tube: Golders Green)
- **Kingsland Road** for good cheap Vietnamese.
- **Tooting**, East Ham, **Wembley** and Southall for authentic & cheap Indian eateries including South Indian restaurants serving hot pongal, dosas, idlis and other South Indian “tiffin” items.

Other nationalities are equally represented and randomly dotted all over London. It is usually wisest to eat in restaurants on main thoroughfares rather than on quiet backstreets.

2.10.3 Chains

Like other capitals in the world, London has the usual array of fast food outlets. Sandwich shops are the most popular places to buy lunch, and there are a lot of places to choose from including Eat and Pret a Manger. Some Italian-style sandwich shops have a very good reputation and you can identify them easily by looking at the long queues at lunchtime. If all else fails, central London has lots of mini-supermarkets operated by the big British supermarket chains (e.g., Sainsbury's, Tesco) where you can pick up a pre-packed sandwich.

Fast food with an Asian flair is easy to find throughout the city, with lots of Busaba Eathai, Wagamama, and Yo! Sushi locations throughout the city. Nando's, a popular pseudo-Portuguese restaurant chain, has spicy peri-peri style grilled chicken. For burgers, GBK (Gourmet Burger Kitchen) has been joined by other franchises such as Byron and Haché.

List of popular chains

Sandwiches

- **Subway**. Offers hot and cold sandwiches for takeaway and limited sit-down eating. Store locator on website is a bit iffy but there are multiple central London locations including one at Tower Hill.

Burgers

- **McDonald's**. Perhaps the most famous and recognised burger chain in the world. Serves a consistent

menu at consistent prices. Locations pretty much everywhere. Some restaurants are open 24 hours a day.

- **Burger King**. Another famous burger chain with a similar ethos to McDonalds but fewer locations. The most central one is located in Leicester Square while others are more scattered.
- **Gourmet Burger Kitchen**, ☎ +44 345 450 8937, e-mail: info@gbk.co.uk. This chain is more expensive and with less focus on takeaway. Multiple central London locations. They can also be found in both Westfield London and Westfield Stratford.
- **Five Guys**. A recent arrival from the United States. Has multiple London locations but only a few in central London. You have to phone ahead to order takeaway.

Pizza

- **Domino's**. A popular takeaway only pizza chain. Multiple locations with fairly big delivery areas.
- **Pizza Express**. Very popular sit-down restaurants offering more “gourmet” pizzas (but not *too* gourmet) in multiple central London locations. They are family friendly as well.
- **Pizza Hut**. Offers both takeaway and a few sit-down restaurants. Has seven sit-down restaurants in the central London area.

Others

- **Giraffe**. Family friendly sit-down restaurants. Offers a variety of food including brunch, burgers, burritos, and ribs.
- **Wahaca**. Sit-down restaurants offering Mexican market food. Multiple central London locations.
- **Zizzi**. Sit-down restaurants that serve Italian food. Not many restaurants in central London but there are lots scattered across the city including one at Tower Hill.

2.10.4 Vegetarian and vegan

London has plenty of vegetarian and vegan restaurants many of them championing organic foodstuffs, and a quick search in Google will produce plenty of ideas, so you never have to see a piece of cooked meat all week.

If you are dining with carnivorous friends most restaurants will cater for vegetarians and will have at least a couple of dishes on the menu. Indian/Bangladeshi restaurants are generally fruitful, as they have plenty of traditional dishes (good Indian/Bangladeshi options can be found in the Brick Lane area of Spitalfields or further afield in East Ham, Tooting Broadway and Southall. These also tend to be very cheap eats with authentically prepared dishes with a true local ambience). There are also many vegetarian Thai buffet places where you can eat fake meat in tooth-achingly sweet sauces for under £5. These can be found on Greek and Old Compton Streets in **Soho** and **Islington High Street**.

Mildred's is a great veggie restaurant in the back streets of Oxford Circus.

2.10.5 Religious

Due to the mix of cultures and religions, many London restaurants cater well for religious dietary requirements. The most common signs are for Halal and Kosher meat, from burger joints to nice restaurants. There are lots of Halal restaurants and shops all over London including Whitechapel Rd and Brick Lane in the **East End**, **Bayswater**, **Edgware Rd** and **Paddington** and in many parts of **north London**. There are plenty of Kosher restaurants in **Golders Green**, **Edgware** and **Stamford Hill** along with some central delis such as on Charing Cross Road.

2.10.6 Convenience stores and supermarkets

Convenience stores such as Tesco Metro, Sainsbury Central/Local, Budgens, Costcutter, SPAR, Co-op as well as privately-run "corner shops" sell pre-made sandwiches, snacks, alcohol, cigarettes, drinks etc. Most are open from 05:00-23:00 although some such as Tesco Metro or convenience stores located at petrol stations may open 24 hours (although some will stop selling alcohol after a certain time) that Whistlestop convenience stores (located in or around train stations) are notoriously overpriced and should be avoided.

If using a petrol-station convenience store late at night (i.e. after 23:00) the store will be locked and you should order and pay through the external service window.

Supermarkets

Although Tesco, Sainsbury's and other supermarkets run smaller stores in central London, full-size superstores (including Morrisons and ASDA) are rare in the city centre and usually require a 15-20 minute Tube ride to reach them. The closest large stores to central London are:

- The **ASDA** store close to Crossharbour DLR Station on the Lewisham line. This is about a 15 minute ride from Bank station or at the end of the 135 24-hour bus route.
- The **Tesco** in the Surrey Quays shopping mall which is next to Canada Water station on the Jubilee line - again about 10–15 minutes from the centre of town.
- There are larger **Sainsbury's** stores in both Whitechapel (the nearest Tube is Whitechapel) and in Camden Town (nearest Tube is Camden Town). Both of these stores are located in Travelcard Zone 2.

Marks & Spencer also operate food halls branded as "Simply Food". They can be found **across central London**. The smaller ones, such as those found in train stations, tend to focus mostly on "ready to eat" food such as sandwiches, drinks, and snacks.

2.11 Drink

London is home to a great many pubs, bars and night-clubs. The online city guide *View London* and the weekly magazine *Time Out* tell what's going in London's night life, as well as cultural events in general.

2.11.1 Pubs & bars

London is an expensive place and your drink is likely to cost more than its equivalent elsewhere in the United Kingdom. Expect to pay around £4 for a pint of lager or Guinness (or around £3.50 for a pint of ale) in an average pubs. As with restaurants, pubs close to major tourist attractions cash in on travellers' gullibility so be on your guard for the tourist traps where higher prices are not unheard of. Despite this however it is still possible to find a sub-£3 pint in central London - it takes some determination. If you're looking to save money and meet travellers then pub crawls are guided tours that run nightly in central London. You'll save the ticket price on the savings you get from discounted drink deals and what you would have spent on club entry. The "1 Big Night Out" pub crawl is the biggest operator and starts from near Leicester square underground station.

Many local pubs, especially those run by chains like Wetherspoons and Screams tend to be more reasonably priced with good drink promotions on weekday nights and during the day. As with the rest of the UK, chain pubs abound which Londoners tend to avoid like the plague. A good place to get cheap beer is at any one of the **Sam Smith pubs** found across Central London, including Soho and the City.

In the **Bloomsbury** area, check out **The Court** (near the north end of Tottenham Court Road) and **The Rocket**

(Euston Road). Both are fairly cheap to drink at, given that they cater for students of the adjacent University College London. Directly opposite the **British Library** is **The Euston Flyer**, popular with locals and commuters alike given its close proximity to **St Pancras International** railway station.

Classier bars and pubs can be much more expensive. However, the cost of alcohol drops significantly the further away you go from the centre (**West London** tends to be an exception, with prices pretty much the same as the centre). For a more reasonably priced (but brilliant) cocktail bar than you'll find in the central and West End areas **Lost Society** in **Clapham** situated on Lavender Hill, cocktails here cost around £7-8 each.

Two historic London breweries are Young's and Fullers. Young's was founded in **Wandsworth** in 1831 (but has relocated to **Bedford**) and nowadays it has 123 pubs in central London alone. **The Founder's Arms** next to the Tate Modern on the river embankment, is one of the brewery's most well known establishments with a great view of the River Thames. Fullers was founded a bit later in 1845 at Chiswick (where you can take a most enjoyable tour of the brewery, including beer-tasting) and the jewel in its crown is probably the Grade I listed **Old Bank Of England** on **Fleet Street**, thanks to its breath-taking interiors. Fuller's flagship beer is the famous 'London Pride', however to try a truly authentic Cockney pint, ask at bars if they serve a seldom seen now **Porter**, a dark style of beer originating in London in the 18th Century, similar but less heavy than a **Stout**. For a different taste, try a **gin and tonic**.

It's hard to say which pub in London is truly the oldest but it's easy to find contenders for the title. Many pubs were destroyed in the Great Fire of London – indeed, Samuel Pepys supposedly watched the disaster from the comfort of **the Anchor** in **Borough**. Pubs were rebuilt on sites that claimed to have been working pubs since the 13th century. **Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese** in **Fleet Street** is on the site of an old monastery and its cellar dates back to the 13th century. The **Princess Louise** and **Citty of York** are two lovely pubs close by, along High Holborn with interesting decor; as is the **Jerusalem Tavern** of Farringdon, a converted Georgian coffee shop, which sells the Norfolk beer, St. Peters. **The Royal Oak** of Borough, is another pub which is the only representative of an out-of-town brewery in London, that of Harvey's of Lewes. The food is fantastic as is the atmosphere. Those interested in London's historic and literary connections can't miss **The Spaniard's Inn** in **Hampstead**. Dick Turpin is said to have been born here; John Keats and Charles Dickens both drank here; it's mentioned in Dickens' *The Pickwick Papers* and Bram Stoker's *Dracula*. The Goose at **Catford**, was reputedly a favourite hole of Karl Marx.

For the best view in the city, try pubs on the banks of the Thames. The **South Bank** has lots of good bars with plenty of iconic bridges and buildings in sight the cocktail

bar in the OXO tower is a secret that most tourists walk by everyday. Heading towards **Bermondsey**, pub crowds become a little less touristy.

If you're after gastropubs, you may like to visit London's first, **The Eagle**, in **Clerkenwell**, established in 1991. You can also try Time Out's favourite newcomer, **The Princess Victoria** on Uxbridge Road, **Shepherd's Bush**.

The "Bermondsey Beer mile" is home to many craft breweries which are open in the middle of the day most Saturdays. Situated under the railway arches on lines going to London Bridge, these quaint breweries are home to high quality beer at cheap to average London prices (~£2.00 per half). Best places include Kernel Brewery and Brew by Numbers.

Wine buffs can enjoy the famous **Davys** wine bars that dot the city. The company, established in 1870, import wines and own over thirty bars in the centre. Other big names in wine include the Michelin-starred **Cellar Gascon** and **Vinoteca**, both in **Smithfield**. For a posh wine tasting experience, there is **Vinopolis** by Borough Market, though a tour price will be as eye-watering as the produce sampled.

Big hotels, such as The Langham, The Dorchester and The Ritz, and upmarket clubs around **Leicester Square** and **Soho** are reliable bets for a date at the bar. The Connaught Hotel in **Mayfair-Marylebone** boasts its house bar, plus the *Time Out* magazine favourite, The Coburg. Still in Mayfair, The Polo Bar at The Westbury is very intimate.

You can rely on most up-and-running bars to offer a short cocktail menu and there are also bars that position themselves as cocktail specialists.

2.11.2 Nightclubs

Nightlife is an integral part of London life and there are countless nightclubs in and around Central London with music to suit even the most eclectic of tastes. Districts in London tend to specialize to different types of music.

The **Farringdon/Hoxton/Shoreditch** area has many clubs playing drum and bass, techno, house and trance music and is home to the superclub Fabric (which is closed, and due to re-open). The clubs in this area are often home to the world's top DJs and attracts a lively, hip and friendly crowd. Big name drum and bass, house and techno DJs also appear at clubs scattered around Kings Cross (Egg, Scala), Elephant (Ministry of Sound, Corsica Studios), Southwark (Cable), Whitechapel (Rhythm Factory), and at mixed nights at the Vauxhall clubs (see below). Nights are also hosted in disused Hackney warehouses or south London car parks.

The area around **Mayfair** is home to the more upmarket clubs in London. This area attracts a rather more showy crowd who love to flaunt what they have and is a must

go to celebrity spot. Beware that drinks are ridiculously expensive and many clubs operate a guestlist-only policy. Music played here is often of the commercial chart, funky house, hip hop and R&B genre. Notable clubs include China White, Luzz, Maddox, Jalouse, Funky Buddha, Whisky Mist, Mahiki, No 5 Cavendish Square, Embassy, Vendome and Maya.

Nightclubs around the **Leicester Square** area hold the same music policy, but are rather more accessible, with numerous club and pub crawl promoters scattered around the area offering deals on entry. Notable clubs are Cafe De Paris, 1 Big Night Out pub crawl, Penthouse, Sound, Tiger Tiger, Zoo bar and Ruby Blue.

The **Camden** area is home to clubs which play Indie, metal and rock music and notably the Electric Ballroom, the world-famous Koko (Fridays) and Underworld. Camden clubs are mostly shut (or empty) on the weekdays. In South London, London's Afro-Caribbean centre **Brixton** is home to numerous venues with all kinds of music, including a particular presence in reggae, ska, afrobeat, hiphop, and dubstep. In recent years more venues have opened in Peckham and New Cross.

2.11.3 Gay and lesbian

London has a vibrant gay environment with countless bars, clubs and events in almost every district in the city.

The nucleus of London's gay scene is undoubtedly Old Compton St and the surrounding area in **Soho** but over the last couple of years **Vauxhall** has seen a boom in Gay venues. You will find that many areas, particularly in **Camden Town** and **Shoreditch**, that straight bars will have a mixed clientele. To find out what is going on during your visit, you can check:

- **qxmagazine.com**. A weekly magazine that comprehensively covers the London gay scene with handy night by night listings available on-line and in print
- **Boyz Magazine**. Which is published fortnightly and is freely available at most London gay venues, and contains listings of everything that is happening in all the major clubs in London and the South East.

Gay Pride is held every year in June with parade and street parties. The choice of places to go sometimes seem to be unmanageable.

- **London Gay and Lesbian Switchboard (LLGS)**, ☎ +44 20 7837 7324, e-mail: admin@llgs.org.uk. This voluntary service has been operating since 1974 and as well as providing counselling they offer an incredibly thorough information service about Gay events, accommodation and businesses in London.

2.12 Sleep

London has hundreds of options for accommodation to suit all budgets from hostels through historic bed and breakfasts (B&Bs), mainstream chain hotels and apartments all the way to some of the most exclusive luxury hotels in the world such as The Savoy, The Ritz and Claridges where a stay in a top suite will cost upwards of £1,000 per night. The average cost of hotel accommodation in London is higher than in any other major British city. Prices invariably become inflated close to major sporting tournaments (such as the London Marathon, Wimbledon or major England football/rugby fixtures), or other important events taking place in the city - so it pays to plan your trip around such occasions or book your accommodation well in advance.

In general, most people tend to stay within "Zone 1" of the underground, however do your research carefully - sometimes being that extra five minutes away from a station can make the difference in cost and quality of local food and drinking options. In any case, you can always catch a bus anyway - by far the best way to see the city and get about generally.

2.12.1 Hotels

Your budget will have a lot to do with what part of London you will want to stay in. Tourist-standard prices range from £20-200 per person per night. Expect smaller than average rooms especially at the low end of this range. As a general rule, expect to pay between £75-150 per night for a 2 or 3 star hotel in the central area of the city. Many of the big name chain hotels now offer substantial discounts (with rates often down as low as £30-£50 per room per night) if you book well in advance, but the drawback is that you have to pay the full amount upfront at the time of booking and there are no refunds if you cancel. The heart of the West End is the most expensive place to stay and most hotels are either 4 or 5 star and most will command a hefty price premium.

The City can also be very expensive during the week, as it relies heavily on the business market but prices often drop over the weekend and it can be a good way of getting into a higher standard of accommodation than you could otherwise afford. Bear in mind though that this part of central London becomes a ghost town over the weekend, and you will find that few (if any) bars and restaurants will be open.

A top tip however is to always check the likes of London-Town.com, Expedia and LateRooms as well as the hotel's own website - since there are often deals to be had which can reduce the costs significantly.

The extra cost of getting around is probably not significant compared to savings made by staying in a hotel further out near an Underground or railway station. Always

be sure though to check where the closest Tube station is to your hotel. Staying further out will be cheaper but when travelling in allow 1-2 min per Tube stop (near the centre), around 2-3 min per stop (further out) and 5-10 min per line changes. This can easily total up to a 1 hour journey if there is a walk at each end. There are many hotels close to transport hub stations such as Stratford, Greenwich, Ealing Broadway, Wimbledon and East Croydon.

A more imaginative alternative could be to stay in a nearby town with quick and easy train travel to London. For example, lively **Brighton** (otherwise known as 'London by Sea') is only an hour away, but your budget will go much further and there are excellent accommodation options.

Some of the better value options are to be found in the following central districts:

- **Bloomsbury**. Relatively quiet district with a wide range of accommodation, and has enjoyed a surge in popularity following Eurostar's move to St Pancras International station. Cartwright Gardens features a dozen small B&Bs in historic houses. Many budget options are located on Argyle Square (just off the Euston Road). Gets a little seedy towards and beyond King's Cross railway station.
- **Earl's Court and West Kensington** in west central London. Budget and modest accommodation as well as good 4-star hotels. Be careful with the cheapest accommodation in this area though as it will likely be very seedy indeed.
- **Paddington and Bayswater** in north west central London. Has undergone a lot of change largely resulting from the Heathrow Express train coming into Paddington station. Good hotels can be found in the immediate area of the station and in quieter spots a short walk away as well as in the traditional mid-range accommodation area further south in Bayswater.
- **Westminster**. Lots of small B&Bs around the back of Victoria railway station in the Pimlico area.

A slightly left-field option is to check the **Landmark Trust**, a building preservation charity who purchase notable old buildings in the UK, renovate and run them as holiday lettings. An interesting approach to saving old buildings for sure.

Try booking a hotel in Canary Wharf if you are staying for the weekend - 4* hotels can be very cheap due to a lack of business customers. This also goes for the small area around Bank tube station.

2.12.2 Hostels

Not necessarily as unpleasant as you may think, and as long as you don't mind sharing with others, they are the most cost-effective option and also offer breakfast, and kitchens for self-catering.

There are independent hostels throughout the city which are listed in the relevant district articles.

In the summer season, many of the colleges and universities in Central London open up their **student halls of residence** as hotels during vacations, at usually much lower rates than proper hotels, but expect very basic facilities (e.g. communal bathrooms, no catering facilities), but you will get the personal privacy that you don't get in hostels for not very much more cost.

2.12.3 Apartments

Some apartment-hotels offer good value accommodation for those travelling in a group - often better quality than many hotels but at a cheaper individual rate per person.

Capsule-style crash spaces are just arriving, but they are only in central locations.

Short-term apartment or flat rentals are an attractive option for many travellers to London, and there are innumerable agencies offering them, almost all of them nowadays through the internet. A key consideration for renting a short term flat is if you are visiting in a large group or a family. In such cases a short stay in London can be more affordable compared to staying in a hotel. Your best protection is to deal only with London apartment rental agencies which have been recommended by independent sources you feel you can trust, and to deal only with those that accept confirmations via credit card.

2.12.4 Alternative accommodation

Travellers can choose from a variety of homestay styles such as homeswapping (lovehomeswap.com), living in a temporarily vacated room (anyfriendofours.com) or the high end version where companies specialize in homestays with full hotel services such as housekeeping and concierge (viveunique.com). Most of the time these options are safe but it is important that guests and homeowners take equal precaution to ensure their valuables are safe guarded. Homeowners should always provide guests with terms and conditions of their live-in house rules to ensure there are no mishaps and both parties are at ease. This new trend allows guests to enjoy a less touristy version of London as most of these homes will be in residential areas which each have their own unique charm and experiences.

2.12.5 Holiday rentals

Hotels are generally expensive in London when compared with other European cities. As a result the city has a vast number of self-catering accommodation on offer, many of them are apartments in various central areas of the capital. Well established local sites include **Holidaylettings.co.uk**, **Perfect Accommodation**, **Space Apart Hotel**, **Owners Direct** and **Alpha Holiday Lettings**. If you are looking to stay in just a room or part of the property, **Airbnb** matches holiday makers with hosts who only rent out part of their homes.

- Free wifi is also available in many cafes, and the following chain outlets: McDonald's, Pret A Manger, JD Wetherspoon pubs, Costa Coffee, Caffe Nero, Starbucks.

2.13 Connect

2.13.1 Wi-Fi access

London is unfortunately not noted for free public wifi access - although the number of hotspots is continuing to grow.

- **O2 Free Hotspots.** O2 offers free WiFi around London's busiest streets including parts of Oxford and Regents Street. Click on the link to see the map. Free.
- **Online-4-Free.com.** One of the most promising (it seems) for traveller-frequented areas, a service that provides blanket coverage along the banks of the River Thames (and some surrounding streets) from Millbank down to Greenwich Pier, and a small 'cloud' in Holborn - the free service asks only that you view a short advertisement every half hour to get 256 kbit/s (higher rates and ad-free come at a small charge). Free.
- **Tate Modern.** Offering for a trial period free wi-fi internet access.
- **British Library.** Offers free internet access throughout the library with registration.
- **Royal Festival Hall at Southbank Centre.** Offers free unencrypted wi-fi throughout the building without registration.
- **Apple Store Regent St** (*tube:Oxford Circus*). The Apple Store on Regent St offers free wifi and has a theatre at the back of the first floor where you can sit and spend an hour or two.
- **The Tube.** Virgin Media offers wifi access at tube stations. Some mobile phone networks offer free access, otherwise you have to pay.

2.14 Stay safe

In an emergency, telephone "999" (or "112"). This number connects to Police, Ambulance and Fire/Rescue services. You will be asked which of these three services you require before being connected to the relevant operator.

2.14.1 Crime

Like many big cities, London has a variety of social problems, especially begging, drug abuse and theft (mobile phones are a favourite, often snatched by fast-moving cyclists).

London has the oldest police force in the world, The **Metropolitan Police Service**, and on the whole, London is a safe place to visit and explore. Alongside the regular Police, there are over 4,000 Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) that provide a highly visible presence on the streets and can deal with low-level crime. Normal precautions for the safe keeping of your personal possessions, as you would in any other city, are suggested.

The Metropolitan Police have placed significant resources in combating street level crime. Working in conjunction with borough councils, they have brought the level of theft and **pickpocketing** in major retail areas in London to a manageable level. Pickpocketing in London is in general not as rampant as in other major European cities, though it still pays to be vigilant and take the usual precautions in securing your valuables.

Street gang culture is a growing problem in London as with many other cities in England. While most groups of youngsters are not likely to present any danger to tourists, some people feel the need to be slightly more vigilant in certain areas, especially certain outer suburbs. Violent crime is in general not common, and typically occurs in impoverished neighbourhoods that tourists are unlikely to wander into by accident.

Main precautions to take

Keep valuables out of sight: Many crimes are opportunistic - a lot of mobile phones are snatched from restaurant tables. By keeping items such as cash and mobile phones out of sight theft can easily be prevented. Don't flash your cash unnecessarily!

Keep bags zipped up and close to your body: If your bag is hanging open it's like putting up a flashing neon sign saying "Steal from me!" Use zips and inside pockets to secure items wherever possible. Never leave valuables

such as mobile phones, wallets or travel documents in an outside section of your bag.

Be aware of your surroundings: Before using your mobile phone have a look around you. Put your back against something solid such as a wall or window so you can't be approached from behind. Constantly look around you even if you are in a busy area. **Don't walk and talk/text!**

Late at night

If you're planning to go out late at night and are worried about safety try to frequent crowded areas such as the West End. There are always plenty of people on the street, even at 04:00. Generally, outside central London, the South, and East suburban areas are considered more dangerous, notably **Brixton**, **Peckham** and **Hackney**, although some parts of North-West London such as **Harlesden** and **northern Camden** are also known trouble spots.

The main problem right throughout London to various degrees is drunken behaviour, particularly on Friday and Saturday nights and after football matches. Loud and rowdy behaviour is to be expected and fights and acts of aggression also occur. If you are harassed, it is best to simply ignore and walk away from those concerned. Trouble spots can be expected around popular drinking locations such as **Soho** and in various suburban centres.

2.14.2 Scams and cons

London has a large number of con artists around, all trying to convince you to hand over your money one way or another.

Cup and ball game: This is perhaps the most common scam and is frequently seen on the busier pedestrian bridges such as Westminster Bridge. A person will lay out a mat with three cups on it. They will pretend to hide a ball under one of the cups, move the cups around, and then ask you to place a bet on where the ball-containing cup has landed. There is no ball - the con artist will have spirited it away! This con always has people acting as lookouts in the crowd and they will pretend to win every now and again so it looks like the game is winnable. Also beware if you are just stopping to watch as you could be pick-pocketed! The best defence is to walk straight past these events and not engage at all. If you have a mobile phone/cellphone that works in the UK **you can phone the police on 101** (the non-emergency equivalent to 999) and report them, but it is advised to move away to do this as you may be harassed by the con artist or their lookouts if they overhear you.

Overzealous street performers: Most street performers are happy to just do their thing, let you watch, and then you can throw them a few coins if you liked the show. However, some street performers will actively grab and

harass passers-by in order to get attention and money. They may forcefully pose with you and ask you to take a photograph and then demand money for the photo opportunity. They may also take this opportunity while you're distracted to pick-pocket you. Don't engage with any street performer who is pushy or forceful - try and walk away, or call out "Get off me!" or "No!" and draw attention to yourself if you can't escape easily. Again, you can report these street performers on the 101 number as above.

Tissue sellers on trains: Beggars will get onto a train and place tissues on the seats with a note begging for money. They want you to feel pity for them and buy the tissues. This is an organised scam and the money goes towards criminal enterprises. If you see this happening on a train don't buy the tissues and ignore anyone who asks you for money for them. If you're above ground you can text the British Transport Police on **61016** to report it.

"Clip joint": Every night, **Soho** presents a particular danger: the "clip joint". The usual targets of these establishments are lone male tourists. Usually, an attractive woman will casually befriend the victim and recommend a local bar or even a club that has a "show". The establishment will be near-desolate, and, even if the victim has only a drink or two, the bill will run to hundreds of pounds. If payment is not immediately provided, the bouncers will lock the "patrons" inside and take it by force or take them to an ATM and stand over them while they extract the cash. To be safe, if a woman you just met suggests you a place, try to recommend a different bar. If she insists on hers then walk away and do not listen to her suggestions. Sometimes this con trick takes place when someone is lured into a private club with the promise of something perhaps more than a drink (like a 'private show' or sex for a small amount of money). A 'hostess fee' will appear on the bill for several hundred pounds, even though there has been nothing more than polite conversation.

"Stress tests": If anyone offers you a free "stress test", they are likely trying to recruit you into the Church of Scientology. The best option is to walk away or just say "*No thank you*" politely, as people are commonly harassed into giving personal details.

Needing money for phone/train tickets/the bus/et al.: A man or woman will approach you asking for money for public transport. They will claim that they have lost their Travelcard or that it has been damaged somehow. Most people upon losing their Travelcard will seek aid at a train station and not approach random strangers! Another variant of this scam exists wherein a man or woman will ask for change so they can make a call at a phone box (this is a frequent scam in the Shoreditch area). Occasionally a man with a very convincing fake gash on his arm will ask for money so that he can get to hospital (strangely refusing the offer of you calling an ambulance, as you would do for most injured people in the street).

Ticket machine scam: One of the most popular scams in London, is the ticket machine scam: while buying a ticket at a train station someone will approach you and act as if they want to help you buy the right ticket. In reality they will wait until your money is in the machine, then lean across, cancel the transaction and pocket your cash. Say “No thanks” politely - you know what ticket you want to buy!

Selling/asking for a donation for “lucky heather”: This scam, usually operated by women, involves someone handing you “lucky heather” (a small flower usually wrapped in foil) and then either trying to sell it to you or asking for a monetary donation. They will come up with a vague charity (“money for sick children”, “money for orphaned babies”, and so on) and show you a purse full of supposed “donations”. If you are handed one of these flowers either hand it back or drop it on the ground and leave. Be aware that you if you take the flower and leave without “donating” you could be chased and harassed by the people involved in the scam. This scam has been seen in Chinatown around the time of Chinese New Year.

2.14.3 Street collections

Although not illegal, London is a known hotspot for charity collectors, some of whom can be extremely persuasive in trying to obtain a donation; therefore they have earned the name “charity muggers” or “chuggers”. If you do not want to donate, be polite but forceful, and under no circumstances provide any form of bank details. Larger charities ask their collectors to have specific and verifiable identification.

2.14.4 Transport

Don't take illegal minicabs (see Get around for details). Minicabs are not allowed to ply for trade on the street and any minicab doing this should be avoided.

Travelling on the lower deck of a night bus is generally safer, as there are more passengers around, and you are visible to the bus driver.

If you have been the victim of crime on the railways or the London Underground you should report the crime as soon as possible to the British Transport Police, who have an office in most major train and Tube stations. Or if you have been a victim of crime in the City of London you should report the crime to the City of London Police. Elsewhere, you should report your crime as normal to the Metropolitan Police.

If you've lost an item on the Underground, Overground or Docklands Light Railway, in a licensed black cab or on a red London bus you should contact the TfL Lost Property Office (Tube: Baker Street) as soon as possible. In respect of other rail and coach services, the relevant service operator should be contacted.

2.15 Stay healthy

The UK's **National Health Service (NHS)** will provide **emergency** treatment for anyone in the UK, irrespective of whether they reside in the UK, but if you are not UK resident you will be expected to make a contribution (up to the entire cost) towards such treatment. The UK Government has, as of 2015, announced it intends to start charging for the use of the NHS (including emergency treatment) by visitors from outside the EU, to reduce the impact of so-called “health tourism”.

You can find NHS services near you [here](#).

2.15.1 Emergencies

For a *serious* medical emergency (unconsciousness, stroke, heart attack, heavy bleeding, broken bones, etc.) dial **999** or **112** and ask for an ambulance. These numbers are free of charge from any telephone. As emergency response is prioritised in London, do not be concerned if the telephone operator asks you for details about the nature of the emergency. Depending on the urgency an ambulance will probably be dispatched while you are talking to the operator so don't be worried about wasting time. The operator will also be able to reassure you and offer you advice on how to help the patient until the ambulance arrives. You should also try to have an address or general location of the patient before you call as this will help to save time. Please also try to stay with the patient even if you do not know them.

London's ambulance coverage is excellent with highly trained and friendly staff. For instances of major trauma there is also **London's Air Ambulance**, two helicopters that can deliver an advanced trauma team within minutes to anywhere in London. At night the helicopters do not fly and a rapid response car is dispatched instead.

Emergencies can also be dealt with at most NHS hospitals with an **A & E** (Accident & Emergency) department. In A & E, be prepared to wait for a long time (the average is 4 hours) during busy periods before being given treatment if your medical complaint is not too serious. For less serious problems, try a GP's (“General Practitioner”, or family doctor) surgery, **Urgent Care Centre**, or a high-street pharmacist.

Major hospitals

Major A & E hospitals in London are:

- **Central Middlesex Hospital**, Acton Ln, Park Royal, NW10 7NS
- **Charing Cross Hospital**, Fulham Palace Rd, Hammersmith, W6 8RF

- **Chelsea & Westminster Hospital**, 369 Fulham Rd, Chelsea, SW10 9TR
- **Greenwich District Hospital**, Vanbrugh Hill, SE10 9HE
- **Guy's Hospital**, St. Thomas St, Bankside, SE1 9RT
- **Homerton University Hospital**, Homerton Row, Homerton, E9 6SR
- **King's College Hospital**, Denmark Hill, SE5 9RS
- **Lewisham Hospital**, High St, SE13 6LH
- **Queen Elizabeth Hospital**, Stadium Road, Woolwich, SE18 4QH
- **Queen Mary's Hospital**, Roehampton Ln, SW15 5PN
- **Royal Free Hospital**, 23 East Heath Rd, Hampstead, NW3 1DU
- **The Royal London Hospital**, Whitechapel, E1 1BB
- **St. Marys NHS Trust**, Praed St, Paddington, W2 1NY
- **St. Thomas' Hospital**, Lambeth Palace Rd, South Bank, SE1 7EH
- **University College London Hospitals NHS Trust**, 25 Grafton Way, Bloomsbury, WC1E 6DB
- **Whittington Hospital**, Highgate Hill, Archway, N19 5NF

2.15.2 General medical advice

For advice on non-emergency medical problems, you can ring the 24 hour NHS Direct service on 111.

Treatment for non-emergency conditions, or for hospital admissions resulting from emergencies, is normally free for people holding a European Health Insurance card (EHIC) issued by most European governments, or certain other countries [listed here](#). In the absence of such a card you would be well advised to get private travel health insurance.

At large organised events, and in many theatre productions, basic medical assistance and first aid is provided through the support of organisations such as St John Ambulance or the stewards for the event.

Pharmacies

Pharmacies (often referred to as *chemists*) are found across London, with chains such as **Lloyds Pharmacy** and **Boots** being prevalent. Many independent pharmacies also exist. Most large supermarkets also have pharmacy counters, although these do not stock some of the stronger remedies. Unlike other European countries, pharmacies are often not marked by prominent neon 'green cross' signs.

Pharmacists are also able to offer advice on many health problems and recommend medicines that might help. For certain remedies (for example stronger painkillers) you may have to ask at the counter, as for regulatory reasons these can only be sold by pharmacists under strict protocols. Don't be alarmed if the pharmacist asks some basic diagnostic questions, or for ID.

2.15.3 Private healthcare

London is also home to some of the most renowned - and most expensive - private medical treatment facilities, the most notable of which being the host of private consultants and surgeons on **Harley Street** in **Marylebone**.

2.16 Cope

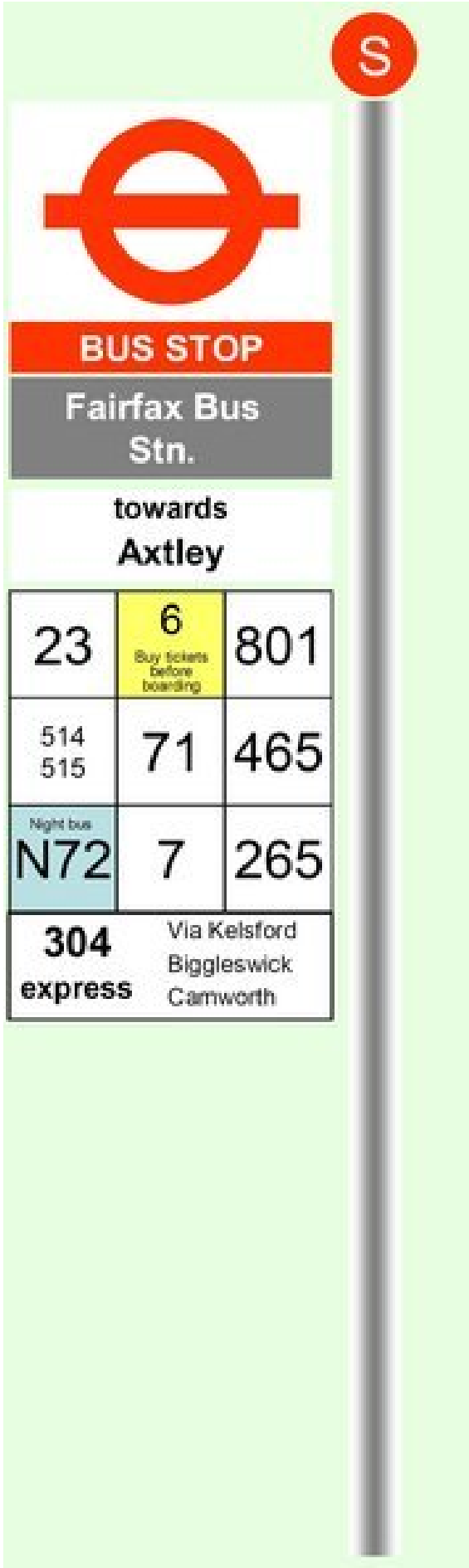
2.16.1 Embassies and High Commission

Some countries have a separate consulate for issuing visas, passports, notary services, etc., found in a different location than the main embassy/high commission. It is advised to check their website or call them ahead of time if you need these services.

2.17 Go next

- **Aylesbury** - Historic market town, 35 miles north-west of London.
- **Bath**. Roman relics, rich in Georgian architecture and makes an easy day trip from Paddington station.
- **Berkhamsted** - Historic market town, features the ruined castle of William the Conqueror, canal-side pubs and Ashridge Forest.
- **Birmingham**. Boasts many events, pubs and clubs, and shopping opportunities. Trains can take as little as 85 minutes from Euston or Marylebone or a coach from Victoria takes 3 hours.
- **Bournemouth**. Large beach resort on the edge of the **New Forest**, with seven miles of golden sand. Only a two hour ride on the train from Waterloo station.

- **Brighton.** Fashionable beach town about 90 km (55 mi) south. Less than an hour by train from Victoria station.
- **Brussels (Belgium)** Only 2 hours via Eurostar from St. Pancras Station.
- **Canterbury.** Site of the foremost cathedral in England, constructed during the 12th-15th centuries.
- **Eastbourne.** A leafy, seaside resort town, of 'timeless' Victorian architecture, with a lovely pier and bandstand. Famous for **Beachy Head** chalk cliffs, popular viewing platform and suicide spot!
- **Hastings.** Seaside town, famous for the Battle of 1066.
- **Hemel Hempstead.** 30 miles north of London, a small town dating back to the 8th century. Also home to the UK's largest indoor ski slope.
- **Henley-on-Thames.** About 55 km (35 mi) west of London, a quaint and typical English town, great for walks by, and aquatic activities on, the Thames. Home to the famous boating Regatta in Summer
- **Lewes.** Delightful mid-Sussex town, with a picturesque brewery and the famous Guy Fawkes festival in November.
- **Lille (France).** Only 1 hour 20 minutes via Eurostar from St. Pancras Station.
- **Manchester.** If you have time it is worth visiting Britain's other great cities and Manchester has very much to offer. Manchester can be reached in around 2 hours by train and is about 320 km (200 mi) to the north. It is the second most visited city in England (after London).
- **Maidstone,** county town of **Kent**, known as the Garden of England.
- **Margate and Ramsgate,** twin seaside resorts of the Isle of Thanet in **Kent**.
- **Paris (France).** Only 2 hours via Eurostar from St. Pancras station.
- **Medway Towns.** Has a strong naval history in **Chatham Dockyards**, with medieval attractions like Rochester Cathedral and Castle. Has a strong literary connection with Charles Dickens, you can visit his museum and a former residence.
- **Oxford and Cambridge.** The university cities make for ideal days out of London.
- **Portsmouth.** Home of the Royal Navy and of real interest to nautical enthusiasts. Also offers access to the **Isle of Wight**.
- **Shrewsbury.** A very traditional town full of medieval black and white timber-framed buildings along winding, steep, narrow streets set on the River Severn easily reached by taking the train (change at Wolverhampton or Crewe) from Euston.
- **St Albans.** Small, quaint "cathedral city" just north of metropolitan London. Easily accessed from J22 on the M25 motorway or about 30 minutes on the train out of Farringdon station.
- **Stonehenge.** Among the most famous landmarks in England. The mysterious stone ring was built thousands of years ago, today it is a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. You can get there by a guided bus tour or by train (1 hr 30) to the nearby city **Salisbury**, where you can also visit the 13th-century cathedral with the highest spire in the country.
- **South Downs and North Downs National Parks** offer beautiful, rolling chalk hills for a day's stroll or longer hikes.
- **Southend-on-Sea.** An **Essex** seaside town with pebble and sand beaches, fairground rides, arcades, and the longest pier in the world. Make sure to grab yourself a delicious Rossi ice cream - a local delicacy since 1932 - while you're there! Only 40 minutes by train from Fenchurch Street station.
- **Shaftesbury.** One of the oldest and highest towns in Britain. This small **Dorset** town has been described as "beautiful" by visitors.
- **Winchester.** Former capital of England and attractive "cathedral city" with lots to see. About an hour away by train from Waterloo.
- **Windsor.** Nearby Thames-side town with magnificent castle and Royal residence located only one hour by train outside of London. Makes for a very easy day trip.



Bus stop



London Cab



A river bus at Tower Millennium Pier



View from Greenwich Observatory which is easily reached by boat services plying the Thames



Buckingham Palace



St Paul's Cathedral



St James' Park



One of more than 800 Blue Plaques throughout London



A Guardsman on duty at Buckingham Palace



Harrods



Kappacasein cheese toastie from Borough Market



A Traditional 'Blue Lamp' outside a Police Station in London

Chapter 3

Gatwick Airport

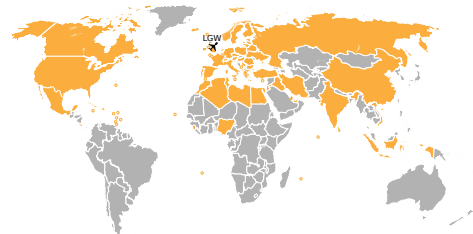


The North Terminal at Gatwick.



Passenger bridge to Pier 6

Gatwick Airport (IATA: **LGW**) is London's second airport (in terms of passenger numbers), behind **Heathrow** and serves the south-east of the **United Kingdom**. It is the world's busiest single-runway airport and has two terminals called *North* and *South*.



A map of countries served directly by London Gatwick Airport.

3.1 Understand

Licensed as an aerodrome since 1930, in recent decades the airport often was regarded as *Heathrow Airport's overflow*. However, Gatwick meanwhile has developed its own market share, which was helped by politically motivated separation of ownerships of Heathrow and Gatwick airports.

The airport has seen much renovation recently, which still continues; although Gatwick just missed out on being expanded after the UK Government decided in 2016 that **Heathrow Airport** should be expanded to have a third runway instead.

One interesting feature of Gatwick is that part of the *North* terminal is a passenger bridge to/from pier 6 that is high enough to allow aircraft to taxi beneath the bridge.

3.2 Flights

A large number of major and minor airlines operate domestic, European, and intercontinental flights to/from Gatwick, catering for business and leisure travelers alike. Many airlines that can not get landing rights at Heathrow (various reasons) then choose to operate into Gatwick. Point-to-point flights make up the majority of flights; flights into network carrier's respective hubs exist, but play only a minor role.

Different airlines operate from different terminals, some of the major airlines are listed here:

Note that easyJet flies from both terminals; so to work out which terminal to go to, know that flights with flight numbers starting with "5" fly from the South terminal, while flight numbers starting with "8" fly from the North

terminal.

There is a [list of destinations](#) that you can get to from Gatwick on Wikipedia, (see link to the left under “Related sites”) or the websites of specific airlines for details.

3.3 Ground transportation



Gatwick Airport railway station is architecturally striking.

3.3.1 By train

See also: [Rail travel in Great Britain](#)

Gatwick Airport was the first UK airport to combine air and rail travel and has its own railway station, which is attached to the airport’s South Terminal.

1 Gatwick Airport train station is situated on the London to Brighton main line with frequent train services operated by several train operators, including Gatwick Express, Thameslink and Southern. You can buy tickets from machines, the ticket office in the terminal, and online from virtually any country by printing a voucher at home and exchanging it for tickets at the ticket office or from machines in the entry lobby of the station. Advance purchases can result in some savings.

Due to heavy passenger traffic at certain times, the area/lobby for obtaining tickets and going through entry gates can become *very* crowded. If you are booked for a train at a certain time, you should consider giving yourself plenty of time for reaching your correct boarding platform. Once through the gates, you can reach the platforms with light luggage using stairs and escalators. Allow more time for elevators to the platforms if you have significant luggage.

There are direct trains to London (London Bridge, London Victoria and St Pancras), [Brighton](#), [Southampton](#), [Eastbourne](#), [Hastings](#) and other locations.

Gatwick Express is a high-speed, non-stop rail service operating between London Victoria Station and Gatwick

Airport. Trains operate every 15 minutes between the hours of 05:00 to 23:45 (from London Victoria Station), and 05:50 to 00:35 (from Gatwick) with journey times of 30 minutes (35 minutes on Sundays). You won’t be able to miss the Gatwick Express trains as they have their own, unique livery.

Thameslink and **Southern** trains to London Victoria or London Bridge are only a few minutes slower than Gatwick Express and only slightly less frequent. They do stop a few times in between. Fares on these operators’ tickets are lower in cost. Besides London, they also offer transfer to points south and west, e.g., Southampton. Like many airfares, the earlier you buy tickets (up to 90 days), the less expensive they tend to be. Purchase can be made from nearly anywhere by internet using the sites noted below, often also by phone).

Train times and fare information for all operators is available via [National Rail Enquiries](#) or [The Trainline](#). For a comprehensive discussion, look at [seat 61](#).

3.3.2 By bike

Route 21 of the National Cycle Network passes under the South Terminal, allowing virtually traffic-free cycling northwards to Horley and southwards to [Three Bridges](#) and [Crawley](#). A goods-style lift runs between the terminal and ground level (labelled “Lift to Cycle Route”), near Zone L.

3.3.3 By taxi

Some taxi firms offer to take you to Gatwick from around the country. This will probably be quite uncomfortable if you have to travel long distances, but then again, it’s your own “private” car. Some firms that offer these services are listed here:

- **Roadrunners Taxis**, ☎ +44 1293 780780, e-mail: bookings@roadrunnersonline.co.uk. Offers a range of cars which can take different amounts of passengers; including estate cars and private minivans. £70 (from Victoria station with “standard” car). (updated Feb 2016)
- **Airport Cars UK**, ☎ +44 330 088 2222, e-mail: help@qskies.com. Offers a range of cars, including saloons, estates and 8-seaters. Its website claims to have transported John Travolta and Shane Richie. £68.30 (from Victoria station with a “standard” taxi). (updated Feb 2016)
- **Western Cars**, ☎ +44 1342 300 000, e-mail: info@western-cars.co.uk. Offers a range of cars, including saloons, estates, 8-seaters and wheelchair accessible cars. They mainly cover Sussex, but do

go further afield as well. £72 (from City Thames-Link Station in central London with a “saloon” car). (updated Feb 2016)

3.3.4 By car

1 Junction 9 is Gatwick Airport’s own spur from the M23 motorway. Once you leave the main M23 at junction 9, travel west to a roundabout and for the South terminal, take the first exit from there or for the North terminal, take the second exit. Just so you don’t miss it, the South terminal exit has a large arch with an advert on it over it, while the North terminal doesn’t. If you’re going to the North Terminal, then take the second exit at the next roundabout (it has its own big arch here) or the third exit for the long stay car park. From there, you will be able to follow signs to the car park you are looking for, whichever terminal, (see below) or the main entrance to the airport itself. Junction 9 is about 9 miles south of the M25 London ring road and with traffic on the M25 often heavy (or worse) make sure to start your drive out to the airport early enough.

3.3.5 Car parks

Short-stay parking The closest car parks to the terminals are the short-stay car parks, which are located right next to the terminal buildings. To get to the **1 South Terminal south stay car park**, take the directions in the *Get in* section above, then continue along the road, following signs for the short stay car park, staying in the right-hand lane. For the **1 North terminal short stay car park**, again, follow the directions above for the North terminal, then continue along the road, following signs for the car park, staying in the left-hand lane.

Long-stay parking Long-term parking is provided both on-airport and off-airport. The on-airport long-stay car parks are situated about a five-minute bus journey from the terminal buildings (buses are provided for the sole use of getting from the car park to the main terminal). Off-airport parking is suitable for both long- and short-stay. Most car parks are situated about 15 minutes from the airport. For the **1 South terminal long stay car park**, after leaving the roundabout, (see above), stay in the left-hand lane and take the second left, then follow signs for which car park you want. For the **1 North terminal long stay car park**, after leaving the roundabout, instead of taking the second exit, take the third exit, following signs for “Long stay”. Go past the petrol station which is on the right, then take the third exit at the next roundabout. Follow this long road to the next roundabout before taking the second exit, you’re now finally there! You can then follow signs to which car park you want. Once you have arrived you will find Gatwick’s own scheme, under the name **Gatwick Parking**.

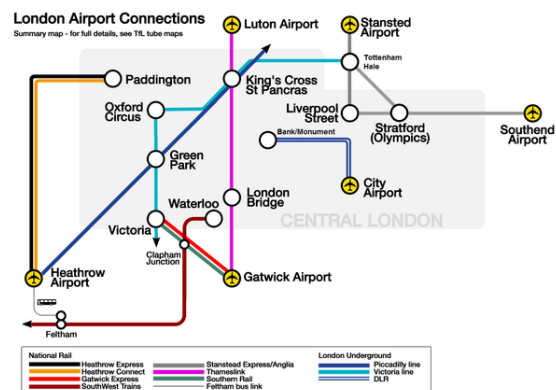
Meet-and-greet parking On 10 July 2013, Gatwick introduced its Surface Access Plan, which saw the introduction of its **Approved Operator Scheme** for meet-and-greet parking.

Only Approved meet-and-greet parking operators are permitted to conduct vehicle collection and returns from the airport terminal forecourts. Approved Operators must hold the Safer Parking, **ParkMark** award for all car parks used and be approved by Trading Standards **Buy With Confidence Scheme**.

Approved meet-and-greet operators See full list at **Gatwick Airport’s website**.

- **Airport Parking & Hotels** tel. +44 1342 859442
- **Cophall Parking** tel. +44 1342 712779
- **Help Me Park** tel. +44 1342 844576
- **I Love Meet & Greet** tel. +44 1293 577988
- **Maple Manor** tel. +44 3 333 222 333
- **Purple Parking** tel. +44 20 8813 8130
- **Ace Meet & Greet** tel. +44 1293 533 000
- **Tudor Rose** tel. +44 1293 822844

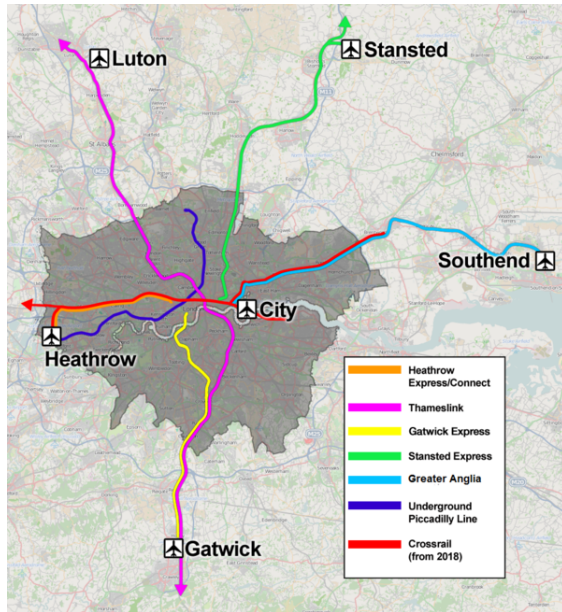
3.3.6 Connecting to/from Heathrow



A map of connections between London airports and main train stations with National Rail and Tube lines shown. Gatwick is the yellow dot at the bottom of the pink line.

National Express buses are your fastest option, but you should still allow plenty of time to make the transfer as you will have to re-check luggage at the other airport. Factor in, that traffic on the M25 is often heavy or worse adding to travel time. Buses may charge substantial extra fees for overweight, out-sized or excess numbers of luggage. And they allow only one small piece to carry-on. Consult their **web site** for details.

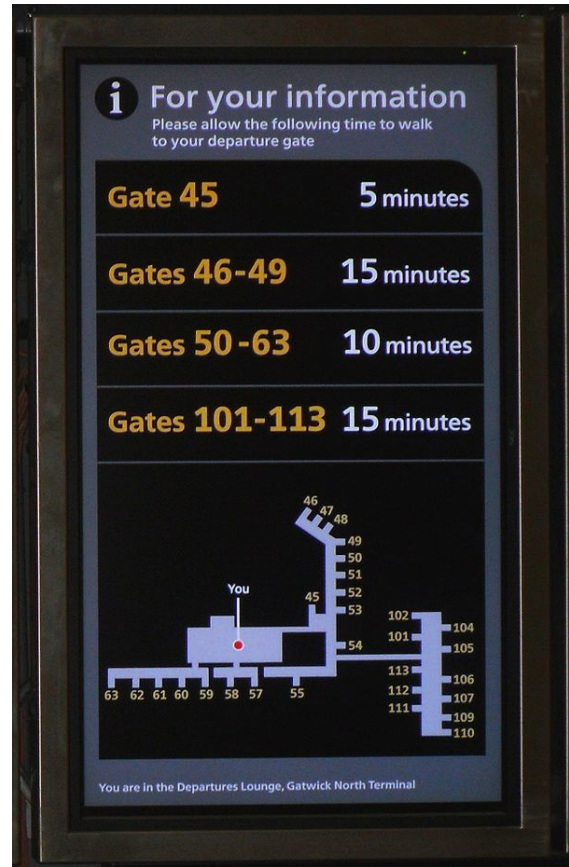
There is no direct train route.



Another map showing connections between Gatwick and other London airports by train. It also includes the Crossrail route which is scheduled to be completed in 2018.

- One alternative is to take Gatwick Express or Southern trains to Victoria Station, then London Underground's District line to Hammersmith (take a train with destination "Ealing Broadway" or "Richmond"), then the Piccadilly Line to Heathrow (a long trip on the *Tube*). Large luggage can be a challenge whenever the Tube is busy, and wherever stairs must be negotiated between street and station platforms, e.g., Victoria.
- Another alternative is, once at Victoria station, to take the Circle line to Edgware Road, getting off at Paddington station, then hopping onto Heathrow Express from there.
- Or you could take a Thameslink train to St Pancras station, making your way upstairs then getting the Tube from King's Cross St Pancras to Heathrow on the Piccadilly line.
- No through fare for the three different modes of transport is available.

If you have a car and want to drive, leave Gatwick and take the M23 north towards the M25, then take the M25 clockwise until junction 14. There will be plenty of signs to follow for Heathrow from there (a little plane symbol followed by the word "Heathrow"). Going the other way around, leave Heathrow and take the M25 anti-clockwise until you get to junction 7, then take the M23 southbound to junction 9, follow signage from there.



In the North terminal, it takes 15 minutes to walk to gates 101-113 from the departure lounge

3.4 Get around

There is only a need for a transportation service when getting between the two terminals, that is what the monorail is for.

3.4.1 By "monorail"



The Gatwick monorail in 2011.

There is a free shuttle between the South Termi-

nal/railway station and the North Terminal. To access it, just follow signs for the other terminal. So if you're in the South terminal, follow signs for the North terminal and if you're in the North terminal follow signs for the South terminal. It runs constantly, with just a 2 minute or so wait, and a 2 minute ride.

3.4.2 To departure gates

Some gates require *long* walks, so make sure you give yourself enough time to get there, especially if you have considerable carry-ons or mobility challenges. This includes time for security check and (in South Terminal) passage through/around the two levels of stores and restaurants air side. Check at your airline check-in counter beforehand for how long it takes to get to your gate if then known. Later, check any of the many, often-updated departure boards to see when your gate is announced; they don't announce gate assignments over speakers. If you have concerns, consider asking for assistance.

3.5 Wait

The airport operators make sure that anybody with time to spend finds an opportunity to spend also some money.

3.6 Eat and Drink

?"UNIQ--maplink-00000006-QINU"?"
Map of Gatwick Airport

Both terminals have numerous restaurants and food outlets in the public space as well as past security checks. There are also places like McDonald's and Starbucks available in the terminals. Mini-supermarkets, such as **Marks & Spencer's** are available in both terminals before security, and **Boots** selling sandwiches and crisps is in both terminals after security (and before security in the South terminal).

3.6.1 South Terminal

- **1 The London Bar** (*Go to the main atrium area of the departure lounge and climb the escalator, then follow the banister around to the end with a large Frankie & Benny's sign, it is just in front of this*). 04:00 to 20:30. This upmarket restaurant which sells cocktails, spirits and champagne, as well as Ploughman's and Anti-pasti is in the South terminal after security. Ploughman's: £9.99; Mojito: £10; Bottle of Shiraz: £30.

- **Grain Store**, ☎ +44 1293 501328. 04:00 to 21:30. This new restaurant (opened in late January 2016), serves family-friendly food and is in the South terminal after security.

- **1 Caviar House & Prunier** (*Head to the main atrium area, near the Duty Free, then follow the corridor by Dixons Travel, and turn left at Harrods, it will be on your left*), ☎ +44 1293 557383. 06:00 to 20:30. This swanky, quite expensive (albeit usually quiet) caviar bar is available after security in both terminals. Smoked Salmon: £17; 9 Oysters: £25; Whole Lobster: £29.50.

3.6.2 North Terminal

- **1 Jamie's Italian** (*Follow signs for Gates 45–55 & 101–113, then climb the escalator to the left of the London News Company. Once climbed, follow the floor round past JD Sports and Café Rouge, it's now in front of you*), ☎ +44 1293 223027. M-Th: 4:30AM–10PM; F-Sa: 4AM–10PM; Su: 4:30AM–10PM. The British TV chef, Jamie Oliver's restaurant, serves rustic, Italian food and is in the North terminal after security. Tagliatelle Bolognese: £11.25; Sirloin Steak: £22.95; 250ml glass of Sauvignon Blanc: £8.85. (updated Oct 2016)

- **1 Comptoir Libanais** (*Follow signs to Gates 558–554, then climb the steps between the big Gates 558–574 sign and the London News Company*), ☎ +44 1293 567125. 04:00 to 21:30. A restaurant serving Lebanese food (*Libanais* is French for Lebanese) which has other locations throughout London. It's after security. Falafel: £4.75; Falafel Wrap: £7.95; Lamb Kofta Burger: £9.95.

- **1 Caviar House & Prunier** (*Find the World of Whiskies and the Sunglass Hut shops, then head towards the Boss and Lacoste shops, it is to the right of these*), ☎ +44 1293 557294. 06:00 to 20:30. This swanky, quite expensive (albeit usually quiet) caviar bar is available after security in both terminals. Smoked Salmon: £17; 9 Oysters: £25; Whole Lobster: £29.50.

3.7 Buy

Shopping opportunities are plentiful in both terminals, with slightly more stores in the South Terminal. Per the article for **Duty free shopping**, such stores here are dominated by just one firm. Though well-stocked with a wide range of products, they reflect little competition, but do help you avoid UK taxes.

3.8 Connect

45 minutes **free** WiFi is available. Connect to the Gatwick Free wi-fi network and logon to myGatwick. You can create a myGatwick account in advance. There is also pay-for Boingo WiFi and Surfbox internet terminals with printers (10p per minute, 50p per page).

3.9 Cope

Both North and South Terminals have **prayer rooms**, located landside, before security.

- The South Terminal prayer room is on the third floor, the same level as the entrance to security.
- The North Terminal prayer room is on the ground floor near international arrivals.

3.10 Sleep

A number of hotels of various categories have set up near the airport; some of them are directly connected to one of the terminals by enclosed walkways sheltering guests from the elements. More budget oriented hotels are within walking distance from Terminal *North*.

3.10.1 At the airport

- **1 Bloc**, ☎ +44 20 3051 0101, e-mail: gatwickinfo@blochotels.com. A hotel which claims to be “savvy” and “state-of-the-art”, it is right next to security in the **South terminal**. Some rooms, called “sleep” rooms, don’t have windows, while “aspire” and “VIP” rooms have corner windows. Rooms range in size from 9.5 square metres to 32 square metres. £70.30 per night (for a “sleep” double room). (updated Feb 2016)
- **1 Yotel**, ☎ +44 20 7100 1100, e-mail: customer@yotel.com. Its entrance is in the international arrivals area of the **South terminal**, its rooms are called “cabins” and you can stay by the hour (min. four hour stay). A standard cabin (only sleeps one) is about 7 square metres and a premium cabin (only sleeps two) is just over 10 square metres. The rooms do have a sort of modern, Japanese feel to them though. £32 for four hours (standard cabin); £70 for 24 hours (standard cabin). (updated Feb 2016)
- **1 Hampton by Hilton**, ☎ +44 1293 579999, e-mail: LONGN_hampton@hilton.com. A more “upmarket” hotel, which is surprisingly large. It is connected to the north side of the **North terminal**.

The rooms are of sizes you would find in non-airport hotels, and the hotel has a decent breakfast area (included in the rates) and its own gym. £85 per night (twin room). (updated Jul 2016)

- **1 Premier Inn**, ☎ +44 871 527 9354, fax: +44 871 527 9355. This hotel is near the **North terminal** and is what is an “average” chain hotel, with a bar and restaurant etc. Its rooms are cosy and have en-suite bathrooms. A twin room is a double bed and a sofa bed. £79 per night (double room). (updated Feb 2016)

3.10.2 Further afield

- **1 Russ Hill Hotel**, Russ Hill, Charlwood, Gatwick, RH6 0EL, ☎ +44 871 222 0063. This hotel is about a 12 minute drive away from the actual airport, but is set in a slightly nicer place, in an older style hotel building. It has a range of rooms, including singles and family rooms. The hotel offers airport parking at its own car park or at a compound 6 miles from the hotel. (updated Feb 2016)
- **1 The Corner House Hotel**, 72 Massetts Road, Horley, Surrey, RH6 7ED, ☎ +44 1293 784574, fax: +44 1293 784620, e-mail: info@thecornerhouse.co.uk. Located in the nearby town of Horley (about a 5 minute drive away), it has 25 rooms (20 of which have en-suite bathrooms) which have a homely feel. It has a bar and restaurant and provides a transportation service to/from Gatwick for its guests. It also has its own “secure” airport parking. £53 per night (single with en-suite); £79 per night (family of four with en-suite). (updated Feb 2016)

It may be easier to take a taxi to the airport terminals from these nearby hotels, see the **taxi** section above and also check if the hotels have the numbers of any local taxi firms in case these are cheaper.

3.11 Nearby

- **Crawley** is about 3 miles south of the airport.
- **East Grinstead** is about 10 miles east of the airport.
- **Redhill** is about 7 miles north.
- **Dorking** is about 10 miles northwest.
- **Brighton** is about 30 miles south and has direct train services from the airport.

Chapter 4

Heathrow Airport

Heathrow Airport (IATA: **LHR**) is the main airport for London, the largest airport in the United Kingdom, and the busiest in the world in terms of international passenger traffic. It is located in the west of London, 17 miles (27 km) from central London. It is the primary hub for the UK's national carrier, **British Airways**.

4.1 Understand

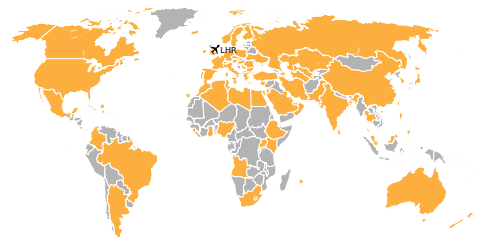


Heathrow Terminal 5A

London Heathrow (LHR) is a giant, sprawling airport divided into four terminals (T2, T3, T4 and T5). Originally established in the late 1940s, it is London's primary airport and the premier air gateway into the United Kingdom. It is also the busiest airport in the world for international passenger traffic and Europe's foremost hub airport.

Due to its size, increased security requirements and the fact that development had not kept pace with its growth, Heathrow has become overcrowded and has developed a reputation for long queues, inefficiency and delays. However, since Terminal 5 opened in March 2008, and despite initial problems with the brand new terminal, this situation has improved. Terminal 2, the airport's original terminal, closed in November 2009 for demolition and rebuilding and reopened under the name of "The Queen's Terminal" in June 2014. Terminal 1 closed permanently on 29 June 2015 and will be absorbed into Terminal 2.

4.2 Flights



Countries served by flights from London Heathrow Airport

There is currently a long, drawn out game of musical terminals being played by the airlines at Heathrow: British Airways is gradually moving all of its flights to Terminals 5 and 3. While British Airways is doing this the other airlines are moving round to better use the space that has been vacated. Eventually the idea is that all of the **airline alliances** (Oneworld, Star Alliance and SkyTeam) will have their "own" terminal which their members use, thus minimising the number of connecting passengers who have to change to a different terminal. Terminal 2, the oldest and smallest terminal, was closed for a time for upgrade works and reopened on 4 June 2014. Terminal 1 closed permanently on 29 June 2015. British Airways operates from T3 and T5. As of *August 2015*:

- **T2** — The Queen's Terminal — *Star Alliance*: Lufthansa, SAS, Air Canada, United, Singapore Airlines, Thai Airways and Turkish Airlines, etc.
- **T3** — *Oneworld*: Virgin Atlantic, British Airways (Accra, Barcelona, Bilbao, Budapest, Cape Town, Denver, Gibraltar, Helsinki, Las Vegas, Lisbon, Luxembourg, Lyon, Marseille, Miami, Nairobi–Kenyatta, Phoenix, Prague, Vancouver, Vienna, Warsaw–Chopin), various international carriers such as American, Cathay Pacific, Emirates and Qantas. Some Delta flights.
- **T4** — *SkyTeam*: Aeroflot, KLM, Air France, Alitalia, etc.; also smaller international airlines including China Eastern, China Southern, Etihad, KLM and Qatar, some Delta flights. Turkmenistan Airlines now operates from this terminal.

- **T5 — Oneworld:** Most British Airways and all Iberia flights, etc.

Make sure you double check which terminal you need to use on the [Heathrow Airport website](#) as the situation changes frequently!

4.3 Ground transportation

4.3.1 By car

The airport is some 17 miles (27 km) west of central London. A large part of the journey can be made by means of the M4 motorway, which can, however, be quite congested at peak periods. Terminal 5 can be reached directly from junction 14 of the M25. The airport is also near the M40 and M3.

The car rental depots are all concentrated along the northern periphery of the airport, and free shuttle buses are available from all terminals. There can be time delays when arriving at the hire desk with large queues so make every effort to get to the desk before the crowd, perhaps by getting one member of the party with hand luggage to go straight through. You may find at early morning or late evening that the arrivals hall desk is closed and you have to go straight onto the shuttle bus and check out your rental at the depot instead.

Bear in mind if you are intending to drive into the centre of London you will be liable for the Congestion Charge, which is currently £11.50 per day and applies on weekdays (Monday-Friday) between 07:00-18:00. Automatic number plate recognition cameras are in operation, and your car rental company will track you down and bill you with the hefty fine if you fail to pay - you have been warned!

Parking your car

Different car parks have different procedures. There is no shortage of choice when parking your car at Heathrow but there are many procedures to follow depending on which car park you choose. Some simply get you to turn up and report to a reception area which is easy enough. However some others have different procedures such as using the credit card you used to pre book with to enter the car park or even registration plate recognition.

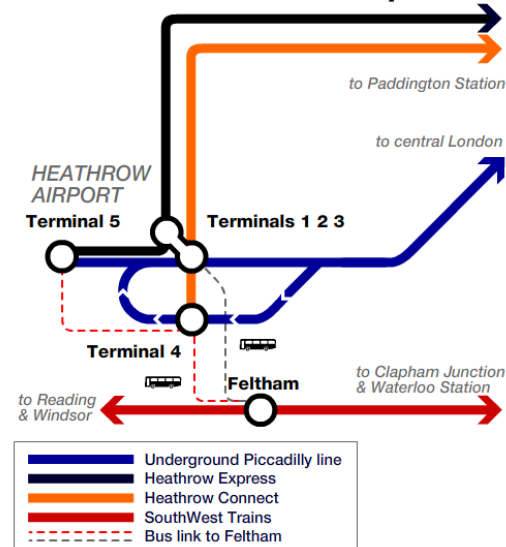
There is also a massive difference in the prices charged by many car parks in and around Heathrow. For example, you can find individual house owners in the vicinity of the airport who are happy to rent you a space outside their house for a week or two and it's usually very cheap in comparison to the large car park operators; however, this is definitely a case of "buyer beware"!

Of course, there is no security at these spaces – you get

what you pay for to some extent – plus you often find that you are left to your own devices to get to the airport. This could mean public transport if you're lucky, but more often than not, it means getting a taxi both there and back. This usually results in negating any of the cost savings you have made in the parking itself.

4.3.2 Public transport to and from London

Rail & Tube to Heathrow Airport



Rail and tube lines go to different terminals at Heathrow

All the terminals have very good public transport links to and from central London, with options ranging from local and express buses to the London Underground and rail services. The majority of travellers heading to central London use public transport as it the easiest way to go. Note that there are different rail stations for the five terminals at Heathrow - **be sure you take the right train** as not all trains go to the same terminals. You can usually check the front of the train or listen to the onboard announcements for an idea of where the train is going.

By train

- **Heathrow Express.** 05:33-23:48 (Terminals 2 & 3). The fastest way to central London from Terminals 3 & 5 is the *Heathrow Express* rail service, but it is also by far the most expensive. The train departs from Terminal 5 every 15 minutes, stops at Terminal 3 and then runs non-stop to London Paddington, Central London, where connections are available to the rest of London's transport system. It does not operate directly to Terminal 4; you must take a connecting (Heathrow Connect) train to Terminals 3 and change - cross platform - to the Express. Journey time from Terminal 5 to London Paddington is 21 minutes, and from Terminals 1 & 3 it's 15

minutes. Adult Single £21.50 (if bought on-board £26.50), £35 Return; Oyster Cards are not valid. (updated Nov 2015)

The trains are air-conditioned, modern, comfortable and are fully accessible with a wheelchair area, disabled toilet and level access to the station platforms. Free Wi-Fi Internet access is available on board. Mobile phone coverage is available throughout the entire route, including in the tunnels under Heathrow. On board TV entertainment plays throughout the journey, offering BBC News bulletins, destination information, comedy clips and trivia. Quiet zones are available where this does not play. There are two classes of accommodation - Express (Standard) Class and First Class. First Class offers a larger seat, more legroom (though there's plenty in Express Class), tables and complimentary newspapers. The First Class area of the train also stops closer to the station exits. Since the journey is only about 15 minutes long either way, the First Class area is something of a real luxury and really only for those with money to burn.

Fares can be purchased in advance on the internet, from the station or on board the train and they vary in price depending on where you bought them. National Railcard discounts are available at Heathrow Express station ticket offices only (with the exception of Disabled Persons Railcard, which can be used on-board). Child fares (5–15 years inclusive) are about half the adult fare. Under 5s travel free. If you book your ticket online you can have it sent to you as an email message to print out or as a mobile phone picture message, both contain a barcode and the conductor scans this on the train.

London Travelcards and Oyster Cards are not valid on the Heathrow Express.

- **Heathrow Connect** (*Direct from Terminals 3 & 4, and via a connection from T5*). 05:29-23:30 (Terminals 2 & 3). This service uses the same route to London Paddington as the Heathrow Express but is a slower, less frequent train which also serves intermediate local stations in West London. It's cheaper than the Heathrow Express and it serves Terminal 4 directly, but passengers needing to get to Terminal 5 have to change to a connecting service at Terminal 3. Heathrow Connect provides a convenient connection to London Underground's Central Line at Ealing Broadway station. Trains depart Terminal 4 for London Paddington every 30 minutes (every 15 minutes to Terminal 3 only, for connection to the Heathrow Express), stop at Terminal 3, Hayes & Harlington, Southall, Hanwell, West Ealing and Ealing Broadway. Journey time from Terminal 4 to London Paddington is 33min and 28min from Terminal 3. To *London Paddington*: single £10.10, open return £20.20; To *Hayes & Harlington* £6.10 Adult Single; Oyster cards are not valid between *Hayes and Harlington* and *Heathrow*; Passengers holding a Travelcard or Oyster Card must buy

an additional ticket for the journey between Hayes & Harlington and Heathrow. (updated Nov 2015)

The trains are air-conditioned, modern and accessible with a wheelchair area and disabled toilet. Although Heathrow and London Paddington stations have step free access, be aware that not all intermediate stations are wheelchair accessible. Audio and visual journey information is provided on board. Mobile phone coverage is available throughout the route, including in the tunnels under Heathrow.

NB: Tickets must be purchased before boarding the train (tickets will be checked on board and those found not to be holding a ticket will have to pay a penalty fare) and can be bought at station ticket offices or online (only to London Paddington). Child fares (5–15 years inclusive) are about half the adult fare. Under 5s travel free.

- **SouthWest Trains** (*Bus link from Terminals 2 & 3, bus 285, and Terminals 4 & 5, bus 490, to Feltham railway station.*). Trains every 20 minutes. Although a slower route, if you are heading for south London or the west London suburbs, **Richmond** or **Windsor**, this could prove a useful shortcut. *Regular bus services* run from the airport to Feltham station (single fare £1.30 on Oyster) and a frequent east-west rail line runs between Reading and London Waterloo (single fare £5). Depending on the route, some trains take 30 minutes (trains via Richmond), others take 45 minutes (trains via Hounslow and Kew), so it is advised to check the train times carefully if you are rushing to catch a plane. You must buy your train ticket before boarding as this is not an airport express train but a standard suburban rail service. You can use Oyster cards valid for zone 6 to use the train and bus on this route.

By tube

London Underground's Piccadilly Line direct to central London. Up to every 5 minutes (dependent on terminal). Oyster cards are valid.

The Piccadilly Line runs direct from all the terminals to the very centre of London, stopping at stations close to many of London's landmarks, shopping and entertainment areas, as well as the major transport hub at King's Cross St. Pancras. It stops frequently and is comparatively slow (60 minutes from Terminal 5 to King's Cross St. Pancras vs 45 minutes using the Heathrow Express and changing to The Tube at Paddington). However, it is an integral part of Transport for London's network so Travelcards and Oyster Cards are valid, making it a good value option. It's also a fairly quick option if you want to get to much of west London.

Trains depart Terminals 4 & 5 every 10 minutes and stop at Terminals 2 & 3 before continuing to London, thus

making the frequency from Terminals 2 & 3 every 5 minutes. Trains to and from Terminal 5 do not stop at Terminal 4 and trains to and from Terminal 4 do not stop at Terminal 5. Be aware that if you are heading from central London to Terminals 2 & 3 then it is normally quicker to wait for a train which terminates at Terminal 5 as the trains to Terminal 4 wait there for up to 7 minutes before continuing to Terminals 2 & 3. Terminal 5 trains go directly to Terminals 1 & 3 first, then continue to Terminal 5. The Tube closes during the night for maintenance work and the first trains leave Heathrow at about 06:00. Last trains are around 00:00, but check beforehand!

Be aware that during peak rush hour periods the Tube becomes extremely overcrowded, particularly in the central zones. Trains originally designated for Heathrow are sometimes rerouted down the Rayners Lane branch or terminate short at Acton Town or Northfields to deal with peak-hour congestion - the driver will normally make an announcement if this is going to happen. You should bear this in mind if you are using the Tube to travel to Heathrow during rush hour and ensure that you leave central London in plenty of time. Also, try to join the train as far up the line as possible - King's Cross St Pancras is a good bet - since you will stand a much better chance of finding a seat and somewhere to put your luggage.

As the Tube is a rapid transport system designed with short journeys in mind, the trains are not as comfortable as a mainline train. However, from Heathrow there will almost always be seats available and luggage space is provided. There is space for wheelchairs and the Heathrow stations are accessible, but as the Tube is an old system originally built in the 19th century, very few stations in central London are accessible to wheelchairs. Almost all involve negotiating staircases and escalators. Earls Court is an exception and some other stations can be reached by wheelchair users by changing to alternate lines here. More stations are being adapted (King's Cross St. Pancras is now accessible, for instance) and accessible stations are shown on the Tube Map available on TfL's website. Audio and visual journey information is provided on board.

The Tube is a closed system and nearly all stations have ticket barriers. Tickets should be bought at the station and the cost of a Zone 1 - 6 (Central London - Heathrow) single is £4.50. Penalty fares are in force for those caught without a valid ticket. Travelcards (day, or period tickets which allow unlimited travel on all of London's public transport, not just the Tube) are available and will almost certainly provide better value if you plan on using London's transport system more than a couple of times. The cheapest option for anyone spending much time in London will probably be to get an Oyster Card (a Transport for London travel smartcard), which is always cheaper and easier than paying fares in cash. See the [London](#) article and Transport for London's website for more information on Oyster Cards and other available fares.

By coach

- **National Express coach** (*direct to London Victoria Coach Station*). approx. 07:00-23:30. A direct coach service from Heathrow Central Bus Station to London Victoria Coach Station every 30min. Journey times are 40-50min. Tickets can be bought from the National Express ticket office at Heathrow Bus station or on the Internet. Some services operate via Terminals 4 & 5, but the service is more limited. Free transfer is available to Terminals 2 & 3 and the Central Bus Station from Terminals 4 & 5 via the Heathrow Express and Connect trains or the shuttle bus services. All coaches are accessible to wheelchairs. to LONDON Victoria Coach Station from £6; transfer to [Gatwick Airport](#) £20; London Travel cards and Oyster Cards are not valid. (updated Nov 2015)

By bus

Day time local buses to the areas surrounding Heathrow.

In the day time there are no local bus services to central London (that service is provided by the Tube), but there are plenty of services to areas of west London and outlying towns such as Slough and Maidenhead. Heathrow Airport have a map and journey planners [on their website](#) showing the routes available.

Fares vary depending on the operator, but Transport for London services (red buses) are subject to the standard flat fare when paying by cash (Travelcards and Oyster Cards are also valid on these buses).

If you really want to go by local bus during the day from central London (perhaps you have a bus pass not valid on trains or coaches), expect a journey time of about three hours, depending on exactly where you start from. If you're intrepid, use the TfL journey planner to find details, times and (most importantly) where to change buses, which you may end up doing three or four times depending on where you start from and when you travel.

N9 Regular late night London Bus Service.

During the night, when most of the rail and coach links (and the flights!) have stopped operating, one of the few ways you can get to and from Heathrow is by using the N9 night bus service, which operates to and from Aldwych in central London via Hammersmith.

The service runs every 20 minutes on weeknights and takes around 1 hour and 10 minutes to Heathrow Central Bus Station and continues to Terminal 5. The service is operated using modern, accessible, low-floor busses with a wheelchair space.

The N9 is a normal Transport for London Night Bus service and so is subject to a flat cash fare of £2.00. All Travelcards and Oyster Cards are valid on London Bus services.

By taxi

- **Black cabs** - London's famous black taxis - are available for hire outside each terminal. Journey time into Central London varies wildly depending on distance, time of day and traffic conditions. It can take anything from 40 minutes to 2 hours. Fares vary similarly, as a rough guide it could cost about £55 to Central London.
- **Minicabs** (private hire cars) must be ordered in advance by phone (or internet in some cases) and usually cost less than a black cab. **Never take a minicab if you haven't pre-booked it**, because then it's just a stranger's car!

If you are thinking of taking a taxi into London then consider the Heathrow Express (you can pick up a taxi at Paddington station to complete your journey). They will probably be faster and cheaper, and almost as easy to use.

4.3.3 Public transport to the rest of the UK

By coach

- **National Express**. Operate direct coach services from Heathrow to many cities around the UK, as well as direct links to all of the other London airports. Most coaches serve Terminal 5 as well as the Central Bus Station, some stop at Terminal 4. (updated Nov 2015)
- **The Airline**. Oxford Bus operate a 24 hour frequent (every 20 minutes during the day) coach shuttle service to and from **Oxford**. Adult: single £23, day return £24, period return £29. (updated Nov 2015)

Connections with trains:

- **RailAir** (*Central Bus Station (Terminals 2 & 3), Terminal 5, Reading station*), ☎ +44 118 957-9425. First runs express coach between Heathrow Central Bus Station and the **Reading** railway station to connect with train services. Adult single £20.00 (advance online or via iOS and Android app £17.00). (updated Nov 2015)
- **Green Line's #724** (*to Watford Junction for trains to the Midlands, Manchester, Liverpool, NW England and Scotland*), ☎ +44 844 801 7261. (updated Nov 2015)
- **National Express coaches** (*to Woking station for trains to Aldershot, Winchester, Salisbury, Portsmouth, Southampton and Bournemouth*). (updated Nov 2015)

- **Bus #285** (*to Feltham for trains to Richmond, Camberley, Bracknell, London Waterloo, Clapham Junction and the South*), ☎ +44 20 7222 1234. Single under £5. (updated Nov 2015)
- **Bus #490** (*from Terminal 5 to Richmond via Terminal 4, Hatton Cross and Feltham station.*), ☎ +44 20 7222 1234. Single under £5. (updated Nov 2015)

By train

Wikivoyage has a guide to *Rail travel in the United Kingdom*.

Heathrow does not yet have any direct rail services to anywhere outside of London, meaning that you will have to go into the centre of the city and then come back out again, but making a connection in one of the central London railway stations is fairly easy.

Through tickets are available to & from Heathrow Airport from any station in the UK, using either the Tube network, Heathrow Express or Connect from central London or the RailAir coach links. If you want to use the Heathrow Express it'll probably be cheaper to buy your ticket for it separately. Make sure you specify the method you want to use to reach Heathrow when you buy your rail ticket.

All of the major railway stations are also on the Tube network, making cross-London connections from Paddington fairly straightforward. Below is a quick summary of the principal connections available:

- **Paddington:** (by *Heathrow Express* and *Heathrow Connect*) For Oxford, Bath, Bristol, Penzance, Cardiff, Swansea and the overnight sleeper to Cornwall.
- **Euston:** (*Tube - Circle Line: Euston Square then walk 200m*) For Birmingham (New Street), Manchester, Liverpool, the Lake District, Glasgow and overnight sleepers to Scotland.
- **Liverpool Street** (*Tube - Circle Line*) For Cambridge, Stansted Airport, Norwich and the Essex coast.
- **Marylebone:** (*Tube - Bakerloo line*) For Birmingham (Snow Hill) - slower than the main route from Euston but can be cheaper.
- **St Pancras:** (*Tube - Circle Line*) For Luton Airport, Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, Sheffield, high speed services to Kent - and Eurostar services to Paris and Brussels
- **King's Cross:** (*Tube - Circle Line*) For Cambridge, York, Leeds, Newcastle, Edinburgh, and daytime trains to Inverness, Dundee and Aberdeen.
- **Victoria** (*Tube - Circle Line*) For Brighton and Gatwick Airport.

If you plan on travelling on the Great Western line to the *South West of England* or *South Wales* then another option is to take the local U3 bus from the Central Bus Station to **West Drayton** railway station. The bus takes around 20 minutes to complete this journey when there is no traffic. From there take a local train to Reading railway station in order to connect to other services. The benefit of this route is that you are buying a normal railway ticket, as opposed to one that has a premium attached for a journey starting or ending at Heathrow.

For information, time and fares for trains to & from Heathrow Airport check the **National Rail Enquires** website.

See *By coach* sub-section for connections via coach services.

By taxi

There are many airport transfer services that provide personal transport services to Heathrow Airport. All transport companies that operate transfer services must be licensed with the relevant local authority. Drivers are issued a badge after undergoing various checks and vehicles are issued licenses confirming that they have passed rigorous safety checks and have the correct insurance in place. Drivers and vehicles are licensed as either Hackney Carriages or Private Hire, each one is covered by different regulations. When booking an airport transfer you should always check that the company has a license from the council. This is particularly important when booking over the internet or over the phone. Booking directly with a taxi company rather than with an online booking agency will usually be more cost effective.

4.4 Get around

?"UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU"?"
Map of Heathrow Airport

As it's such a difficult to understand and constantly changing place Heathrow has a significant internal transport system so people can get around. All travel within the airport boundary on local bus and Heathrow Express & Connect trains is free:

- *Terminals 2 & 3*, as well as the *Central Bus Station* are all in the *Central Terminal Area* and are within walking distance, linked by underground tunnels with travelators. The Central Terminal Area is in the middle of the airport between the runways, Terminal 4 is in the south-eastern corner of the airport, beyond the southern runway and Terminal 5 is in the far west of the airport, between the runways.
- To get from the *Central Terminal Area* to *Termi-*

nal 4 you can take the free shuttle train (every 15 min journey ~20 min) or tube (free only with Oyster card).

- To get from the *Central Terminal Area* to *Terminal 5* you can take the free Heathrow Express train (every 15 min journey ~20 min) or tube (free only with Oyster card).
- To transfer *between Terminal 4 & 5* there is either buses (#482 or #490) (journey ~20 min) or you can take the train to the Central Terminal Area and change.
- If you are *connecting to another flight airside* there is a network of free buses that will take you between terminals (if you need to change terminal).

It's always good to have a little extra time when transferring from one flight to another, and this is true especially in a place like Heathrow. On a really busy day or during inclement weather your plane may not be allowed to land at its scheduled time, therefore two or three hours is certainly not "too much" time, especially if your next flight departs from another terminal.

4.5 Wait

None of the terminals have a viewing gallery that is accessible from landside, but the **Heathrow Academy** on the Northern Perimeter Road has a viewing deck which gives good views of the northern runway (27R/9L). It is adjacent to the Renaissance Hotel, and the buses within the airport campus (numbers 105, 111, 140 and 235) stop at the deck.

Hatton Cross tube station is also a good spot for viewing the end of the runways, depending on what time of day the aircraft are landing or departing.

4.6 Eat and Drink

There are restaurants and fast food outlets in the departure areas of all five terminals, though, like most airports, the food can be overpriced.

4.6.1 Terminal 3

Budget

- **Boots**, 06:00-22:00, sell a limited range of pre-packed sandwiches, salads and bottled drinks at a very good price. Located in departures, both before and after security, and in the arrivals hall.

- **Costa**, 24 hours, serves fresh coffee, tea, hot drinks, sandwiches and pastries. Located in departures, before security.
- **O'Neill's**, 06:00 until last flight. An Irish bar, which sells a range of reasonably priced pub meals with your pint of Guinness. Located after security.
- **AMT Coffee**, 24 hours. A coffee shop which also serves a range of snacks. Located in the arrivals hall.

Mid-range

- **Marks & Spencer Simply Food**, 06:00 - 22:00, sell a large range of pre-packed, sandwiches, salads, cakes pastries and bottled drinks. Not cheap, but good quality and value, after all - it's not just food! Located in the arrivals hall.
- **Garfunkel's**, 06:00 - 23:00, serves a range of British and American food including decent breakfasts. Located in departures, before security.
- **Eat.**, 05:00 - 21:00, serve fresh, simple, seasonal sandwiches, soup, salad and cakes, bottled drinks and tea & fresh coffee to eat in or take away. Located after security.

Splurge

- **Brasserie Chez Gérard**, 07:00 until last flight, serves a range French food and drink in a casual atmosphere. Located after security.
- **Caviar House & Prunier Seafood Bar**, 07:00 - 21:00, serves caviar, smoked salmon and seafood. Located after security.

4.6.2 Terminal 4

Budget

- **Boots**, 06:00 - 22:00, sell a limited range of pre-packed sandwiches, salads and bottled drinks at a very good price. Located in departures, both before and after security.
- **Costa**, 05:30 until last flight, serves fresh coffee, tea, hot drinks, sandwiches and pastries. Located after security.
- **AMT Coffee**, 07:00 - 22:00. A coffee shop which also serves a range of snacks. Located both before and after security.

- **Wetherspoons** (*Located before security*). 06:00 until last flight. Serves a wide range of hot and cold pub food at a fair price (for London) as well as a large selection of beers and other alcoholic drinks. A traditional cooked English breakfast costs around £6 and will keep you going for most of the day. Family friendly. (updated Nov 2015)
- **Pret** (*After security turn left and walk to the gates at the end.*). British chain of sandwich shops. £2+.

Mid-range

- **Caffe Nero**, 24 hours, serves fresh coffee, tea, hot drinks and Italian style sandwiches and pastries. Located before security.
- **Garfunkel's**, 06:30 until last flight, serves a range of British and American food including decent breakfasts. Located after security.
- **Est Bar Deli**, 06:30 until last flight. Coffee, cocktails, wines and beer good quality freshly made sandwiches and salads. A good substitute for the lack of an Eat. in T4, and it sells alcohol too. Located after security.

Splurge

- **Caviar House & Prunier Seafood Bar**, 08:00 - 20:00, serves caviar, smoked salmon and seafood. Located after security.

4.6.3 Terminal 5

Budget

Heathrow Airport and British Airways are trying to give their new terminal a feeling of quality so you won't find any of your regular, cheap high-street fast food joints in T5. There are a few places where you can grab a bite to eat without breaking the bank though:

- **Boots**, 06:00 until last flight, sell a limited range of pre-packed sandwiches, salads and bottled drinks at a very good price. Located in departures, both before and after security.
- **Costa**, 24 hours, serves fresh coffee, tea, hot drinks, sandwiches and pastries. Located in the middle of the arrivals concourse.
- **Wetherspoons**, 05:30 until last departure, serves a wide range of hot and cold pub food at a fair price (for London) as well as a large selection of beers and

other alcoholic drinks. A traditional cooked English breakfast costs around £6 and will keep you going for most of the day. Family friendly. Located after security in T5 and T5B.

Mid-range

- **Caffe Nero**, 05:30 until last flight, serves fresh coffee, tea, hot drinks and Italian style sandwiches and pastries. Located on the departures level in the north of the check-in area. Has great views of the northern runway.
- **Marks & Spencer Simply Food**, 05:30 until last flight, sell a large range of pre-packed, sandwiches, salads, cakes pastries and bottled drinks. Not cheap, but good quality and value, after all - it's not just food! Located on the arrivals concourse.
- **Giraffe**, 05:30 until last flight, an alternative restaurant with a very up beat atmosphere and style. Serves food from around the world, including cooked breakfasts, curry dishes, pizza, sandwiches, fish and chips, salads, burgers, grilled steak and everything else they've got. Prices aren't too expensive. Located after security.
- **Eat.**, 05:30 until last flight, serve fresh, simple, seasonal sandwiches, soup, salad and cakes, bottled drinks and tea & fresh coffee to eat in or take away. Located after security.

Splurge

- **Gordon Ramsay Plane Food**, 05:30 until last flight. An airport restaurant from the 3 Michelin star celebrity chef based on the Boxwood Cafe. Breakfast menu is available until 11:00. Serves a range of fine food tailored toward to needs of airport customers, example dishes include "Foie gras and chicken liver parfait, celeriac remoulade, toasted country bread" as a starter, "Escalope of veal, lemon, capers and a nut brown butter" main and "Valhrona chocolate fondue with banana, marshmallows and waffle" desert. Casual dress code. Not cheap. Located on the south side of the terminal after security.
- **Huxleys**, 05:30 until last flight, serves great traditional British food and drink, including afternoon tea. Located after security.
- **Caviar House & Prunier Seafood Bar**, 05:30 until last flight, serves caviar, smoked salmon and seafood. Located in T5 and T5B, after security.

4.7 Buy



Harrods at Heathrow.

Amongst its other attributes as an excellent orienteering course and exercise facility, Heathrow is also something of a haven for shoppers with branches of shops from the British high-street and beyond, including the London icons Harrods and Hamleys.

4.8 Connect

4.8.1 Internet access

The entire airport is covered by a Boingo Wireless network. Prices are as normal for any Boingo hotspot (currently a fairly steep £9.95 per day, £5.95 per hour or £14.95 per month). Most airline lounges will offer free wifi and this does sometimes leak out into areas just outside the lounge. BA's BT Openzone provided free hotspot used to be a prime example of this however the airline began applying a password which changes monthly in 2010. If you have a BT Openzone account however you can still make use of the wifi with your account.

4.9 Cope

Showers are available to travellers in both Terminals 3 and 4, and in the airline lounges in each terminal. Every terminal has at least one pay-to-enter lounge that doesn't require airline status or membership.

Multi-faith prayers rooms exist in each Heathrow terminal and the airport has its own Christian, interdenominational chapel located landside.

4.10 Sleep

- **1 Beaumont Estate**, Burfield Road, ☎ +44 1793 819000, fax: +44 1753 640100, e-mail: beaumont@principal-hayley.com. Check-in: 3pm, check-out: 11am. 6 miles from the Heathrow Airport. It originated as a family home from the 14th

century, and is made up of several buildings - including an old school house and an iconic white mansion – featuring ornate architecture like grand white exterior pillars, barrel-vaulted ceilings and stained glass windows. It provides 2 on-site restaurants and bars, a gym and pool. £84.00+.

- **Crowne Plaza London Heathrow**, Stockley Rd, West Drayton, ☎ +44 871 942 9140. The hotel near Heathrow Airport has a number of facilities including a restaurant, bar and health club.
- **Holiday Inn London Heathrow**, Sipson Road, West Drayton, ☎ +44 871 942 9095. Near to both London Heathrow Airport and the M4. It also provides airport parking and business facilities.
- **Holiday Inn Slough-Windor**, Church St, Chalvey SL1 2NH (*M4 to Jct6. A335 signed Slough (centre), 1st roundabout take 3rd exit which is Church St: 10 mi (16 km)*), ☎ +44 1753 551551. Check-in: 14:00, check-out: 12:00. Long stay parking. 3 Star Hotel for airport stopovers, hotel conferences near London or visiting Legoland and Windsor Castle.
- **Park Inn Hotel Heathrow**, Bath Rd, Middlesex, ☎ +44 20 8759-6611, e-mail: info.heathrow@rezidorparkinn.com. Modern hotel with 895 rooms with a shuttle service to Heathrow Airport.
- **Yotel**, Heathrow Airport, Arrivals Mezzanine Land-side, Terminal 4. Booking by the hour for a minimum of 4 hr.

4.11 Nearby

- **London** is the obvious destination for the traveller trapped in Heathrow. With hundreds of years of history and a cosmopolitan and exhilarating culture, one can never be bored in the Metropolis!

Chapter 5

London Stansted Airport



London Stansted Airport - terminal building, departures and arrivals

London Stansted Airport (IATA: **STN**) is London's third airport, located approximately 30 miles (48 km) north-east of the city in the county of **Essex** and nearer to **Cambridge** than London.

It's the fourth-busiest airport in the **United Kingdom** in terms of passenger numbers, with 17 million passing through its gates in 2012.

5.1 Understand

Stansted is dominated by the low-cost airlines **EasyJet** and **Ryanair** who use the airport as a hub, with holiday charter airlines **Thomson** and **Pegasus** operating flights as well. Stansted also accommodates a few other scheduled carriers within Europe and a small number of inter-continental flights.

5.2 Flights

5.3 Ground transportation

The fastest way to get to London is via the Stansted Express which stops at Tottenham Hale (for connections to the Victoria line) and Liverpool Street. Trains depart

every 15 minutes with the journey taking around 45-60 minutes. Single tickets are £19.00, but booking online well in advance of your journey can yield cheaper fares. Coaches are roughly half the price, but take quite a bit longer.

Getting to Stansted for an early morning flight is fairly straight forward as coaches run through the night. These are provided by National Express from Victoria and Liverpool Street stations. There is also a direct Citylink coach service to St Pancras station which may be useful for connections to Eurostar, or for trains to northern destinations from Kings Cross, St Pancras, or Euston. Be aware that queues are very common at Stansted and security checks can easily take an hour, so ensure that you leave in plenty of time. Getting to the airport can also take longer than the proclaimed 90 minutes - traffic along the route can increase journey times up to 120 minutes or beyond. When you arrive at the airport queueing for passport control can easily take up to 2 hours for non-EU passport holders, especially for Sunday night arrivals.

In addition to services to London, Arriva CrossCountry rail services operate to **Cambridge**, **Peterborough** (for further rail connections to the north-east of England), **Leicester**, and **Birmingham**. National Express coach services operate directly to **Luton**, **Coventry**, **Norwich**, **Ipswich**, **Nottingham**, **Cardiff**, and **Bath**.

Transport options into central London:

- **By rail: Stansted Express to London Liverpool Street**, ☎ +44 345 600 7245. Every 15 minutes, journey time 45-60 minutes. Single £19.00, return £32.00. Travelcards are not valid. First class fares are available, but the short journey time makes the cost somewhat excessive. Children aged 5-15 travel at half fares. Most budget carriers' websites offer reduced price deals for the Stansted Express and booking online in advance of your journey is recommended..
- **By rail then London Underground: Stansted Express to Tottenham Hale then London Underground (Victoria line)**, ☎ +44 345 600 7245 (premium rate number from most mobiles and often not available from overseas). Every 15 min. If you are

going to south London, the West End or west London then take the Stansted Express to Tottenham Hale then the London Underground (Victoria line). At Tottenham Hale ask for an *Oyster* card for the best fare or use a contactless payment card. Single £19.00, return £32.00. Then £3.20 (peak)/£2.70 (off-peak) for single Oyster or contactless card fares to central London by Underground. Paying by cash on the Undergrounds will yield higher fares..

- **By coach: National Express**, ☎ +44 371 781 8181. Every 15-30 minutes. Journey time to Stratford: 1 hour (can vary depending on traffic). To Victoria: 90 minutes (can vary depending on traffic). To Stratford (Tube: Stratford) or Victoria (Tube: Victoria). Folding bicycles only. To Stratford: £10 single, £15 return. To Victoria: £12 single, £19 return. Travelcards not valid.. (updated Dec 2016)
- **By coach: Citylink**, ☎ +44 330 123 2004. Every 30-60 minutes. Journey time to St Pancras: 73 minutes (can vary depending on traffic).. To St Pancras station (Tube: Kings Cross St Pancras). To St Pancras: £8 single, £15 return. Travelcards not valid..
- **By minibus: EasyBus**. To Baker Street (Tube: Baker Street) From £2 (advance web purchase) to £8 single. Travelcard not valid..
- **By taxi**. Journey time 90-120 minutes (varies depending on traffic). The airport is a long way from central London. It's normally a better idea to take a train to Liverpool Street and continue by taxi from there. approximately £70.
- **By Minicab**, ☎ +44 1279 816901. Journey time 90-120 minutes (varies depending on traffic). Stansted Airport Cars, located just outside of the terminal complex. Always pre-book a minicab - **if your minicab's not booked, it's just a stranger's car!** approximately £70.

5.3.1 Connecting to Heathrow

- **By coach: National Express**, ☎ +44 371 781 8181. Approximately every hour. Journey time to Heathrow: 90 minutes (varying depending on traffic). Single £25. Return £30-£35..

5.4 Get around

5.5 Wait

5.6 Eat and Drink

- **Burger King**. First flight until last flight. Popular and well-known fast food chain serving consistent food at consistent prices. Family friendly. (updated Dec 2016)
- **Cabin**. First flight until last flight. An upmarket bar serving hand-selected wines, cocktails and food. (updated Dec 2016)
- **Cafe Balzar**, ☎ +44 1279 680911. First flight until last flight. Cafe Balzar is a restaurant serving "French cuisine blended with North African flair". (updated Dec 2016)
- **Coast-to-Coast**. First flight until last flight. An American restaurant serving burgers, pizza, steak, and many other dishes. Offers breakfast as well. Family friendly. (updated Dec 2016)
- **Costa**. First flight until last flight. Popular coffee shop chain serving a variety of drinks and snacks. (updated Dec 2016)
- **Est Presso**. First flight until last flight. Coffee shop offering Italian coffee and snacks. (updated Dec 2016)
- **Giraffe**. First flight until last flight. Restaurant chain offering freshly made fast food with a seasonally changing menu. (updated Dec 2016)
- **Empire Dogs**. First flight until last flight. Offers gourmet hot dogs. (updated Dec 2016)
- **Halo**. 05:00 until last flight. Halo is a "fizz bar" offering cocktails, beers and spirits as well as food. (updated Dec 2016)
- **Harris + Hoole**. 24 hours. A coffee shop chain. (updated Dec 2016)
- **The Illustrious Bar and Cafe**. First flight until last flight. A rock & roll-themed cafe serving snacks and beverages. (updated Dec 2016)
- **The Illustrious Bar and Cafe**. First flight until last flight. A rock & roll-themed cafe serving snacks and beverages. (updated Dec 2016)
- **Itsu**. First flight until last flight. Itsu is a chain offering light low carbohydrate and low fat takeaway food that is made fresh on the hour, every hour. (updated Dec 2016)

- **James Martin Kitchen.** First flight until last flight. James Martin Kitchen is a bakery that offers fresh and locally sourced snacks. (updated Dec 2016)
- **James Martin Kitchen.** First flight until last flight. James Martin Kitchen is a bakery that offers fresh and locally sourced snacks. (updated Dec 2016)
- **Joe's Coffee House.** First flight until last flight. Offers hot and cold drinks and sandwiches and soup, among other snacks. (updated Dec 2016)
- **Leon.** First flight until last flight. A menu inspired by Mediterranean cooking. (updated Dec 2016)
- **Pip.** First flight until last flight. Healthy fast food and freshly-squeezed fruit juices and smoothies. (updated Dec 2016)
- **Pret.** 24 hours. Popular coffee chain offering hand-made takeaway food such as sandwiches, salads, wraps and baguettes as well as hot food. (updated Dec 2016)
- **Starbucks.** 24 hours. Popular and well-known coffeehouse chain offering various hot and cold drinks and snacks. (updated Dec 2016)
- **Wetherspoon (The Windmill).** First flight to last flight. Pub chain offering a range of snacks, sandwiches, beers and spirits. (updated Dec 2016)
- **Wetherspoon Express** (*Located after security*). First flight to last flight. Mini-pub offering a range of snacks, sandwiches, beers and spirits. Closer to the departure gates than The Windmill. (updated Dec 2016)

5.7 Buy

5.8 Connect

There are several commercial wi-fi hotspots covering most of the airport but they charge extortionate rates. A free wi-fi hotspot is in the arrivals gate area, next to the phone booths offering fixed internet.

5.9 Cope

5.10 Sleep

5.10.1 Sleeping in the terminal

A large number of budget flights depart from Stansted as early as 06:00 (when the lowest fares are available). However, this presents travellers with a problem, as the airport's location is a long way outside London, and transport to the airport is sporadic before 05:30. Due to the high price of accommodation in London and near the airport, and the fact that many budget airlines don't pay for accommodation in the event of cancellation, an increasing number of travellers choose to spend the night in the airport prior to their flight. A crowd of around 100 travellers (up to 400 in summer) camp in the main departure/arrivals hall every night, effectively turning it into a giant dormitory.

Tips for sleeping at Stansted Airport:

- Arrive early, preferably around 22:00, and stake your territory immediately. Benches without armrests are in limited supply and fill up quickly.
- If you arrive later, take a floor mat and sleeping bag. Sleeping on the floor is tolerated by the staff, but avoid pitching your bed in front of shops and counters.
- A sleeping bag is generally recommended as the automatic doors constantly open and close as passengers arrive and it can get chilly in winter.
- Safety is not a problem. The airport is miles away from any settlement and security guards overlook the open-plan building 24/7. The usual safety precautions apply though, such as not leaving bags unattended.
- Ear plugs and eye covers are a must, as the cleaning staff are noisy and shop assistants start arriving at 04:00 to open shutters.
- At least one cafe is open all night, offering snacks and hot drinks. Boots the chemist is also open 24/7.
- Toilets remain open and are normally in good condition. There is a drinking fountain to the left of the Accessorize storefront and the security entrance "Door 1", where you can fill water bottles for the night.

5.10.2 Airport hotels

Several chains have a hotel in the vicinity of the airport. The Radisson Blu Hotel London Stansted Airport is the most conveniently located, a short two-minute walk from the terminal. Others require a five-minute ride in a hotel-operated shuttle bus.

- **Radisson Blu Hotel London Stansted Airport** is immediately adjacent to the terminal building.

- **Hilton London Stansted Airport**
- **Holiday Inn Express London Stansted Airport**

5.11 Nearby

- Bishop's Stortford
- Chelmsford
- Saffron Walden

Chapter 6

London/Bloomsbury



Location of the Bloomsbury area in London

This article is about three neighbourhoods of central London: **Bloomsbury**, **St Pancras** and **Fitzrovia**.

Bloomsbury is the hub of London's university district, and is home to the British Museum and British Library, both must-visits on any curious traveller's wishlist. **St Pancras** is a largely residential area with many fine 17th-to-19th century townhouses built around pretty squares with gardens of varying levels of privacy, and the perfect place for a wander to soak up the atmosphere of being in London. This is also a promising place to look for accommodation, from cheap student hostels to 4-star hotels and apartment rentals. What **Fitzrovia** lacks in attractions it makes up for in an excellent variety of pubs and bars, most of which cater for a young, intellectual crowd of students, media types and junior doctors.

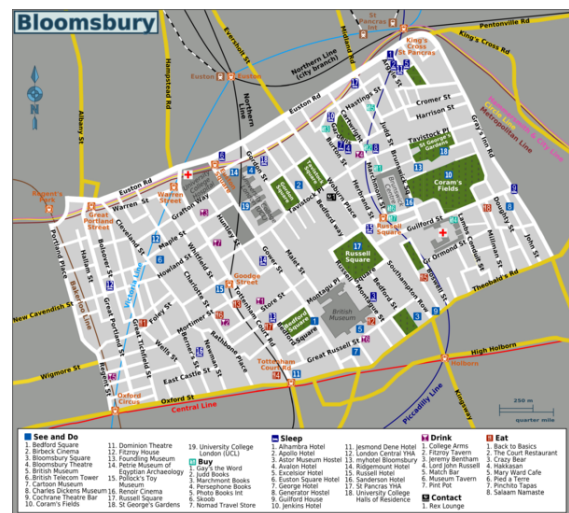
6.1 Understand

Bloomsbury is a vibrant historic district made most famous by a group of turn-of-the-century writers that included Virginia Woolf and EM Forster (*the Bloomsbury Set*), economist John Maynard Keynes and the artist Roger Fry.

It is also the location of the **British Museum**, the **British Library**, the campus of **University College London** and numerous historic homes, parks, and buildings.

Fitzrovia is to the west of Bloomsbury. The border between these 2 districts is located on *Gower Street – Bloomsbury Street* axis. Allegedly, Fitzrovia was named after the *Fitzroy Tavern*. The BBC's *New Broadcasting House* is located at the western end of this district.

6.2 Get in



Map of the Bloomsbury district

6.2.1 By tube

Bloomsbury can be easily accessed from several convenient tube stations as follows:

- Euston Square (Circle, Hammersmith & City and Metropolitan lines)
- Goodge Street (Northern line)
- Holborn (Central and Piccadilly lines)
- King's Cross St Pancras (Circle, Hammersmith & City, Metropolitan, Northern (Bank Branch), Piccadilly and Victoria lines - yes, that many!)

- Russell Square (Piccadilly line)
- Tottenham Court Road (Central and Northern lines)
- Warren Street (Northern and Victoria lines)

6.2.2 By train

Within walking distance of 3 mainline rail stations: *King's Cross*, *Euston* and *St. Pancras International*.

6.2.3 By bus

6.3 Get around

?""UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU""?

Map of London/Bloomsbury (Edit GPX)?""UNIQ--indicator-00000001-QINU""?

Most of the sites are reachable by foot or a single stop on the tube.

6.4 See



Bedford Square in Bloomsbury - wonderful Georgian architecture

6.4.1 Landmarks and parks

- **1 Bedford Square**, WC1 (*tube: Russell Sq*). This wonderful square was built between 1775 and 1783 as an upper middle class residential area takes its name from the Dukes of Bedford, who were the main landlords in Bloomsbury. Distinguished residents have included Lord Eldon, one of Britain's longest serving and most celebrated Lord Chancellors. This is one of the best preserved set pieces of Georgian architecture in London and the majority

of the buildings are grade I listed. The gardens are private and always remain locked. **W**

- **1 British Telecom Tower**, Maple St, W1T 4BG. Not open to the public. 191m (627ft) skyscraper can be seen from far away and is the sixth highest building in UK. **W**
- **1 Bloomsbury Square**, Bloomsbury Sq, WC1A 2LS (*tube: Holborn, Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7974-1693, fax: +44 20 7974-1543. Dusk-dawn. This garden square was established by Lord Southampton in 1665 and is the oldest square in London. It was opened to the public in the 1950s. The square is surrounded by a number of beautiful 18th and 19th century buildings and terraces. Free. **W**
- **1 Coram's Fields**, 93 Guilford St, WC1N 1DN (*tube: Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7833-2393. A park which is run specifically as children's play area. Facilities include a pet's corner, lawns, sports pitches and a nursery. No adults are allowed to enter the park unless they are accompanying children. All visitors are welcome to join the local kids. **W**
- **1 Russell Square**, WC1B (*tube: Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7974-1693, fax: +44 20 7974-1543. 07:30-22:00. The largest square in London. It was established in 1806 by the 5th Duke of Bedford and his statue can still be seen in the square. There is also a café. **W**
- **1 St George's Gardens**, Heathcote St, WC1N 1AB (*tube: Russell Sq*), e-mail: info@friendsofstgeorgessgardens.org.uk. Peaceful gardens and interesting monuments including the daughter of Richard Cromwell, son of Oliver Cromwell.

6.4.2 Museums and exhibitions

- **1 British Museum**, Great Russell St, WC1B 3DG (*tube: Tottenham Court Rd*), ☎ +44 20 7323-8000, fax: +44 20 7323-8616, e-mail: information@britishmuseum.org. Sa-W 10:00-17:30, Th F 10:00-20:30; Central Great Court remains open Sa-W until 18:00, Th F until 23:00. A vast repository of the world's cultures, with entire sections devoted to Egyptian, Greek, and Middle Eastern artifacts, as well as the piece which united them all, the Rosetta Stone. It also includes the largest collection of mummies outside Egypt and the Elgin Marbles. A definite highlight of a trip to London. Temporary exhibitions are invariably excellent and meticulously researched, but can be expensive. Free. **W**



Ceiling of the Great Hall, inside the British Museum

- **1 Cartoon Museum**, 35 Little Russell St, WC1A 2HH (*tube: Tottenham Court Rd*), ☎ +44 20 7580-8155, e-mail: info@cartoonmuseum.org. Tu-Sa 10:30-17:30, Su noon-17:30. A vast collection of cartoons and comics on display. £5.50, concessions £4, students £3, under-18s free. **W**
- **1 Charles Dickens Museum**, 48 Doughty St, WC1N 2LX (*tube: Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7405-2127, fax: +44 20 7831-5175, e-mail: info@dickensmuseum.com. M, W-Sa 10:00-17:00 (last admission 16:30), Tu 10:00-19:00, Su 11:00-17:00 (last admission 16:30). Museum at the former home of Dickens exhibiting writings, paintings, furniture and other items relating to the writer. £5, students and seniors £4, children £3, families £14 (two adults and up to five children), special group rates apply. **W**
- **1 Foundling Museum**, 40 Brunswick Sq, WC1N 1AZ (*tube: Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7841-3600, fax: +44 20 7841-3601, e-mail: enquiries@foundlingmuseum.org.uk. Tu-Su 10:00-17:30. A museum and a gallery telling the story of the Foundling Hospital, an orphanage for abandoned children founded in the eighteenth century. Massive art donations by British artists and the involvement of George Friederic Handel as a patron made this childcare organisation an early centre of art and music. £5, concessions £4, children free. **W**
- **1 Fitzroy House** (*L. Ron Hubbard House*), 35/37 Fitzroy St, W1T 6DX (*tube: Warren St*), ☎ +44 20 7255-2422, fax: +44 20 7255-2422, e-mail: info@fitzroyhouse.org. A historic house formerly inhabited by playwright George Bernard Shaw, it is where writer L. Ron Hubbard, founder of Scientology, worked in the 1950s. The building is reminiscent of the time, complete with Adler typewriters, Grundig tape recorders, and Western Union telefax. Tours by appointment. Free.
- **1 Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology**, Malet Pl, WC1E 6BT (*tube: Euston Sq. The museum can be hard to find. Whilst preparing for a move to new premises in 2012, it is housed inside the DMS Watson library down Malet Pl, a narrow lane. Find the large Blackwell's Bookstore on the corner of Malet St-Malet Pl continue over Torrington Pl. Venturing down the lane, the museum's banner should be prominent on the left hand side. Go through the doors and ask the porter for the museum*), ☎ +44 20 7679-2884, fax: +44 20 7679-2886, e-mail: petrie.museum@ucl.ac.uk. Tu-F 13:00-17:00, Sa 11:00-14:00. Formerly the teaching collection of Sir Flinders Petrie, one of Britain's greatest archaeologists, now preserved by University College London. Exhibits include beaded dresses, sculpture and wall reliefs, items of everyday use, papyri, cartonnage and pottery. Fascinating! Free. **W**
- **1 Pollock's Toy Museum**, 1 Scala St, W1T 2HL (*tube: Goodge St*), ☎ +44 20 7636-3452, e-mail: info@pollockstoymuseum.com. M-Sa 10:00-17:00. A treasure trove of antique toys exhibited in a warren of 6 rooms above the toy shop of the same name. A very charming place indeed, though the doll rooms are a bit gruesome. **W**

6.4.3 Other

- **1 Goodenough College**, Mecklenburgh Sq, WC1N 2AB (*tube: Russell Sq*). Goodenough College offers accommodation for international postgraduate students. The College's student community of approx 650 represents over 90 countries, offering a unique experience through stimulating intellectual debate, fostering cross-cultural activity and providing an exceptional social environment. *Tours* around the College are offered every Friday at 13:00 and every first Saturday of the month at 11:00.
- **1 University College London (UCL)**, Gower St, WC1E 6BT (*tube: Euston Sq, access from the northern end of Gower St*), ☎ +44 20 7679-2000, e-mail: postmaster@ucl.ac.uk. Includes a small but beautiful quad and an interesting Neo-Classical facade.



BBC Broadcasting House

The core buildings of UCL were built after the university's foundation in 1826.



Outside the BBC's The One Show studio

- **1 BBC Broadcasting House** (*New Broadcasting House aka NBH*), Portland Place (*tube: Oxford Circus or Great Portland Street*). The current complex incorporates the *Old Broad House* built in 1930s. The façades of which feature the famous sculpture of *Prospero and Ariel* and the *Ariel* friezes by Eric Gill and Gilbert Bayes. BBC's *The One Show* is transmitted from the studio at the ground floor every weeknight starting from 19:00. The studio is quite visible from the plaza outside and some parts of the show are performed from outside of the studio – at the plaza. **W** (updated Dec 2015)

6.5 Do

- **Birkbeck Cinema**, 43 Gordon Sq, Birkbeck, University of London, WC1H 0PD, ☎ +44 872 148 2992, e-mail: cinemahire@bbk.ac.uk.
- **Bloomsbury Theatre**, 15 Gordon St, WC1H 0AH (*tube: Euston Sq*). Theatre owned by University College London staging both student and professional productions. Broad range of performances.
- **Cochrane Theatre Bar**, 48 Southampton Row, WC1B 4AP (*tube: Holborn*), ☎ +44 20 7269-1606. Established by Jeannetta Cochrane, now owned by the University of the Arts. Has servings throughout the performances.
- **Dominion Theatre**, 268-269 Tottenham Court Rd, W1T 7AQ (*tube: Tottenham Court Rd*). A large London theatre that tends to show mainstream blockbuster-type musical productions
- **Renoir**, Brunswick Sq, WC1N 1AW (*tube: Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7837-8402. Cinema showing art-house and foreign language films. £3.50-6.80.
- **Walks**, ☎ +44 20 7388-8822. Bloomsbury has a number of famous walks that cover the lives and works of the Bloomsbury Group.
- **Bloomsbury Festival** takes place in the Summer around the environs of Bloomsbury, concentrated in Russel Square, and hosts arts and crafts fair, children's painting classes and dance workshops. The food stalls are good value too.
- **London Mathematical Society** is based on Russell Square, where they give lectures and exhibitions, for those numerically inclined.

6.6 Buy

1 Tottenham Court Road is the centre for electronics retailers in London. If you are visiting the city and need to buy or replace an electronic item, you will not find a better selection nor better prices than here. Explore both sides of the street to the north of Tottenham Court Road station.

With University College London being a dominant presence in Bloomsbury, it is no surprise that there are a lot of bookshops. The area around Marchmont St and The Brunswick Centre (north of Russell Sq) rivals Charing Cross Road to be the bookshop capital of London.

6.6.1 Bookshops

- **Gay's the Word**, 66 Marchmont St, WC1N 1AB (*tube: Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7278-7654, e-mail: sales@gaystheword.co.uk. The leading gay-related bookshop in Britain. Been around since 1979. Fiction and a large academic stock.
- **Judd Books**, 82 Marchmont St, WC1N 1AG (*tube: Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7387-5333, e-mail: info@juddbooks.com. M-Sa 11:00-19:00. Large stock of used, remaindered and academic books especially in the fields of architecture, history and philosophy.
- **Marchmont Books**, 39 Burton St, WC1H 9AL (*tube: Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7387-7989. Antiquarian bookshop
- **Persephone Books**, 59 Lamb's Conduit St, WC1N 3NB (*tube: Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7242-9292. Specialises in 20th century fiction by women writers.
- **Photo Books International**, 99 Judd St, WC1H 9NE, e-mail: info@pbi-books.com. W-F 11:00-17:30, Sa noon-16:00. Specialists in new and used photographic books
- **Skoob**, 66 The Brunswick, WC1N 1AE (*tube: Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7278-8760, e-mail: skoobbooks@btconnect.com. Wide selection of secondhand academic books, philosophy, modern literature and classics. Very popular with students.

6.6.2 Other

- **1 The Brunswick Centre** (*between Brunswick Square and Russell Square*). Shopping centre. A large Waitrose supermarket and some other shops are located there. (updated Nov 2015)

6.7 Eat

6.7.1 Budget

This area is teeming with students so there is a wealth of cheap (relative to London prices) eating options. Charlotte Street near Goodge Street underground station, parallel to Tottenham Court Road (where the Fitzroy Tavern is found) has a number of nice restaurants, some of them very reasonable. Look for the cheap Korean restaurants under Centre Point at Tottenham Court Road. They are great value and very close to the British Museum.

- **1 Attendant**, 27A Foley Street, W1W 6DY (*tube: Goodge St; corner of Foley St and Great Titchfield St, outside the Crown & Septre*), ☎ +44 20 7637-3794, e-mail: info@the-attendant.com. M-F 08:00-18:00, Sa 10:00-17:00, Su 10:00-16:00. An independent coffee shop in a converted Victorian public toilet. £2.70 for a cappuccino.
- **1 Mary Ward Cafe**, 42 Queen Sq, WC1N 3AQ (*tube: Holborn, Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7269-6000. M-Th 9:30am-8:45pm, F 9:30am-8pm, Sa 9:30am-4pm. A selection of veggie and vegan dishes that changes daily. Cakes, pastries, and salad available as well. Busy, eat in or take away. Under £5 for a heap of food.
- **1 Ravi Shankar**, 133-5 Drummond St, NW1 2HL (*tube: Euston Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7388-6458. noon-22:45. Indian restaurant named after the famous Indian sitarist and composer. A superb vegetarian Thali can be had for under £10. Wash it down with a Kingfisher and you are set for the night.
- **1 Salaam Namaste**, 68 Millman St, WC1N 3EF (*tube: Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7405-3697, e-mail: info@salaam-namaste.co.uk. Mo-Sa 11:45-14:30, 17:30-23:30; Su 11:45-14:30, 17:30-23:00. Indian restaurant with dishes from around the country. Mains from £5.95.
- **1 Valtaro Snack Bar**, 66 Marchmont St, WC1N 1AG. A cheap greasy spoon offering a decent-sized plate of pasta for under £5 as well as more English dishes.
- **1 YouMeSushi**, 37 Tottenham Court Road, W1T 1BY (*tube: Tottenham Court Road*), ☎ +44 20 7323-2266. Founded in 2008, YouMeSushi has gone from strength to strength with the opening of three additional venues. Eat in, take away or have sushi delivered straight to your door (within a 3 mile radius).

6.7.2 Mid-range

- **1 Great Court Restaurant**, The British Museum, Great Russell St, WC1B 3DG (*tube: Tottenham Court Rd*), ☎ +44 20 7323-8990, e-mail: eat@britishmuseum.org. Sa-Th noon-17:30, F noon-21:30. Housed in the British Museum, this restaurant offers a unique dining experience. For history buffs, its the perfect setting to sit down and enjoy familiar favorites. Reservations recommended. Main courses from £16.25.

6.7.3 Splurge

- **Crazy Bear**, 26-28 Whitfield St, W1T 2RG (*tube: Goodge St*), ☎ +44 20 7631-0088, e-mail:

enquiries@crazybear-london.co.uk. Su-W noon-midnight, Th-Sa noon-01:00. Stylish Thai restaurant, also dishes from other Asian countries. Small mains from £13, set menu from £39.50.

- **Hakkasan**, 8 Hanway Pl, W1T 1HD (*Tottenham Court Rd*), ☎ +44 844 858 0682, e-mail: mail@hakkasan.com. M-W noon-15:15, 18:00-23:30; Th-Fr noon-15:15, 18:00-00:30; Sa noon-16:30, 18:00-00:30; Su noon-16:30. Michelin starred kitchen based on Cantonese tradition but also experimenting in other areas. Small mains from £14.
- **Pied à Terre**, 34 Charlotte St, W1T 2NH (*tube: Goodge St*), ☎ +44 20 7636-1178, e-mail: info@pied-a-terre.co.uk. M-F 12:15-14:30, 18:15-22:30, Sa 18:15-22:30. French restaurant with one Michelin star. Starter and main course £56.60.

6.8 Drink

There are a number of pubs and wine bars around the British Library and University College London campus.

- **Sam Smith's Pubs** (*Samuel Smith's Old Brewery*). Check also a *map with pub locations*. £2-£4 per pint.
 - **1 Fitzroy Tavern**, 16 Charlotte St, W1T 2NA (*tube: Goodge St*), ☎ +44 20 7580-3714. Owned by the Samuel Smith brewery, the Fitzroy Tavern offers good, cheap beer. The pub, which took its name from a local aristocrat, the Earl of Fitzroy, in turn inspired the name of the surrounding area of Bloomsbury, Fitzrovia, and was a popular drinking place for BBC broadcasters (including George Orwell) following the Second World War. A very friendly pub, with nice outdoor seating in summer.
 - **1 The Yorkshire Grey**, 46 Langham Street. (updated Nov 2015)
 - **1 The Cock**, 27 Great Portland Street. (updated Nov 2015)
 - **1 The Horse and Groom**, 128, Great Portland Street. (updated Nov 2015)
 - **1 The Champion**, 13 Wells Street. (updated Nov 2015)
 - **1 The Blue Posts**, 81 Newman Street. (updated Nov 2015)
 - **1 The Bricklayers Arms**, 31 Gresse Street. (updated Nov 2015)
- **1 The College Arms**, 18 Store St, WC1E 7DH (*tube: Goodge St*), ☎ +44 872 148 2469. Pub often frequented by students from nearby University College London and Birkbeck College.

- **1 Bubbledogs**, 70 Charlotte St, W1T 4QG (*tube: Goodge St*), ☎ +44 20 7637-7770, e-mail: info@bubbledogs.co.uk. Tu-Sa 11:30-16:00 / 17:30-23:00. Champagne and cocktail bar serving gourmet hotdogs. From £6-11.50 (glass of wine/champagne), £6-8 (hotdogs).
- **1 The Jeremy Bentham**, 31 University St, WC1E 6JL (*tube: Warren St*), ☎ +44 872 148 1528. Named after the prominent political philosopher and early supporter of University College London, and located very near the main entrance to the college, the pub tends to attract more senior academics than does the College Arms.
- **1 The Lord John Russell**, 91-93 Marchmont St, WC1N 1AL (*tube: Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7388-0500. Authentic pub popular with University students.
- **1 The Museum Tavern**, 49 Great Russell St, WC1B 3BA (*tube: Tottenham Court Rd, opposite the British Museum*), ☎ +44 20 7242-8987. M-Th 11:00-23:00, Fr-Sa 11:00-midnight, Su noon-23:30. A very good pub, offering a wide range of real ales, and some excellent food. Can get busy in the summer months.
- **1 TCR Lounge Bar** (*formerly, and commonly still known as, Ye Olde Surgeon*), 183 Tottenham Court Rd, W1T 7PE (*tube: Goodge St*). A common drinking place for medical students from University College Hospital, who jostle alongside office workers. Gets exceptionally crowded after office hours.
- **1 The Lamb**, 94 Lamb's Conduit Street, WC1N 3LZ (*tube: Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7405-0713, e-mail: lambwc1@youngs.co.uk. M-W 12:00-23:00, Th-Sa 12:00-midnight, Su 12:00-22:30. This beautifully preserved Victorian pub still has numerous frequenters, both young and old alike. Classic ales and some great food. Crowded after 17.00.

6.9 Sleep

Bloomsbury is a great choice of district to stay in as there is a large range of hostels, B&Bs, budget hotels and four star hotels in the area.

6.9.1 Budget

Hostels

- **Astor Museum Inn Hostel**, 27 Montague St, WC1B 5BH (*Tube: Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7580-5360. For 18-35 year-olds.

- **Generator**, Compton Pl, (off 37 Tavistock Pl), WC1H 9SE (*Tube: Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7388-7666, fax: +44 20 7388-7644, e-mail: london@generatorhostels.com. Right in the heart of Bloomsbury. Communal showers and cold water, all-night parties and generally an architecture obviously designed exclusively with the easy clean-up of bodily fluids in mind. It is cheap, though, in London terms. Dormitory from £20, private single £60.
- **London Central Youth Hostel**, 104 Bolsover St, W1W 5NU (*tube: Great Portland St/Warren St*), ☎ +44 845 371 9154, e-mail: londoncentral@yha.org.uk. The newest of the five London YHA hostels, with state of the art interiors, and a short walk from Regent's Park. Dormitory from £24.50 excluding breakfast.
- **St Pancras International Youth Hostel**, 79-81 Euston Rd, NW1 2QE (*tube: Kings Cross St Pancras/Euston*), ☎ +44 870 7706044, e-mail: stpancras@yha.org.uk. Check-in: 14:00, check-out: 10:30. The largest of the five London YHA hostels, minutes walk from St Pancras International railway station. £26.50 per night (dorm); Breakfast £4.50.
- **University College London**, Bloomsbury and King's Cross. Student halls of residence which are made available for rental during academic holiday periods.
- **Excelsior Hotel**, 42 Argyle Sq, WC1H 8AL (*tube: King's Cross St Pancras*), ☎ +44 20 7837-0571, fax: +44 20 7713-5835, e-mail: booking@excelsiorhotel.co.uk. Budget hotel situated in a quiet, leafy square close to King's Cross Station. All rooms have high speed internet connection. From £59.
- **Guilford House**, 6 Guilford St, WC1N 1DR (*tube: Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7430-2504, e-mail: guilford-hotel@lineone.net. A little shabby but well located and fair value. From £59.
- **Jesmond Dene Hotel**, 27 Argyle St, WC1H 8EP (*tube: King's Cross St Pancras*), ☎ +44 20 7837-4654, fax: +44 20 7833-1633, e-mail: info@jesmonddenehotel.co.uk. Check-in: 13:00, check-out: 11:00. A budget hotel run on a bed & breakfast basis. Free WiFi Internet access. Basic single £50, basic double/twin £80.
- **Ridgemount**, 65-67 Gower St, WC1E 6HJ (*tube: Goodge St*), ☎ +44 20 7636-1141. Basic double £50.

6.9.2 Mid-range

Hotels

Many of the budget hotels are located on **Argyle St** in the very northern part of the district, nearest tube station: King's Cross St Pancras.

- **Alhambra Hotel**, 17-19 Argyle St, WC1H 8EJ, ☎ +44 20 7837-9575. Well known multi-lingual (Spanish, Portuguese, French) family hotel. Free wireless Internet. Single from £50, basic double £60, excellent English breakfast included.
- **The Apollo Hotel**, 60 Argyle St, WC1H 8EP (*tube: King's Cross St Pancras*). Clean, but staff somewhat unhelpful. WiFi Internet. Single from £48, basic double £58, English breakfast included.
- **Avalon Hotel**, 46-47 Cartwright Gdns, WC1H 9EL (*tube: King's Cross St Pancras*). Friendly staff, good rooms, and you get to take a spare key of both your room and the front door - of course very useful if you plan on staying out late. From £59, breakfast included.
- **Euston Square Hotel**, 152-156 N Gower St, NW1 2LU (*tube: Euston*), ☎ +44 20 7388-0099. Completely renovated in 2008. From £87.
- **Holiday Inn London Bloomsbury**, Coram St, WC1N 1HT, ☎ +44 871 942 9222. The hotel is based in Central London near to attractions such as Buckingham Palace and St. Paul's Cathedral.
- **George Hotel**, 58-60 Cartwright Gdns, WC1H 9EL (*tube: King's Cross St Pancras*), ☎ +44 20 7387-8777. Historic building, full English breakfast. Double room, ensuite £75.
- **Jenkins Hotel**, 45 Cartwright Gdns, WC1H 9EH (*tube: Euston or Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7387-2067. A converted Victorian building. No lift. From £95.
- **Goodenough Club**, 23 Mecklenburgh Sq, WC1N 2AB (*tube: Russell Sq or Kings Cross*), ☎ +44 20 7837-8831, e-mail: reservations@goodenough.ac.uk. 5 Georgian Townhouses looking over the beautiful Mecklenburgh Square gardens. No lift. From £100.
- **myhotel Bloomsbury**, 11-13 Bayley St, Bedford Sq, WC1B 3HD (*tube: Goodge St*). Funky and fashionable hotel with interiors by Conran and no surprise that it is listed in Hip Hotels. Doubles from £206.

6.9.3 Splurge

- **1 The Russell Hotel** (*Hotel Russell*), 1-8 Russell Sq, WC1B 5BE (*tube: Russell Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7837-6470, e-mail: russell.reservations@principal-hayley.com. Check-in: 2pm, check-out: 11am. This gothic building is a real landmark and dominates the eastern side of Russell Square. Not a cheap hotel by any means but good value for the location and standard. Popular with families. See the magnificent ballroom which was designed by the same people who created interiors for RMS Titanic.
- **Sanderson Hotel**, 50 Berners St, W1T 3NG (*tube: Oxford Circus*). Hotel features the Courtyard Garden, Jeffrey Chodorow's Spoon restaurant, the Long Bar, the Purple Bar, Billiard Room, Agua Bathhouse, penthouse suites and multi-service meeting spaces.
- **Holiday Inn London - Bloomsbury**, Coram Street London, WC1N 1HT United Kingdom, ☎ +1 888 465 4329. from £ 184.00 GBP.

6.10 Connect

6.11 Go next

Chapter 7

London/Camden



Location of the Camden area in London

Camden is an inner northern district of **London**. Its heart lies in Camden Town, a neighbourhood known for its market and the colourful nightlife. Camden is home to three of the most important railway stations in London: King's Cross, St. Pancras and Euston.

7.1 Understand



Camden Town - whacky, Bohemian and lots of fun

For half a century **Camden Town**, the centre of Camden, has been the centre of alternative culture in London, be it punk, goth, hippie or emo. The area is home to large markets selling an extremely wide range of products from

glowing t-shirts to digeridoos, mostly from independent stalls. With some of the capital's most varied cuisine, great live music and an *anything goes* attitude, Camden is one of the most vibrant and interesting of all London districts.

The area has its origins in the early 19th century as a suburban town on the road leading north from London. Later, it developed as a service centre around the railways, canals and other transportation. Virtually the whole of Camden was traditionally a working class, inner-city area with large estates of run-down public housing and some very seedy areas indeed. Inevitably though given its convenient inner London location, considerable gentrification has occurred across the district. Nevertheless, a friendly community atmosphere remains in the area which has in recent years bred such different people as singer Amy Winehouse and Labour party leader Ed Miliband.

7.1.1 Orientation

The district of Camden, as covered here, is larger than Camden Town and smaller than the London Borough of Camden. This is for the sake of usefulness: the former is a rather small historic area and the latter simply an administrative unit, but don't be surprised by seeing contradictory uses of the term "Camden". As the term is used here, the Camden district roughly corresponds with the northern half of the Metropolitan Borough of St. Pancras, which existed until 1965.

Three of the main London railway stations are located in the south of the district. They are all along Euston Road, which is a part of the ring road around inner London. King's Cross and St. Pancras International are just across the street from each other (they're served by a single tube station), and slightly further to the west is Euston. A number of important main roads also converge in or around Camden.

For the traveller, it may be useful to divide the district of Camden into four areas. In the centre is **Camden Town**, with Camden High Street and Chalk Farm Road as its main thoroughfare. The Northern Line underground runs through this area and it's where most locations of inter-

est are to be found. To the southwest of Camden Town is **Euston**, with its eponymous railway station but little else apart from office blocks and council housing. To the southeast is an area known as **King's Cross**, which contains both the King's Cross and St. Pancras International railway stations. The King's Cross area used to be known for prostitution, drugs and crime, but today most of the area is being redeveloped and has become a lot more up-market. Finally, northeast of Camden Town is **Kentish Town**, linked to the rest of Camden by Kentish Town Road which branches out from Camden High Street. This is an interesting area, in some ways Camden Town's smaller sibling, it's quieter than it's neighbour to the south but has many of the same characteristics.

7.2 Get in

?""UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU""?

Map of London/Camden ([Edit GPX](#))?""UNIQ--indicator-00000001-QINU""?

7.2.1 By tube



Camden Town tube station

The district is served by the following tube stations, listed from south to north.

- **Euston** (Victoria and Northern lines)
- **King's Cross/St. Pancras** (Circle, District, Hammersmith & City, Northern, Piccadilly and Victoria lines)
- **Mornington Crescent** (Northern line, Charing Cross branch only)
- **Camden Town** (Northern line). Note that due to the popularity of the market, this becomes an exit only station on Sundays 1PM-5:30PM. Use Mornington Crescent or Chalk Farm for leaving on Sundays before 5:30PM.
- **Chalk Farm** (Northern line)
- **Kentish Town** (Northern line)

7.2.2 By bus

Camden is very easily reached by bus from almost anywhere else in North or Inner London.

- Both King's Cross and Euston are large and important bus stops, with buses arriving from all over the city.
- Camden High Street and Chalk Farm Road form an important bus route running through the Camden Town area. A number of buses converge on the Mornington Crescent, Camden Town and Chalk Farm tube stations, connecting central London with the boroughs further north.
- Kentish Town is connected to some of the buses that run through the High Street, but also has separate bus connections to East London boroughs.
- Night bus N5 travels between the stations of the Northern Line and thus serves much of Camden during the night.

7.2.3 By Overground

Camden is connected to the London Overground by two stations on the North London Line and one on the Watford DC Line. This is most useful if arriving in Camden from either East or West London, as most other options from those areas require going in to the centre and then back out to Camden.

- **Camden Road** (North London Line)
- **Kentish Town West** (North London Line)
- **Euston** (Watford DC Line)

7.2.4 By rail

London's three large railway terminals to the North - Euston, St. Pancras and King's Cross - are all located in the borough with easy connections from other parts of London and the northern suburbs.

- **Euston** is the London terminus of the West Coast Main Line with intercity services to Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool and Glasgow. It is within easy walking distance of Camden Town itself, or you can catch an onward tube via Northern Line.

- **St. Pancras International** is the terminus of the Midland Main Line (services from Leicester, Derby, Nottingham and Sheffield) and the Eurostar trains (High Speed line) to Continental Europe.
- **King's Cross** serves the East Coast Main Line with intercity services to Cambridge, Leeds, York, Newcastle and Edinburgh, as well as outer suburban services to the northern commuter belt.

7.3 See

- **1 British Library**, 96 Euston Rd, NW1 2DB (*tube: King's Cross, St Pancras*), ☎ +44 20 7412-7332, e-mail: Customer-Services@bl.uk. M, W-F 09:30-18:00, Tu 09:30-18:00, Sa 09:30-17:00, Su 11:00-17:00. The official book depository of the United Kingdom, holding a copy of every book ever printed here, and a wide variety of periodicals. No less than 150 million items catalogued and there is an unimaginable 625 km of shelving! Visitors may not use the library itself unless they have proof of identity, home address, and a genuine need to use a specific item, but there is a free "Treasures of the British Library" exhibition chronicling the history of the written and printed word and displaying some of the library's best known items, including two of the original manuscripts of the Magna Carta and Leonardo Da Vinci's notebook. Additionally there are temporary exhibitions on historical or literary subjects, which charge admission. Popular ones can be very crowded at weekends. In the central atrium stands the King's Library (the library of King George III) surrounded by a glass wall, so visitors can occasionally see librarians retrieving books for readers. Tours of the library building run M, W, F-Su and cost £6. Call to book. Note that large items of luggage are not permitted within the building and cannot be stored in the cloakroom. **W**
- **1 Camley Street Natural Park**, 12 Camley St, N1C 4PW (*tube: King's Cross St Pancras*), ☎ +44 20 7833-2311, e-mail: camleyst@wildlondon.org.uk. 10:00-17:00 daily. A 2 acre nature reserve amid the industrial wasteland just north of King's Cross Station. This lovely little park gives visitors interested in nature the opportunity to learn about the work of the London Wildlife Trust who administer this and 26 other reserves in London. This is the only one in the centre of the city. **W**
- **1 Canal Museum**, 12/13 New Wharf Rd, N1 9RT (*tube: King's Cross*), ☎ +44 20 7713-0836. Tu-Su 10:00-16:30. Exhibits explaining the history of London's canals. Housed in a former ice warehouse on Regent's Canal. £4, £2 children. **W**

- **1 Jewish Museum**, 129-131 Albert St, NW1 7NB (*tube: Camden Town*), ☎ +44 20 7284-1997, e-mail: admin@jewishmuseum.org.uk. Su-Th 10:00-17:00, F 10:00-14:00. Recently renovated and with modern extension. Exhibitions on the long history of the Jewish community in London. Well laid out and interesting. £7.50. **W**



The Neo-Gothic splendour of St Pancras Station with the British Library in the foreground

- **1 Regent's Canal** (*tube: King's Cross St Pancras*). You can walk or cycle along the canal through east London all the way to the Thames (3 hr). The St. Pancras lock is directly north of St Pancras station. Regent's Canal was once a lifeline for trade and industry in London with narrowboats and barges ferrying goods to and from North London. The canal winds its way from the Grand Union Canal near Paddington in West London, past Regent's Park, Camden, Islington and Mile End to Limehouse, where it meets the Thames. From Camden Lock you can walk upstream along the canal to Regent's Park and on to London Zoo. It is a great way to approach the Zoo and a good way to avoid the traffic. Downstream of Camden is less pretty but still an interesting walk, taking you through the Islington Tunnel (one of the longest tunnels in the British canal system) and out in to East London. Whichever way you go along the path, watch out for cyclists! **W**
- **1 St. Pancras International railway station**. Ornate Neo-Gothic architecture, used in the Harry Potter films. **W**
- **1 St. Pancras Old Church and cemetery**, by Pancras Rd. Hidden away behind St. Pancras railway station is what is believed to be one of the oldest sites of Christian worship in England. There has been a church on the site since at least around the year 314. The current church is mostly a 19th century structure, but it contains some traces of an older Norman structure. Surrounding the church is a cemetery, today transformed into a public park that contains

a memorial to Mary Wollstonecraft who was originally buried there before her remains were moved to Bournemouth. **W**

7.4 Do

There are several nice **walks** along the canal, but the main focus of Camden are the shops, restaurants and nightlife.

- **Shaw Theatre**, 100-110 Euston Rd, NW1 2AJ (tube: *Euston*), ☎ +44 20 7387-6864. Theatre named after George Bernard Shaw and famous for showing high quality, non-mainstream productions. Adjacent to the British Library

7.5 Buy



Markets galore at Camden Town

7.5.1 Camden Town Markets

The markets in Camden Town are why most people come to Camden. Several markets are packed into the area between Camden Town and Chalk Farm tube stations, and in the weekend it can be difficult to distinguish one from another. Sadly, with increased tourism, the markets have become more commercial and less unique than they once were. However it is still possible to find some great things to buy - clothes, art, books, records - simply by persisting through the most commercial bits and going on through to the more interesting parts deeper inside the markets.

- **1 The Lock Market** (*by Camden Lock*). Sa Su 09:00-18:00. Many stores mainly focused around music and clothing. This is the market most people mean when they talk about the “Camden Market”.
- **1 The Stables Market** (*next to the railway bridge across Chalk Farm Road, just past the Lock Market*).

Some shops open all week, but most stalls only Sa Su 09:00-18:00. This is the largest of Camden’s market areas, featuring hundreds of stalls selling everything from African art to beds to fetish clothing to antiques. This is probably the best place in London for interesting clothes, including vintage, goth, cyber and general club-wear. Cyberdog is an experience just to look at, and the extreme basement contains some distinctly adult items.

- **1 Camden Lock Village**. The three-story market that stood here burned down in 2008. It has reopened since, but the area just contains a number of small stalls. The owners are currently trying to get planning permission for re-development.
- **1 Inverness Street Market** (*Across Chalk Farm Rd from Camden tube station*). This is a small market selling a range of common goods such as fruit and vegetables, cheap clothes and other bits and bobs. The Inverness Street Market is the smallest market in Camden, but it’s the original local market in Camden predating the others by decades.
- **1 The Buck Street Market**. Best avoided, but note that this is the first market you see turning right out of the tube station and it has a big sign declaring it “The Camden Market”. Sells only the typical funny t-shirts, knock-off designer boots, keyrings etc. that you can find in practically every city in the world.

7.5.2 Shops

In addition to the markets, there are a large number of interesting shops dotted all around the area.

Take a long slow wander down **Chalk Farm Road** (it will need to be slow, the sheer number of people makes walking quickly impossible!), checking out the amazing collection of boots and leather that dominate it. Of special note are:

- **Amsterdam of London**. Probably the finest purveyor of curious things in London. They also sell weed and hash smoking paraphernalia.
- **Resurrection Records**. The home of alternative music in North London.

Other shops include:

- **Official Doc Martens Boot Co.**, Kentish Town Rd (tube: *Camden Town*). Selling Doc Martens since the 60s. The proprietor is always happy to talk and has some fun tales about the strange requests he has had from famous people.

- **Rokit**, Camden High St. A proud up shoot that took its roots from Camden market and now has four high street stores across London.
- **Platform 9¾**, King's Cross Station. One-stop emporium for all your wizarding needs, this is the official souvenir shop of the *Harry Potter* franchise in London. Adjacent is the eponymous platform, where you can have your picture taken pushing a luggage trolley through a solid wall.

7.6 Eat

Camden has some of the most varied cuisine in all of London. A key part of Camden's food scene are the many stalls offering quick and tasty food from every country possible. Quality varies, but generally it is good and cheap. Stalls tend to be located in and around the Lock and Stables markets, but they appear everywhere. A perennial favourite has been the donut and cake stall located next to the bridge, as have the many Chinese and Thai stalls nearby. Camden also contains a large number of more formal restaurants, many of which are relatively inexpensive and open after the stalls have closed.

- **1 Belgio**, 72 Chalk Farm Rd, NW1 8AN (*tube: Chalk Farm*), ☎ +44 20 7267-0718. Tasty moules frites without taking the Eurostar, with deluxe décor. The beer menu is intense, and one can catch a good bargain with their "Full Moon Specials".
- **1 The Forge Cantina**, 3-7 Delancey St, NW1 7NL (*tube: Mornington Cres*), ☎ +44 20 7387-5959. The Forge arts venue is attached next door. Has a formal restaurant plus a casual bar serving light bites.
- **1 Marine Ices**, Old Dairy Mews, 61 Chalk Farm Road, ☎ +44 20 7482-9003. Tu-Su. A lovely family-run Italian restaurant with good food and attentive staff! Perfect for families of roundhouse-gig goers and people wanting a great ice cream or lunch/dinner. £10 pp.
- **Chop Chop Noodle Bar**, Euston Rd (*opposite the main entrance to King's Cross Stn (adjacent to St Pancras Stn)*). Selection of the usual Chinese/oriental dishes to either eat in (even if you have only got half an hour you can be in and out with time to spare) or takeaway (they give you a plastic fork with your takeaway without even being asked). Very filling with big portions. Quality is not great but you can not argue with the prices. Licensed and drinks are certainly no worse than what you would pay in any London pub. £3.50.
- **St. Pancras International Station**, Pancras Rd. Every day. A selection of cafes at the station. Convenient for a quick bite.
- **Little Bay Kilburn**, 228 Belsize Road (*Just off the Kilburn High Road, round the corner from Kilburn High Road station*), ☎ +44 20 7372-4699, e-mail: info@littlebay.co.uk. A great Modern European restaurant in the West Hampstead/Kilburn area serving high quality food at great value for money prices. They have a party offer for groups of 12+. £9.95.

7.7 Drink

Camden has a great nightlife, with lots of cool bars, pubs, clubs and restaurants.

7.7.1 Pubs, bars and cafes

- **Devonshire Arms** (*The Dev*), 33 Kentish Town Rd. The dress code is strictly alternative and the pub has got a late night license for Fridays and Saturdays. DJs every night and some gigs. The artwork on the walls was produced by Robin, the barman.
- **The Dublin Castle**, Pkwy. A bit rowdy and often quite packed, this pub and music venue has played a pivotal role in British music. It is well known for producing Madness and helping a great many other groups along their path to glory. Worth a stop, just for the atmosphere.
- **The Edinboro Castle** (*Just off the end of Pkwy to the left*). A more refined side of Camden, this pub is part of a chain in North London attempting to apply a little class. It has a fine selection of beer and cider, including a selection of Belgian beers both bottled and draught. The food is always good and the staff always friendly. There is a large, semi-covered outdoor seating area with heaters.
- **The Good Mixer**, Inverness St (*off Camden High Street*). M-Sa til midnight, Su til 23:00. A nice pub where the likes of Blur and Pulp and a load of other Britpop bands from the '90s used to drink. Prices are reasonable, there are two pool tables, and the general atmosphere is laid back and friendly.
- **Hawley Arms**, 2 Castlehaven Rd. Tucked away in a side street close to the Stables Market, this two-story pub has a small garden and a roof terrace. There are sometimes concerts upstairs. A favorite of the late Amy Winehouse.
- **Jazz Café**. Food, drink, and music (jazz, soul, blues). Every Saturday the place turns into a great 80s club, with "I love the 80s".

- **The Misty Moon** (*tube: Chalk Farm*). A fairly average pub.
- **The Prince Arthur**. A nice pub away close to Euston station.
- **The World's End** (*tube: Camden Town*). Local landmark and a good meeting point. It is large, with two separate bars and a lot of seating. Food is served at the weekend.

7.7.2 Clubs and music venues

- **The Blues Kitchen**, 111-113 Camden High St.
- **Scala**, 275 Pentonville Rd, King's Cross, ☎ +44 20 7833-2022. Alternative music venue
- **Egg**, 200 York Way, King's Cross.
- **Electric Ballroom**. F 22:30-03:00. The Ballroom hosts a number of different club nights. It is a big venue with two separate dance floors and four bars. Features a rock floor and an industrial/goth/rock/techno floor.
- **The Underworld** (*beneath the World's End*). F Sa. It is a great spot to go and catch alternative bands: goth, metal, electronica, rock, punk and many others are found here. Friday night is also a regular club night, attracting large numbers from the young alternative crowd and more "studenty" than the Saturday.
- **The Barfly**, 49 Chalk Farm Rd. One of the best gig venues in North London, the Barfly plays host to a wide range of music, concentrating on rock and pop.

7.8 Sleep

7.8.1 Budget

- **Camden Inn Hostel**, 55-57 Bayham St, NW1 0AA, ☎ +44 20 7388 8900. Check-in: 11:00, check-out: 10:00. Part of the Smart Backpackers chain of hostels, on the street next to Camden High Street. Dormitories £15-20.
- **1 Generator Hostels London**, 37 Tavistock Place, London, England, WC1H 9SE (*Just off Russell Square*), ☎ +44 20 7388-7666, e-mail: london@generatorhostels.com. From £22.50. (updated Jun 2016)
- **St Christopher's Camden**, 50 Camden High St, NW1 0LT, ☎ +44 20 7388-1012, e-mail:

bookings@st-christophers.co.uk. Check-in: 14:00, check-out: 10:00. On the corner of Camden High St and Plender St, which is home to a small morning market. Belushi's bar on the ground floor. Dormitory from £12 which includes breakfast and WiFi.

- **YHA London St. Pancras**, 79-81 Euston Rd, ☎ +44 870 7706044, e-mail: stpancras@yha.org.uk. Dormitory from £21.95, including breakfast.

7.8.2 Mid-range

- **Camden Lock Hotel**, 89 Chalk Farm Rd, NW1 8AR (*tube: Chalk Farm*), ☎ +44 20 7267-3912, e-mail: info@camdenlockhotel.co.uk. Good value, family-owned and run hotel five minutes walk from the main markets. Note that there is no lift. £79.
- **Holiday Inn London-Bloomsbury**, Coram Street, London, WC1N 1HT, United Kingdom (*tube: London-Bloomsbury*), ☎ +44 871 942 9222, e-mail: reservations-bloomsbury@ihg.com. Our London-Bloomsbury hotel is conveniently located in the centre of the city, just a few minutes walk away from Camden, almost next door to the incredible British Museum and just a stone's throw from such attractions as Buckingham Palace, London's Theatreland, Covent Garden and St Paul's Cathedral. Book direct for the best available rates and most up-to-date packages and offers
- **Corner House Hotel**, 201 Camden Rd, NW1 9AA (*tube: Kentish Town*), ☎ +44 20 7424-9509, e-mail: info@cornerhsehotel.com. In a lovely old Victorian building about 10 minutes or an easy bus ride away from the main part of Camden town. Have single, double and family rooms available. £85.

- **Holiday Inn Camden Lock**, 30 Jamestown Rd, NW1 7BY (*tube: Camden Town*). A modern hotel with 130 rooms beside the canal at Camden Lock. From £150.

- **Premier Travel Inn King's Cross**, 26-30 York Way, N1 9AA (*tube: King's Cross*). A modern, clean, reasonably priced hotel. From about £70.

7.8.3 Splurge

- **1 Pullman London St. Pancras** (*formerly Novotel St. Pancras*), 100 - 110 Euston Road (*tube: King's Cross St Pancras or Euston*), ☎ +44 20 7666-9000, fax: +44 20 7666-9025, e-mail: H5309@accor.com. Located equidistantly from the St. Pancras and Euston railway stations, the former corporate Novotel was taken over and completely

refurbished by Accor's upscale Pullman brand. It features rather spacious rooms and interesting views from upper floors, as well as modern decor and fittings and all the creature comforts expected from an upscale hotel. £200 gets you a room with breakfast on most days.

7.9 Stay safe

Camden has long had strong associations with drugs, in particular cannabis and magic mushrooms. Even during daylight, you are likely to be offered weed or hashish. These dealers will usually accept no for an answer. Remember that these drugs are still illegal, streetside dealers are not to be trusted and often just steal your money if you look interested. Also, there are many undercover police around to catch you.

Walking around Camden at night is generally fine, but gangs of youths can seem threatening, and best avoided if alone. At night walking on well lit streets, such as Camden High Street, is a good idea but take a taxi if you are feeling insecure.

Fake goods are found in abundance in Camden. Most of the time its fairly obvious (Bolex watches, etc.), but be careful when purchasing - refunds are not common. Fake DVDs are mostly terrible quality.

7.10 Go next

Three very good parks are within walking distance of Camden:

- **Regent's Park** lies along Camden's western edge, a beautiful planned garden where you can get away from the fast pace of London life.
- **Primrose Hill**, immediately to the north of Regent's Park, is easily within walking distance of Camden and has the best views over London.
- **Hampstead Heath** is less than 3km away from the heart of Camden Town, or just a few tube stops away.

For shopping, **Tottenham Court Road** with its famed electronics stores lies south out of Camden, close to Euston. At the other end of Tottenham Court Road is **Oxford Street**.

Looking further afield, from St Pancras International you can catch the Eurostar for **Paris**, **Lille** or **Bruxelles**.

Chapter 8

London/City of London



Location of the City of London area in London

The **City of London**, also known as *the City*, or the *Square Mile* (after its approximate size), is the area of **London** that originally lay within the ancient city walls. This independent part of Central London is known for its history and heritage, so is a must for anyone wishing to explore and understand London.

8.1 Understand

Although greater London grew from this area, the official City of London itself has barely changed its borders in centuries and still follows the line of the old city walls to a great degree. The walls around the city, originally built by the Romans, have largely disappeared but several vestiges are still visible (notably outside the Museum of London; just near the Tower of London; and running part of the way down Noble Street) and various place names and streets hint at their prior existence. Locations such as Aldgate, Bishopsgate, Ludgate and Moorgate are the sites of old gates in the city walls.

The City of London is not a London borough (laws applying to London must define the city as “all London boroughs and the City of London”) and has an ancient and unusual local governance, with rights and privileges greater than those of anywhere else in the **United Kingdom**. The local authority is the City of London Corpora-



A dragon marking the boundary of the City

tion and the chief position is the Lord Mayor. Whilst the rest of London has the Metropolitan Police, the City of London has its own police force.

The City of London does not technically include Tower Bridge or the Tower of London (they are in the London borough of **Tower Hamlets**), but Tower Bridge is owned and operated by the City Corporation. A number of bridges over the River Thames connect the City with **Southwark** and the two oldest of them, London Bridge and Blackfriars Bridge, are unusual in that the City of London’s boundaries include the whole span of the bridge (the border otherwise runs along the middle of the Thames). Small statues of Dragons (sometimes described as Griffins), symbols of the City Corporation, mark the boundary of the City on several roads.



The Tower of London

The City is the world's leading centre of international finance. In British parlance, *the City* often refers to the financial sector, just as Americans might refer to *Wall Street*. This area contains 255 foreign banks, which is more than any other financial centre. It also is home to the Bank of England and houses other institutions such as Lloyd's and the London Stock Exchange. Every weekday approximately 300,000 workers come into the City to work in small and large business and financial institutions.

The City has a very small resident population of approximately 10,000 people. This means the City is very different on a weekend compared to a weekday.

Time your visit. The City is at its busiest during the week thanks to the large influx of workers. On the weekend the City is quieter with pockets of bustling activity – such as the areas around the Tower of London, Liverpool Street and St Paul's, including the new shopping centre "One New Change" – and not all shops and restaurants are open. This means the weekend is a good time to visit if you want to walk at your own pace, admiring the architecture and character of the streets and buildings. You may also come across the filming of a TV advert, TV programme or even a film at this time.

8.1.1 Tourist Information Centre

- **1 City Information Centre**, St. Paul's Churchyard, EC4M 8BX (*tube: St Paul's*), ☎ +44 20 7332-1456. M-Sa 9:30-17:30, Su 10:00-16:00. (updated Nov 2015)

The City Information Centre is London's only official tourist information venue. It offers brochures, guides, tickets, maps and more for visitors to the City, and is staffed by a multilingual team. The City Corporation's 'Visiting the City' pages also contain information for visitors, including lists of attractions, events, and walking tours.

8.2 Get in



Tower Bridge

8.2.1 From the airport

Underground services are connected to all major London airports, as well as express train services that take you directly to some of the main stations in the centre of London.

8.2.2 By tube

- **Bank** (Central, Northern, Waterloo & City lines and the DLR) and **Monument** (Circle and District lines) stations – linked by an underground walkway. Bank, near the Bank of England, is perhaps the station closest to the centre of the City of London.
- **Barbican** (Circle, Hammersmith and City and Metropolitan lines), **Moorgate** (Circle, Hammersmith and City, Northern and Metropolitan lines) and **Liverpool Street** (Central, Circle, Hammersmith and City and Metropolitan lines) – for the north and north east of the City.
- **Old Street** (Northern line) – for the north west of the City.
- **St Paul's** (Central line) – for the west of the City.
- **Blackfriars**, **Mansion House**, **Cannon Street** (closed Su), **Tower Hill** (for Tower Bridge, the Tower of London and Fenchurch Street *National Rail* station) (all Circle and District lines) and **Aldgate** (Circle, District and Metropolitan lines) – for the south of the City.

8.2.3 On foot

The City's small and compact nature means travelling on foot is a great way to get around – most attractions are

within a short walk of each other. Walking can also help you find many of the City's hidden gems as long as you deviate from the main roads and explore the many alleys and courtyards. The street pattern can be quite chaotic in some parts (being medieval and unplanned) and there are many fun shortcuts and routes that take you away from main roads. However, you can quite easily get lost and miss out interesting features if you're new to the City. Buy and bring a detailed map, or pick up a free one from the City Information Centre!

8.2.4 By train

- **Barbican, Blackfriars** (to/from Gatwick and Luton airports), **Cannon Street** (closed Sa, Su and public holidays), **City Thameslink** (to/from Gatwick and Luton airports, no tube), **Fenchurch Street** (tube: Tower Hill), **Liverpool Street** (to/from Stansted Airport) and **Moorgate**. All are also tube stations except City Thameslink and Fenchurch Street.

8.2.5 By boat

An increasingly popular way of travelling through London, by both tourists and residents, is by boat on the Thames itself. The City has two piers from which regular services operate to and from: **Blackfriars Millennium Pier** (in the west) and **Tower Millennium Pier** (in the east).

8.3 Get around

?"UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU"?"

Map of London/City of London (Edit GPX)?"UNIQ--indicator-00000001-QINU"?"

As with the rest of central London, the City is served by a dense network of underground lines and bus routes. The tube lines that run through the City are the Central, Circle, District, Hammersmith & City, Metropolitan and Northern Lines as well as the Docklands Light Railway. The heritage bus route 15 has most of its route in the City. You can ride aboard a vintage Routemaster bus from the Tower of London, west up Cheapside to St Paul's Cathedral, and then down Ludgate Hill and Fleet Street towards the **West End**, where the route terminates at Trafalgar Square. This can be a very rewarding way to see the City, as the route passes a number of sites of interest. This service functions as a shorter version of the standard bus route 15 and the usual TfL fares are used on it. However, since the City is only around a square mile in area, it is often quicker, easier and cheaper to walk. The Thames Path passes through the City, following the River Thames from the Temple in the west to the Tower of London in the east.



Bank of England

8.4 See

The City sustained a great deal of damage from German bombing during the 'Blitz' of World War II, so there are far fewer older buildings than one might expect from so ancient a settlement. The Great Fire of London in 1666 also fairly comprehensively destroyed the City's medieval building stock. Nonetheless, many interesting older buildings remain, including the domed St. Paul's Cathedral (heroically saved by firefighters when it was bombed during the Second World War), nineteenth-century buildings at Leadenhall, Smithfield, and Spitalfields, the **Gothic**-style Guildhall, many monuments (including one built to remember the Great Fire of London), and the Temple Inns of Court. Remarkably, the City also retains its medieval street pattern, which you do not find so clearly preserved in other large British city centres. You will find many narrow streets, passages, alleys and courtyards between the main thoroughfares.

8.4.1 Landmarks



West portico of St Paul's Cathedral

- **1 Bank of England** (*The Old Lady of Threadneedle Street*) (tube: *Bank*). See also: **Bank of England Museum**.
- **1 Mansion House** (tube: *Mansion House*), ☎ +44 20 7397 9306. Tuesday 2pm only, groups may book at

other times. Official residence of the Lord Mayor of the City of London, completed in 1753. £7. **W** (updated Apr 2016)

- **1 Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission**, 49 City Rd, EC1Y 1AU, ☎ +44 20 7253-2262, fax: +44 20 7608-3825, e-mail: administration@wesleyschapel.org.uk. Museum: M–Sa 10:00–16:00, Su noon–13:45. John Wesley, founder of the Methodist church, laid the foundation stone, preached here and is buried behind the chapel. The site also contains the Museum of Methodism. Free (donations welcome). **W**
- **1 Monument** (tube: *Monument*), ☎ +44 20 7626-2717, e-mail: enquiries@towerbridge.org.uk. 9:30AM–5:30PM daily (last admission 5PM). Designed by Sir Christopher Wren, this tall column (which can be ascended to get a great view) marks the alleged site where the Great Fire of London broke out in September 1666. £3/£1. **W**
- **1 St Giles-without-Cripplegate**, Fore St, Cripplegate, EC2Y 8DA (part of the Barbican Estate, across the lake from the Arts Centre), ☎ +44 20 7638-1997, e-mail: admin@stgilescripplegate.com. Medieval Grade I listed church. This church played a key role in the English Revolution and was the parish church of some of the most decisive Puritans: Oliver Cromwell was married and this where John Milton was buried. It was the home of the Morning Exercises. The tower remains from the original building; the rest was destroyed in the Blitz but rebuilt based on the original plans. **W**
- **1 St Sepulchre-without-Newgate** (*Church of the Holy Sepulchre (Holborn)*), Holborn Viaduct, London. Open Wed noon - 3pm, services Sun 10:30am, Tue 1pm & 6.30pm. Grade I listed Saxon church founded before the 12th century. The exterior was mostly constructed in the 15th century, and the interior in the 19th. The north side of the church houses a musician's chapel opened in 1955. In addition to the services there are often evening (chargeable) concerts. **W** (updated May 2016)
- **1 Old Bailey** (*Central Criminal Court*) (between Holborn Circus and St Paul's Cathedral, tube: *St Paul's* then follow signs), ☎ +44 20 7248-3277. M–F 10:00–13:00, 14:00–17:00. This is the probably the most famous criminal court in the world, and has been London's principal criminal court for centuries. It hears cases remitted to it from all over England and Wales as well as the Greater London area. The present building dates largely from 1907 (a new block was added from 1970 for more modern facilities) and stands on the site of the infamous medieval Newgate Gaol. The Central Criminal Court


is of course best known today for its association with John Mortimer's *Rumpole of the Bailey* character, novels and television series. Daily case listings are available at hmcourts-service.gov.uk. No bags, cameras, drink, food or mobile phones—no facilities for safekeeping. Children under 14 not admitted. **W**



Tower of London and Tower Bridge

- **1 St Paul's Cathedral**, Ludgate Hill (tube: *St Pauls*), ☎ +44 20 7246-8357, e-mail: visits@stpaulscathedral.org.uk. M–Sa 08:30–16:00. The great domed cathedral of St Paul's, designed by Sir Christopher Wren to replace the Gothic medieval cathedral destroyed in 1666 in the Great Fire of London, was built between 1675–1710. Of the most famous London sights, St Paul's is the one most conveniently located for the Barbican. It's a significant building in British history, having been the site of the funerals of several British military leaders (Nelson, Wellington, Churchill), and significantly held peace services marking the end of the two world wars. The cathedral is also famous for its *Whispering Wall*, as well as its stunning view over the city. The crypt is also open to the public, holding the tombs of Nelson, Wellington and Christopher Wren. It is possible to sidestep the admission charge by entering for one of the midday services, even if you don't take part; however you'd still need a ticket to get to the top. 📷 Photography not allowed. £16.50, £14.50 concession, £7.50 child (6–17), £40 family. **W**
- **1 Tower Bridge** (technically not in the City) (tube: *Tower Hill*), ☎ +44 20 7403-3761, e-mail: enquiries@towerbridge.org.uk. Exhibition 10AM–5PM. Magnificent 19th century bridge, decorated with high towers and featuring a drawbridge. The bridge opens several times each day to permit ships to pass through – timings are dependent on demand, and are not regularly scheduled. When Tower

Bridge was built, the area to the west of it was a bustling port – necessitating a bridge that could permit tall boats to pass. Now the South Bank area sits to its west, and the regenerated Butler’s Wharf area of shops, reasonably-priced riverside restaurants and the London Design Museum lie to its east. For a small charge you can get the lift to the top level of the bridge and admire the view: this includes a visit to a museum dedicated to the bridge’s history and engineering, and photographic exhibitions along the Walkways between the towers. Bridge free, exhibition £6. **W**

- **1 Tower of London** (*technically not in the City*) (*tube: Tower Hill*), ☎ +44 8444 827777, e-mail: visitorservices_TOL@hrp.org.uk. Tu-Sa 9AM-5PM, Su M 10AM-5PM Mar-Oct; Tu-Sa 9AM-4PM, Su-M 10AM-4PM Nov-Feb. Founded by William the Conqueror in 1066, enlarged and modified by successive sovereigns, the Tower is today one of the world’s most famous and spectacular fortresses and a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. Discover its 900-year history as a royal palace and fortress, prison and place of execution, mint, arsenal, menagerie and jewel house. In the winter you can *skate* on the dry moat. The Tower contains enough buildings and exhibits to keep a family busy for a full day, with plenty of both warlike and domestic contents. Some areas, such as the St John’s Chapel in the White Tower, do not allow photography, but these are clearly signposted. Beefeaters, who are all retired sergeant majors from the British Army, provide guided tours for free as well as ceremonial security. See history come alive – go to the **Ceremony of the Keys** at the Tower of London. This ceremony, the locking up of the Tower, has been performed every night at 10PM for 800 years. Tickets for the ceremony are free but **MUST** be prearranged. £24.50, aged 5-16 £11.00, concession £18.70, family (2A+3C) £60.70. Note: If visiting multiple times or also visiting other Historic Royal Palaces it can be cheaper to buy an HRP annual membership. **W** 

8.4.2 Churches, graveyards and open spaces

The City of London, considering its small size, has a huge number of churches in its area. Some, but by no means all, are listed below.

- **1 All Hallows by the Tower**, Byward St, EC3R 5BJ (*tube: Tower Hill*), ☎ +44 20 7481-2928. The oldest church in the City, founded by Saxon abbots in 675 AD. **W**

- **1 St Bartholomew-the-Great**, West Smithfield, EC1A 9DS, ☎ +44 20 7600-0440. M–T 08:30–17:00, W–F 08:30–21:00, Sa 10:30–16:00, Su 08:30–20:00. Founded in 1123, by jester-turned-monk Rahere, this Norman church is one of the oldest in London. It was damaged in the Dissolution but managed to escape both the Great Fire and the Blitz. This is a Grade I listed building. Tourists are welcome when services are not in progress and are charged an admission fee (which does not apply to those coming to pray or use the café). £4 admission for Adults, £1 for photography. **W**

- **1 Bunhill Fields**, 38 City Road, EC1Y 1AU (*tube: Old Street*; *bus: 55, 205, 243 (among others)*). Dawn-dusk. This small graveyard is a rarity in central London, and seems oddly tranquil in comparison to the nearby bustling streets of the City. Some 120,000 bodies are believed to be buried here: as the inscription reads, it is a burial ground for ‘non-conformists’. Notably, Bunhill Fields contains the graves of William Blake, Daniel Defoe and John Bunyan. The watchful eye will notice that the paved way across the field is actually made up of tombstones. Free. **W**

- **1 Christ Church**, Fournier St (*tube: Liverpool St*), ☎ +44 20 7859-3035. The restoration of the nave was completed in September 2004, and this church is still a striking building designed by Sir Nicholas Hawksmoor with a particularly tall, pointed spire. Hawksmoor’s design was significantly altered in the 19th century, and present continuing restoration is intended to restore it to Hawksmoor’s original vision. Christ Church was built as part of the 50 Churches for London project **W**


- **1 St Botolph’s Aldersgate**, Aldersgate St, EC1A 4EU, ☎ +44 20 7606-0684. A medieval church that was rebuilt in the late 18th Century, noted for its well preserved interior. The former churchyard was converted into a public space in 1880, called Postman’s Park as it was frequented by workers from the nearby Post Office headquarters. Church opened Tuesday 5 August 1:45pm to 4pm and Friday 8 August 11am to 3pm by architectural heritage charity The Friends of the City Churches, admission free. **W**

- **1 Postman’s Park**, Little Britain, City of London (*tube: St. Pauls*). 8AM–7PM or dusk (whichever is earlier). Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year’s Day. Postman’s Park is actually three combined parks, bringing together the gardens of St Botolph’s Aldersgate, Christ Church Greyfriars and St Leonard, Foster Lane. One of the largest parks in the City of London, Postman’s Park contains the Memorial to Heroic Self Sacrifice; a memorial to

ordinary people who died saving the lives of others and might otherwise have been forgotten. Free. **W**

- **1 St Magnus the Martyr**, Lower Thames St, EC3R 6DN (*tube: Monument*), ☎ +44 20 7626-4481. **W**
- **1 St Margaret Pattens**, Rood Ln and Eastcheap EC3 (*tube: Monument*), ☎ +44 20 7623-6630. **W**
- **1 St Mary-at-Hill**, St Mary at Hill, EC3R 8EE (*tube: Monument*), ☎ +44 20 7626-4184. **W**
- **1 St Mary le Bow**, 1 Bow Lane, EC4M 9EE (*tube: Mansion House*), ☎ +44 20 7248-5139. **W**
- **1 St Stephen Walbrook**, 39 Walbrook, EC4N 8BN (*tube: Bank*), ☎ +44 20 7283-4444. **W**
- **1 Temple**, Inner Temple Ln, EC4Y 7BB (*tube: Temple or Blackfriars*), ☎ +44 20 7353-8559. Varies, but approx.: M–Tu 11:00–16:00; W 14:00–16:00; Th–F 11:00–16:00; Sa–Su closed. A small realm of serenity in the midst of the typical turmoil. It used to be the court of the Knights Templar. You can still visit the beautiful Romanesque church, which is one of the oldest ones in London (opened in 1185). £4 general; £2 senior citizens; children free. **W**

8.4.3 Museums and Galleries

- **1 Museum of London**, London Wall (NB: this is a street!) (*tube: Barbican (walk S) or St Pauls (walk N)*), ☎ +44 870 444-3852. M–Sa 10:00–17:30; Su noon–17:30. Established in 1975, the Museum of London explores the various threads of London’s archaeology, history and culture throughout its more than 2,000 year old existence. Free and, like the City, endlessly fascinating! (The Museum now also has an offshoot in **East End**.) Cafe, gift shop and disabled access.  Photography allowed. Permanent and temporary exhibitions: free. Special exhibitions: £5, concession £3, child 0-15 free. **W**
- **1 Guildhall Art Gallery and Roman Amphitheatre**, Guildhall Yard (off Gresham St) (*tube: Bank or St Paul’s*), ☎ +44 20 7332-3700, e-mail: guildhall.artgallery@cityoflondon.gov.uk. M–Sa 10AM–5PM Su noon–4PM. The Guildhall Art Gallery houses the City Corporation’s art collection, and also runs special exhibitions throughout the year. During construction of the modern gallery, workers discovered the ruins of London’s Roman amphitheatre. The gallery was redesigned, and now the Amphitheatre is open to the public within the Guildhall Art Gallery itself and also free of charge. free. **W** (updated Apr 2016)
- **1 Dr Johnson’s House**, 17 Gough Square, EC4A 3DE, ☎ +44 20 7353-3745. (October–April) M–Sa 11AM–5PM; (May–September) M–Sa 11AM–5:30PM; closed Sundays, Bank Holidays. Dr Samuel Johnson was the highly distinguished 18th century “man of letters”, best known for his comprehensive English Dictionary of 1755, but also for his prolific output of poems, essays and novels. Something of a “hidden gem”, this small, independent museum is dedicated to him—and, with its historic interiors, paintings and prints, personal effects and other exhibits—gives an impression of what it might have been like during his occupancy from 1748–1759. Built in 1700, this impressive period building—a rare example of its kind in the area—survived the brutal onslaught of the Blitz during World War II and is now maintained in excellent condition. adult £4.50, concession £3.50 (over 60, student or registered unemployed), child £1.50 (ages 5–17), family £10 (two adults and accompanying children), under 5s free. No debit / credit cards. National Trust Partner.. **W**
- **1 Bank of England Museum**, Threadneedle St (*tube: Bank*), ☎ +44 20 7601-5545, e-mail: museum@bankofengland.co.uk. M–F 10:00–17:00. Charts the history of the bank from 1694 to the present day. A highlight is the opportunity to handle a genuine bar of gold. Photography allowed, but no flash. Free. **W**
- **1 Barts Pathology Museum**, 3F, Robin Brook Centre, EC1A 7BE. Quirky medical museum. Only open to the public for scheduled evening events.
- **1 Barbican Centre**, Silk St (*tube: Barbican*), ☎ +44 20 7638-4141, e-mail: info@barbican.org.uk. The largest arts centre in Europe. **W**
- **1 Clockmaker’s Museum**, Guildhall Library, Aldermanbury, EC2P 2EJ (*tube: St Paul’s*), ☎ +44 20 7332-1868, e-mail: printedbooks.guildhall@corpolondon.gov.uk. M–Sa 9:30AM–5PM. Charts the history of clock-making and houses a priceless collection of old timepieces. Free.
- **1 Museum of the Order of St John**, St John’s Gate, St John’s Lane, EC1M 4DA (*tube: Farringdon*), ☎ +44 20 7324-4005, e-mail: museum@sj.org.uk. M–Sa 10:00–17:00. Museum in the former English headquarters of the Knights Hospitaller, covering the history of the order from crusading knights to modern first aid organisation. Free. **W**



Lloyd's of London and The Gherkin

8.4.4 Other points of interest

Thanks to the City's association with banking and finance, the City offers some of the most fascinating **modern architecture** in London. A tour of London's financial institutions and markets is very worthwhile, even if you're not an investment banker. The bad news is that very few of the buildings are open to the public, although some do have "open weekends" at certain times of the year. The annual **Open House Weekend** – usually held on the third weekend in September, is when many London's most famous buildings (including many of those in the City) are open for public tours.

- **1 Barbican Conservatory**, Silk St, EC2Y 8DS (*top floor of the Barbican Centre*), ☎ +44 845 120-7500. 11:00–17:00. The second biggest greenhouse in London, containing over 2,000 species of tropical plants as well as birds and fish. Free. **W**
- **1 Blitz Plaque**, Fore St (*set in the wall of Roman House*). The first of tens of thousands of bombs to hit London in World War II fell here in 1940. (NB obscured by building work, as of 22 June)
- **1 Baltic Exchange**, St. Mary Axe (*next to the Swiss Re Tower*). The world's main marketplace for ship broking. **W**
- **1 London Wall** (*Near the street called "London Wall"*). Remains of the wall that surrounded the City of London for almost two thousand years. The parts around the Barbican are mostly Tudor due to maintenance (Roman remains can be seen in and around the Tower of London). Other local remains are the **1 Noble St wall fragment** and the **1 St Alphage Gdns wall fragment**. **W**
- **1 International Petroleum Exchange**, St. Katherine's Dock (*tube: Tower Hill*). One of the world's largest energy futures and options exchanges. The Brent Crude marker which represents an important benchmark for global oil prices is traded here. It also houses the European Climate Exchange, where emissions trading takes place.
- **1 Lloyds of London**, 1 Lime St. The headquarters of world's most famous insurance market, housed in a revolutionary (at the time) bizarre, Matrix-like glass-and-steel building designed by Richard Rogers, with all support services (lifts, ventilation, etc) suspended outside. Recognised as a masterpiece of exoskeleton architecture. **W**
- **1 London Stock Exchange**, Paternoster Sq. After leaving its brutalist skyscraper on Old Broad St, the London Stock Exchange now resides on Paternoster Sq. Dating back to 1698, it is one of the world's oldest and largest stock markets.
- **1 London Bullion Market Association**, 13-14 Basinghall St. This is where the world gold price is 'fixed' twice a day.
- **1 London Metal Exchange**, 56 Leadenhall St. The LME is the leading centre for non-ferrous metals trading. It is also the last financial market in London which still retains open outcry trading.
- **1 London Stone**, Cannon St (*tube: Cannon St*). A little known and arguably little cared for yet intriguing item.
- **1 St Bride Printing Library**, Bride Ln, EC4Y 8EE, ☎ +44 20 7353-4660. Tu noon-5:30PM, W noon-9PM, Th noon-5:30PM. This specialist small library houses an impressive range of books on graphic design, typography, bookbinding and papermaking. The books cannot be borrowed but can be photocopied or photographed (with permission). An essential visit for any graphic design student.
- **1 Swiss Re (the Gherkin)**, 30 St. Mary Axe. Designed by one of Britain's leading architects, Sir Norman Foster, and recipient in 2004 of the Stirling Architectural Prize for Best Building.
- **1 Willis Building**, 51 Lime St. A recent addition to the City's skyline, and right opposite Lloyd's of London. **W**
- **1 Leadenhall Building**, 122 Leadenhall. Another Richard Rogers creation, due to be the tallest building by roof height in the City. Under construction as of 2013. Also opposite Lloyd's. **W**

- **1 20 Fenchurch Street**, 20 Fenchurch St. The unusual “walkie talkie” profile of this under-construction skyscraper by Rafael Vinoly has seen it grab the headlines. Visitors can access the “sky garden” by booking online, free during the day or by visiting one of the restaurants in the evening. **W**

8.5 Do

- Climb to the top of **St Paul’s Cathedral** or **The Monument** to get excellent views over the financial heart of London.
- **Barbican Architecture Tour** (*starts at the Advance Ticket desk, Silk St entrance*). Tu 14:00; W 16:00; Th 19:00; Sa-Su 14:00 & 16:00. 90-minute tour of the beautifully ugly brutalist site. £10.50.
- **Digital Revolution**, Barbican Centre, ☎ +44 20 7638-8891. Th 11:00–22:00; F–W 11:00–20:00. An exhibition of digital art and creativity, including film, music and games, and the effect of technology on the arts. Runs until 14 September. £12.50 standard admission; £10.50 concessions; £8.50 students.
- **The Fashion World of Jean Paul Gaultier**, Art Gallery (*Level three of the Barbican Centre*), ☎ +44 20 7638-8891. Sa–W 10:00–18:00; Th–F 10:00–21:00. An exhibition devoted to the French couturier featuring over a hundred garments and costumes. Runs until 25 August. £14.50 standard admission; £12.50 concessions; £9 students.
- **1 Shoreditch Street Art Tour**, Spitalfields Market, E1 6EG (*Meet at the Goat Statue*), e-mail: info@shoreditchstreetarttours.co.uk. Tours start 11:15 (morning) & 14:45 (afternoon). A tour of the constantly changing street art around this part of the East End. Saturday times may vary. Adult £15, child £10.

- **Gresham College**, Barnard’s Inn Hall, Holborn (*tube: Chancery Lane. Between Fetter Ln and Funnival St*), ☎ +44 20 7831-0575. Founded in 1597 as London’s alternative higher education institution to Oxford and Cambridge, Gresham College continues to provide free public lectures every week during term time. Most lectures require no booking, with wonderful speakers delivering lectures on wide range of interesting topics.
- **Lord Mayor’s Show**. Annual, normally November. The ceremony celebrates the appointment of the new Lord Mayor of the City of London. It is one of the great annual processions held in all London.



John Stuttard, Lord Mayor 2006-07, at the Lord Mayor’s show

- **London Walks**. Consider going along on one of the many excellent guided tours of the City, often with an evocative theme for example ghosts or Jack the Ripper.
- **London Film Locations Bus Tour**. The City of London is hugely popular with film makers so consider going on a bus tour of famous film locations.
- **Tower of London Ice Rink** (*tube: Tower Hill*). over the winter holiday.

8.5.1 Bus tours

- **London Night Tour**, Departing from Coach stop 3, Bulleid Way (*tube: Victoria*), ☎ +44 20 7630-2028. £18 adult ticket.
- **See London by Night**, ☎ +44 20 7183-4744, e-mail: info@seelondonbynight.com. £15 adult ticket.

8.6 Buy



One New Change

Although not known for the best shopping opportunities in London (these are securely held by the West End),

the City nonetheless has an above average shopping offer, with plenty of high-street names and many smaller independent shops. Lunchtime hours can be very busy, as this is the time when workers shop in their thousands, so it's worth considering avoiding the crowds by visiting at a quieter time. Again, at weekends many outlets may be closed. A number of retail venues stand out:

- **1 One New Change** (*off Cheapside, tube: St Paul's*). 7 days a week. The City's only modern shopping centre, which opened in October 2010. Includes around 60 shops and restaurants. It is situated right by St Paul's Cathedral and is in a small area of retailing, including Cheapside and the cobbled, old-fashioned Bow Lane. Both the freely accessible roof terrace, and the lifts to get there, offer excellent views of St Paul's.
- **1 Leadenhall Market** (*off Gracechurch St, tube: Monument*). M-F 10AM-6PM. Worth visiting for its architecture and old-fashioned cobbled streets. It was used as a location in Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone.
- **1 Royal Exchange** (*tube: Bank*). Situated opposite the Bank of England, the Exchange houses a number of upmarket outlets. Part of the exterior was recently featured in the film *Bridget Jones' Diary* (at the end, when Bridget runs after Mark along a snowy street).
- **1 Spitalfields Market** (*Just outside the City and owned by the City of London Corporation*), 225 Central Markets, EC1A 9LH (*off Bishopsgate, tube: Liverpool Street*). M-F 10:00–17:00; Sa 11:00–17:00; Su 09:00–17:00. Once a large thriving market, it has slowly been shrunk to a third of its size by development in the area. It features a good variety of clothing, crafts and food stalls/shops. Rather promisingly sellers have set up another market in a new space off Hanbury St nearby.
- **1 Exmouth Market**, EC1R 4QA. M–Sa 09:00–18:00. Trendy independent shops on a pedestrianised street.

Places to buy food and any general household goods you may need:

- **1 Tesco Express**, 131 Aldersgate St, EC1A 4JQ. Small, local branch of the supermarket
- **1 Tesco Express**, Unit 5, Cheapside, EC2V 6BJ. Small, local branch of the supermarket
- **1 Tesco Express**, 1-23 City Rd, EC1Y 1AG. Small, local branch of the supermarket. Starbucks and Eat next door.

- **1 Sainsbury's Local**, 10 Paternoster Square, EC4M 7DX. Small, local branch of the supermarket. In a pedestrian square near St. Paul's Cathedral.
- **1 Waitrose**, Cherry Tree Walk Centre, Whitecross St, EC1Y 8NX. Slightly more upmarket supermarket.

8.7 Eat

There are a great many bars, coffee houses, cafes, restaurants and pubs, mainly catering for City workers during the week (and therefore possibly closed at the weekend). Sit down restaurants in this district tend to be expensive and aimed towards business lunches. The vast number of take-away places though are reasonably priced. During the week (in good weather) you can find some outdoor eating areas in places, such as on Walbrook.

8.7.1 Budget

- **1 Coffee Aroma**, 12 Goswell Rd, EC1M 7AA, ☎ +44 20 7251-3919. M–Sa 07:00–17:00; Su closed.
- **1 Moorgate Buttery**, 5–6 Fore St, EC2Y 9DT (*alley between Fore St and Moorgate*), ☎ +44 20 7628-7473. M–F 07:00–16:00. Café and sandwich shop.
- **1 Tinseltown**, 44-46 St John St, EC1M 4DF (*tube: Farringdon or Barbican*), ☎ +44 20 7689-2424. M–Th 12:00–05:00; F–Sa 12:00–04:00; Su 12:00–03:00. Halal American-style diner, serving burgers, steaks, and grilled meat. Good for Muslims on a budget and hungry, early-morning clubbers. Burger and side dish from £6.99.
- **1 To A Tea**, 14 Farringdon St, EC4A 4AB, ☎ +44 20 7248-3498, e-mail: tea@toatea.com. M–F 07:00–19:00; Sa–Su closed. Tearoom.
- **1 Whitecross Street Market**, 1 Whitecross St, EC1V 9AB, ☎ +44 20 7527-1761. M–Sa 10:00–17:00. Eclectic street-food market.
- **Hub Deli**, 93 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3XD, ☎ +44 207 392 0661. Small sandwich shop offering many delicious sandwiches and bagels. In Bishopsgate. Nice for quick lunches.
- **1 Snak Express**, Barbican Tube Station, ☎ +44 20 7606 1696. M–Su 10:00–17:00. Cheap and wholesome

8.7.2 Mid-range

- **1 Boisdale of Bishopsgate**, Swedeland Court, 202 Bishopsgate, EC2M 4NR (*tube: Liverpool Street*),

- ☎ +44 20 7283-1763, e-mail: info@boisdale-city.co.uk. closed Sa and Su. A rather grand Scottish restaurant which has jazz evenings and offers a cigar bar.
- **1 Club Gascon**, 57 West Smithfield, EC1A 9DS (*tube: Barbican*), ☎ +44 20 7796-0600. Fine French dining at this Michelin-starred restaurant.
 - **Duck and Waffle**, Heron Tower, 110 Bishopgate, EC2N 4AY, ☎ +44 20 3640-7310.
 - **1 Gow's**, 81 Old Broad St, EC2M 1PR (*tube: Moorgate*), ☎ +44 20 7920-9645, e-mail: gows@ballsbrothers.co.uk. Mon - Fri 11am - 11pm closed Sa and Su. An upmarket seafood restaurant and oyster bar. mains from £20. (updated Feb 2017)
 - **1 Polo Bar**, 176 Bishopsgate, EC2M 4NQ (*tube: Liverpool Street*), ☎ +44 20 7283-4889. 24H. An unpretentious cafe serving fried breakfasts and similar basic food 24h a day, and a great place for a late snack after you leave the Eat & Drink. Liverpool St is a safe area anyway but you cannot get safer than this for a late night meal, as at night you'll often see police from the nearby City of London police station. There are no toilets, however, so you need to use those at nearby Liverpool St Station.
 - **1 Simpson's Tavern**, Ball Court, 38½ Cornhill, EC3V 9DR (*tube: Bank*), ☎ +44 20 7626-9985, fax: +44 20 7626-3736, e-mail: manager@simpsonstavern.co.uk. M 11:30-16:00; Tu-F 08:30-16:00; Sa-Su closed. A traditional old style English eatery which has been in business here since 1757. Most of the food is cooked on an open grill in the corner. A very City of London experience!
 - **1 Smiths of Smithfields**, 67-77 Charterhouse Street, EC1M 6HJ (*tube: Farringdon*), ☎ +44 20 7251-7950. 7AM-4:45PM Mon-Fri 9:30AM-4:45PM Sat, Sun. Smiths of Smithfield is a Grade II listed four-floor restaurant serving great British food.
 - **1 The Wall**, 45 Old Broad St, EC2N 1HU (*tube: Liverpool Street*), ☎ +44 20 7588-4845, e-mail: reservations@thewallbar.co.uk. Restaurant and bar popular at lunchtime and in the early evenings. Closed Saturday and Sunday.
 - **1 Attilio**, 1 Cowcross St, EC1M 6DR, ☎ +44 20 7253-8369. M-F 12:00-15:00 / 17:30-23:00; Sa 12:00-23:00; Su 16:00-23:00. Family-owned Italian restaurant. Meals from around £14.95.
 - **1 Carnevale**, 135 Whitecross St, EC1Y 8JL, ☎ +44 20 7250-3452, fax: +44 20 7608-2504, e-mail: admin@carnevalerestaurant.co.uk. M-F 12:00-15:30 / 17:30-23:00; Sa 17:30-23:00. Small vegetarian restaurant with integral deli. Main meal £12.50.
 - **1 Comptoir Gascon**, 63 Charterhouse St, EC1M 6HJ, ☎ +44 20 7608-0851, e-mail: info@comptoirgascon.com. Tu-Sa 12:00-14:30 (bistro), 18:30-22:00 (dinner); Sa-M closed. French restaurant and delicatessen.
 - **1 The Green**, 29 Clerkenwell Green, EC1R 0DU (*tube: Farringdon*), ☎ +44 20 7490-8010, e-mail: hello@thegreenec1.co.uk. Easygoing gastro-pub with good quality, reasonably priced lunch menu, and tapas in the evening. £10-15 mains.
 - **1 J+A Café**, 1-4 Sutton Lane, EC1M 5PU, ☎ +44 20 7490-2992, e-mail: info@jandacafe.com. M-F 08:00-18:00; Sa-Su 09:00-17:00. £10-15 hot meal.
 - **1 Polpo**, 3 Cowcross St, EC1M 6DR, ☎ +44 20 7250-0034. M-Sa 12:00-23:00; Su 12:00-16:00.
 - **1 Smiths of Smithfield**, 67-77 Charterhouse St, EC1M 6HJ, ☎ +44 20 7251-7950. M-F 12:00-15:00 / 18:00-23:00; Sa 18:00-23:00; Su closed. Grade II listed four-floor restaurant in Smithfield Market. Main meal from £16.
 - **1 Wood Street Bar and Restaurant**, 53 Fore St, EC2Y 5EL, ☎ +44 20 7256-6990. M-F 11:00-23:30; Sa closed; Su 12:00-17:30. Real ale, nice food and a relaxed atmosphere. £6-14 (£12.50 for cheese burger & chips).

8.7.3 Splurge

- **1 Apulia**, 50 Long Lane, EC1A 9EJ, ☎ +44 20 7600-8107. M-F 12:00-14:45 / 18:00-22:30; Sa 18:00-22:30; Su closed. Italian restaurant.

8.8 Drink

If you're spending more than a few days in London, visiting the area at night (especially around 10PM-11PM) can provide a decidedly un-touristy atmosphere. You'll see part of London life that few people who do not live or work in the City experience, and if you have the confidence to introduce yourself you may even get into conversation with local workers out for a late drink – the area is enough off the tourist route that you will be something of a novelty. Thursday and Friday are naturally busier but at the same time a bit less friendly; earlier in the week is quieter and you have more chance of meeting locals just out for a drink.

Note that some pubs in the City are not open on Saturday or Sunday.

The City has some of the oldest traditional pubs in London, and a host of newer pubs and bars. This list is by no means exhaustive, but there are plenty of online guides available to search for somewhere specific to your tastes.

8.8.1 Pubs

- **1 Crown Tavern**, 43 Clerkenwell Green, EC1R 0EG, ☎ +44 20 7253-4973. M–F 12:00–23:00; Sa–Su 10:00–23:00. A large, traditional pub, rebuilt in 1815 but claiming a history on this site back to 1641. In good weather, outdoor tables in the square can be pleasant. London legend claims that Stalin and Lenin first met in this pub, in a back room (under the “Conspirators’ Clock”) in 1903.
- **1 Dirty Dick’s**, 202 Bishopsgate (*tube: Liverpool St*), ☎ +44 20 7283-5888. M–Th 11AM–midnight, F Sa 11AM–1AM, Su 11AM–10:30PM. One of the better known pubs (although definitely no tourist trap) near Liverpool St, supposedly named after a Georgian dandy who let himself go on the death of his fiancée. £3.20 pint.
- **1 Eat & Drink**, 11 Artillery Passage (*tube: Liverpool St*), ☎ +44 20 7377-8964. M–F ‘til 2AM. A small and fairly ordinary Chinese restaurant by day, this turns into a heaving karaoke bar in the evenings. One of the most reliable places near Liverpool St to get a drink after midnight! £3.40 small can lager.
- **1 Lamb Tavern**, 10-12 Leadenhall Market (*tube: Bank/Liverpool St*), ☎ +44 20 7626-2454. M–F 10AM–11PM. One of several pubs in Leadenhall Market where you can listen to insurance brokers from nearby Lloyd’s talk business. £3.60 pint.
- **1 The Dovetail**, 9-10 Jerusalem Passage, EC1V 4JP, ☎ +44 20 7490-7321, e-mail: dovetail@dovepubs.com. M–Sa 12:00–23:00; Su closed. Small Belgian bar serving Belgian beer and Belgian food.
- **1 The Crosse Keys**, 9 Gracechurch Street, EC3V 0DR (*tube: Bank or Monument*), ☎ +44 20 7623-4824. M–Th 9AM–11PM, F 9AM–midnight, Sa 9AM–7PM, Su closed. Part of the JD Wetherspoons chain in a converted bank. As is usual for the chain, it is fairly cheap with decent food and drink. The ex-bank building makes this pub a little grander and more spacious than most.
- **The Sterling**, 30 Saint Mary Axe, EC3A 8BF (*tube: Liverpool Street*), ☎ +44 20 7929-3641, e-mail: info@thesterlingbar.co.uk. M–TU 8AM–11PM W–F 8AM–1AM. A central bar that resides in the heart of The Gherkin. Catch your breath from the bustle of the city and enjoy a bit of Al Fresco dining. Food and drink available.
- **1 Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese**, 145 Fleet Street, EC4A 2BU (*tube: Blackfriars, Temple or Chancery Lane*). An old City pub establishment, rebuilt shortly after the Great Fire of 1666. All the monarchs who have reigned in England during the pub’s time are written by the main door.
- **1 White Hart**, 121 Bishopsgate (*tube: Liverpool St*). An unpretentious City pub, slightly cheaper than most. Unusually for the area, has a few tables outside where you can watch the world go by in summer or cower under a heat lamp while smoking in winter. £2.80 pint.
- **1 Fox & Anchor**, 115 Charterhouse St, EC1M 6AA, ☎ +44 20 7250-1300, e-mail: info@foxandanchor.com. M–Th 07:00–23:00; F 07:00–00:00; Sa 08:30–00:00; Su 08:30–22:00. Independent traditional pub quite close to the Barbican. Beers are often served in pewter tankards for the extra traditional touch. Six rooms are available as well for those who want to sleep where they drink (or just near the Barbican). Great atmosphere but it can be a little more expensive than average, especially the food and lodging.
- **1 Jerusalem Tavern**, 55 Britton St, EC1M 5UQ, ☎ +44 20 7490-4281. A converted Georgian coffee shop, which sells the Norfolk beer, St. Peters. The building is from the 1700s, remodelled in 1810, and it was converted in the 1990s, making this both a new and an old pub. The interior is a little small so, while well worth a visit, after 17:00 on weekdays it gets quickly flooded with City workers.
- **1 The Jugged Hare**, 49 Chiswell St, EC1Y 4SA (*tube: Barbican*), ☎ +44 20 7614-0134, e-mail: gemma@thejuggedhare.com. M–W 11:00–23:00; Th–Sa 11:00–00:00; Su 11:00–22:30. A recently re-opened gastropub modelled on a traditional countryside drinking establishment, with a hunting theme. The tables are actually old whisky barrels and the decor features several stuffed animals and trophies. Completing the pattern, the food is heavily game-based, with some seafood.
- **1 The Old Doctor Butler’s Head**, 2 Masons Ave, EC2V 5BY (*tube: Moorgate and Bank*), ☎ +44 20 7606-3504, e-mail: olddoctorbutlers@shepherdname.co.uk. M–F 11:00–23:00; Sa–Su closed. This claims to be one of London’s oldest pubs, tracing its history to 1610, although it has been rebuilt since then. The eponymous Doctor Butler was a purveyor of “medicinal ale” who was appointed court physician to James I. Pubs selling his beer were allowed to display his portrait, hence the name of the establishment.

- **1 Old Fountain**, 31 Baldwin St, EC1V 9NU (*tube: Old Street*), ☎ +44 20 7253-2970. M–F 11:00–23:00; Sa–Su 12:00–23:00. Local CAMRA Pub of the Year 2011. This traditional pub is best known for its large and varied beer selection, often from local and micro-breweries, both cask and bottled.
- **1 Old Red Cow**, 71-72 Long Lane, EC1A 9EJ (*tube: Barbican*), ☎ +44 20 7726-2595, e-mail: oldredcow@pubsofdistinction.com. M–Th 12:00–23:00; F–Sa 12:00–00:00; Su 12:00–22:30. Small pub that serves real ale and craft beer from both major and local breweries.
- **1 The Princess of Shoreditch**, 76-78 Paul St, EC2A 4NE (*tube: Old Street*), ☎ +44 20 7729-9270, e-mail: info@theprincessofshoreditch.com. M–Sa 12:00–23:00; Su 12:00–22:30. Gastropub.
- **1 Hand & Shears**, 1 Middle St, EC1A 7JA, ☎ +44 20 7600 0257. M–F 11:00–23:00 (CLOSED Sa & Su). Grade II listed historic pub
- **1 The Hope**, 94 Cowcross St, London EC1M 6BH, ☎ +44 20 7253 8525. 06:00–23:00. Grade II listed pub

8.8.2 Bars

- **1 El Vino**, 3 Bastion Highwalk (125 London Wall), EC2Y 5AP (*along one of the raised walkways, not at ground level*), ☎ +44 20 7600-6377. Wine bar.
- **1 Vinoteca**, 7 St John St, EC1M 4AA, ☎ +44 20 7253-8786, e-mail: farringdon@vinoteca.co.uk. M–Sa 12:00–23:00. Wine bar and shop.

8.8.3 Clubs

- **1 Fabric**, 77a Charterhouse St, ☎ +44 20 7336-8898. Th–Sa times vary (check listings). A massive club (think cathedral scale) that provides a more underground version of Ministry of Sound and hosts some of the biggest names in dance music, from Goldie to David Holmes to the Scratch Perverts. There are always big queues, so get down early if you can. Entry £12-18, discount for NUS.
- **1 The Nightjar**, 129 City Rd, EC1V 1JB (*tube: Old Street*), ☎ +44 20 7253-4101, e-mail: info@barnightjar.com. Su–W 18:00–01:00; Th 18:00–02:00; F–Sa 18:00–03:00. Speakeasy-style cocktail bar. Regular live music fitting the prohibition era theme. Entry W–Th £5, F–Sa £7. Cocktails from £9.
- **1 The Zetter Townhouse**, 49-50 St John's Square, EC1V 4JJ, ☎ +44 20 7324-4545, e-mail: feedback@thezetter.com. Su–W 07:00–00:00; Th–Sa 07:00–01:00. Cocktail lounge in a Georgian

townhouse. Also offers some accommodation with thirteen rooms available for hire. cocktails from £8.50.

8.9 Sleep

8.9.1 Budget

- **The Hoxton Urban Lodge**, 81 Great Eastern St (*nearest tube station: tube: Old St*), ☎ +44 20 7550-1000, e-mail: info@hoxtonhotels.com. From £30 web purchase.
- **St Paul's Youth Hostel**, 36 Carter Ln (*tube: St Paul's*), ☎ +44 8707 705764, e-mail: stpauls@yha.org.uk. Small hostel converted from one of the City's oldest buildings. Cheap for Central London accommodation, range of room sizes, basic facilities. Dorm from £18.95 including breakfast. 6 rooms for 2 people and 3 singles..

8.9.2 Mid-range

- **Apex City of London Hotel**, 1 Seething Lane, EC3N 4AX, ☎ +44 131 441-0440, e-mail: london.reservations@apexhotels.co.uk. Located in the City close to the Tower of London. 179 luxury bedrooms and suites, restaurant, bar and gym. Free fast speed Wi-fi From £129.
- **Apex Temple Court Hotel**, 1-2 Serjeants' Inn, Fleet Street, EC4Y 1LL, ☎ +44 131 441-0440, e-mail: london.reservations@apexhotels.co.uk. 184 spacious luxury bedrooms and suites, bar, restaurant, executive lounge and gym. Free fast speed Wi-fi From £151.
- **Citybase Apartments - St Paul's Apartments**, Queen Street, EC4R 1BR, ☎ +44 20 3701-4966, e-mail: info@citybaseapartments.com. These serviced apartments are situated in the centre of the City area of London, with Walbrook, Bank and Monument being a short walk away. The neighbouring streets are filled with cafes, restaurants and local shops, ensuring your stay is both enjoyable and convenient. From £120.
- **Apex London Wall Hotel**, 7-9 Copthall Avenue, EC2R 7NJ, ☎ +44 131 441-0440, e-mail: london.reservations@apexhotels.co.uk. Close to the Bank of England and Liverpool Street Station. 89 luxury bedrooms and suites, bar, restaurant and gym. Free fast speed Wi-fi From £151.
- **Andaz Liverpool Street London Hotel**, 40 Liverpool St, ☎ +44 20 7961-1234, fax: +44 20 7961-1235, e-mail: info.londonliv@andaz.com. A concept casual luxury hotel. No two bedrooms the

same. Features iPod rentals and 5 restaurants From £120.

- **SACO Apartments – Aldgate**, 99 Le-man St, ☎ +44 20 7269-9930, e-mail: london@sacoapartments.com. A grade II listed Victorian building in perfect walking distance to the main city centre. A great alternative to hotels for those travelling on business. From £120.
- **Travelodge London Liverpool St**, 1 Harrow Pl (*tube: Liverpool Street*), ☎ +44 8719 846190. £80.
- **SilverDoor Ltd**, 3 Dukes Gate Chiswick London W4 5DX, ☎ +44 20 8630-7200, e-mail: email@silverdoor.co.uk. Catering to business travellers, serviced apartments agency SilverDoor Ltd offer over 300 properties in the UK capital.

8.9.3 Splurge

- **Citadines Prestige Holborn-Covent Garden London**, 94-99 High Holborn, ☎ +44 20 7395-8800, fax: +44 20 7395-8799, e-mail: holborn@citadines.com. Located just a short walk from Covent Garden. Each air-conditioned apartment houses a bathroom with a separate toilet, a separate kitchen area and Internet access. Daily rates starts from £209.
- **Malmaison London**, Charterhouse Sq (*tube: Barbican, Farringdon*), ☎ +44 20 7012-3700, e-mail: london@malmaison.com. Great location with attentive staff.
- **Crowne Plaza London - The City**, 19 New Bridge Street London, EC4V 6DB United Kingdom, ☎ +44 871-9429190.

8.10 Connect

As the Barbican is part of the City of London, it is covered by **The Cloud's City WiFi Network**. Search for _The Cloud in the available networks. FastConnect App available for smartphones and tablets. Free and unlimited access for all users.

The **Barbican's WiFi** is also provided by The Cloud and operates in the same way.

- **1 Maplin**, 26-27 Eldon Street, London EC2M 7LA, ☎ +44 3334009689. 08:00 - 19:00 (Sat 09:00 - 17:00; Sun 11:00 - 17:00). For IT kit (chargers, leads, batteries, media) but not phones.

- **1 Maplin**, 150 Cheapside, St Paul's, London EC2V 6ET, ☎ +44 3334009663. 08:00 - 19:00 (Sat 09:00 - 17:00; Sun 11:00 - 17:00). For IT kit (chargers, leads, batteries, media) but not phones.

8.11 Cope

8.11.1 Health

Visitors to the UK are entitled to free emergency treatment on the NHS. However, you may be charged for further hospital care, depending on the nature of the care and your country of origin. Check the **NHS website** if you need to know more. The nearest medical services are, in ascending order of severity:

- Local pharmacies, for basic medicines and health-care products:
 - **1 Portmans Pharmacy**, 5 Cherry Tree Walk, Whitecross St, EC1Y 8NX, ☎ +44 20 7638-0067. M–F 09:00–18:30, Sa 09:00–17:00, Su closed. Closest pharmacy to the venue.
 - **1 Boots**, 143 Moorgate, EC2M 6XQ, ☎ +44 20 7920-9347. M–F 07:00–20:00, Sa–Su closed.
 - **1 S Chauhan Chemist**, 36 Goswell Road, EC1M 7AA, ☎ +44 20 7253-9691. M–F 08:00–18:00, Sa–Su closed.
 - **1 Boots**, 104 Cheapside, EC2V 6DN, ☎ +44 20 7248-9340. M–F 07:00–19:00; Sa 09:00–18:00, Su closed.
- **1 Guy's Hospital Urgent Care Centre**, Tabard Annexe, Great Maze Pond, SE1 9RT, ☎ +44 20 3049-8970. M–Su 08:00–20:00 (last patient arrival at 19:00). For treatment of minor injuries like sprains, broken bones and bites.
- **1 Royal London Hospital Accident & Emergency**, Whitechapel, E1 1BB, ☎ +44 20 3416-5000. For serious, life-threatening injuries.

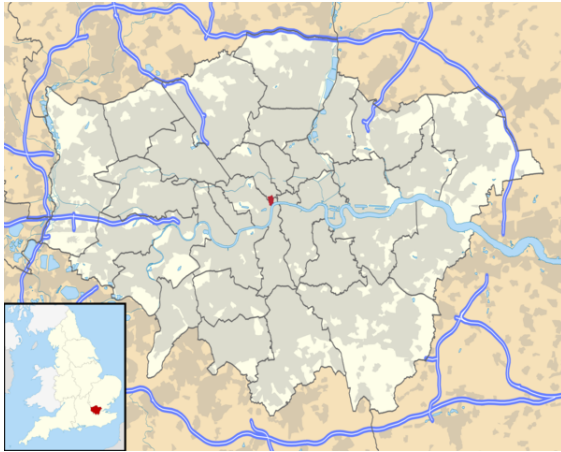
As anywhere in the UK, **999** is a multi-purpose emergency phone number. See **United_Kingdom#Connect** for additional numbers.

8.12 Go next

Go south, crossing the River Thames via the Millennium Bridge, to access the central part of **South Bank**, home to the Tate Modern gallery and Shakespeare's Globe Theatre. Or head west down Fleet Street then Strand towards **Leicester Square** and **Trafalgar Square** or to **Westminster**, home of the British government and royal family.

Chapter 9

London/Covent Garden



Location of the Covent Garden area in London

Covent Garden is a district of central London.

9.1 Understand

This is one of the main shopping and entertainment districts of the English capital and is hugely popular with visitors, who swarm to its shops, bars and restaurants, especially at weekends. Covent Garden incorporates some of London's *Theatreland* and also forms a smaller extension to London's *gay village* that is centred on the neighbouring district of **Soho**.

Covent Garden takes its name from history; it used to be *Convent Garden* many years ago and over the years this has changed to Covent Garden.

This is an extensive area of high density building and narrow streets, officially bounded by High Holborn and New Oxford Street to the north, by Kingsway to the east, by The Strand to the south and by Charing Cross Road to the west. For all practical purposes, however, the district can also be seen to extend down to The Embankment along the Thames between Northumberland Avenue and Hungerford Bridge and to The Temple.

The main focus of the Covent Garden district for visitors is the **Covent Garden Market Piazza**. Further north, a secondary focus is **Seven Dials**, an intersection of seven streets, marked by a tall pillar with (you guessed it) seven

(sun) dials. It is very easy for visitors to move on from here by foot to the attractions around **Trafalgar** and **Leicester Squares**, to **Soho** and to **Bloomsbury**.

9.2 Get in



Owing to the London Congestion Charge and the general shortage of parking spaces (plus stringent parking restrictions and fines), it is highly recommended that visitors to the area consider public transport to access the district.

9.2.1 By Tube

This district is well served by the following Tube stations:

- **Covent Garden** (Piccadilly line). Exiting Covent Garden Tube Station, turn right (southwards, downhill) to walk to the Piazza, or turn left (northwards)

to find the main shopping areas of Long Acre, Neal Street and also Seven Dials.

- Leicester Square (Piccadilly and Northern lines). The distance between Leicester Square and Covent Garden stations on the Piccadilly line is the shortest on the whole London Tube network. It is faster to walk between the two stations.
- Holborn (Piccadilly and Central lines).
- Tottenham Court Road (Northern and Central lines).
- Embankment (District, Circle and Northern lines).
- Charing Cross (Bakerloo, District, Circle and Northern lines).

9.2.2 By train

- Charing Cross mainline station services the south-eastern region of England.

9.2.3 By bus

Over 30 bus routes serve Covent Garden. They are:

- 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 15, 19, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 38, 55, 59, 69, 73, 87, 91, 98, 134, 139, 168, 171, 172, 176, 188, 242, 243, 341, RV1 and X68.

9.3 See



Part of Covent Garden Piazza

9.3.1 Landmarks

- 1 **Charing Cross and Charing Cross Station**. Old train station with an enormous office and shopping complex in glass and pale stone. A lavish hotel is

also on the site. The name comes from the Queen Elenaor (13th C.) gothic pillar outside the station, which is acutally a Victorian-era replica. **Charing Cross Road** is famous for its vintage book shops, one stand-out is **Foyle's**. **W**

- 1 **Cleopatra's Needle**, Victoria Embankment, along the Thames (*tube: Embankment*). Cleopatra's Needle originated in the ancient **Egyptian** city of **Heliopolis**, in the Temple of Atum, but the Romans moved it to **Alexandria** in 12 BC. In 1819, viceroy Mehemet Ali presented Cleopatra's Needle to the British, commemorating military victories in Egypt, but it remained in Alexandria until 1877 when transportation was arranged to bring it to London. On the voyage, the ship capsized in a storm, killing six crewmembers. Cleopatra's Needle was thought to be lost, but Spanish trawlers found it afloat a few days later, and after some repairs, it arrived in London on 21 Jan 1878. The obelisk is flanked by two faux-sphinxes, which show the effects of bombings of London during World War II. Today, Cleopatra's Needle shows some wear from exposure to London's damp weather. **W**

- 1 **Covent Garden Piazza and Central Market** (*tube: Covent Garden*). Once an important working market, and the backdrop for the musical *My Fair Lady*, Covent Garden today is a covered shopping mall with shops predominantly selling clothing, but also gifts and cosmetics, as well as stalls selling handicrafts (Tues-Sun) or antiques (Mon), and restaurants. It's well worth a visit just for the attractive ambience, with classical musicians busking in the lower part of the market and a famous location for street entertainers. There is a popular pub, The **Punch and Judy Tavern** at the western end, with a large balcony overlooking a square where street entertainers perform. At the eastern end, the corresponding balcony is occupied by Chez Gerard, a restaurant selling relatively-expensive but good continental cuisine. Most shops are open 10:00-19:00 daily, but may close earlier on Sundays.

- 1 **St. Paul's Church**, Bedford St WC2 (*tube: Covent Garden*. *At the western end of the Piazza*). Completed in 1633 to a design by Inigo Jones. **W**

- 1 **Seven Dials** (*tube: Covent Garden*). An intersection of seven streets in the northern part of the Covent Garden district. Lots of mid-range designer clothing and shoe stores **W**

9.3.2 Museums and Galleries

- 1 **Benjamin Franklin House**, 36 Craven St, WC2N 5NF (*tube: Charing Cross*), ☎ +44 20 7839-2006. The only remaining home of Benjamin

Franklin in the world. The founding father of the United States lived here from 1757 to 1775. Many exhibits charting his life and achievements as well as original artefacts. A special Historical Experience Show runs W-Su at noon, 13:00, 14:00, 15:15, and 16:15 all year round. £7, under 16s free.. **W**

- **1 London Transport Museum**, Covent Garden Piazza (*tube: Covent Garden*), ☎ +44 20 7565-7299. In many cities a local transport museum would be of very narrow interest - not London, however! London's public transport is iconic, and the story of how it developed from horse and cart through early buses, tube trains and trolleybuses to the present day is well worth coming to find out about. There is plenty of opportunity to clamber aboard the historic buses and Tube trains on display. Also because London's transport is so well known, the museum shop contains plenty of items that make interesting and original gifts and souvenirs. £15, concessions £11.50, accompanied children under 16 free. **W**

9.4 Do

9.4.1 Theatres



The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden

Along with neighbouring **Leicester Square**, this is the capital of London's theatreland. For current programmes please check the relevant theatre website or the official London theatreland listings here . Budget travellers should look for last minute bookings and off-peak performances.

Most of the booking office numbers given will only work from within the United Kingdom. If you want to make a booking from overseas, use the relevant website.

- **Adelphi Theatre**, Strand, WC2E 7NA, ☎ +44 844

412 4651.

- **Aldwych Theatre**, Aldwych, WC2B 4DF.
- **Ambassador's Theatre**, West St, WC2H 9ND, ☎ +44 844 8112 334.
- **Cambridge Theatre**, 32-34 Earlham St, WC2 9HU, ☎ +44 844 412 4652.
- **Donmar Warehouse**, Earlham St, WC2H 9LX, ☎ +44 844 871 7624.
- **Duke of York's Theatre**, St. Martin's Ln, WC2N 4BG, ☎ +44 870 060 6623.
- **Fortune Theatre**, Russell Street, Covent Garden, WC2B 5HH.
- **Lyceum Theatre**, 21 Wellington Street, WC2E 7RQ.
- **New London Theatre**, Drury Ln, WC2B 5PW, ☎ +44 844 412 4654.
- **1 Noel Coward Theatre** (*The Albery*), St. Martin's Ln, WC2N 4AA, ☎ +44 870 950 0920.
- **Novello Theatre**, Aldwych, WC2B 4LD, ☎ +44 870 950 0935.
- **Savoy Theatre**, Strand, WC2R 0ET, ☎ +44 844 871 7627.
- **Shaftesbury Theatre**, 210 Shaftesbury Ave, WC2H 8DP.
- **Theatre Royal Drury Lane**, Catherine St, WC2B 5JF.
- **St Martin's Theatre**, West St, WC2H 9NZ, ☎ +44 844 499 1515. The theatre which has been showing *The Mousetrap* continuously for the past 58 years!

9.4.2 Opera

- **1 English National Opera**, London Colliseum, St. Martin's Lane, WC2N 4ES (*tube: Covent Garden*), ☎ +44 871 911 0200, e-mail: box.office@eno.org. A little easier to get tickets here than it is at the Royal Opera House but still difficult for the most notable productions. Look for last minute availability and off peak performances.
- **1 Royal Opera House**, Covent Garden, WC2E 9DD (*tube: Covent Garden*), ☎ +44 20 7304-4000. One of the world's *great* Opera and Ballet venues. Peak time tickets are like gold dust and it is very unlikely that a casual visitor will be able to obtain one. However, at least 65 tickets per performance are held off for on-the-day in person sales from 10AM, and tickets are sometimes available for off peak (especially matinee) performances and can be surprisingly affordable. Check the website or at London ticket agencies.

9.5 Buy

Shoes are a speciality of Covent Garden, particularly in Neal Street where virtually every shop sells shoes, from Birkenstocks to trainers, campers to Doc Martens.

Like its neighbour Soho, Covent Garden has a wide range of **clothing** shops. Head to Floral Street and Long Acre for a start, but explore the back-streets too as they often house more interesting stores. If you are on a budget, head to Earlham Street for occasional clothing stalls and Oxfam Originals.

- **The Australia Shop**, 27 Maiden Ln. M-F 10:30-18:30, Sa 11:00-18:30, Su 11:00-17:30. Provides antipodean visitors with a taste of home, albeit at London prices.
- **Ben's Cookies**, 13a The Piazza (*Inside the Covent Garden Market*), ☎ +44 20 7240-6123. M-F 07:30-19:00, Sa 09:30-18:30, Su 10:30-18:30, bank holidays 10:00-18:00. Very nice cookies - try their white chocolate with macadamia cookies. Price is about £1 per cookie, and the cookies here are almost twice as big as those at Millie's. They also have branches at 12 Kensington Arcade, Kensington High St; at 39 Leadenhall Market; and at 9 Pelham St, South Kensington.
- **Monmouth Coffee**, Monmouth St (*Near Seven Dials*). Arguably the best coffee in London. Primarily a venue for quality coffee roasters, the shop on Monmouth street has a *tasting room*, i.e. a café, where you can marvel at the fact that not everywhere in London sells poor chain-café coffee. A selection of goodies such as croissants, pastries, and brownies are also available. As you would expect of a roasters you can also purchase excellent coffee in bean form or ground, with various blends to suit your taste. Helpful and knowledgeable staff can help you make a selection.
- **Neal's Yard Dairy**, 11 Shorts Gardens, WC2H 9AT (*tube: Covent Garden*), ☎ +44 20 7240-5700. M-Th 11:00-18:30, F Sa 10:00-18:30. A fabulous cheese shop specialising in British cheeses. The smell as you walk up the street can be enticing or repulsive, depending on your preference for fragrant cheese. But regardless, a trip to this shop is well worthwhile. Whether they are busy or not, the staff are always keen to have you taste a few cheeses to ensure you find what you are looking for. Everyone here is passionate about their cheese, and while the prices are higher than you will pay pretty much anywhere else in the world for cheese, the quality and taste are second to none.
- **The New Zealand Shop**, 27 Maiden Ln. M-F 10:30-18:30, Sa 11:00-18:30, Su 11:00-17:30. Provides antipodean visitors with a taste of home, albeit at London prices.

- **Stanfords**, 12-14 Long Acre, WC2E 9LP (*tube: Covent Garden*), ☎ +44 20 7836-1321. M-F 09:00-17:30, Sa 10:00-19:00, Su noon-18:00. This is the flagship store of the world's largest map retailer. They have been selling maps and travel guidebooks of all descriptions from this location since 1901. With three floors of regional maps, walking maps, guidebooks, travel books, a digital mapping service and more this is a huge store that is interesting even if you do not intend to buy anything.
- **Thomas Neal's**, 29-41 Earlham St. A nice shopping plaza with clothes shops, design shops and cafes.
- **The Tintin Shop**, 34 Floral Street, WC2E 9DJ, ☎ +44 20 7836-1131, e-mail: tintinshop@btconnect.com. M-Sa 10:30-17:30 Su 12:00-16:00. The place to go in Britain for fans of the Belgian reporter. Sells non-fiction books, clothes, posters, figurines and memorabilia, as well as each of Hergé's 24 *Adventures of Tintin* comicbooks in English, the original French and any other language you can think of. (updated Mar 2015)

Marine and watersports:

- **1 Arthur Beale** (*Yachting Chandler*), 194 Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2H 8JP, ☎ +44 20 7836 9034, e-mail: sales@arthurbeale.co.uk. M-W 9:00-18:00; Th-Sa 9:00-20:00; Su 11:00-17:00. A quite unusual shop for the centre of London. A marine supply store which sells numerous items related to yachting: from clothing to sailing hardware and accessories. The shop has been at its current location for over 120 years. (updated Nov 2015)
- **1 Ocean Leisure**, 11-14 Northumberland Avenue, WC2N 5AQ (*under Hungerford Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7930 5050, e-mail: internetsales@oceanleisure.co.uk. M-F 10:00-19:00, Sa 10:00-17:00, Su 11:00-17:00. Watersports-related items. (updated Nov 2015)

9.6 Eat

9.6.1 Budget

- **1 The George**, 213 The Strand, ☎ +44 20 7353-9638. Established in 1723, not much of the decor has changed in this traditional English pub, where you can order happily inexpensive, tasty food.
- **1 Primrose Bakery**, 42 Tavistock St, ☎ +44 20 7836-3638. You can get possibly the best cupcakes in London here. They have an impressive clientele

that includes U2 and Kate Moss. They also supply Selfridges food hall, Fortnum & Mason and Liberty's, where the prices are MUCH higher (£1 more in Fortnum & Mason). They have another branch at 69 Gloucester Ave, Primrose Hill. Try their chocolate on chocolate cupcake with cherry filling. Prices start from £1.75 for a regular cupcake.

9.6.2 Mid-range

- **1 Brown's**, 82-84 St. Martin's Ln, ☎ +44 20 7497-5050. Always buzzing, this popular restaurant is frequented by hip (often single) clientele, who are served by attentive staff. Meals are good, the braised lamb shank is especially tasty.
- **1 Maison Malinowski Brasserie**, 63 Neal St. Serves really delicious crêpes among other things. Perfect for a break while shopping!
- **Paul's Bakery**, 29/30 Bedford St, ☎ +44 20 7836-3304. M-F 07:30-19:00, Sa Su 09:00-21:00. A French favourite, now in London, Paul's serves coffee and teas together fine French pastries, tarts, cakes and breads for savouring on or off the premises. Light snacks, lunches and dinners are also catered for, at prices a little higher than your average café (but reasonable for the touristy Covent Garden), somewhat less than a restaurant.
- **Cafe Pacifico**, 5 Langley St, ☎ +44 20 7379-7728. M-Sa noon-23:45, Su noon-22:45. London's original Mexican Cantina, serving all your typical Mexican food along with a good range of margaritas and tequila.
- **La Perla**, 28 Maiden Ln, ☎ +44 20 7240-7400. M-Sa noon-23:30, Su 16:00-22:30. Another of Cafe Pacifico's venues, this one is slightly smaller with more of a bar feeling.
- **1 Scoop** (*Natural Luxury Gelato*), 40 Short's Gardens, ☎ +44 7944 779693. This place is popular among the university students in London. Come here for some genuine Italian gelato or coffee and cake. Try their hazelnut gelato, which is simply amazing. Large £3.60.

9.6.3 Splurge

- **The Ivy**, 1 West St (*tube: Covent Garden*), ☎ +44 20 7836-4751. Wining and dining rooms of celebrities, the actual difficulty in getting a table these days gives the restaurant slightly more kudos as an eatery than it deserves. Cosy and intimate, serving traditional but diverse restaurant meals. Competent cooking and reasonably good service, but not worth waiting 6 months for. Unless you are an avid star-gazer, go



The Ivy in West St.



Rules in Maiden Lane.

at a time when celebs are unlikely to be around. Average price £40.

- **Joe Allen**, 13 Exeter St, WC2E 7DT (*tube: Covent Garden*), ☎ +44 20 7836-0651, e-mail: info@joeallen.co.uk. Legendary informal bistro which is incredibly hard to find for the first time - look for the dark, discrete door with a simple plaque on it on the north side of Exeter St. Food is a take on American style grilled fare using the very highest quality ingredients. Steaks and chops are superb. Favoured by lots of celebs and booking essential, especially pre- and post theatre.
- **Rules**, 35 Maiden Lane. Claims to the oldest restaurant still-going in London. It's high-class decor matches its posh diners. Rules has a dress code: "jacket or tie not required, but smart casual pre-

ferred. No shorts.”

9.7 Drink

9.7.1 Pubs

- **1 Princess Louise**, 208–209 High Holborn, WC1V 7BW (*tube: Chancery Lane*), ☎ +44 20 7405-8816. Ornately designed Victorian interior, mostly preserved from an 1891 remodelling, with wood and etched-glass partitions dividing it into smaller sections. A Grade II listed building and on CAMRA’s national inventory of historic pub interiors.
- **1 The Salisbury**, St. Martin’s Ln. Beautifully preserved Victorian pub. Full of mirrors and lights, cut glass and mahogany, this place is nothing like the dark and dingy pubs that are all too common in London.
- **Ernest Sports bar**, 33 Rose Street, ☎ +44 20 7497-9504. A modern sports bar to watch champions league and premiership action. Serving local ales and international beers. Beers from £5.
- **The Intrepid Fox**, St Giles High St (*Next to Centre-point*). The best rock and metal pub in London.
- **Porterhouse**, 21-22 Maiden Ln, ☎ +44 20 7379-7917. A modern pub split across multiple levels connected by narrow staircases and walkways, with a selection of over 100 bottled beers from around the world.
- **Waxy’s O’Connor’s**, 14-16 Rupert St, W1D 6DD. Irish themed pub with a fibreglass tree inside it. It is almost invariably unbearably crowded. The smaller **Waxy’s Little Sister** opposite it, however, is generally quieter and more relaxed.
- **The Spice of Life**. On Cambridge Circus, is a bustling middle-of-the-road gaf, with open-mic performances from talented musicians downstairs.

9.7.2 Bars

- **Rum Bar**, 45 St. Martin’s Ln, ☎ +44 20 7300-5588. Asia de Cuba, the trendy restaurant located inside the St. Martin’s Lane Hotel, also houses the stylish Rum Bar. With tall, ‘lean-on’ tables designed by Phillipe Starck and a meticulously designed interior this is a great place to meet for a cocktails before or after heading out for an evening.
- **Light**, 45 St. Martin’s Ln, ☎ +44 20 7300-5599. Stylish, ultra modern space inside the St. Martin’s Lane Hotel. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, many of London’s most popular D.J.’s are featured.

- **Freud**, 198 Shaftesbury Ave, ☎ +44 20 7240-9933. If you blink, you’ll miss this casual cellar bar that serves up a variety of cocktails you can’t find anywhere else in London. Has good mojitos, and even an Apple Pie concoction that tastes like a drink version of the real thing! Always very crowded at night on the weekends despite the fact that you need to go down a rickety metal staircase to find it.
- **Guanabara**. A vibrant Brazilian bar, next to the New London Theatre, which attracts a large Latin dancing crowd. Different types of music, with good DJ’s and bands, are played each night of the week, such as flamenco, forró, lambada and even American country. Free entry before 8pm.

9.7.3 Gay and Lesbian

- **Box**, 32-34 Monmouth St (*At the Seven Dials*), ☎ +44 20 7240-5828. A trendy gay bar.
- **1 Halfway to Heaven**, 7 Duncannon St, WC2N 4JF (*tube: Charing Cross*), ☎ +44 20 7484-0736, e-mail: halfwaytoheaven.london@stonegatepubs.com. M–Th noon–midnight; F–Sa noon–03:00; Su noon–23:00. Traditional pub owned by the night club, Heaven. Aimed more at office workers and locals than the clubbing crowd. The basement bar hosts entertainment in the evenings.
- **1 Heaven**, The Arches, Villiers St, WC2N 6NG (*Beneath Charing Cross station and the Craven St arches; tube: Embankment or Charing Cross*), ☎ +44 20 7930-2020, e-mail: info@heavennightclublondon.com. M 11:00–05:00; Tu–W closed; Th–F 23:00–04:00; Sa 22:30–05:00. Arguably the most famous gay club in London, and perhaps the world. Has secret performances by the likes of Britney Spears or Kylie Minogue. Good fun, whether gay or straight. from £4 bottle of beer.
- **1 The Retro Bar**, 2 George Ct, WC2N 6HH (*tube: Charing Cross*), ☎ +44 20 7839-8760, e-mail: retrobar.london@stonegatepubs.com. M–F noon–23:00; Sa 14:00–23:00; Su 14:00–22:30. The antidote to gay bars: a pub-like atmosphere and great music.

9.8 Sleep

9.8.1 Budget

9.8.2 Mid-range

- **Fielding Hotel**, 4 Broad Ct W2B 5QZ, ☎ +44 20 7836-8305. No frills hotel located right opposite the Royal Opera House. From £90.

- **Strand Palace Hotel**, 372 Strand, WC2R 0JJ, ☎ +44 20 7379-4737. Good value hotel in a convenient location for Covent Garden theatres and shopping From £65.
- **Travel Lodge Covent Garden**, 10 Drury Ln, WC2B 5RE, ☎ +44 871 984 6245. Popular hotel with visitors and decent value for the area. Convenient for Covent Garden theatres and shopping From £135.

9.8.3 Splurge

- **The Savoy**, The Strand, ☎ +44 20 7836-4343. The famed Savoy is on The Strand in the heart of the West End theatre district, offering magnificent views of the river Thames. The Savoy opened in 1889 and remains a popular destination in London. The hotel has 263 rooms and suites, a nifty blend of elegance and contemporary design. Inventive cuisine can be enjoyed in the Savoy Grill and the more informal Banquette. The theatres, opera, ballet and shopping of Covent Garden are located nearby.
- **St Martins Lane**, 45 St. Martin's Ln, ☎ +44 20 7300-5500. Ian Schrager (he of Studio 54 fame) is known worldwide for being an innovator in the 'hip' hotel business. His first foray into London, St Martins Lane, is a playful and urbane destination in the West End theater district off Trafalgar Square that combines urban cool and modern design (via design guru Philippe Starck). Unique features to this trendy-meets-luxury hotel include Asia de Cuba restaurant, the popular Light Bar and interactive light displays in every guest room that encourage guests to personalize their own individual space.

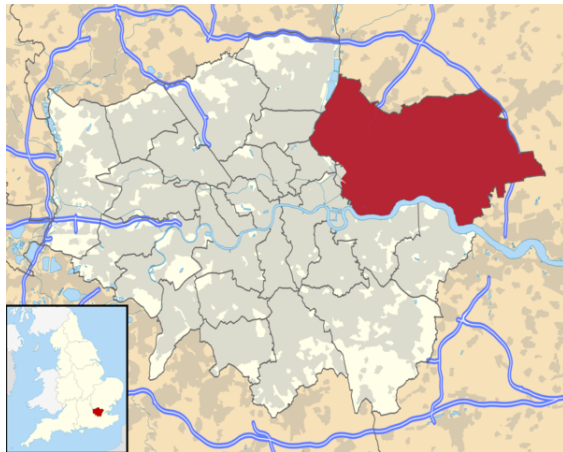
9.9 Connect

Wi-fi is available along the Thames for free with ads, and in various commercial establishments in Convent Garden.

9.10 Go next

Chapter 10

London/East



Location of the East London area in London

East London is the outer eastern part of **London**, north of the River Thames.

10.1 Understand

Many outer areas of East London were once part of the county of **Essex**. Essex is sometimes used as part of the postal address for these areas.

East London consists of the following boroughs:

- **Barking and Dagenham** — the borough includes:
 - **Barking**
 - **Dagenham**
- **Havering** — the borough includes:
 - **Hornchurch**
 - **Romford**
 - **Upminster**
- **Newham** — the borough includes:
 - **Stratford** - Location of the **London 2012 Olympic Games**. (*Note: this*

is not Stratford-upon-Avon in Warwickshire, the birthplace of Shakespeare.)

- **East Ham**
- **West Ham**
- **Redbridge** — the borough includes:
 - **Ilford**
 - **Woodford**
- **Waltham Forest** — the borough includes:
 - **Walthamstow** - This town was made famous by a teen pop band called E-17 (the postcode of the area) who came from here and had a number of hits. Soak up the multicultural atmosphere.
 - **Chingford**
 - **Leyton**
 - **Leytonstone** the birth place of Alfred Hitchcock

10.2 Get in

?"UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU"?
Map of London/East

10.2.1 By Tube

- Victoria Line (Light Blue) to Walthamstow.
- Central Line (Red) to Woodford or Hainault.
- Hammersmith and City Line (Pink) to Barking.
- District Line (Green) to Upminster.
- Jubilee Line (Silver) to Stratford.

10.2.2 By DLR

- DLR to Canning Town then branches to Beckton, or London City Airport and Woolwich.

10.2.3 By Train

- From Liverpool Street to Chingford and Ilford.
- From Fenchurch Street to Southend or Grays.
- From Stansted Airport, **Ipswich**, **Colchester** and **Norwich** to Liverpool Street.

10.2.4 By Overground

- The Overground line (Orange) is useful for getting across the district from Barking to Blackhorse Road.

10.3 See

10.3.1 Walthamstow

- 1 **Epping Forest** (*tube: Central Line*), ☎ +44 20 8508-0028, e-mail: epping.forest@cityoflondon.gov.uk. Dawn-dusk. 19 km (12 mi) long in East London and Essex. Free. **W**
- 1 **Vestry House Museum**, Vestry Road, E17 9NH (*tube/rail: Walthamstow Central*), ☎ +44 20 8496-4391, e-mail: vhm.enquiries@walthamforest.gov.uk. W–Su 10:00–17:00. Presents the history of Waltham Forest. The building was constructed to be a work house and has since been used as a police station and a private home. Its collection includes the Bremer car, built by engineer Frederick Bremer in 1892 it has a claim to being this first petrol-driven car made in Britain. Free. **W**
- 1 **Walthamstow Village** (*tube: Walthamstow Central / rail: Walthamstow Central/Wood Street*). The ancient nucleus of present day Walthamstow centred around the 12th century St. Mary's Church. **W**
- 1 **William Morris Gallery**, Lloyd Park, Forest Rd, E17 4PP (*tube/rail: Walthamstow Central*), ☎ +44 20 8496-4390, e-mail: wmg.enquiries@walthamforest.gov.uk. W–Su 10:00–17:00. Dedicated to William Morris, the Victorian arts & crafts designer and writer. Located in his old Georgian family home, Water House, which is now a Grade II* listed building. Free. **W**

10.3.2 Ilford

- 1 **Redbridge Central Library & Museum**, Clements Rd, IG1 1EA (*rail: Ilford*). M–F 09:30–20:00; Sa 09:00–16:00. Interesting structure from an architectural point of view. Unfortunately it is also the locale of choice for the native *rude-boys* to hang out, alas this is not due to the educational value of the institution.
- 1 **Valentines Park** (*tube: Gants Hill*). A pleasant green area, Essex County Cricket team used to play on the pitch in the western side of the park. **W**

10.3.3 Barking

- 1 **Eastbury Manor House**, Eastbury Square, Barking, IG11 9SN, ☎ +44 20 8227-5216, e-mail: eastburymano@nationaltrust.org.uk. **W**

10.4 Do

10.4.1 Stratford

- 1 **Theatre Royal Stratford East**, Gerry Raffles Square, E15 1BN (*tube: Stratford*), ☎ +44 20 8534-0310. Watch a live performance: comedy, music and more. About £12.50–22 depending on time and seating. **W**
- 1 **Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park**. Site of the London 2012 olympics and the ArcelorMittal Orbit with the worlds longest slide. **W**

10.4.2 Walthamstow

- Bicycle along the River Lea or Epping Forest.

10.5 Buy

10.5.1 Walthamstow

- **Selbourne Walk** (*tube: Walthamstow Central; just over the road*). Walthamstow's shopping mall, with the usual selection of shopping mall type shops.
- **Walthamstow High Street market**. early-approximately 5:30PM. All manner of items may be purchased here, an example of the amazing bargains to be found is a carrier bag full of bananas for £1.

10.5.2 Ilford

- **The Exchange Shopping Centre.** Was one of the largest American style malls when it was constructed in the early 1990s. Although now it has an extensive array of shops now it can only really be considered a bog standard shopping centre. The town centre itself has most high street chain shops.

10.6 Eat

Goodmayes is a great area for really good cheap Indian/Pakistani food.

- **The Pantry Café** (*Ten seconds' walk from Stratford High Street DLR, on the same side of the road*). Traditional British café. Different menu options are placed on the wall to make ordering easier "I want a 4, I'd like a 9" but the friendly owner will of course accept any variation you want! I stayed in a chain hotel in Stratford, and was treated very well, but this café beats the chain hotel breakfasts for price and quality. Stay away if you want haute cuisine. Go for it if you want a "greasy spoon" at reasonable prices. (updated Oct 2015)

10.6.1 Walthamstow

There are a number of cafés and restaurants down the high street.

- **Kebabish**, Hoe St. Does a nice kebab and also tasty Indian food.
- **Thainese**, Hoe St (*turn right from Walthamstow Central*), ☎ +44 20 8509-9668. 12-midnight. Halal Singaporean Chinese and Thai, black pepper crabs, chilli lobster, private rooms, prayer rooms expensive.

10.7 Drink

10.7.1 Walthamstow

- 1 **The Ferry Boat Inn**, Ferry Lane, N17 9NG (*tube: Tottenham Hale/Blackhorse Rd*), ☎ +44 20 8808-4980, e-mail: ferryboatinn.tottenham@stonegatepubs.com. M–Su 12:00–23:00. A quaint country style pub in a lovely river side setting.
- 1 **The Goose**, 264 Hoe St, E17 3AX (*tube: Walthamstow Central, opposite*), ☎ +44 20 8520-4751, e-mail:

goose.walthamstow@stonegatepubs.com. Su–Th 10:00–00:00; Fr–Sa 10:00–01:00. Updated Victorian gin palace. Popular with commuters.

10.8 Sleep

- 1 **Ibis Hotel Stratford**, 1A Romford Rd, Stratford E15 4LJ (*tube: Stratford*), ☎ +44 20 8536-3700. 104 room hotel with the usual identikit, Ibis set-up. From about £50.
- 1 **Newham Hotel**, 349-353 Romford Rd, Forest Gate, E7 8AA (*rail: Forest Gate / tube: Wanstead Park*), ☎ +44 20 8534-8400, e-mail: info@newhamhotel.co.uk. Budget hotel in the Forest Gate area of Newham From £44.
- 1 **Viking Hotel**, 162 Romford Rd, Stratford, E15 4LD (*tube: Stratford*), ☎ +44 20 8534-7861, fax: +44 20 8503-0863, e-mail: viking@leventishotels.co.uk.
- 1 **Devonshire Hotel**, 94 Station Lane, Hornchurch, Essex, RM12 6LX (*tube: Hornchurch*), ☎ +44 1708 440088, e-mail: info@devonshirehotelhornchurch.co.uk. Opened in 2011, it is a family-run boutique hotel with free wi-fi and secure parking. Some rooms have been adapted to allow for easier access. Breakfast & homemade snacks available.
- **Travelodge London Stratford**, High Street, Stratford, E15 2JG (*Five-minute walk from Stratford stations (walk to the High Street, turn right). Even nearer to Stratford High Street DLR (come out, turn left).*), ☎ +44 871 984 6502, e-mail: londonstratf.mgr@travelodge.co.uk. Usual Travelodge set-up. New hotel, spotless rooms with private facilities. 24-hour bar. Friendly staff prepared to go the extra mile. Price - depends, can be as low as £30 for a double room if you pay well in advance and pay up front ("Saver Rate").

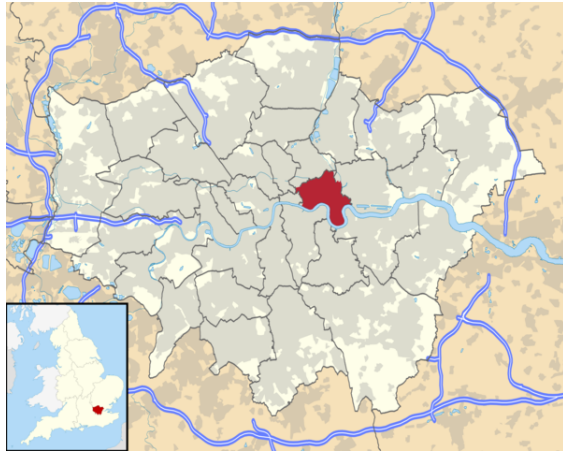
10.9 Connect

10.10 Go next

- Hackney
- East End of London
- Hornchurch (including Rainham and Upminster)
- Epping

Chapter 11

London/East End



Location of the East End area in London

The **East End** is a district of central London, stretching out from the edge of The City to the River Lea. Highlights include the large cluster of Sunday markets and the nightclub area of Shoreditch.

11.1 Understand



Mile End Road, over the Mile End tube station

The East End is the home of “Cockney Rhyming Slang”, a dialect of English where words are substituted for other words which they rhyme with. For example “Apples and Pears” is cockney slang for “Stairs”; “Plates of Meat” is slang for “Feet”. In recent years the East End is perhaps more famous than ever due to the long running and hugely

popular BBC TV series *EastEnders*, a soap opera about the life of people living in Albert Square, Walford, which is a fictional location.

Exploring the East End can be a great way to get off of the main tourist track, while staying in walking distance of the historic centre of London. A good place to start is to go east from Spitalfields into the nearby **Brick Lane** neighbourhood.

The East End consists of many small and quite distinct neighbourhoods:

Mile End is an increasingly affluent neighbourhood about one mile (hence the name) from the City of London along the Whitechapel Road. While not as vibrant as its neighbours in **Bethnal Green** and **Brick Lane**, it has a charm of its own which makes this district worth a visit. It is rich in history and contains some very interesting relics of London’s industrial past. The district was created just at the time when London was expanding at its fastest rate and as such contains areas which are a microcosm of the Victorian city. It also suffered greatly from German bombing in WWII and the slum clearances of the 1960s which saw many fine Victorian houses bulldozed to be replaced by sub-standard communal housing.



Historic building of the Royal London Hospital

Whitechapel runs from the edge of the City of London at Bishopsgate in the West to Cavell Street in the East, and from Commercial Road in the south moving to the **Brick Lane** area in the north. It became particularly notori-

ous in 19th century for the gruesome murders of Jack the Ripper (once known as 'The Whitechapel Murderer'), in the days when poverty and prostitution were common in this area. It is still a largely working-class area but has attracted a large Bangladeshi community which has made Brick Lane what it is today. Many aspiring artists moved here for the cheap rents but still central location. Tracey Emin (one of the not-so-Young British Artists (YBAs) of the 1990s) has a studio in this area, and can be seen wandering around in the day. The Royal London Hospital gazes across at Whitechapel tube station and is famous for nursing Joseph Carey Merrick (the 'Elephant Man') in his final years.



"Banglatown"

Brick Lane is a small but diverse neighbourhood, named after a long road starting in Whitechapel and running north into Shoreditch. The area has come to be known as "Banglatown" in recent years on account of many of its inhabitants and proprietors originating from the **Indian** subcontinent (especially **Bangladesh**). You can see evidence of this on the bilingual road signs which were placed to help immigrants in the 1980s who were unable to speak English.

Although now largely a Bengali neighbourhood, within living memory, Brick Lane was a Jewish district. As well as some obvious remnants of this history such as a few remaining bagel delis, there are some more subtle ones too, such as small synagogues in the back streets. Many of the larger synagogues have now been converted into mosques. Before that, it was a Huguenot area. The Huguenots settled in the area and became well known for silk weaving. The markets here date back to the 16th century, when the area was a stop on the main eastern exit road from London. The neighbourhood, now complete with its own annual festival, is now most famous for its curry restaurants, markets, speciality shops and vibrant but relaxed nightlife.

Shoreditch stretches from Old Street station to Kingsland Road in the London Borough of Hackney. Culturally though this is part of the East End. This was once an area largely populated by skint artists but they were

scattered once the wave of design and media studios and commercial art galleries rolled in. Although the area is still underdeveloped in many ways, this is one of the best places to go out drinking in London, simply because there are so many different bars, pubs and clubs dotted all over this area and many of these stay open past 23:00.



City Canal in the Canary Wharf

11.1.1 Docklands

This area stretches from the edge of the **City of London** along the river to Beckton. The area encompasses the historical docks of the port of London, which declined after the Second World War. The area has been extensively redeveloped since the 1980s resulting in a doubling of the residential population. This is now predominantly an area of giant offices and mid to upmarket housing, although elements of its historic purpose can still be found. For travellers, the major feature of interest is the Canary Wharf development, home to some of London's tallest buildings. However, there are also other areas of Docklands that are of interest to those with more time to explore the area. Area of modern day Docklands include Wapping, Limehouse, the Isle of Dogs and Royal Dock:

Wapping is immediately east of the City of London on the banks of the Thames. Although largely gentrified in recent decades, there are still many cobbled streets and the warehouse conversions has been done sympathetically in many places, and there are several excellent riverside pubs. The giant News International facility (which publishes *The Times* and *The Sun* newspapers) is located here.

Limehouse extends from the edge of Wapping to Canary Wharf. By-passed by the Limehouse Link road tunnel, it is a quiet, predominantly residential area and there are a few riverside pubs of note as well as facilities serving the massive business community at Canary Wharf.

The **Isle of Dogs** lies to the south of the Canary Wharf development, and is a mixture of light industrial, office and residential areas, with a large park at Mudchute that contains a City Farm. At Island Gardens there are noteworthy views across the river to Greenwich.

The **Royal Docks** extend east where redevelopment has proceeded at a slower pace than most of the rest of Docklands. The former docks are now stand alongside London City Airport, although the arrival and departure of aeroplanes still spills over them onto the campus of the University of East London. The Excel Centre is also to be found here.

Surrey Docks and **Rotherhithe** on the south of the river are sometimes included in descriptions of Docklands.

11.2 Get in

UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU""?
Map of London/East End

11.2.1 By Tube

Mile End is one of the best-connected stations in London, with access to the Central, Hammersmith and City, and District Lines. There is also a District Line station at Bow Road and Docklands Light Railway stations at Bow Road and Devons Road.

For the west side of **Whitechapel** get off at **Aldgate East** tube station (Hammersmith & City & District Lines), to take you directly to the Whitechapel Art Gallery and near the bottom of Brick Lane or **Whitechapel tube station** (Hammersmith & City & District Lines, and London Overground East London line) will take you to the east side of Whitechapel Road. **Liverpool Street** tube station is a 15-minute walk from Whitechapel.

The Jubilee line extension to Canary Wharf links the Docklands with the main tube network.

11.2.2 By Docklands Light Railway (DLR)

Much of Docklands was historically poorly connected to the rest of London, with the development of the Docklands Light Rail (DLR) and the extension of the Jubilee Underground line, transportation has become much easier and more efficient. If visiting Canary Wharf, you might like to arrive by DLR to experience the views from the train on approach and leave by the Jubilee to see the impressively large station, which has been compared to a cathedral.

Most of the DLR stations are, unsurprisingly, in the Docklands. There are three stations on the Canary Wharf development: West India Quay, Canary Wharf and Heron Quays. Heron Quays is best for interchange with the Jubilee line. The stations are a short distance apart so you don't need to use the DLR to get around within Canary Wharf.

11.2.3 By train

London Overground's East London Line connects various stations in the inner East End, running through Hoxton, Shoreditch High Street, Whitechapel, Shadwell and Wapping, before crossing the river to Rotherhithe, Canada Water and beyond.

11.3 See

- **1 Canary Wharf** (*tube: Canary Wharf*). A vast shopping, eating, entertainment and (primarily) business complex, home to Britain's second tallest skyscraper, One Canada Square. Now increasingly lively at weekends as well, but still at its most impressive during the week. Spectacular main exit from the Jubilee Line tube station. There is a substantial amount of information about the history and the architecture of the development on the website of Canary Wharf Group, the company that owns the development. **W**
- **1 Christ Church**. weekdays 10am-4pm, sun 1pm-4pm. Towering, white 18th century church Free / Tour £6. **W** (updated Oct 2016)



Dennis Severs House

- **1 Dennis Severs' House**, 18 Folgate Street, E1 6BX (*In the back streets north of Spitalfields Market. overground: Shoreditch High Street. tube: Liverpool Street*), ☎ +44 20 7247-4013, e-mail: info@dennissevershouse.co.uk. M "lunchtime" 12:00–14:00, M W "silent nights" 17:00–21:00, Su "daytime" 12:00–16:00. Originally a townhouse belonging to a wealthy Huguenot merchant family in the 18th century, the late artist Dennis Severs has returned its interior to how it might have looked in those early days. But this is no mere museum; there

are no exhibits or glass cases. Instead, Dennis Severs' House offers a completely immersive journey into the past with each room appearing, feeling and smelling as if its occupant had just left. A must for history lovers. "Daytime" / "lunchtime" £10 / £5 children, "silent nights" £15. **W** (updated Mar 2015)



Victoria Park

- **1 Museum of London Docklands**, No 1 Warehouse, West India Quay (*DLR: West India Quay*), ☎ +44 20 7001-9844, e-mail: info.docklands@museumoflondon.org.uk. 10:00-18:00. Tells the story of the development of the Docklands from Roman and Viking times to the present day. Free. **W**
- **1 The Brick Lane Gallery**, 196 Brick Ln, ☎ +44 20 7729-9721, e-mail: info@thebricklanegallery.com. Noon-6PM. Free, you can buy the paintings..
- **1 V&A Museum of Childhood** (*Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood*), Cambridge Heath Road, E2 9PA (*tube: Bethnal Green*), ☎ +44 20 8983-5200, e-mail: moc@vam.ac.uk. 10:00–17:45 daily. The Victoria and Albert Museum's East London branch has a focus on childhood and is particularly known for its large collection of toys throughout the ages. Great for kids - and kids at heart - of all ages. Free. **W** (updated Mar 2015)
- **1 Victoria Park** (*Vicky Park*), tube: Mile End. 06:00-dusk daily. At 87 hectares this is the largest open green space in the district. **W**
- **1 Whitechapel Art Gallery**, 80-82 Whitechapel High St (*tube: Aldgate East*), ☎ +44 20 7522-7888. Tu-Su 11:00-18:00, Th 11:00-21:00, M closed. Whitechapel has been a champion of Modern Art since 1901, and has held exhibitions of greats such as Picasso, Pollock and Frida Kahlo and supported British Artists such as Gilbert & George and Lucian Freud. The space continues to hold regular new exhibitions with additional linked events on Thursday evenings. There is a cafe and a small art bookshop. Free entry. There are excellent facilities for disabled people (visual, hearing and physical). **W**
- **1 Wilton's Music Hall** (*Wilton's*), Graces Alley off Ensign St (*10 min-walk from Tower Hill or Aldgate East tube stations. Head towards Royal Mint St which becomes Cable St*), ☎ +44 20 7702-2789. Wilton's Music Hall is the oldest Grand Music Hall in the world. Built in 1858 it has had a long and colourful history. Wilton's has been the haunt of Victorian sailors (and their ladies), become a Mission, survived two world wars, being a rag warehouse, being forgotten, becoming derelict and has ended up as a theatre once more. It is now a performance space offering entertainment of as wide a variety as puppetry to poetry and has launched a capital appeal to save it from crumbling. **W**

11.4 Do

11.4.1 Walks

- **Tower Bridge**. If you feel adventurous then spend a sunny Sunday afternoon walking the north bank of the River Thames to Tower Bridge in the **City of London**.
- **Regents Canal**. Walk up the Regents Canal.
- **1 Green Bridge**. Walk over the Green Bridge, a unique structure that joins Bow Common to Mile End Park with its urban nature reserve, taking the park over the busy A12 road, ensuring uninterrupted greenery for several miles, from the bottom of Bow Common to the top of the beautiful Victoria Park.

11.4.2 Other

- **1 East London Art Walks** (*Comment art walks*), 20 Rivington St (*Old St Tube exit 3*), ☎ +44 20 7739-1743, +44 7799 776 016. Sa 15:00. A friendly, qualified art guide will take you round a selection of the most interesting exhibitions on at the moment and also talk about the history of contemporary art in East London. £5/4.
- **Street Art Tours**, ☎ +44 844 504 808. Guided walking tours of the East End's most interesting street art, led by young, enthusiastic and knowledgeable guides.

- **The O2** (Formerly the Millennium Dome) (tube: North Greenwich). Concerts, cinema and restaurants.
- **Cineworld Cinema**, 11 Hertsmere Rd (tube: West India Quay).
- **Excel**, 1 Western Gateway, Royal Victoria Dock (tube: Custom House), ☎ +44 20 7069500, e-mail: info@excel-london.co.uk. Exhibition and conference centre. The venue hosts such public events as the London Boat Show, the British Motor Show and the London Triathlon as well as numerous trade shows. It was a venue for the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics for sports such as boxing, table tennis and fencing.
- **Cycle**. Hire a bike and cycle around the island. There are lots of cycle paths and great riverside views of the City of London and Greenwich.
- **Canary Wharf Ice Rink** (tube: Canary Wharf). A café and bar, and the only genuine Central Park style skating in London, in the smart Canada Square park surrounding by glittering office tower blocks. Winter only.
- **Jack the Ripper Tour**. For those of you with a morbid fascination with this 19th century murderer, this will hopefully feed your curiosity. Approx 2 hours. Book through website. £8 per person.
- **The Brick Lane Gallery**, 196 Brick Ln (Nearest tube: Liverpool St or Aldgate East), ☎ +44 20 7729-9721, e-mail: info@thebricklanegallery.com. Noon-18:00. Exhibits an eclectic variety of contemporary art and street art by British and International artists, focusing mainly on exhibiting emerging and mid-career artists. They present an integrated programme of exhibitions, including solo-shows as well as group exhibitions, introducing innovative developments in painting, sculpture, photography, performance, video and works on paper. Free, but you also can buy the paintings.

11.5 Buy

The undoubted highlight of East End trading life was the street market, operating under a grudging acceptance from the authorities and offering bargains with big suggestions that the cheap price may be related to a dodgy road to market. **Sunday** was the main market day due to the Jewish heritage of the area, and therefore attracted a large influx of punters before shops were allowed Sunday trading elsewhere in London. The (more controlled) current markets are a treat of variety, stretching out in short



Columbia Road Flower Market

walk from Liverpool St or Shoreditch stations. During a Sunday morning relaxed walk, allowing 2–3 hours, you can visit the four main markets, **Petticoat Lane**, **Spitalfields**, **Brick Lane** and **Columbia Road Flower Market**, have lunch and a shandy or two, whilst taking in the ever-changing diversity. New markets are opening en-route all the time, but real surprises are most likely to be found around the north Brick Lane/ Cheshire St area which most resembles the spirit of the original markets, having many stalls operating on the edges of both market and legality.



Petticoat Lane Market

- **Petticoat Lane Market**, Middlesex St. Traditionally the East End market where nearly anything could be found (legal or not) now mostly cheaper mainstream clothes. Main market Sunday, smaller market Mon-Fri in Wentworth St.
- **1 Spitalfields Market** (tube: Liverpool St, just off Bishopgate). The traditional fruit and vegetable market for The City moved into the suburbs in 1991. The existing buildings were threatened with complete demolition by developers, but saved partially by local action and the establishment of an organic market on the empty site. It has slowly been shrunk to a third of its size by development in the area. It still features a good variety of clothing, crafts and

food stalls/shops, but very little organic anymore. Mon-Fri - upmarket stalls operate on the edge of the new buildings. Towards end of week more eclectic stalls can be found in old market area. Sunday hosts the full market in both old and new areas but tends to be increasingly more expensive and exclusive as traders are squeezed for higher rents. **W**

- **Brick Lane.** The Whitechapel end of Brick Lane is filled with South Asian (mainly Bangladeshi) shops and restaurants, selling music, spices, tasty sweets and sari material.
- **Beyond Retro,** 110-112 Cheshire St. Secondhand clothing (male and female).
- **Rokit,** 101&107 Brick Ln. Secondhand clothing (male and female).
- **1 Brick Lane Market** (*overground: Shoreditch High St, running from Shoreditch High St Overground Stn to Bethnal Green Rd and spreading out into Sclater and Cheshire Sts*). Su 08:00-14:00. Selling second hand clothes, bric-a-brac, books, household goods and electronics. **W**



Tatty Devine in Brick Lane

- **Tatty Devine,** 236 Brick Ln (*Hidden up at the quiet end away from the hustle and bustle of the market and curry houses*), ☎ +44 20 7739-9009. Little shop specialising in accessories for men and women, such as volume level brooches and newspaper print ties. M-F 10:00-18:00, Sa Su 11:00-19:00.
- **Whitechapel Market** (*tube: Whitechapel*). M-Sa 08:00-18:00. A small street market selling food and spices, clothing, jewellery, carpets and the odd dodgy stereo.
- **1 Canada Square Shopping Mall,** 1 Canada Sq. American style air conditioned shopping centre. All

the usual High Street shops, plus a John Lewis department store and a Waitrose food store which has the most stunning range of produce. Pleasant up-market shopping centre, made up of three arcades: Canada, Cabot and Jubilee Place. The three arcades encircle Jubilee Park and the tube station, and house over 200 shops, bars, restaurants and cafes that are open seven days a week. A relaxed shopping environment, especially good for clothes.

- **1 Roman Road Market,** Roman Rd, Bow (*follow the signs from Bow Rd tube station*). A mix of traditional goods, from high street brands to fish, Roman has it all. Market runs Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday till 4 O'clock. **W**

11.6 Eat

11.6.1 Canary Wharf

There are many restaurants in Docklands clustered around the new developments of Canary Wharf. Some of the best are listed below:

- **Café Rouge,** Mackenzie Walk, ☎ +44 20 7537-9696. Waterfront Parisian Bistro. Wide selection of food and wine in a relaxing setting.
- **Carluccios,** Nash Ct, ☎ +44 20 7719-1749. Authentic Italian Cafe with all Italian dishes developed by Antonio Carluccio himself. There is also a genuine Italian deli with take out lunches, meats, cheeses and a range of branded products and gift items.
- **The Fine Line,** Fisherman's Walk, ☎ +44 20 7513-0255. Lunchtime menus include a mixture of continental and international meals. A snack menu is available in the evening. Two mezzanine areas at the bar for private party bookings.
- **First Edition,** 25 Cabot Sq, ☎ +44 20 7513-0300. International cuisine with continental and Far Eastern influences compliment a wide range of fresh seafood. Extensive wine list served by the glass. Private affairs welcome.
- **Gaucha Grill,** Westferry Circus, Canary Riverside, ☎ +44 20 7987-9494. The Argentinian cowboy, the gaucha, made famous the tradition of cooking fresh meat over charcoal grills. The large horseshoe bar offers traditional South American cocktails and beer.
- **Itsu,** Second floor, Cabot Pl E, Canada Place, ☎ +44 20 7512-5790. Conveyor belt sushi restaurant, more on the side of "fusion" than traditional.

Japanese Sushi along with a wide range of dishes reflecting a strong Asian and Vietnamese influence. Take away boxes are available. Fresh cocktails, sake and Japanese beer at the relaxed bar.

- **Nandos**, Unit 24-26, Jubilee Pl, ☎ +44 20 7513-2864. Traditional Portuguese style food, specializing in their famous Peri-Peri chicken flame grilled to perfection. Family style atmosphere is relaxed and always friendly.
- **Plateau Restaurant Bar and Grill**, 4F, Canada Place, ☎ +44 20 7715-7100. Modern French restaurant, part of the Conran restaurants group. More informal Bar and Grill includes steak grills and hearty regional French dishes. Two bars.
- **Quadrato**, Westferry Circus, Canary Riverside (*Four Seasons Hotel*), ☎ +44 20 7510-1857. International classics for breakfast and northern Italian cuisine for lunch and dinner. The Tuscan Sunday Brunch and cocktails at bar Quadrato should not be missed. Watching chef Sebastiano Spriveri at work is a main attraction.
- **Royal China**, Westferry Circus, Canary Riverside, ☎ +44 20 7719-0888. Popular restaurant with a great view of the Thames River. Decorated with Royal China gives a contemporary feel. Enjoy dim-sum as well as an extensive menu.
- **Scu-zi**, Westferry Circus, Canary Riverside, ☎ +44 20 7519-6699. The funkiest restaurant and bar on the Thames river. Pastas, pizzas and salads are complimented by a first class selection of wines, spirits and cocktails.
- **Sri Nam**, The North Colonnade, Cabot Square, ☎ +44 20 7715-9515. Fine dining restaurant offering authentic Malaysian, Thai, Chinese, and Singaporean cuisines. A wide variety of drinks, cocktails and snacks are offered. Private dining rooms available by request.
- **Wagamama**, Jubilee Place, ☎ +44 20 7516-9009. Noodle and rice dishes freshly cooked in a well-designed canteen style restaurant.

See detailed review in [Chains reviews](#) section of [London](#) article.

- **Waitrose Food and Home**, Canada Pl, ☎ +44 20 7719-0300. Six different eateries under one roof. Waitrose Steak and Oyster Bar, Salad and Juice Bar, Tapas Bar, Moshi Moshi Sushi Bar and many other options.

- **Zizzi**, Westferry Circus, Canary Riverside, ☎ +44 20 7512-9257. Serves authentic pastas and pizzas. During the summer a large riverside terrace affords sweeping views over the River Thames.

11.6.2 Mile End

There is a cluster of good eateries at **Bow Wharf**, just a few minutes north of Mile End station.

- **The Greedy Cow**, 2 Grove Road, London, E3 5AX (*Cross the street coming out of Mile End station, turn left, and then turn right at the road junction. The restaurant will be on your right.*), ☎ +44 20 8983-3304. Midday-10:30pm. A cosy restaurant serving burgers with unusual and exotic ingredients, along with more traditional fare such as chicken or beef. Salads and steaks also available. £10-20 per person (plus drinks).
- **The Crown**. Remarkable gastropub, see “Drink” below
- **Fat Cat Cafe**.
- **Jongleurs**.
- **Ariana**.
- **Orange Room Cafe**, Burdett Rd. A good place for chilled-out lunches.
- **Saucy Kipper fish & chip shop**, Roman Rd. Makes possibly the finest Fish and Chips in the world.
- **Thai Restaurant**.
- **Venus in the Park**. Good Greek food. One of several restaurants under the Green Bridge.
- **Zeera**. A decent, if slightly pretentious, Indian restaurant. One of several restaurants under the Green Bridge.

11.6.3 Brick Lane

Brick Lane was once home to a thriving Jewish community, and while much of that community has since left, one of the reminders of that community are the surviving shops selling the **beigel** (US/Canada: *bagel*), a quintessentially Ashkenazi Jewish type of bread.

Wander up Brick Lane, and you will be pounced on by countless touts trying to persuade you to enter their

client's restaurant. Try to go on a recommendation if you can, otherwise take pot luck.

Unfortunately many of Brick Lane's curry restaurants have become victims of the success of the area. Most restaurants now employ pushy touts, who will hassle you to eat in their client's restaurants. The discounts may sound tempting, but they frequently inflate the prices simply so they can offer you a 'deal'.

The largest concentration is between Woodseer Street and Fournier Street. The old-style, flock wallpaper curry houses have now largely given way to shiny, light wood and aluminium eateries for the tourists and City workers. Whichever style you go for, though, it's always worth checking that they've got a licence to sell alcohol before taking up a table. A lot of the restaurants will allow you to bring your own alcohol along.

- **Bengal Village**, 75 Brick Ln. Definitely one of the best places in Brick Lane. Very good food, good value, pleasant atmosphere and good service!
- **Brick Lane Beigel Bake**, 159 Brick Ln (*Closer to Bethnal Green Rd and with a white sign*), ☎ +44 20 7729-0616. 24 hours. A local institution, Beigel Bake is more celebrated of the two and rated by some as the freshest most delicious beigel you will ever have. Their salt beef is more highly rated than Beigel Shop and a salt beef beigel with mustard and pickle is highly recommended for a post-clubbing snack.
- **Britain's First & Best Beigel Shop**, 155 Brick Ln (*Further from Bethnal Green Rd and with a yellow sign*), ☎ +44 20 7729-0826. 24 hours. While less celebrated than its near neighbour, Beigel Shop is still well worth a visit. While Beigel Bake is a local institution, it is reflected in its limited range. As a result, Beigel Shop works harder for your cash, providing a wider range of fillings and an excellent sausage roll, making it the preferred destination for those who aren't enamoured with salt beef.
- **New Tayyabs**, 83-89, Fieldgate St (*Between the East London Mosque and The Royal London Hospital*). Long established and arguably the best South Asian restaurant in the Whitechapel area. Serves traditional food in a pleasant if slightly frenetic atmosphere. Outstandingly good value and with fast efficient service, this restaurant is head and shoulders above any rival in nearby Brick Lane. Particularly recommended are: the mixed grills to share and the delicious mango or banana lassi drinks which are similar to milkshakes. Finally, when you have finished your delicious meal, the bill will always leave you with a smile on your face! Book and/or arrive early on Friday or Saturday as the restaurant is so popular you may have to queue.
- **Lahore Kebabhouse** Not exactly on Brick Lane, but a hidden gem, which is way more authentic. Great value, extremely friendly staff and able to cater to big groups (upwards to 20 people). Plus, it has a BYOB licence, keeping costs down.

11.6.4 Other places

- **Tas Firin**, 160 Bethnal Green Rd E2 6BG (*tube: Shoreditch High St*), ☎ +44 20 7729-6446. Great Turkish grilled food, pretty much for carnivores only. (Just off **Brick Lane**)
- **Gourmet San**, 261 Bethnal Green Rd E2 6AH (*tube: Bethnal Green/Shoreditch*). Fantastic Chinese food, as close as you'll get to the real thing in London.
- **Keu Deli**, 332 Old Street London EC1V 9DR, ☎ +44 20 7739-1164, e-mail: info@keudeli.co.uk. 9am - 9pm. The banh mi sandwich is a crusty baguette filled with terrines, meats, lightly pickled vegetables, fragrant herbs and almost always mayonnaise. 2-6£.
- **Pellici's**, 332 Bethnal Green Rd E2 (*tube: Bethnal Green*), ☎ +44 20 7739-4873. Possibly the best greasy spoon caff in the country (and one of very few left), this old pad, frequented by celebrities from X-Factor winners to the Krays, is well worth the effort. Cheap as chips by the London standard and well worth the value for money.
- **Mala**, 2 Marble Quay, St. Katherine's Dock (*tube: Tower Hill*), ☎ +44 20 7480-6356. Expensive Indian cuisine. Tandooris, Biryani, and other specialties. View of the docks, full bar.
- **Laxeiro**, 93 Columbia Rd, E2 7RG (*tube: Hoxton*), ☎ +44 20 7729-1147. Family run Spanish Restaurant established in 1982. Amazing Spanish food. Great for lunch when at the flower market)

11.7 Drink

- **The Mahogany Bar**, Wilton's Music Hall, Graces Alley off Ensign St, E1 8JB (*tube: Aldate East or Tower Hill, 5 min-walk from St Katharine's Dock*), ☎ +44 20 7702-2789. 5pm - 11pm, Monday to Friday. The Mahogany Bar was built around 1725 and has always been a public house, trading under many names over the years including The Albion Saloon and The Prince of Denmark. In 1828 it was luxuriously and elaborately refurbished with a magnificent mahogany bar and fittings which was unprecedented for a pub interior at that time and arguably set



Street art in Shoreditch

the look for the iconic Victorian pub we know and love today. Sadly, the famous fixtures and fittings of this remarkable bar have been stripped away over the years but the atmosphere lingers on. This is the charming bar inside the dilapidated Wilton's music Hall. Visit on a Monday for free live music from 8pm.

11.7.1 Canary Wharf

Many of the bars on the Canary Wharf development are indistinguishable chain bars, although they are very popular with office workers on weekday evenings, particularly Thursday and Friday. Most are closed at weekends, but there are usually one or two open if you want to visit then; the area is generally *very* quiet at this time, which you may or may not consider a good thing! Nearly all have outside areas adjacent to the water which can be pleasant in summer.

Fisherman's Walk, to the north of North Colonnade, has three adjacent bars:

- **The Cat & Canary.**
- **The Fine Line.**
- **Davy's.**

Immediately across the dock, **West India Quay** has several bars:

- **Wetherspoons Pub** (*At the west end*). Although the view is not so good, is probably the cheapest pub in Canary Wharf.

Mackenzie Walk, to the south of South Colonnade, has a number of bars and restaurants. The following are two 'real' pubs:

- **Gun** (*On the far eastern edge of Canary Wharf*). 18th-century pub with real fires, a terrace where you

can sit and stare at the Millennium Dome over the river, and pistachio nuts behind the bar. A haven of warmth after a trek through JG Ballard-style Docklands wasteland (empty streets, vast satellite dishes and rusting industrial machinery).

- **The Spinnaker** (*Near South Quay*). Nothing particularly to recommend this place, except that it *is* a real pub, a rarity in Docklands!

Other options:

- **Waitrose's Wine Bar.** Pleasant and good-value place to sit and sip, though it closes when Waitrose does (i.e. around 21:00).

11.7.2 Mile End

- **The Palm Tree.** A traditional East End boozer. No, it is *the* traditional East End boozer. Now set in the middle of Mile End Park, originally it was surrounded by houses and a factory. Its incongruous surroundings only add to the charm, however. You may recognise the interior from the number of film and TV appearances the pub has made as an "authentic" location. On Saturday nights the locals crowd into the front bar for a sing-song and the back bar is jammed with trendy students from Queen Mary's college. The presence of a student population mean this wonderful pub never has the threatening air of some East End locals and it attracts a mixed crowd.

- **The Morgan Arms**, Coborn Rd. Was a worthy winner of the Evening Standard London Pub of the Year award recently. The attached restaurant also serves some tasty, albeit pricey fare.

11.7.3 Brick Lane

- **Verge Bar**, Corner of Brick Ln and Bethnal Green Rd (*Opposite the funky LCB Surf shop*), ☎ +44 20 7739-0552. It is open everyday for food, flat whites, espresso and cocktails. It has outside seating for you to watch the exciting Brick Lane World go by or you can relax on a sofa inside a gaze out of the huge windows that open to the Brick Lane. A grand spot to relax with the papers and their excellent Bloody Mary on Sunday Morning.
- **Vibe Bar**, 91 Brick Lane, ☎ +44 20 7426-0491. M-Th 19:30-23:30, F Sa 19:30-01:00. The main advantage of this place is the huge courtyard which is usually packed out in the summer, and directly competes with cooler neighbour, 93 Feet East opposite. But inside although dingy, spreads out into

some nooks where you can hide away for a chat from the booming speakers. Plenty of varied DJ nights and live bands. No dress code. Free entry except F Sa after 20:00.

- **93 Feet East**, 150 Brick Ln, ☎ +44 20 7247-6095. M–Th 17:00–23:00, F 17:00–01:00, Sa noon–01:00, Su noon–22:30. This club/bar is made up of three areas: downstairs a loungey bar with low-lit sofa seating everywhere and chilled out music, the main room with a full on sweaty dancefloor (where the headline DJs/bands perform) and an upstairs bar which is mix of the two, plus a large cobbled area outside for the summer. Mon–Thur is mainly live music, and the weekend has the line up of eclectic DJs playing a variety of hip-hop, house and rock music. Charge on the door for gigs, on F/Sa usually free before 9PM, £5 after. No dress code.
- **LCB Surf Store and Coffee Shop** (*At the corner of Brick Lane and Bethnal Green*). Not only is the coffee delicious, it's always prepared with Fairtrade and Organic Beans, roasted in London by the Tea and Coffee Plant. You can sip a hot Organic breakfast tea with a splash of organic milk, or eat a sandwich prepared fresh and packed by The Organic Sandwich Co. Surf the web for free with provided computers or log on wirelessly with your laptop. Shop and watch movies while you eat because opposite the cafe is a Surf Shop, complete with surfboards, skateboards, snowboards as well as shoes, watches, men and womens clothing and more. The atmosphere is warm and inviting, smoke free and totally comfortable for chilling out, shopping or surfing the net.
- **Old Truman Brewery** is a large, lively place, which features a large courtyard and several floors for drinking and dancing. Hosts salsa classes too.
- **Cafe 1001** contrary to the name, is another club/bar with a courtyard, which has a gourmet BBQ, next to the entrance. Can get very crowded on the weekend, with several other bars in the enclousre and the famous **Rough Trade** record store, which supports gigs (sometimes, surprise performances from a big band like Radiohead). Cafe 1001 is slique for operating a self-service bar downstairs, where you take you're drinks from the fridge and pay at the counter, which saves hassle.

11.7.4 Shoreditch

Pubs

- **Anda Da Bridge**, 42-44 Kingsland Rd, ☎ +44 20 7739-3863. Normal pub hours. At mere spitting distance from *Jaguar Shoes* and *Catch* lies this

restaurant/bar/cafe. This place could not be more different from the other two, whereas they are usually bursting at the seams, this place is buzzing, but not packed. It is a Jamaican bar, so this is reflected in the decor of the place. The music policy is a mixture of old skool hip-hop, soul, jazz. The place is very friendly, the bar staff seemed to be enjoying themselves, and they serve beer (Red Stripe, of course) on draught. More like somewhere you'd expect to stumble across in Brixton.

- **Bar Kick**, 126-127 Shoreditch High St, ☎ +44 871 332 2959. Normal pub hours. A two floor bar with plenty of table football machines to thrash away at. If you can not get a table the bar has a few sofas to wait for your turn in the quirky surroundings. It is a friendly place, where there is a mix of trendy boys and girls and suits from the city.
- **Catch**, 22 Kingsland Rd, ☎ +44 20 7729-6097. M–Th normal pub hours, F–Sa until 2AM. A slightly shabby but friendly bar on the small strip of bars on Kingsland Road. Downstairs they have limited seating and draught beer, but upstairs is where it is happening. In the week you can catch live bands and on the weekends there's DJs playing xfm music mixed with a bit of cheese. It is also free to get in. Bargain.
- **The Masque Haunt**, 168–172 Old St, ☎ +44 20 7251-4195. M–Sa 09:00–23:30, Su 09:00–23:00. If you are into pubs and pub food, and especially the J.D. Wetherspoon concept, this is a very good spot. It is priced a notch under its more central sister pubs. The extensive menu consists of a good selection of general healthier pub food (pastas, salads, vegetarian burger, etc), but also traditional food like potato & mash, fish & chips. For a good deal, go for the 2 for 1 at £6.99. Also, check out either the Sunday club (roast), Steak club (tuesday), and Curry club (thursday) for a nice treat - as of 2006.

Clubs

- **333**, 333 Old St, ☎ +44 20 7739-5949.
- **Cargo**, 3 Rivington St, ☎ +44 20 7739-3440.
- **1 The Comedy Cafe**, 66/68 Rivington St, ☎ +44 20 7739-5706. W–Th 19:00-midnight F Sa 18:00-01:00. The bar itself is terrible, only serving up a choice of watery beers to hold on to while watching the entertainment. Although they do not have any big name comedians, there's a few lesser knowns that are worth catching before they make it on to TV. Wednesday is an open mic night, this can be excrutiating or hilarious, depending on your luck. Admission: W free, F £12, Sa £15.

- **Herbal**, 10-14 Kingsland Rd, ☎ +44 20 7613-4462. Tu-Th, Su 21:00-02:00, F Sa 21:00-03:00 (times may vary according to night, check with the club). A two floor club that currently hosts residencies from some big artists and labels such as Hospital Records, Grooverider's Grace, Shy FX's Digital Soundboy, Jazzie B's Soul II Soul, Liverpool's Chibuku Shake Shake, Goldie's Metalheadz, and Kila Kela's Spit Kingdom. Downstairs is an open dancefloor, but upstairs is more of a stylish bar and there is a lovely roof terrace perfect for cooling down after breaking a sweat in the club. Drinks are reasonably priced for the area although it is certainly not cheap! There is no dress code however suits may feel a bit out of place. Entry prices can vary from free to over £10 but most nights are much cheaper if you arrive before 22:30.



Limehouse Reach, Docklands in the East End of London

11.8 Sleep

11.8.1 Budget

- **ibis London Docklands**, 1 Baffin Way off Preston Rd, E14 9PE, ☎ +44 20 7517-1100. Check-in: 14:00, check-out: Noon. Ibis London Docklands hotel is an economy London hotel in the Docklands area. Your hotel booking puts you minutes walk from the commercial and financial hub of Canary Wharf, and a short light rail journey from ExCel and the O2 Arena. The 87 modern guestrooms all come with satellite TV and internet access. You can enjoy a snack or a light meal at the Café. City Airport is just 5km from the hotel, and there is secure onsite parking for up to 30 cars. From £64.
- **City Hotel**, 12 Osborn Street (*Osborn St leads directly to Brick Ln from Whitechapel High St*). A fairly average two star hotel at typical London prices, however the rooms are clean and provide the basic

facilities you need. The area isn't pretty but you are close to where all the action is. Roughly £60/night for a double/twin.

- **The RE Hotel London Shoreditch**, 419-437 Hackney Rd, E2 8PP, ☎ +44 20 7613-6500. Check-in: 14:00, check-out: 11:00. The RE Hotel London Shoreditch, the latest addition to London's fashionable 'East-End', is just one mile (8 minutes) from London's financial district "The City" of London and near Liverpool Street Station - ideal for Stansted and City Airport and just 15 minutes from the London Olympics 2012 Park - Stratford. From £69.
- **Travelodge London Docklands**. A gem of a hotel for this area at a highly affordable price for London. It is a modern branch of the ubiquitous budget hotel chain, but is well located almost next to *East India* DLR station, which has links directly to central London, and is just a few stops from Canary Wharf itself. A fantastic place if you want somewhere comfortable and private in London for a weekend or even a week!. Ask for a room on the front to avoid the busy road at the back. The website often has fantastic rates that can be as low as £9.

11.8.2 Mid-range

- **Britannia International**, 163 Marsh Wall (*tube: South Quay*). Extremely modern three star hotel.
- **City Hotel**, 12 Osborn St (*At the end of Brick Ln, tube: Aldgate 100 m*), ☎ +44 20 7247-3313. WiFi £5/day. Normal rate is £140 but you can deals around £60.
- **ibis Styles London Excel**, 272-283 Victoria Dock Rd, ☎ +44 20 7474-0011. £120.

11.8.3 Splurge

- **Four Seasons Hotel Canary Wharf**, 46 Westferry Circus, Canary Wharf (*tube: Canary Wharf/Westferry*), ☎ +44 20 7510-1999. Five star hotel and the most upmarket hotel in the area with views across the Thames or Canary Wharf, offering the kind of 5 star luxury to be expected from this chain.
- **Hilton Docklands**, 265 Rotherhithe St (*20 minutes to London City Airport*), ☎ +44 20 7231-1001. Located on the South bank of the River Thames the hotel has a great view of Canary Wharf.
- **Marriott West India Quay**, 22 Hertsmere Rd (*tube: West India Quay*), ☎ +44 20 7093-1000.

Looking out over Canary Wharf's beautiful district, the Marriott combines elegance and comfort to create a welcoming environment.

- **Ramada London Docklands Hotel and Suites**, 2 Festoon Way, Royal Victoria Dock (*tube: Prince Regent, next to the ExCel exhibition centre*), ☎ +44 8701 118779. Four star hotel with waterfront position and modern comfortable accommodation and including suites for longer stays.

11.9 Stay safe

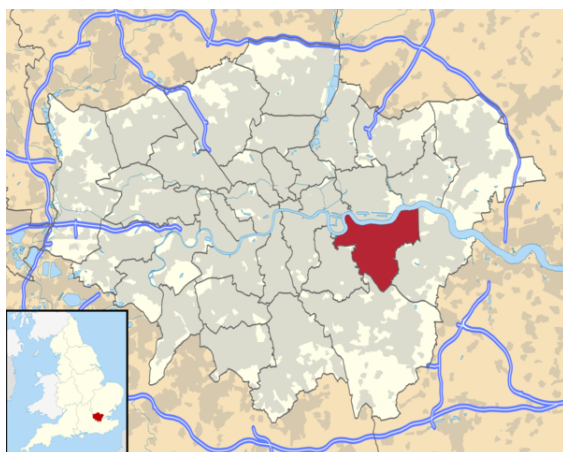
The East End in the past has had a bad reputation due to its high rates of crime and poverty. Today though, The East End is generally much safer and just the normal precautions after dark are advisable. People of the East End have pride in their home, so it would be wise to tread carefully around regulars in pubs and bars in places like Whitechapel, Mile End and Bethnal Green, but most people are warm, friendly and interested in you as a traveller providing you behave with the respect and deference due from a visitor. In the same vein, avoiding mention of **football** is helpful in keeping things smooth.

11.10 Connect

11.11 Go next

Chapter 12

London/Greenwich



Location of the Greenwich area in London

Greenwich is the famous maritime district of south east London with several popular attractions.

Greenwich town centre lies at the west end of the larger Royal Borough of Greenwich, which also includes Eltham and Woolwich. North Greenwich is a separate district and includes the O2 Arena.

12.1 Understand

Greenwich is a district of great historic importance and **Maritime Greenwich** is on the **UNESCO World Heritage List**. Nearby **Blackheath** is a leafy area of grand historic homes.

In 2012, Greenwich became a Royal Borough.

12.1.1 Tourist Information Centre

- **Greenwich Tourist Information Centre**, Pepys House, 2 Cutty Sark Gdns, SE10 9LW, ☎ +44 870 608 2000 (premium rate number from mobiles), e-mail: tic@greenwich.gov.uk. Daily 10:00-17:00. The same building houses a permanent exhibition on the history of Maritime Greenwich. Free.

12.2 Get in

?""UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU""?

Map of London/Greenwich

Greenwich is located some 6 miles east of central London, on the south bank of the River Thames. Because of congestion driving is not recommended, but there are three good ways of getting to Greenwich from central London by public transport.

12.2.1 By boat

Several companies run river *tour* boats from central London piers at **Westminster Bridge**, the **Millennium Wheel** and the **Tower of London**, to Greenwich Pier which is adjacent to Greenwich town centre and within walking distance of all the main attractions. £6-8; 33% discount to Travelcard holders.

Thames Clippers commuter service offers an infrequent service, but is quicker and better value (£4.55, 33% off for Travelcard holders).

12.2.2 By Docklands Light Railway (DLR)

This automated rail system runs from central London terminals at Tower Gateway (adjacent to the Tower of London) and Bank (with interchange to the London Underground). Catch a train bound for Lewisham and get off at Cutty Sark station in the town centre. Because there is no driver and most of the route is elevated, you get a great view from the front of the passing city. Travelcards valid.

12.2.3 By rail

Six trains per hour run on weekdays from London Bridge (usually platforms 1 or 4) to Greenwich and Blackheath stations (travelcard zones 2/3), with four to Maze Hill (zone 3). Services begin at Charing Cross or Cannon Street stations. Travelcards valid.

12.2.4 By tube

North Greenwich tube station is not recommended as it is a bus ride away from Greenwich town centre and was built specifically for access to the Millennium Dome (now the O2 Arena). However, it is possible to walk from here along the Thames Path to Greenwich town centre, it is a bleak but peaceful industrial landscape and it will take about 45 minutes.

12.3 Get around

All the locations mentioned in this article are within easy walking distance of each other and both the Cutty Sark DLR station and Greenwich Pier. Note that the Royal Observatory is up a short but steep hill.

12.4 See



Zero meridian at Greenwich

Although far from central, Greenwich is the home of several of London's more interesting tourist attractions. The combination of Greenwich Park, the Old Royal Observatory, the Queens House and the Royal Naval College make up **Maritime Greenwich**, which is a site on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

- **1 The Cutty Sark**, King William Walk (*Adjacent to Greenwich pier*), ☎ +44 20 8858-3445. 10:00-17:00, closed 24-26 Dec. A preserved tea and wool

clipper built in 1869 which set the record for passage from Australia under sail. The Cutty Sark was set on fire early on 21 May 2007. Much of the ship's infrastructure had been removed, since it was in the middle of a conservation project - it has now been re-opened. £13.50. **W**

- **1 Eltham Palace**, Court Yard, Eltham, SE9 5QE, ☎ +44 20 8294-2548. 4 Nov-31 Mar 2013 Su 10:00-16:00 garden, house closed. One of the most notable art deco buildings in London which was built and owned by the Courtaulds family of textile fame. Administered by English Heritage. adults £6.20, children £3.70, concessions £5.60. **W**
- **1 The Fan Museum**, 12 Croom's Hill, SE10 8ER (*DLR: Cutty Sark/Greenwich*), ☎ +44 20 8305-1441, e-mail: info@thefanmuseum.org.uk. Tu-Sa 11:00-17:00; Su 12:00-17:00. The world's largest fan museum, for those who are big 'fans' of fans. £4 (adults) & £3 (children 7-16 yrs). **W**
- **1 Greenwich Park**. 06:00-sunset. Situated on a hill rising up from Greenwich town centre, with impressive views from the hilltop across the River Thames to Docklands and the City of London. The park provides a setting for several historic buildings, including the Old Royal Observatory, the **old Royal Naval College**, the National Maritime Museum and the **Queen's House**. Free. **W**
- **1 The National Maritime Museum**, Romney Rd, SE10 9NF (*DLR: Cutty Sark*), ☎ +44 20 8858-4422. 10:00-17:00, closed 24-26 Dec. Contains the UK's national collection of Maritime artifacts (although do not expect much in the way of whole ships). One of the buildings housing the museum is the Queens House, built by Inigo Jones and the first Palladian building in England. Free. **W**
- **1 The Royal Observatory**, Flamsteed House (*In middle of Greenwich Park*), ☎ +44 20 8858-4422. 10:00-17:00, closed 24-26 Dec. The home of Greenwich Mean Time and the Prime Meridian line, this is one of the most important historic scientific sites in the world. It was founded by Charles II in 1675 and is, by international decree, the official starting point for each new day, year and millennium (at the stroke of midnight GMT as measured from the Prime Meridian). Now a detached part of the National Maritime Museum, it houses an impressive display and a recently-built planetarium. There are several different star shows per day and are well worth the money, especially as it's now the only celestial performance of its kind around, after the London Planetarium completely converted to Madame Tussauds. Free for entry to the observatory, £7 entrance for the Meridian Line and Flamsteed House,

planetarium shows separate, £4.50-6.50 (combined tickets available). **W** (updated May 2015)

- **1 The Royal Naval College**, Old Royal Naval College, 2 Cutty Sark Gdns, SE10 9NN, ☎ +44 20 8269-4747, fax: +44 20 8269-4757, e-mail: info@ornc.org. Painted Hall and Chapel 10:00-17:00, closed 24-26 Dec. Built by Christopher Wren in 1694 as the Greenwich Hospital for the relief and support of seamen and their dependents and for the improvement of navigation. It became the Royal Naval College in 1869, and recently the University of Greenwich and Trinity College of Music have moved in. Best known for its Painted Hall, with elaborate ceiling and wall paintings executed by Sir James Thornhill between 1707 and 1726. Free. **W**
- **1 Rangers House**, Chesterfield Walk, SE10 8QX, ☎ +44 20 8294-2548. At Blackheath, maintains a large ceramic collection. adults £6.70, children £4.00, concessions £6.00. **W**

host funfairs and circus at various times of the year. Free.

- **1 Greenwich Picturehouse**, 180 Greenwich High Rd, SE10 8NN (*tube: Cutty Sark/Greenwich*), ☎ +44 871 902 5732. Tends to show art-house films along the High St. The large Odeon multiplex has 18-screens, but is located a bit out-of-the way, at Bugsby Way, on the way to the O2.
- **1 Greenwich Theatre**, Croom's Hill, SE10 8ES (*tube: Cutty Sark/Greenwich*), ☎ +44 20 8858-7755, e-mail: boxoffice@greenwichtheatre.org.uk.
- **1 St. Alfege Church**, Greenwich Church St, SE10 9BJ (*tube: Cutty Sark*), ☎ +44 20 8853-0687. A beautiful Baroque church designed by Nicholas Hawksmoor, (and is rumoured to have links with Occultists, Freemasons and such-like) and hosts classical music concerts and organ recitals. Its Christmas choir is enjoyable also. **W**

12.5 Do



The O₂

- **1 The O2**, Peninsula Square, SE10 0DX (*tube: North Greenwich*), ☎ +44 20 8463-2000, e-mail: customerservices@theo2.co.uk. 09:00-01:00 (last admission). The former Millennium Dome has been transformed into a major entertainment complex consisting of a large arena which plays host to a number of world class acts, a cinema which includes the largest screen in the UK and numerous bars and restaurants. **W**
- **1 Blackheath Heath Fireworks Display**, ☎ +44 20 8314-7321, e-mail: events@lewisham.gov.uk. Every Guy Fawkes night (5th of November) Lewisham council put on a spectacular free fireworks display. In the past few years, crowds of over 100,000 have amassed so stake a good spot earlier. The heath also

12.6 Buy

12.6.1 Greenwich market

Greenwich market actually consists of several markets all quite close together:

- **Greenwich Arts and Crafts Market** (*Off College Approach*). An indoor market also selling good food, and containing many interesting little shops.
- **The Flea Market**, Thames St (*easy to miss as it is hidden away down a backstreet*). Selling what you would expect.
- **Greenwich Antiques Market**, Greenwich High Rd. The name is a bit deceptive but it does have plenty of old books, music, clothes and jewellery.
- **The Central Market**, Stockwell St. The largest part of the market that sells home ware, furniture and books.
- **Greenwich auction house**, 47 Old Woolwich Rd. One of the largest auction houses in London, deals mainly with furniture and a bit of arts and crafts.

12.6.2 Shops

- **Flying Duck**, Creek Road (*At the bottom of the road*). Loads of kitsch goodie and retro furnishings to inject a bit of glamour into your life.

12.7 Eat

Greenwich has restaurants of different types and costs.

12.7.1 Greenwich town centre

- **La Mian Dim Sum and Handmade Noodles**, Greenwich Market (*Off of Romney Rd, close to Greenwich High St*). A food cart within the market, using fresh ingredients, with everything, including the noodles, made to order. They stick to traditional Chinese cooking methods, including hand-pulling the noodles, before tossing them into a perfectly made broth. £2.50-5.50.
- **The Kings Arms**, 16 King William Walk (*On street leading from town centre to Greenwich Pk*), ☎ +44 20 8858-4544. This pub is well situated for the tourist attractions in Greenwich and does good bar food. £5-8.
- **The Mogul Tandoori**, 10 Greenwich Church St (*On the outer edge of the market*), ☎ +44 20 8858-6790. This restaurant provides excellent Nepalese and Northern Indian cuisine in an unusual and interesting setting (as long as you get seated downstairs, below street level).
- **Tai Won Mein noodle houses** (*Near Cutty Sark DLR*). Offers fantastic Chinese cuisine, well, large portions at least, at a budget price. They only take cash. **Noodle Time** and **Saigon** are located around the street, facing each other, and offer similar fare/price.
- **Old Brewery**, Pepys Building (*Next to Cutty Sark*). 10:00-23:00. Part of the local Meantime Brewery's growing empire. Part of the same building as the tourist information centre, and perhaps more popular with tourists than locals although there is a mix of both. A cafe, and a pub/restaurant - the latter serves good if relatively expensive food (£13.50 for a burger) and a range of good Meantime beers, which are still brewed a couple of miles away. Service can be a little slow when it's busy. (updated Oct 2015)

12.7.2 Outside Greenwich town centre

- **The Othello**, 113 Trafalgar Rd, ☎ +44 20 8858-7050. A Greek restaurant a little way out from the town centre, great moussakas, and a mean steak too!
- **Blue Nile**, 73 Woolwich New Road, Woolwich, SE18 6ED (*Woolwich Arsenal station*), ☎ +44 20 8855-0369. Eritrean - Italian café and restaurant

- **Zaibatsu**, 96 Trafalgar Road, Greenwich, SE10 9UW (*Maze Hill station or walk from Greenwich town centre*), ☎ +44 20 8858-9317. Japanese fusion restaurant. Food more impressive than the basic decor. You can bring your own alcohol.
- **1 Yak & Yeti Restaurants** (*Yak & Yeti*), 86 Eltham High Street, Eltham, London SE9 1BW, United Kingdom, ☎ +44 20 8850 2626, e-mail: eltham@yakyeti.co.uk. Thursday 12:00 am – 2:30 pm, 5:00 – 11:00 pm Friday 12:00 am – 11:00 pm Saturday 12:00 am – 11:00 pm Sunday 12:00 am – 11:00 pm Monday 12:00 am – 2:30 pm, 5:00 – 11:00 pm Tuesday 12:00 am – 2:30 pm, 5:00 – 11:00 pm Wednesday 12:00 am – 2:30 pm, 5:00 – 11:00 pm. The yak & yeti is an Indian restaurant and takeaway in Eltham near Blackheath, Lewisham and Greenwich with a gentle and sympathetic restoration having taken place the 'old ye greyhound pub' is once again a shimmering sight and the heart of historic Eltham high street £. (updated Oct 2015)

12.8 Drink

Many of Greenwich's pubs have been bought and re-vamped by the American-owned Inc Group (also known as Greenwich Inc), a source of concern to some locals who miss the old venues, and they have built up a reputation for poor service. But commercially, they are very successful in attracting tourists.

- **Babas Cafe**, 13 Greenwich South St (*opposite Greenwich station and dlr*). 07:00-16:00. One of oldest cafes in Greenwich great for a value for money breakfast or lunch serving traditional English dishes, Babas is renowned for a massive choice of freshly made sandwiches—a firm favourite with locals and tourists.
- **The Cutty Sark**. Great pub. Best time to go is on a warm summers evening when you can sit out by the river and watch the sunset in the west. Can get pretty busy though!
- **The Greenwich Union on Royal Hill**. Owned by the Meantime Brewery, based in nearby Charlton, which stocks its own range of beer in a variety of styles.
- **Auctioneer**, 217 Greenwich High Rd. Is a loud student-friendly beer, with cheap snakebites and pool/football tables.
- **The Plume of Feathers**, Park Row (*Off Greenwich Park*). A quaint little watering-hole, nearly on the prime meridian, with a variety of guest ales tucked

away from the run-of-the mill riff-raff in Greenwich town centre. Excellent food at reasonable prices, try the delicious mixed platter for 4 to get the taste buds going!

- **Richard I** (*Next door to The Greenwich Union on Royal Hill*). Owned by Young's, which sells its real ales.
- **Up the Creek Comedy Club**, hosts hilarious stand-up as well as music nights. 2mins walk west of Cutty Sark DLR.
- **Zero Degrees**, at Blackheath, is an American 'craft-brewery' pub, with chique metallic furnishings, cheap happy-hour pints and wholesome pizzas.
- **The Trafalgar Tavern**. Greenwich Inc-owned. Beautiful but overcrowded. The bar is over bright and sitting outside has become less pleasant since they lined loads of benches up along the river path. Service can also be brusque.
- **Ye Olde Rose and Crown** (*Rose and Crown*), Crooms Hill 1 (*next door to the Greenwich theatre*). The Rose and Crown is a cozy bar, out of main routes in Greenwich. As a typical British pub - serves quality food and wide range of drinks (British ales, lagers, wines, spirits, coffee and tea). Friendly staff and nicely selected music.
- **The Pelton Arms**, 23-25 Pelton Rd. Small local pub which hosts music nights and other events.

12.9 Sleep

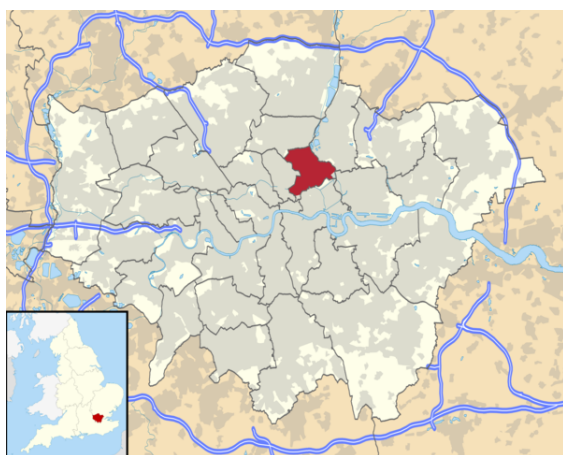
- **Journeys West Hostel**, 86 Tanners Hill, dorms and rooms from £10, about as cheap as it gets around here!
- **St Christopher's Inn**, 189 Greenwich High Rd. *right next to Greenwich mainline station*, rooms from £16, decent bar downstairs too
- **Onesixtwo**, 162 Westcombe Hill, boutique guest house offers stylish and modern rooms with free Wi-Fi, in a quiet area away from touristy centre of Greenwich.
- **Clarendon Hotel**, 8-16 Montpelier Row, Blackheath, SE3 0RW, ☎ +44 20 8318-4321, e-mail: relax@clarendonhotel.com. In a lovely old converted Georgian building. Located right on Blackheath green. From £100 including full breakfast.
- **De Vere Devonport House**, King William Walk, Greenwich, SE10 9JW, ☎ +44 20 8269-5400, e-mail: DevonportReservations@devere.com. This Georgian-style hotel has 93 rooms all in a grand old converted building. Located right at the Maritime World Heritage site. Specialises in hosting corporate functions and seminars but the accommodation for casual visitors offers decent value. Rooms from: £65, 4* From £89. (updated Nov 2016)
- **Hotel Ibis Greenwich**, 30 Stockwell St, SE10 9JN, ☎ +44 20 8305-1177. A typical, rather identikit Ibis hotel. Not expensive by any means though. From £67.
- **The Mitre**, 291 Greenwich High Rd, SE10 8NA, ☎ +44 20 8293-0037, e-mail: enquiries@mitregreenwich.com. This historic old pub has 14 guest rooms upstairs. £300.
- **The Pilot Inn**, 68 River Way, SE10 0BE. This 200 year old Fullers pub has just five bedrooms upstairs at reasonable rates. Close to the o2 Arena. From £79.
- **Premier Inn**, 43-81 Greenwich High Rd. Popular mid-range chain.
- **Novotel**, 173 - 185 Greenwich High Rd, 4* Star Hotel

12.10 Connect

12.11 Go next

Chapter 13

London/Hackney



Location of the Hackney area in London

Hackney is a district of **London**.

13.1 Understand

Hackney staged some of the events during the 2012 London Summer Olympics such as hockey in the Lea Valley Arena as well as hosting the world's media with many of the big events happening in the nearby Olympic Stadium and VeloPark. This was a hot spot for tourists and locals alike during the action.

Hackney has diverse population and the area has undergone massive regeneration in recent decades. Hackney is now very fashionable with a thriving arts scene in the south of the district for example.

In the far north of the district near **Stoke Newington**, **Stamford Hill** is the centre of the Hassidic and Adeni Jewish communities in London and the largest in Europe. A visit here certainly provides a very different cultural experience to anywhere else in Britain.

Hackney is also known for its wide open green spaces such as Hackney Marshes, (home of 88 football pitches) being the most notable and known as the spiritual home of grass roots soccer in the UK.

13.2 Get in

?""UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU""?

Map of London/Hackney (Edit GPX)?""UNIQ--indicator-00000001-QINU""?

13.2.1 By bus

Hackney is well served by buses from all over the capital, with the routes converging on Hackney Central, Dalston and Stoke Newington. Bus routes serving Hackney include the 30, 38, 48, 55, 56, 67, 76, 106, 149, 242, 243, 253, 254, 277 and 488.

13.2.2 By train

The **London Overground** network has stations at Hackney Central, Dalston Junction, Dalston Kingsland, Haggerston, Hoxton, Homerton and Hackney Wick.

National Express East Anglia run rail services from **Liverpool Street** to a number of stations in Hackney, with the principal station on the line being Hackney Downs.

13.2.3 By tube

There are **no stations** in the district but northern parts can be easily reached from Manor House and Finsbury Park stations (both Piccadilly line).

13.3 Get around


The best way to get around the borough is to walk or get buses. The many parks and green spaces dotted around make Hackney much nicer to walk around than its inner London location would suggest.

13.4 See

13.4.1 Landmarks

- **1 Hackney Town Hall**, Mare Street, E8 1EA (*rail: Hackney Central*), ☎ +44 20 8356-5000. Built in the 1930s including the surrounding square and gardens.
- **1 Sutton House**, 2 & 4 Homerton High St, E9 6JQ (*rail: Hackney Central*), ☎ +44 20 8986-2264, e-mail: suttonhouse@nationaltrust.org.uk. Th-Su 12:30-16:30. Tudor House in Homerton, owned by the National Trust. £0.80-2.90. **W**
- **1 St John-at-Hackney Community Space Centre**, Lower Clapton Rd, E5 0PD (*rail: Hackney Central*), ☎ +44 20 7613-9525. This tower of St John-at-Hackney Church is the oldest building in Hackney and a famous landmark of the borough.

13.4.2 Parks

- **Victoria Park** commonly called the People's Park, its huge and hosts summer festivals.
- **Clissold Park**, Greenway Cl, N4 2EY (*tube: Manor House*), e-mail: info@hackney.gov.uk. Park with a rich history. It is a former country house and estate and was first opened to the public in 1889. **W**
- **Hackney City Farm**, 1 Goldsmiths Row, E2 8QA, ☎ +44 20 7729-6381. Tu-Su 10:00-16:30. Farm dating back to the early 1800s. It is now open to the public and is home to domestic animals. Also houses a café. **W**
- **Hackney Downs**, near Clapton Ponds, has free tennis courts and is nice for cycle, though a bit plain and squarish
- **Haggerston Park**, Audrey St, off Goldsmith's Row, E2 8QH, ☎ +44 20 8356-8428-9, e-mail: info@hackney.gov.uk. **W**
- **London Fields**, Richmond Rd, Hackney, E8, ☎ +44 20 8356-8428, +44 20 8356-8429, e-mail: info@hackney.gov.uk. There are records of a public park at this site going back to the 16th century. Every Saturday, there is a farmers' market selling here, complemented by many others selling hand-made jewellery, gifts, childrenswear and vintage clothing. **W**
- **1 Woodberry Wetlands** (*Stoke Newington Reservoirs*), 1 Newnton Cl, N4 2RH (*tube: Manor House*), ☎ +44 20 8802-4573. Two former Thames Water reservoirs which are now managed as a nature reserve in urban Hackney by the London Wildlife Trust. Has a small visitor centre. **W** 

13.4.3 Museums

- **The Clowns Archive**, Holy Trinity Church, Beechwood Rd, E8 3DY, ☎ +44 870 128 4336. Museum of clowning, unique collection of faces on eggs. Open only first Friday of every month from noon-5PM. LOL Free.
- **Geffrye Museum**, 136 Kingsland Rd, E2 8EA (*tube: Old St*), ☎ +44 20 7739-9893, e-mail: info@geffrye-museum.org.uk. Tu-Sa 10:00-17:00, Su noon-17:00, closed M. Furniture museum which charts the evolution of London urban interior design and furnishing since 1600. Free. **W**
- **Hackney Museum**, Technology & Learning Centre, 1 Reading Ln, E8 1GQ, ☎ +44 20 8356-3500, fax: +44 20 8356-2563, e-mail: info@hackney.gov.uk. Tu W, F 09:30-17:30, Th 09:30-20:00, Sa 10:00-17:00. Providing a history of Hackney as well as periodic exhibitions. **W**

13.4.4 Galleries

- **291 Gallery**, 291 Hackney Rd, E2 8NA, ☎ +44 20 7613-5676. Contemporary art within visual art, digital art, live performances, video and music events.
- **Rhodes + Mann Gallery**, 37 Hackney Rd, E2 7NX, ☎ +44 20 7729-4372, e-mail: mail@rhodesmann.com.
- **The Residence**, The Verger's Cottage, Eastway, E9 5JA (*train: Hackney Wick*), ☎ +44 20 8986-2324, e-mail: info@residence-gallery.com. By appointment. Avant-gard gallery with up and coming as well as newly established artists.
- **Space Gallery**, 129-131 Mare St, E8 3RH, ☎ +44 20 8525-4330.
- **Elevator Gallery** and the **Chocolate Factory** both near Hackney Downs on Stoke Newington Rd.

13.5 Do

- **Hackney Empire**, 291 Mare St, E8 1EJ (*London Overground to Hackney Central; Rail to Hackney Downs; tube: Bethnal Green then 10 min by bus no 106 or 154*), ☎ +44 20 8985-2424. Historic theatre and music hall, offering an eclectic mix of entertainment.



The River Lea at Hackney Marshes

- **East London Art Walks** (*Comment Art Walks*), ☎ +44 20 7739-1743, +44 7799 776 016. A friendly, qualified art guide will take you around a selection of the most interesting exhibitions on at the moment and also talk about the history of contemporary art in East London. call for times and meeting points.
- **London Fields Lido**, London Fields Westside E8 3EU (*London Fields Rail Stn*), ☎ +44 20 7254-9038. Lovely old-fashioned outdoor swimming Lido run by Hackney Council. £2.45-4.10.
- **Rio Cinema**, 107 Kingsland High St, E8 (*London Overground to Dalston Kingsland or Dalston Jct*), ☎ +44 20 7241-9410, e-mail: mail@riocinema.org.uk. A splendid old cinema dating back to the 1900s. Specialises in foreign language films, offbeat arthouse productions and children's programming.
- **Walk Hackney Marshes**. Lovely walk along the River Lea and canal which stretches across much of East London and further. A surprisingly rural experience in an otherwise densely built district of London.
- **1 Ümit & Son Store**, 35 Lower Clapton Rd, E5 0NS (*rail: Hackney Central or Hackney Downs*), ☎ +44 20 8985-1766. M–Sa 10:00–19:00. DVD, VHS, Videodiscs, 8mm film reels and more are all sold here. Projectors and equipment for some of the less standard formats are available for hire and the shop also offers a video-to-digital transfer service.
- **1 Viktor Wynd's Little Shop of Horrors**, 11 Mare St, E8 4RP, ☎ +44 20 7998-3617, e-mail: gallery@thelasttuesdaysociety.org. Sa only noon–18:00 (or by appointment). A macabre museum and gallery as well as a shop, modelled on a 17th century cabinets of curiosities. The place to go if you've ever wanted to buy a taxidermy, skeletons, skulls (human or otherwise) or similarly eccentric oddities. Museum entry is £1–2.

13.6.1 Shopping centres & markets

- **Broadway Market**. Visit on a Saturday. Has a variety of gastropubs and trendy clothes!
- **Ridley Road Market**. Mix of traditional East-end fruit and veg alongside Afro-Caribbean delicacies, imported films, clothes and household items. Little of interest for the tourist to buy, but a great experience. Watch your pockets in the crowded pavements behind the stalls. There are also market stalls on the side streets surrounding Dalston Kingsland station.
- **The Kingsland Shopping Centre** (*Opposite Dalston Kingsland Stn*). The main shopping mall in the borough.
- **Stamford Hill**. The centre of the Hassidic Jewish community and has many kosher bakeries, delis and supermarkets.
- **Stoke Newington Church St**. Many small bookshops and antique stores.

13.7 Eat

Stoke Newington (Church Street), Broadway market and, more recently, Hackney Central, have a variety of gastropubs. There are many great Turkish and Asian restaurants on Kingsland Road. To the south of Mare Street there are a great number of very reasonable Vietnamese restaurants. Some also have the bonus of being able to bring your own alcohol, which brings down cost considerably.

13.7.1 Budget

13.6 Buy

- **London Fields Brewery**, 365–366 Warburton St, E8 3RR (*Come out of London Fields station on the Mare Street side, turn right, and continue on for 200m; it's at the end of the road.*), ☎ +44 20 7254-7174, e-mail: info@londonfieldsbrewery.co.uk. M–Sa 09:00–18:00. Every Saturday, London Fields Brewery run brewery tours. Come down and have a guided tour of the brewery and learn how they are making their superbly tasty beers. Also included in the price are tastings of the beers in the BrewHouse, the brewery's very own pop-up bar. £10–£25.
- **Green Papaya**, 191 Mare St, E8 3QT, ☎ +44 20 8985-5486. Tu–Su 17:00–23:00. Offering great

Vietnamese food for veggies and meat eaters alike. Mains from £5.

- **Mess Cafe**, Amhurst Rd. Great quality caff breakfasts. £4.
- **Song Que Cafe**, 134 Kingsland Rd, E2 8DY, ☎ +44 20 7613-3222. Rated by Zagat's as the best Vietnamese on Kingsland Rd.
- **Viet Hoa**, 70-72 Kingsland Rd, E2 8DP, ☎ +44 20 7729-8293. Tu-Su noon-15:30, 17:30-23:30. You must try the salted prawns! Mains from £5.30.

13.7.2 Mid-range

- **Au Lac**, 104 Kingsland Rd, N5 2XE, ☎ +44 20 7033-0588. Sa-W 17:30-23:00, Th F noon-14:30, 17:30-23:00. BYO. The pancakes are recommended as a starter (this was a batter parcel containing chicken and beansprouts, rolled into lettuce leaves), also the steamed sea bass, which has a delicious sauce. More of a restaurant for a group of friends, rather than a romantic meal.
- **Buen Ayre**, 50 Broadway Market, E8 4QJ, ☎ +44 20 7275-9900, e-mail: info@buenayre.co.uk. M-F 18:00-22:30, Sa Su noon-17:00, 18:00-22:30. Argentine Grill restaurant. Mains £8-22.50.
- **The Empress of India**, 130 Lauriston Rd, E9 7LH, ☎ +44 20 8533-5123, e-mail: aga@theempressofindia.com. 09:00-23:00. Indian cuisine. Mains from £12.50.
- **Su Sazzagoni**, 136 Lauriston Rd, E9 7LH, ☎ +44 20 8985-8448. Sardinian cuisine. Mains from £9.90.

13.8 Drink

- **Biddle Bros**, 88 Lower Clapton Rd, E5 0QR, ☎ +44 20 8985-7052. Lively pub with a good local following. Often have a live band or DJ in the evenings,
- **The Birdcage**, 58 Stamford Hill, N16 6XS, ☎ +44 20 8806-6740, e-mail: manager@thebirdcagen16.co.uk. Friendly Stoke Newington pub that often has live bands playing.
- **The Cat and Mutton**, 76 Broadway Market, E8 4QJ, ☎ +44 20 7254-5599. Beers £3-3.80.
- **The Cock Tavern**, 315 Mare St, E8 1EJ, ☎ +44 20 7248-2918. M-Th 06:00-23:00, F 06:00-02:00, Sa 17:30-02:00. Beer £2.90-3.50.

- **The Wishing Well**, 418 Mare St, E8 1HP, ☎ +44 20 8533-0372. Popular local pub especially during major sports events which are shown on the large screens.
- **The Russet Cafe**, Amhurst Ter, E8 2BT. Cool, hippy-vibe bar, its a bit of a run-down alley but the amazing atmosphere and brilliant eclectic live acts make it unmissable. Serves nice mulled wine. Make sure you got cash with you, as an ATM can be a bit of a trek.
- **Crate**, Unit 7, Queens Yard, Hackney Wick, London, E9 5EN. Beer and pizza focused bar on the canal, close to the Olympic Park. (updated Dec 2016)

13.9 Sleep

- **Amhurst Hotel**, 45 - 47 Amhurst Pk, N16 5DL (*tube: Manor House*), ☎ +44 20 8800-7587. Check-in: 13:00, check-out: 11:00. Budget hotel in north London with self-catering facilities £35.
- **City Inn Express**, 144 A Mare St, Tudor Rd (*tube: Bethnal Green*), ☎ +44 20 8533-0846. Check-in: 14:00, check-out: Noon. A quality bed & breakfast good for budget travelers. £46.
- **The RE Hotel London Shoreditch**, 419-437 Hackney Rd, E2 8PP (*tube: Bethnal Green*), ☎ +44 20 7613-6500. Check-in: 14:00, check-out: 11:00.

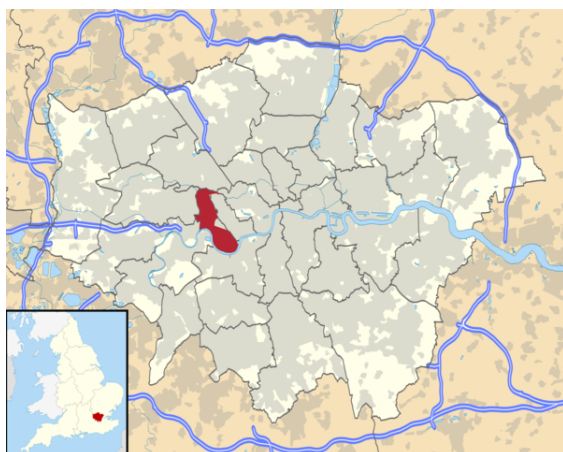
13.10 Stay safe

Despite its reputation as a dangerous place, it is relatively safe provided you're careful. Most violent crime occurs amongst the gangs in the rougher parts of the borough. Stick to commercial areas where there will be lots of people. Keep away from housing estates as some can be very dangerous. Hackney Wick and some of the surrounding areas should be avoided. Hackney becomes much more dangerous at night, and it would be highly foolish to go out walking alone. There is heavy youth presence in the borough, so if you are there at night, don't go alone.

13.11 Go next

Chapter 14

London/Hammersmith and Fulham



Location of the Hammersmith and Fulham area in London

Hammersmith and Fulham is a borough in west London, and boasts 3 Premiership football teams within its boundaries.

14.1 Understand

This is a large district of the inner west of London.

The most well known part of the district is perhaps **Shepherd's Bush** which has long been a first home in London to second and first generation immigrants. While this is less true today than in the past, the area undergoing gradual gentrification, beautification and development, there is still a substantial expatriate population (including a great many travelling Antipodeans).

Culturally, Shepherd's Bush is well known as the former home of the BBC's TV output, with the Television Centre located on Wood Lane in the White City sub-district. *The Bush* was also the fictional home of Steptoe & Son at Oil Drum Lane. The members of two influential British bands, The Who and the Sex Pistols grew up in Shepherd's Bush. It is also the home of newly promoted football team Queens Park Rangers (QPR), who play in the top-level Premier League.

Elsewhere in the district, the residential riverside areas of **Fulham** have been hugely gentrified in the past 20 years and it is now sometimes difficult to determine where (pre-

viously much grander) Chelsea ends and Fulham begins. Fulham is also home to the football teams Fulham FC, Queens Park Rangers and Chelsea FC (at Fulham Broadway).

14.2 Get in

[?""UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU""?](#)

Map of London/Hammersmith and Fulham (Edit GPX)?""UNIQ--indicator-00000001-QINU""?

14.2.1 By tube

Tube stations servicing this borough are:

- Shepherd's Bush (Central line)
- Shepherd's Bush Market (Circle, Hammersmith & City lines)
- Wood Lane (Circle, Hammersmith & City lines)
- White City (Central line)
- Hammersmith (Piccadilly, District, Circle, Hammersmith & City lines)
- Goldhawk Road (Circle, Hammersmith & City lines)
- Barons Court (District and Piccadilly lines)
- West Kensington (District line)
- Fulham Broadway (District line)
- Parson's Green (District line)
- Putney Bridge (District line)
- Ravenscourt Park (District line)

14.2.2 By bus

Bus 94 runs between Piccadilly Circus, via Oxford Street, Notting Hill, Holland Park, Shepherd's Bush and Chiswick to Acton Green (also a Night Bus service).

Buses 11, 14, 22, 28, 74, 190, 211, 295, 391, 414, 430, and night buses N11, N22 and N28, all stop in Fulham.

http://lbhf.gov.uk/Directory/Transport_and_Streets/Public_Transport/

14.2.3 By train

Shepherd's Bush Railway Station is served by three trains per hour between Clapham Junction and Willesden Junction, and one train per hour between Milton Keynes and East Croydon.

14.2.4 By road

The A219 links Fulham with the A205 (South Circular) and with the A4.

14.3 Get around



The Gatehouse at Fulham Palace

14.4 See

- **1 Chelsea Harbour Design Centre**, Chelsea Harbour, SW10 0XG (*train: Imperial Wharf; tube: Fulham Broadway; boat: Chelsea Harbour*), ☎ +44 20 7225-9101, e-mail: enquiries@chelsea-harbour.co.uk. 09:30-17:00 daily. The cutting edge of British design from Furniture to Fabrics and Lighting. Some showrooms actually sell their designs (at impossible prices). There is also a nice café here.



BBC Television Centre, Shepherd's Bush

- **1 Fulham Palace**, Bishop's Ave, SW6 6EA (*tube: Putney Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7736-3233, e-mail: education@fulhampalace.org. Sa 11:00-14:00, Su 11:30-15:30, M Tu noon-16:00. The former retreat of the Bishops of London now incorporates Bishop's Park and is a lovely green area in a heavily built part of London as well as home to some important historic buildings. Also a museum which charts the history of the palace back to the 11th century and a small café. Free. **W**
- **1 Gandhi's Student Accommodation**, 20 Baron's Court Road, W14 9DT (*tube: West Kensington*). A blue plaque marks the house where Mahatma Gandhi lived as a law student.
- **1 Hurlingham Park** (*tube: Putney Bridge*). A large open park which is mainly sports pitches. It does though have some lovely frontage right onto the Thames and makes for a lovely walk for that reason. **W**
- **1 Kensal Green Cemetery**, Harrow Road, W10 4RA (*tube: Kensal Green*), ☎ +44 20 8969-0152, fax: +44 20 8960-9744. One of the "Magnificent Seven" Georgian-Victorian cemeteries in London. **W**
- **1 Queens Club**, Palliser Rd, W14 9EQ (*tube: Barons Court or West Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7386-3400. M-Su 07:00-23:00. hosts the traditional mens warm-up tennis competition, before the Wimbledon Championship. This grand Victorian structure is home to other racket sports such as badminton and squash. A new **National Tennis Centre** has been built further west at Roehampton, to hopefully end the Wimbledon English-winner drought. **W**
- **1 Ravenscourt Park**, Padderswick Rd (*tube: Ravenscourt Park*). An eight hectare park in Hammersmith with a long history. It is home to a

lake, tea house, tennis courts, an all-weather football pitch, a bowling green, areas in which to just sit or play, a garden centre and some truly ancient trees, particularly cedars. **W**

- **1 Wormwood Scrubs** (*The Scrubs*) (*tube: East Acton*). One of the largest areas of common land in London. Its sporting facilities include several football pitches (Queens Park Rangers F.C. used to play here in the Victorian age). **W**

14.5 Do

14.5.1 Cinema, theatre and concerts



Bush Hall

- **1 Vue Cinema Fulham Broadway**, Fulham Broadway Shopping Centre, Fulham Rd, SW6 1BW (*tube: Fulham Broadway; 1st floor, opposite the escalators*), ☎ +44 8712 240 240. Modern multiplex showing the latest mainstream films.
- **1 Vue Cinema Westfield**, Westfield Shopping Town, White City, W12 7GF (*tube: Shepherd's Bush*), ☎ +44 8712 240 240. Modern multiplex showing the latest mainstream films.

14.5.2 Football

Hammersmith and Fulham is well stocked when it comes to football clubs, a legacy of its working-class past.

- **1 Chelsea FC**, Stamford Bridge, Fulham Rd, SW6 1HS (*tube: Fulham Broadway*), ☎ +44 871 984 1955. Despite the name, this club is actually ironically located in Fulham. **Stamford Bridge** has tours on non-matchdays, though the tickets are fairly pricey, as is the Club Shop for souvenirs. It is the one of the best supported teams, hence tickets are hard to come by, unlike QPR and Fulham to a lesser extent. The stadium has an illustrious history, dating back to before the foundation of the team, and is worth a visit as it may not be around in a couple of years time, if Chelsea's owner has his way.
- **1 Fulham FC**, Craven Cottage, Stevenage Rd, SW6 6HH (*about 10 min walk from both Putney Bridge and Parsons Green tube stations*), ☎ +44 870 442 1222, e-mail: enquiries@fulhamfc.com. The home of Premier League football team Fulham. The oldest team in London. Tours of their quirky old stadium on non-matchdays are fun.
- **1 Queen's Park Rangers FC**, Loftus Rd Stadium, South Africa Rd, W12 7PJ (*Loftus Rd is about a 5-min walk from White City, Shepherd's Bush Market and Wood Ln tube stations, and is situated just north of the Uxbridge Rd*), ☎ +44 20 8743-0262. The home of Premiership football team QPR.

14.6 Buy

Shopping in this area runs the gamut from street markets to luxury shops in the largest enclosed shopping centre (or "mall" to American travellers) in Europe.

- **1 Riverside Studios**, 1 Crisp Rd, W6 9RL (*tube: Hammersmith*), ☎ +44 20 8743-3584, e-mail: online@riversidestudios.co.uk. Riverside Studios is a production studio, theatre and independent cinema on the banks of the River Thames in Hammersmith.
- **1 Fulham Broadway** (*above Fulham Broadway tube station*). Small shopping centre built around the tube station of the same name. Includes a supermarket, some restaurants and cafés along with its other shops, as well as a cinema and pub.



Westfield Shopping Centre

- **1 New Shepherd's Bush Market**, Uxbridge Rd (tube: *Shepherd's Bush Market*), ☎ +44 20 8749-3042, e-mail: george@srgworld.com. M–Sa 09:00–18:00; Su closed. Privately owned street market.
- **1 North End Road Market**, Running the length of North End Rd, between Lille Rd and Fulham Rd (tube: *Fulham Broadway*). M–Sa 08:00–18:00. A London street market that's high on character and low on tourists, this has been running since the 1880s. A good place for fresh and affordable fruit and vegetables, household goods, and other items.
- **1 Shepherds Bush Market**, Between Uxbridge Rd and Goldhawk Rd (tube: *Shepherd's Bush Market* or *Goldhawk Rd*). An astonishing array of goods with Afro-Caribbean, Middle Eastern and Indian cultural influences vying for the shopper's attention.
- **1 Westfield Shopping Centre**, Ariel Way, W12 7GF (tube: *Shepherd's Bush*), ☎ +44 20 3371-2300. M–Sa 10:00–22:00; Su noon–18:00. The largest urban shopping mall in Europe. Vast array of stores, restaurants and a 14 screen cinema.

14.7 Eat

There are loads of great restaurants in Fulham along the high streets and also a distinct lack of any chain restaurants (don't worry, you can find *all* of these along Putney High St if you're desperate). It is often a good idea to just start walking along any of the main roads and you should have more choice of places to eat than you will ever need.

14.7.1 Budget

Uxbridge Road is noted for good-value and diverse restaurants.

- **1 Abu Zaad**, 29 Uxbridge Rd, W12 8LH (tube: *Shepherd's Bush*), ☎ +44 20 8749-5107. M–Su

11:00–23:00. Authentic Syrian fare. Great value. Average £10.

- **1 King Solomon's**, 300 Uxbridge Rd (tube: *Shepherd's Bush Market*), ☎ +44 20 8749-1355. Try the falafel kebab and hummus—delicious! The take away menu is well priced, falafel is only £3. £3–7.
- **1 Raj of India**, 46 Shepherd's Bush Road W6 7PJ (tube: *Shepherd's Bush*), ☎ +44 20 7602-9112. Very reasonable prices and good service at this popular Indian restaurant.
- **1 Red Sea Restaurant**, 382 Uxbridge Rd, W12 7LL (tube: *Shepherd's Bush*), ☎ +44 20 8749-6888. All manner of Middle Eastern food with Eritrean and Ethiopian also town in! All at very reasonable prices.

14.7.2 Mid-range

- **1 Fiesta Havana**, 490–492 Fulham Rd, SW6 5NH (tube: *Fulham Broadway*), ☎ +44 20 7381-5005. Latin themed restaurant with live DJs and staff who will give you Salsa classes in between courses! The set Tapas menu for £10 is very popular.

14.7.3 Splurge

- **1 The River Cafe**, Thames Wharf, Rainville Rd, W6 9HA (tube: *Hammersmith*), ☎ +44 20 7386-4200, e-mail: info@rivercafe.co.uk. M–Th 12:30–14:15/19:00–21:00; F 12:30–14:15/19:00–21:15; Sa 12:30–14:30/19:00–21:15; Su noon–15:00. Classy Italian and modern gourmet cuisine at Rainville Rd, Fulham, (not to be confused with the cafe at Craven Cottage which is open non-matchdays and nice for a quick bite or afternoon tea). A 3-course meal will set you back from £60–100, with lovely views of the Thames, you can often glimpse a celeb or two dining here.

14.8 Drink

Shepherds Bush Green contains many large chain pubs. **Uxbridge Road** and **Goldhawk Road** have smaller, more laid-back bars and gastro-pubs. **Fulham** is full of highly rated, popular pubs some of them right by the Thames.

- **1 The Dove**, 19 Upper Mall, W6 9TA (tube: *Ravenscourt Park*), ☎ +44 20 8748-9474, e-mail: dove@fullers.co.uk. M–Sa 11:00–23:00; Su noon–23:30. This pretty 17th century riverside establishment may have London's smallest bar (room just to the right of the entrance), as well as an outside seating area with river views.

- **1 Duke on the Green**, 235 New King's Rd, SW6 4XG (*tube: Parson's Green*), ☎ +44 20 7736-2777, e-mail: dukeonthegreen@youngs.co.uk. M–F 11:00–midnight; Sa 10:30–midnight; Su 10:30–23:30. Very popular Young's pub at the Fulham end of the King's Rd.
- **1 The Walkabout (Walkie)**, 56 Shepherd's Bush Green, W12 8QE (*tube: Shepherd's Bush*), ☎ +44 20 8740-4339. Largest concentration of Aussies and Kiwis in London (most people will find that idea horrible!). Expect lots of Antipodean sports. The Walkabout closed its doors for the final time late in 2013.
- **1 The White Horse**, 1-3 Parson's Green, SW6 4UL (*tube: Parsons Green*), ☎ +44 20 7736-2115, e-mail: info@whitehorsesw6.com. Awarded best pub of the year several times, it offers an extensive choice of local and imported beers, both draught and bottled. It also serves restaurant grade meals. Particularly interesting, each one of them is matched with a beer. Somewhat expensive, but it is a must.
- **1 Jim's Guest House**, 26 Aldine St, W12 8AN (*tube: Shepherd's Bush*), ☎ +44 20 8743-0456, e-mail: info@jimsguesthouse.co.uk. Good value bed and breakfast. Family suite available. From £79.
- **1 Plaza Hotel**, 53 Shepherds Bush Rd, W6 7LU (*tube: Goldhawk Rd*), ☎ +44 20 7603-2667. Actually three hotels all run by the same company - The Plaza, The Rex and The Acropolis. All similar standard and nearby to each other. From about £40.
- **1 Royal Guest House**, 47 Shepherds Bush Rd, W6 7LU (*tube: Goldhawk Rd*), ☎ +44 20 7603-4528, e-mail: info@royalguesthouse.co.uk. Very cheap guesthouse within walking distance of Shepherd's Bush and Hammersmith. Triple rooms available. From £45.

14.9.2 Mid-range

14.9 Sleep

Shepherd's Bush and Hammersmith are well known as the home of many discount hotels (some of low quality, unfortunately) and B&Bs. With the gradual gentrification of the area, more comfortable and expensive options are appearing.

14.9.1 Budget

- **1 Abbey Hotel**, 23 Wood Ln, W12 7DP (*tube: Shepherd's Bush*), ☎ +44 20 8749-8780, e-mail: info@abbeyhotel.org. Budget hotel close to the BBC Television Centre. Discounts for long stays. £69.
- **1 Adria Hotel**, 44 Glenthorne Rd, W6 0LS (*tube: Hammersmith*), ☎ +44 20 8742-6674. A four generation family run hotel with excellent transport connections and good value for money. Regularly refurbished. £69.
- **1 Grantly Hotel**, 50 Shepherds Bush Green, W12 8PS (*tube: Goldhawk Rd*), ☎ +44 20 8743-4345, e-mail: grantlyhotel@gmail.com. No-frills budget hotel in an converted Edwardian house. Single, Double and Family rooms available. £67.
- **1 Hotel Sergul**, 87 Shepherds Bush Rd, W6 7LR (*tube: Hammersmith*), ☎ +44 20 7603-5400, e-mail: info@hotelsergul.co.uk. Affordable smart hotel with excellent links to West End and close to Olympia and Earls Court exhibition centre. £40.
- **1 Jurys Inn Chelsea Hotel**, Imperial Rd, Imperial Wharf, SW6 2GA (*train: Imperial Wharf; tube: Fulham Broadway*), ☎ +44 20 7411-2200. Affordable hotel of one of the better hotel chains. All rooms are ensuite and large by London standards. From £79.
- **1 La Reserve Hotel Chelsea**, 422-428 Fulham Rd, SW6 1DU (*tube: Fulham Broadway*), ☎ +44 20 7385-8561, fax: +44 20 7385-7662, e-mail: info@la-reservehotel.co.uk. Small hotel offering 43 en-suite bedrooms in the extreme south-east of the district bordering Chelsea. The hotel overlooks Chelsea Football Club. £95.
- **1 Novotel London West**, 1 Shortlands, W6 8DR (*tube: Hammersmith*), ☎ +44 20 8741-1555. Very large business-class hotel. The rooms are reasonably priced with basic amenities in each room. Wireless internet available, or basic internet through the room's television. English breakfast available at extra charge. Restaurant/Bar/Lounge, massage center, concierge, cash machine, shoe shine machine, tourist information desk, porter, dry cleaning/ironing available, currency exchange, pets allowed with deposit. From about £130.
- **1 Premier Inn**, 3 Putney Bridge Approach, SW6 3JD (*tube: Putney Bridge*), ☎ +44 870 238 3302. In the extreme south of the district close to the Thames. From £90.
- **1 The Ville's B&B**, 39 Brookville Road, SW6 7BH (*tube: Parsons Green*), ☎ +44 20 7381-2093. In the friendly area with fashionable restaurants, cafes, pubs and antique shops. From £80.

14.9.3 Splurge

- **1 K-West**, Richmond Way, W14 0AX (*tube: Shepherd's Bush*), ☎ +44 20 8743-3206. Modern, fashionable hotel with a day spa. From £150.
- **1 Lamington Serviced Apartments**, 109 Hammersmith Gr, W6 0NQ (*tube: Hammersmith or Goldhawk Road*), ☎ +44 20 8748-2645, e-mail: lettings@lamingtonuk.com. Luxury short term serviced apartments for business and leisure guests. Spacious and modern apartments in a quiet residential area, with local restaurants, delicatessens, and amenities, and in walking distance of major transport links. From around £68.50.

14.10 Go next

Chapter 15

London/Hampstead



Location of the Hampstead area in London

Hampstead is a district of north inner London. The key sights are a wealth of under-stated historical attractions, and the magnificent open spaces of Hampstead Heath. Kenwood House is one of the most accessible of London's great Regency homes, John Keats has a museum devoted to his life and work at his former residence here, and the inspiration for many of John Constable's landscapes is all around you on Hampstead Heath. Combine those with some of the most interesting historical pubs in the whole city, and a vibrant restaurant and cafe scene, and Hampstead really does have much to offer the visitor.

15.1 Understand

Hampstead Village, with its myriad restaurants, old pubs and cafes is an agreeable place to spend a day or two. The area retains much of its original village character, and Hampstead High St alone houses no fewer than 18 grade II **listed buildings**. This is one of the wealthiest sections of the city's inner boroughs, full of stately neighbourhoods and grand historic houses. You will also find some interesting, non-mainstream shopping, several repertory theatres and one of the best arthouse cinemas in London.

The nearby vast, open green spaces of **Hampstead Heath** are a major attraction for Londoners, but relatively



A pub in Hampstead - very typical architecture of the area

few visitors know much about this wonderful remnant of countryside in the centre of London.

Hampstead is a district of great literary, artistic and thespian traditions, and former residents include Kingsley Amis, William Blake, John Constable, Ian Fleming, William Hogarth, John Keats, Anna Pavlova and Alfred Tennyson. Those traditions continue today, and Hampstead is the home of choice for many actors, musicians, writers and media personalities. The residents of Hampstead are acutely aware of the history of the neighbourhood they live in, and any changes in this area are subject to rigorous discussion, and often protest.

Belsize Park is in many ways a southward extension of Hampstead Village, and is made up of many similarly grand residential streets with the odd gem of a restaurant. This is also home to one of the largest and most famous hospitals in London, the Royal Free.

The western reaches of **Highgate** in the Dartmouth Park area, are inside the Hampstead district, and include the important tourist attraction of Highgate Cemetery, which houses the grave of Karl Marx among other notables.

Primrose Hill is a quiet, stately, residential area in the south of the district bordering Regent's Park. Due to the lack of through roads for traffic, this area seems miles away from the general rush and bustle of London, and forms something of an oasis of calm in what is a very central area.

West Hampstead is less grand, and was traditionally a blue collar housing neighbourhood. Inevitably though, gentrification from about 1990 onwards changed all that, and the area is now a favoured residential area by young professionals. Aside from some budget accommodation, there is little of interest for the visitor here though.

15.2 Get in



Map of the Hampstead district

15.2.1 By tube

The district is served by the following tube stations:

- **Hampstead** (Northern Line)
- **Belsize Park** (Northern Line)
- **Chalk Farm** (Northern Line)
- **Golders Green** (Northern Line)
- **Swiss Cottage** (Jubilee Line)

- **Finchley Road** (Jubilee Line and Metropolitan Line)
- **West Hampstead** (Jubilee Line)

15.2.2 By train

- Hampstead Heath and Gospel Oak stations are on the London Overground line, and both are convenient stops for Hampstead Heath. Further west in the district, the Overground also stops at Finchley Rd & Frognal and West Hampstead. The area is serviced by tube stations Belsize Park and Hampstead on the Northern Line.
- West Hampstead is also on the main Thameslink Line, allowing easy access from the English Midlands and from **Brighton** in the south of the country.

- South Hampstead is on the **London Euston** to **Watford** main line with about 4 trains per hour stopping there.

15.2.3 By bus

- Finchley Rd is a major bus route through London. Bus numbers 13, 139 and 82 all originate in central London and pass along the length of Finchley Rd, allowing easy access to Swiss Cottage and West Hampstead.
- Hampstead and Belsize Park are less well served, with the only direct connection from central London being bus number 46, originating at **Farringdon St**.
- Night bus N5 is an excellent and convenient way to get to Hampstead, Belsize Park and Golders Green, after a night out in the West End. Originating in **Trafalgar Square**, this service makes its way north through King's Cross and **Camden Town**, before travelling through the district along Chalk Farm Rd, Haverstock Hill, Hampstead High St and North End Way. Runs approximately every 15 minutes from just after midnight until 06:00.

15.2.4 By road

The best advice for any visitors wishing to drive into Hampstead is, *don't*. This is a largely residential area, and there is virtually no on-street parking available. Residents' only parking spaces are guarded very jealously. With the public transport links being very good, there is little need for any visitor to drive into the district.

If you do insist on driving, there is a public car park on the south eastern edge of Hampstead Heath accessed

from East Heath Rd, and this is convenient for visiting the heath. The “easiest” (the term must be used relatively as all routes are congested) routes in from central London are:

- A41 north from Marylebone Rd at Baker St. The A41 becomes Finchley Rd in this district.
- A4200 (Eversholt St) north from Euston Station to Camden High St, and then the A502 which runs through the heart of the district as first Chalk Farm Rd, then Haverstock Hill and then Hampstead High St.

Coming from the north, the A41, A502 and A598 all connect to the district from the A406 North Circular Rd, and thus from the M1 motorway.

15.3 Get around

Much of the district, particularly in Hampstead Village and Hampstead Heath, lends itself beautifully to walking.

15.3.1 By bus

- Bus number 268 is a convenient, regular service that connects Golders Green, Hampstead, Belsize Park, Swiss Cottage and Finchley Rd in both directions. Stops are frequent in key areas such as Heath St, Hampstead High St, Haverstock Hill and Finchley Rd, and are not hard to find.
- Bus number 210 is a useful service for getting to Kenwood House, close to Highgate Cemetery and Waterlow Park, and any other area along the extent of Spaniard’s Rd and Hampstead Lane. It runs from Golders Green Station south down North End Rd, turns east along Spaniard’s Rd, and then runs the whole length of Hampstead Lane before terminating out of the district at **Finsbury Park**. The return route is identical in reverse.

15.4 See

Many of the key historical sights are in a cluster within a ten minute walk of Hampstead tube station and therefore easily covered on foot. If you are planning a full day in the area, a morning visit to Hampstead Heath followed by lunch in Hampstead Village, and then an exploration of the historical attractions, makes for a good itinerary.

- **1 2 Willow Road**, 2 Willow Rd, NW3 1TH (*tube: Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7435-6166, e-mail: 2willowroad@nationaltrust.org.uk. Th F noon-17:00. A house designed by Erno Goldfinger in



Keats House

1939 and regarded as an icon of modernist architecture. The contents are just as impressive as the house and include original works by Henry Moore and Max Ernst. Local lore has it that Hampstead resident of the time Ian Fleming, objected so strongly to Goldfinger’s modernist design, that he named his famous Bond villain after him. £2.80-5.30. **W**

- **Burgh House and Hampstead Museum**, New End Sq, NW3 1LT (*tube: Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7431-0144. W-Su noon-17:00. This beautiful grade I listed Georgian building houses the Hampstead Museum which has an interesting collection of exhibits on the history of the local area. Free. **W**
- **Camden Arts Centre**, Arkwright Rd, NW3 6DG (*tube: Finchley Rd*), ☎ +44 20 7472-5500, e-mail: info@camdenartscentre.org. Tu-Su 10:00-18:00, W 10:00-21:00, closed M and national holidays. A contemporary arts centre with exhibitions focused on exposing new talent. Housed in a lovely Victorian mansion. Free. **W**
- **1 Fenton House**, Hampstead Gr, NW3 6SP (*tube: Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7435-3471, e-mail: fentonhouse@nationaltrust.org.uk. Sa-Su 11:00-17:00. A magnificent old house dating from 1667 which is administered by The National Trust. It is most famous for its globally important collection of early keyboard instruments, and there is also a fine collection of art and porcelain. Plays host to frequent recitals. £5.70. **W**
- **Freud Museum**, 20 Maresfield Gdns, NW3 5SX (*tube: Finchley Rd or Swiss Cottage*), ☎ +44 20 7435-2002, e-mail: info@freud.org.uk. W-Su noon-19:00. The former home of Sigmund Freud. A wide range of exhibits most famously including the psycho-analytic couch that all of his patients



Karl Marx rests in peace in Highgate Cemetery

used. Freud was also an avid collector of antiquities and there is a fine collection on show of Greek, Roman and Oriental pieces. £6. **W**

- **Hampstead Parish Church** (*The Parish Church of St John-at-Hampstead*), Church Row, NW3 6UU (tube: *Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7794-5808, e-mail: vestry@hampsteadparishchurch.org.uk. Visiting should be OK in daylight hours, but check ahead if you are making a special trip. This is a rather lovely church building but it is the graveyard which will most interest visitors. Notable personalities buried here include Sir John Constable (artist), Hugh Gaitskell (former Labour Party leader and Chancellor of the Exchequer), Kay Kendall (actress) and several members of the du Maurier family. Tomb trails are available at the church. **W**
- **Highgate Cemetery**, Swain's Ln, N6 6JP, ☎ +44 20 8340-1834, e-mail: info@highgate-cemetery.org. East Cemetery: M-F 10:00-dusk, West Cemetery: only via guided tours 1 Mar-30 Nov M-F 14:00, 1 Nov-28 Feb Sa Su hourly 11:00-15:00, 1 Mar-31 Oct Sa Su hourly 11:00-16:00. Take a guided tour of the overgrown Western Cemetery which gives it a special beauty and charm, or visit the East Cemetery unaccompanied where you will find the grave of Karl Marx. There are known to be at least 850

notable people buried at Highgate. It has been said that Highgate has the finest collection of Victorian funerary architecture in the country. Getting here by public transport is not straightforward. Go to Archway tube station and on leaving turn left and walk up Highgate Hill and past the Whittington Hospital until you get to St Joseph's Church (obvious by its large green copper dome). Enter Waterlow Park on your left and go downhill across the park (past the duck ponds) to the Swain's Lane exit (below the tennis courts). The walk takes about 20 minutes. Alternatively, take bus 210 from Golder's Green station and tell the driver that you wish to be dropped as close as possible to Highgate Cemetery on Swain's Lane. This is about a 15 min journey East Cemetery £4, West Cemetery tour and East admission £12. **W** (updated Aug 2015)



A Victorian Penfold post box in Hampstead High St. One of the few remaining anywhere, and a grade II listed building

- **Keats House**, Keats Gr, NW3 2RR (tube: *Hampstead*; rail: *Hampstead Heath*), ☎ +44 20 7332-3868, e-mail: keatshouse@cityoflondon.gov.uk. Wed - Sun 11am - 5pm. The poet John Keats lived here from 1818 to 1820 until he travelled to Rome where he died of tuberculosis, aged just 25. The house has been restored as a museum with period decor, furnishings and a collection of Keatsiana. Reopened in July 2009 after restoration. Some events take place in the building next door within the grounds (Ten Keats Grove); the building also houses a volunteer-run public library, with a collection of books and periodicals, and free internet access. £6.50. **W** (updated Feb 2017)
- **Primrose Hill**, off Regent's Park Rd, NW1 (tube: *Chalk Farm*). A large open grassed hill just to the north of Regent's Park. Offers a free panorama of Central London. The views are probably only bettered by those from Parliament Hill on Hampstead Heath. **W**

- **Waterlow Park**, Swain's Ln N6, ☎ +44 20 7974-8810. A secret jewel of a park. Beautiful landscaped grounds, hills, mature trees, lakes, a walled garden, visitor's centre, café, tennis courts, and children's playgrounds. Bequeathed to the public as a "garden for the gardenless" by Sir Sidney Waterlow in 1889. A visit here combines very well with Highgate Cemetery. **W**

15.4.1 Hampstead Heath

Totalling 320 hectares this is the largest green space in the inner districts of London.

Hampstead Heath, or just *the Heath* as locals call it, is not a park and has a very different character to the highly manicured Royal Parks in central London. This is a remnant of the great Middlesex Wood, which has somehow survived as commonland as the metropolis grew around it, and in that sense it is very unique. Its proximity to, and ease of access from, densely populated urban areas of London, have ensured that Hampstead Heath has a special place in the hearts of Londoners.



Looking south east from Parliament Hill Fields, Hampstead Heath

The heath has much to offer to the visitor, but is generally not that well known as a tourist attraction. If you are visiting the city and simply want some fresh air and calm natural surroundings, then there is no better choice than jumping on the tube and coming for an early morning walk here. Both Hampstead and Belsize Park tube stations are about 10 minutes walk from the heath. The North London Line rail station Hampstead Heath is right on the south western tip of the heath.

Hampstead Heath is administered by the City of London Corporation, and it is worth visiting their [website](#) where there are a number of useful trail maps, along with other visitor information.

Cultural inspirations

Like so many other iconic landscapes, Hampstead Heath has inspired a great many works of art from all disciplines, with some of the more notable being:

- John Constable painted numerous landscapes both from sitting in the upper level of his house at nearby Well Walk, and from on the heath itself. As you take in the splendid vistas over the heath, it is not difficult to see how Constable was so inspired here.
- John Keats composed his great *Ode to a Nightingale* whilst sitting at the Spaniard's Inn and hearing the sound of a nightingale on the heath. The nightingales have sadly gone, but the heath still has a very healthy wild bird population.
- CS Lewis was inspired to write *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* whilst wandering Hampstead Heath on a snowy winter's day.
- In contemporary literature, Hampstead Heath is the setting for the village of Ham in Will Self's superb *The Book of Dave*.
- The cult movie *Scenes of a Sexual Nature* was shot entirely on Hampstead Heath.

Orientation

Hampstead Heath is a large space, and visitors may find it useful to compartmentalise the different sections.

- The **main part of Hampstead Heath** is bounded by Spaniards Rd and Hampstead Lane to the north, Highgate Rd to the east, the North London railway line to the south, and East Heath Rd and Spaniards Rd (again) to the east. A line of ponds runs along each side of the heath here: Highgate Ponds on the eastern side, Hampstead Ponds on the western side. The northern part of this section is occupied by Kenwood House, looked after by English Heritage and the only part of the heath not administered by the City of London Corporation. Parliament Hill forms the southern part of this section.
- **West Heath** is across Spaniards Rd and North End Rd from the main section, and includes Golder's Hill Park, The Pergola and The Hill Garden, as well as large tracts of mature oak, hornbeam and birch woodland.
- **Sandy Heath** is north-west of Spaniard's Rd and consists mostly of beautiful, mature oak woodland.
- The **Hampstead Heath Extension** is north of Sandy Heath bordering suburban Golders Green,

and consists mostly of sports pitches. Older locals still call this area the “gunsite” as it was exactly that during World War II, and was not cleared until the 1960s.

Specific attractions on Hampstead Heath

- **The Bathing Ponds.** 2 May-30 Sep 07:00-18:30, 31 Sep-30 Apr 07:00-noon. There are three notable outdoor bathing ponds on the heath. The Men’s Pond and Women’s Pond are both part of the line of small lakes on the eastern edge of the heath known as Highgate Ponds, and the Mixed Pond is part of Hampstead Ponds on the opposite side. Swimming hours are seasonal, complicated, age-dependent and change frequently, so it is worth checking before making a special trip. £2. (updated Aug 2015)



The Pergola, Hampstead Heath

- **Golders Hill Park,** North End Way, NW3 (*tube: Golders Green, then bus 210 or 268 to the entrance*). 07:30 to just before dusk (seasonal). A more formal tended area of the heath at its north-western extremity. Has a small aviary and zoo that kids always enjoy. Free. **W**
- **The Hill Garden and Pergola,** N End Way, NW3 (*tube: Golders Green, then bus 210 or 268 to the entrance of adjacent Golder’s Hill Pk*). 07:30 to just before dusk (seasonal). A quite beautiful hidden garden on West Heath, which is little known even to many Londoners. It was originally part of the gardens of 19th century Inverforth House built by Viscount Leverhulme (the then owner of Lever Brothers, now Unilever). The gardens are now common land and part of Hampstead Heath, and the most impressive feature is a restored timber pergola, covered with various climbing plants including roses, honeysuckle, clematis, wisteria and various vines. The pergola offers two stunning views from its north-western point. You can look straight out and over

the heath’s canopy and see nothing but mature trees. Alternatively, you can look down and see the beautifully manicured herb garden and the length of the pergola stretching out before you. The adjacent Hill Garden offers a complete contrast to the wildness of the pergola. The garden is beautifully manicured and is a favourite haunt for artists. The bench by the ornamental fish pond here gives a stunning view of Hampstead Heath with the towers of urban London as the backdrop. Free.



Kenwood House, Hampstead Heath

- **1 Kenwood House,** Hampstead Ln, NW3 7JR (*tube: Golders Green, then bus 210 which stops right outside*), ☎ +44 20 8348-1286. House 11:30-16:00 daily, grounds 10:00-17:00 daily. A splendid Regency house with enormous gardens and woodlands. The gardens alone are worth the visit and are a superb example of 18th century landscaping. On show at the house is art by masters such as Rembrandt, Turner, Reynolds and Vermeer, and the gardens have a very notable sculpture by Henry Moore. A regular program of outdoor opera takes place here every summer. Movie buffs will recognise Kenwood from Mansfield Park among other famous films. Administered by English Heritage, separately from the rest of Hampstead Heath. Free. A donation of £3 suggested. **W**
- **Parliament Hill** (*southern side of the Heath between Hampstead and Highgate Ponds*). This is a high part of the Heath with clear open vistas, and the views looking south over the city are quite wonderful. Highly recommended on a clear morning, when you can see from Canary Wharf in the east all the way to Battersea Power Station in the west. **W**

15.5 Do

Given its reputation as a centre of the arts, it is no surprise that Hampstead is home to three of London’s better

known repertory theatres and a truly top-class arthouse cinema. Evenings here certainly focus around those performing arts activities. One-off performances (sometimes at unusual venues) are also far from uncommon, so check local listings. A good place to look is the local weekly newspaper, the **Hampstead and Highgate Express**.

- **Everyman Cinema**, 5 Hollybush Vale, NW3 6TX (*tube: Hampstead*), ☎ +44 870 066 4777. One of London's most notable art house cinemas which offers a high quality experience. You pay for it, but the environment is very classy indeed. Has a sister cinema just down the hill in Belsize Park - The Everyman Belsize Park. from £13. (updated Aug 2015)
- **Hampstead Theatre**, Eton Ave, NW3 3EU (*tube: Swiss Cottage*), ☎ +44 20 7722-9301, e-mail: boxoffice@hampsteadtheatre.com. A repertory theatre that is about as far removed from glitzy west end productions as you could imagine. Dedicated to exposing new writing talent. Harold Pinter gained some of his earliest experience here. £15-20.
- **London Jewish Cultural Centre (LJCC)**, Ivy House, 94-96 N End Rd, NW11 7SX (*10 min walk from Golders Green tube station*), ☎ +44 20 8457-5000, e-mail: admin@ljcc.org.uk. Offers the widest range of Jewish learning opportunities (over 75 courses a term) and Jewish cultural events in the UK. Frequent concerts are hosted here and this is the former London home of Anna Pavlova.
- **Pentameters Theatre**, 28 Heath St, NW3 6TE (*tube: Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7435-3648. Small, intimate theatre known for edgy, high quality productions. Located above The Horsehoe pub. £10-12.

15.6 Buy

Hampstead Village has long been known as a home of off-beat, independent shops. Sadly, that is less the case today than previously as spiralling rents have forced many independent retailers out of the area. Some do remain though, and the keen shopper will be rewarded by exploring the small lanes that lead off the main streets here.

Hampstead High St, Heath St, Rosslyn Hill and Haverstock Hill have a number of mid and upper market boutiques including Nicole Farhi, Gap, Karen Millen, Nine West, Kurt Geiger and Molton Brown.

The usual suspects among British high street retailers are well represented in the Finchley Rd and Swiss Cottage area.

- **Daunt Books**, 193 Haverstock Hill, NW3 4QL (*tube: Belsize Pk*), ☎ +44 20 7794-4006, e-mail: belsizepark@dauntbooks.co.uk. M-Sa 09:00-21:00, Su 11:00-21:00. A wonderful, old-style independent book shop which has a second branch up the hill at 51 South End Rd.
- **Farmer's Market**, Parliament Hill Fields (*between the tennis courts and the school yard at the base of Parliament Hill*). Sa 10AM-2PM. A regular farmer's market selling fresh organic produce every Saturday
- **Hampstead Antiques Emporium**, 12 Heath St, NW3 6TE, ☎ +44 20 7794-3297. Tu-Sa 10:30-17:00, Su 11:30-17:30. More than 30 antique dealers permanently occupy this small arcade and adjacent courtyard. Several genres represented including furniture, paintings, toys and textiles.
- **Hampstead Community Centre**, 78 Hampstead High St, NW3 1RE (*tube: Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7794-8313. Sa 09:00-18:00. On Saturdays, turns into a mini-market selling a variety of things, including a second hand book stall with a fantastic selection.
- **Keith Fawkes Books**, 1-3 Flask Walk, NW3 1HJ (*tube: Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7435-0614. M-F 10:00-17:30, Su noon-18:00. A rare and antiquarian bookshop with a special focus on the great literary characters who lived in Hampstead. Also carries a huge stock of more run-of-the-mill secondhand titles. An absolute must for booklovers.

15.7 Eat

Hampstead Village and Belsize Park are well known for a wide selection of quality restaurants and cafes. The local resident population here is notably demanding, so any places that make it long term will be serving good food and providing good service. The daytime sees a cafe culture perhaps as strong as anywhere in London, and in the evening, restaurants attract visitors from all over London, as well as neighbourhood locals.

Elsewhere in the district, Primrose Hill has its own eating sub-culture centre around some chic outlets on Gloucester Avenue, and London's oldest vegetarian restaurant nearby. The West Hampstead and Swiss Cottage area has some good local restaurants.

15.7.1 Budget

- **Bangkok Thai Cafe**, 17 New College Pde, NW3 5EP (*tube: Swiss Cottage*), ☎ +44 20 7722-9605.

18:00-22:00 daily. Exactly what the label says — a Thai cafe. Lightbites and fully fledged dinner courses. Mains £6-8.

- **La Creperie de Hampstead**, 77 Hampstead High St, NW3 1RE (*tube: Hampstead*). Noon-22:00 daily. A crepe stall in front of the King William IV pub. A wide variety of tasty sweet and savoury crepes for under a fiver. Queues can get long at the weekends. Been around a long time and passes the longevity test.
- **Jin Kichi**, 73 Heath St, NW3 6UG (*tube: Hampstead, turn right, on the other side of Heath St*), ☎ +44 20 7794-6158. 12:30-23:00 daily. Really good value, no frills sushi restaurant. Set lunch from £8.
- **Nautilus**, 27-29 Fortune Green Rd, NW6 1DT (*tube: West Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7435-2532. M-Sa 11:30-14:30, 17:00-22:00. A very well known fish and chip shop. The great British invention to either take away or eat in. Locals travel a long way to buy here.
- **Parliament Hill Café** (*off Highgate Rd between the tennis courts/bowling green and the bandstand*), ☎ +44 20 7485-6606. 09:00 to between 16:00 and 21:00 depending on the season. The only cafe actually on Hampstead Heath, and a nice place to stop for a drink or quick bite after exploring the heath.
- **Weng Wah**, 240 Haverstock Hill, NW3 2AE (*tube: Belsize Pk*), ☎ +44 20 7431-4502, e-mail: info@wengwah.co.uk. Noon-22:00 daily. This Chinese restaurant specialising in dim sum has been operating successfully from this address for more than 20 years. Eat in or order delivery anywhere in the Hampstead area. The lunch menu at £5-8 offers especially good value.

15.7.2 Mid-range

- **Caffe Nero**, 1 Hampstead High St, NW3 1UN (*tube: Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7431-5958, e-mail: info@caffenero.com. M-F 07:30-18:30, Sa 07:30-19:00, Su 08:00-19:00. Modern coffee shop just around the corner from Hampstead tube station. Serves decent coffee with cakes and savoury snacks at slightly lower prices than elsewhere in Hampstead Village. Part of a large chain.
- **Carluccio's**, 32 Rosslyn Hill, NW3 1NH (*tube: Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7794-2184, e-mail: hampstead@carluccios.com. M-F 08:00-23:00, Sa 09:00-23:00, Su 09:00-22:30. Serves cheap and decent, if not terribly inspired, Italian food. Good



Hampstead High St; home of perhaps the most discreet McDonald's anywhere in the world?

value for this area. Also has a deli attached. Part of a large chain. £12-20.

- **Fratelli la Bufala**, 45a S End Rd, NW3 2QB (*tube: Belsize Pk*), ☎ +44 20 7435-7814, e-mail: bookings@fratellilabufala.co.uk. M-F noon-15:00 and 18:00-23:00, Sa Su noon-23:00. Italian bistro with an extensive menu of pizzas and grill items. £15-20.
- **Freemason's Arms**, 32 Downshire Hill, NW3 1NT (*tube: Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7433-6811. Noon-21:00 daily (bars later). A gastro pub offering both homely dishes and some more ambitious options. Good location only one minute walk from Hampstead Heath. Has a large open garden with many tables which is lovely in the summer. £25.
- **Giraffe**, 46 Rosslyn Hill, NW3 1NH (*tube: Hampstead*), ☎ +44 871 3328828, e-mail: smiles@giraffe.net. M-F 08:00-23:00, Sa 09:00-23:00, Su 09:00-22:30. This is the original Giraffe, which has now gone to be a very successful chain with 40 odd outlets in southern England. It still has the feel of a small independent restaurant and provides quality organic dishes. It is also child friendly, which might be a downside for a visit the morning after the night before. £20.
- **Little Bay Kilburn**, 228 Belsize Rd, NW6 4BT (*tube: Kilburn High Rd*), ☎ +44 20 7372-4699,

e-mail: kilburn@littlebay.co.uk. M-Sa noon-midnight, Su noon-23:00. European cuisine. Three-course meal £11.00-16.00.

15.7.3 Splurge

- **Goldfish**, 82 Hampstead High St, NW3 1RE (*tube: Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7794-6666. M-Th noon-22:30, F Sa noon-23:00, Su noon-22:00. Asian fusion eatery boasts a menu that is distinctly *modern Chinese*, with main courses such as wasabi prawns, mocha spare ribs and pan-fry roasted duck with special curry sauce and apple salsa. £60.
- **Odette's**, 130 Regent's Park Rd, NW1 8XL (*tube: Chalk Farm*), ☎ +44 20 7586-8569, e-mail: info@odettesprimrosehill.com. Tu-Sa noon-14:30, 18:30-22:30, Su noon-15:00, 18:00-22:30. Modern European cooking in the Primrose Hill district. Interesting set degustation menu for £60 per head.

15.7.4 Vegetarian

- **Cafe 79**, 79 Regent's Park Rd, NW1 8UY (*tube: Chalk Farm*), ☎ +44 20 7586-8012. M-Sa 08:30-18:00, Su 09:00-18:00. Simple vegetarian and whole food cafe with many vegan options also. Budget prices.
- **Manna**, 4 Erskine Rd, NW3 3AJ (*tube: Chalk Farm*), ☎ +44 20 7722-8028, e-mail: info@mannav.com. 18:30-23:00 daily, Su noon-15:00. The UK's oldest vegetarian restaurant which has been in operation since 1966. That says a lot about the quality of the food, and the presentation and service are also top notch. £40.

15.8 Drink

Historic pubs are widespread in this district and visitors will have few problems finding a good quality, rewarding option. A vintage of 200 years is by no means unusual for such establishments and many have colourful stories to tell.

This is not a district with any regular after hours nightlife, but it is not far down the hill to the neighbouring areas of **Camden Town** and **King's Cross** where there are many late bar and dance club options.

15.8.1 Hampstead Village and around

Among Hampstead's many pubs are a few traditional jewels, including:

- **The Flask**, 14 Flask Walk, NW3 1HE (*tube: Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7435-4580, e-mail: flask@youngs.co.uk. Bar hours: M-Sa noon-23:00, Su noon-22:30. The name dates from the 18th and 19th centuries, when Hampstead was known as an area with many freshwater springs and people went there to *take the waters*. The current building has been a pub since 1874. Two bar rooms and a separate dining area.



The Holly Bush has been around since 1807

- **The Holly Bush**, 22 Holly Mount, NW3 6SG (*tube: Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7435-2892, e-mail: info@hollybushpub.com. Bar hours: M-Sa noon-23:00, Su noon-22:30. Been around since 1807 and an absolute traditional favorite. Two bar rooms with open fireplaces. Consistently rated as one of the best traditional pubs in the whole of London.
- **The King William IV**, 77 Hampstead High St, NW3 1RE (*tube: Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7435-5747, e-mail: info@kingwilliamhampstead.co.uk. Bar hours: M-Th 11:00-23:00, F-Su 11:00-midnight. London's oldest established gay pub and a pleasant place for a drink whether you are gay or straight. Three bar rooms and a pleasant, if small, outdoor beer garden at the rear. Right in the heart of Hampstead village.
- **The Old Bull and Bush**, N End Rd, NW3 7HE (*tube: Golders Green*), ☎ +44 20 8905-5456, e-mail: info@thebullandbush.co.uk. Bar hours 11:00-23:00 daily. This former farmhouse first gained a licence to sell liquor in 1721 and is the pub that gave rise to famous Victorian music hall song "Down at The Old Bull and Bush". Today it is a thriving pub and one which has modernised sympathetically. A great place to go for a drink and imagine the characters who have done likewise here over the past nearly 300 years.
- **The Spaniard's Inn**, Spaniard's Rd, NW3 7JJ (*tube: Golders Green, then bus 210 which stops*

right outside), ☎ +44 20 8731-8406, e-mail: feedback@thespaniardshampstead.co.uk. Bar 11:00-23:00 daily. Been around since 1585 and has just claims to be one of the most famous pubs in London. Keats, Shelly and Byron all drank here and Dickens mentions it in *Pickwick Papers*. Local lore has it that Dick Turpin used the pub and that his ghost still does. These days it is a decent pub with a real countryside atmosphere.

15.8.2 Elsewhere

- **The Lansdowne**, 90 Gloucester Ave, NW1 8HX (*tube: Chalk Farm*), ☎ +44 20 7483-0409, e-mail: info@thelansdownepub.co.uk. Bar M-F noon-23:00, Sa 09:00-23:00, Su 09:00-22:30. Local favourite with a lively bar downstairs and excellent restaurant on the first floor.
- **The Pembroke Castle**, 150 Gloucester Ave, NW1 8JA (*tube: Chalk Farm and walk across the bridge*), ☎ +44 8721 077 077. Bar M-Sa noon-23:00, Su noon-22:30. Intimate pub with a cozy inside bar and a very popular beer garden which gets packed in summer.
- **The Princess of Wales**, 22 Chalcot Rd, NW1 8LL (*tube: Chalk Farm*), ☎ +44 8721 077 077. Bar M-Sa 11:00-23:00, Su 11:00-22:30. Traditional pub which offers a fine selection of beers and has a relatively broad food menu. Traditional jazz is played on Thursday nights. One of the more reasonably priced pubs in the area.
- **The Sir Richard Steele**, 97 Haverstock Hill, NW3 4RL (*tube: Belsize Pk*), ☎ +44 20 7483-1261, e-mail: info@sirrichardsteele.com. Bar M-Sa 11:00-23:00, Su noon-22:30. Old fashioned London pub which runs a regular program of themed nights including some quite eclectic musical themes. Saturday is comedy night and especially popular. Named after the notable Georgian journalist and writer whose home was formerly on this site,

15.9 Sleep

This is not a district well known for its accommodation options and few visitors stay here. The hotels that are available tend to be in the south of the district, although Hampstead Village itself does have a couple of good quality bed and breakfast options which are very much off the regular tourist path. In West Hampstead, there is a small cluster of budget bed and breakfast options.

- **Charlotte Guest House**, 195-197 Sumatra Rd, NW6 1PF (*tube: West Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7794-6476, e-mail: info@charlotteguesthouse.co.uk.

Traditional B&B with 43 rooms ranging from singles to family suites. The cheapest rooms do not have private bathrooms. From £50.

- **Dawson House**, 72 Canfield Gdns, NW6 3EG (*tube: West Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7624-0079, e-mail: booking@dawsonhousehotel.com. Budget guest house with 15 rooms including family options. A five minute walk to the West Hampstead stations. From £59.
- **Dillons**, 21 Belsize Pk, NW3 4DU (*tube: Belsize Pk*), ☎ +44 20 7794-3360, e-mail: desk@dillonshotel.com. Bed and breakfast in an old converted Victorian building in Belsize Park. Quiet and reserved residential neighbourhood but easy access to Hampstead Village. From £65.
- **Hampstead Village Guest House**, 2 Kemplay Rd, NW3 1SY (*tube: Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7435-8679, e-mail: info@hampsteadguesthouse.com. A real traditional bed and breakfast experience staying in an old family run house in Hampstead Village. A converted Victorian detached house furnished in the period style. Easy five minute walk to Hampstead Heath and the main local shops and cafes. Offers free WiFi. From £90.
- **La Gaffe**, 107-111 Heath St, NW3 6SS (*tube: Hampstead*), ☎ +44 20 7435-8965, e-mail: info@lagaffe.co.uk. Charming boutique-type bed and breakfast accommodation above a restaurant and wine bar of the same name. Family owned and managed. From £85.
- **Langorf Hotel and Apartments**, 20 Froggnal, NW3 6AG (*tube: Finchley Rd*), ☎ +44 20 7794-4483, e-mail: info@langorfhotel.com. Converted townhouse within walking distance of Hampstead Village. From £75.
- **Palmer's Lodge Hostel**, 40 College Cres, NW3 5LB (*tube: Swiss Cottage*), ☎ +44 20 7483-8470, e-mail: reception@palmerslodge.co.uk. A high quality, multi award-winning hostel in a converted Victorian mansion. Has private rooms as well as a number of dorm options. Offers free WiFi, breakfast included in the price and nice touches such as serving free trade coffee only. Dorm beds from £21, double private rooms £77.
- **Swiss Cottage Hotel**, 4 Adamson Rd, NW3 3HP (*tube Swiss Cottage*), ☎ +44 20 7722-2281, e-mail: reservations@swisscottagehotel.co.uk. Converted Victorian townhouse with 59 rooms. Two minute walk to Swiss Cottage tube station. From £56.

15.10 Connect

15.10.1 Internet outlets

- **Belsize Library**, Antrim Rd, NW3 4XN (*tube: Belsize Pk*), ☎ +44 20 7974-6518. Tu W 10:00-19:00, Sa 10:00-17:00, closed M, Th F, Su. A small public library run by Camden Council which offers free public internet access. The queues are often long though.
- **The Internet Cafe**, 235 Finchley Rd, NW3 6LS (*tube: Finchley Rd*), ☎ +44 20 7435-6000. 10:00-21:00 daily. A small internet cafe offering light bites and drinks. Wrong phone number.
- **Queen's Internet Cafe**, 191 Queen's Cres, NW5 4DS (*tube: Belsize Pk*), ☎ +44 20 7485-1558. M-Sa 10:00-18:00. A rather quirky place which doubles as an internet cafe and a supplier of hair grooming products! Very friendly and a reliable, fast connection.
- **Swiss Cottage Library**, 88 Avenue Rd, NW3 3HA (*tube: Swiss Cottage*), ☎ +44 20 7974-6522. M-F 10:00-20:00, Sa 10:00-17:00, Su 11:00-16:00. A public library run by Camden Council which offers free WiFi and a limited number of desktop stations.

15.11 Stay safe

This is a comparatively safe district of London, it is also rather upper-class populated. You are however still in the city, so be sensible, especially after dark. If you do run into any difficulties, these are the main police stations in the district:

- **Hampstead Police Station**, 26 Rosslyn Hill, NW3 1PD (*tube: Hampstead*), ☎ +44 300 123 1212.
- **West Hampstead Police Station**, 21 Fortune Green Rd, NW6 1DX (*tube: West Hampstead*), ☎ +44 300 123 1212.

15.12 Cope

- **Hampstead and Highgate Express** (*The Ham and High*), 100A Avenue Rd, NW3 3HF, ☎ +44 20 7433-0000, e-mail: editorial@hamhigh.co.uk. Very few London districts have their own proper local newspaper (as opposed to a free sheet), but it is no surprise that literary Hampstead does. A great source of local news, events and listings. Published each Thursday, and widely available at newsagents and other outlets throughout the district.

- **Royal Free Hospital**, 23 E Heath Rd, NW3 1DU (*tube: Belsize Pk*), ☎ +44 20 7794-0500. One of London's largest and most famous hospitals. Has a full A&E department.

15.13 Go next

- **Camden Town** with its wonderfully eclectic markets and shops, is just a couple of stops south on the Northern Line.
- From the south of the district, you can easily walk to **Oxford Street** and elsewhere in the West End, through the lovely **Regent's Park**.

Chapter 16

London/Holborn-Clerkenwell



Location of the Holborn-Clerkenwell area in London

Holborn-Clerkenwell is a district in central London.

16.1 Understand



The Great Hall at Lincoln's Inn, Holborn

Holborn and Clerkenwell is in many ways a buffer zone between London's West End and the City of London financial district.

Holborn has long been associated with the legal professions, notably in the Lincoln's Inn area and was also a

major centre of the old British newspaper industry before the advent of new publishing technology.

Clerkenwell is full of architects and publishers, and as a result many new bars and restaurants have cropped up, and continues to be a target for more development. The bars vary from family orientated wine bars, to huge clubs and cool underground bars, and it compares well to its more artistic, trendier neighbour, Shoreditch (in the East End).

16.2 Get in

[?""UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU""?](#)
Map of London/Holborn-Clerkenwell [\(Edit GPX\)?""UNIQ--indicator-00000001-QINU""?](#)

16.2.1 By tube

The district is serviced by the following tube stations:

- Holborn (Central and Piccadilly lines) is at the junction of High Holborn and Kingsway.
- Chancery Lane (Central line) is the best station for accessing Lincoln's Inn and the other Inns of Court.
- Farringdon (Circle, Metropolitan and Hammer-smith & City lines) is the best station for accessing most of Clerkenwell's nightlife.

16.2.2 By train

- Farringdon station offers overland rail services to Brighton, Bedford, and direct connections to London Gatwick and London Luton airports.

16.3 See



Gateway to Lincoln's Inn

16.3.1 Landmarks

- **1 Bunhill Fields Burial Ground**, 38 City Road, EC1Y 1AU (*entrances on Bunhill Row and City Road*). Initially used to bury bones to make space at St Paul's, it was designated as a burial ground during the Great Plague of 1665. Notable interments include Daniel Dafoe, John Bunyan and William Blake. **W**
- **1 The Honourable Society of Gray's Inn** (*Gray's Inn*), Gray's Inn Rd, WC1 (*tube: Chancery Lane*), ☎ +44 20 7458-7800, fax: +44 20 7458-7801. One of the four Inns of Court in London who hold the exclusive right to call qualified legal professionals to the bar, i.e. to become barristers at law. The grand buildings housing the inns are arranged around lovely green gardens. There are records of Gray's Inns operating from this location since the 14th century. **W**
- **1 The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn** (*Lincoln's Inn*), Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2A 3TL (*tube: Holborn or Chancery Lane*), ☎ +44 20 7405-1393, e-mail: mail@lincolnsinn.org.uk. Like Gray's Inn, one the of the four societies of the bar. The wonderful old buildings here are arranged around the open spaces of Lincoln's Inn Fields and a walk around this area will give any visitor a real sense of the history and grand traditions of the legal profession in London. **W**
- **1 Myddelton Square Park**, Myddelton Sq, EC1R (*tube: Angel*), ☎ +44 20 7278-6075. Nice shady park next to St Marks Church. Small children's playground.
- **1 Royal Courts of Justice**, Strand (*tube: Holborn or Charing Cross*), ☎ +44 845 4568770, fax: +44 20 3334-4087. M-F 09:00-16:30 (though Aug-Sept it's only 10:00-14:30). The building holds the High Court and the Court of Appeal, two of the highest courts in the United Kingdom, though only civil cases are heard here. Trials are open to the public, but tourists would probably be more interested in seeing the impressive entrance hall, and admiring the stunning Victorian Gothic exterior. Free. **W**
- **1 Staple Inn**, High Holborn, WC1V 7QH (*tube: Chancery Lane*). See the rare range of Tudor half-timbered buildings. Staple Inn was built in 1585 and served as an inn Inn of Chancery (law school). Most of it escaped both the Great Fire and the German air raids, unlike other buildings in the area. The western end is actually from a different, adjoining building—which was incorporated into the Inn with a unified facade during restoration work in 1936, although the difference can still be seen in the roofing and slightly different style. One of Charles Dickens's homes was on the site and it featured in his *Mystery of Edwin Drood*. **W**
- **1 Temple Church**, Inner Temple, Fleet St, EC4Y 7HL (*tube: Temple*), ☎ +44 20 7353-3470, fax: +44 20 7353-1736, e-mail: verger@templechurch.com. Has a history dating back to the 12th century with connections to the order of Templars. The chancel of the church was build by Henry III. The church still serves the members of Gray's Inn and Lincoln's Inn and has frequent service open to the public. **W**
- **1 Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission**, 49 City Rd, EC1Y 1AU, ☎ +44 20 7253-2262, fax: +44 20 7608-3825, e-mail: administration@wesleyschapel.org.uk. Museum: M-Sa 1000-1600, Su noon-1345. John Wesley, founder of the Methodist church, laid the foundation stone, preached here and is buried behind the chapel. The site also contains the Museum of Methodism. Free (donations welcome). **W**
- **1 Two Temple Place** (*Astor House*), Two Temple Place, WC2R 3BD (*tube: Temple*), ☎ +44 20 7240 6044, e-mail: Alexandra@bulldogtrust.org. Only during exhibitions Jan-Apr Mo Th-Sa 10:00-16:30, We 10:00-21:00, Su 11:00-16:30. A former home for William Waldorf Astor, a wealthy American moved to London at the end of 19th century. This Victorian house, built between 1892-1895 by John Loughborough Pearson. is richly decorated from outside, but even more rich and eclectic inside. Currently the building is owned by *The Bulldog Trust* and it's open to the public during exhibitions. For exact dates/time check with their [exhibitions schedule](#). A café, a shop and a cloakroom are open for visitors during these days. **W** (updated Dec 2016)

16.3.2 Museums

- **1 Hunterian Museum**, 35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2A 3PE (*tube: Holborn*), ☎ +44

20 7405-3474, fax: +44 20 7869-6564, e-mail: museums@rcseng.ac.uk. Tu-Sa 10:00-17:00. Inside the Royal College of Surgeons. Exhibitions on the history of surgery, including medicine, natural history and art. The museum was established by John Hunter (1728-1793), the founder of scientific surgery. Free.

- **1 Islington Museum**, 245 St John St, EC1V 4NB (*tube: Angel*), ☎ +44 20 7527-3235, e-mail: islington.museum@islington.gov.uk. M Tu, Th-Sa 10:00-17:00. Local history museum. **W**
- **1 Museum of the Order of St John**, St John's Gate, St John's Lane, EC1M 4DA (*tube: Farringdon*), ☎ +44 20 7324-4005, e-mail: museum@sja.org.uk. M-Sa 10:00-17:00. Museum in the former English headquarters of the Knights Hospitaller, covering the history of the order from crusading knights to modern first aid organisation. Free. **W**
- **1 Sir John Soane's Museum**, 13 Lincoln's Inn Fields WC2A 3BP (*tube: Holborn*), ☎ +44 20 7440-4263. Tu-Sa 10:00-17:00. The former home of architect Sir John Soane, the building has been converted into a museum, displaying some of the objects he collected during his lifetime, including the alabaster sarcophagus of Seti I, and paintings by artists including William Hogarth. There is a display of some of Soane's architectural plans on the upper floor. Be sure to wait in the picture room until the guides open the walls up to reveal further paintings behind. The museum is a little-known tourist attraction, but well worth a visit. Admission free (but you're encouraged to leave a donation). **W**
- **1 Somerset House**, Somerset House, Strand WC2R 1LA (*tube: Charing Cross*), ☎ +44 20 7845-4600. 10:00-18:00. Somerset House is home to three art galleries: The exceptional **Courtauld Institute** displays a collection of 19th and 20th century art, including well-known works by Degas, Matisse and Kandinsky; The Gilbert Collection presents a collection of decorative art; and The Hermitage Rooms, the most recent addition to Somerset House, hosts temporary exhibitions of works on loan from the Hermitage Museum in Saint Petersburg. The central courtyard is filled with fountains in the Summer, but in the Winter, an ice rink is installed, it is very popular, so visitors should book in advance, or expect to wait a long time to skate. £5 (admission fee to each of the three galleries). **W**

16.4 Do

- **1 Conway Hall**, 25 Red Lion Sq, WC1R 4RL (*tube: Holborn*), ☎ +44 20 7242-8032, fax: +44 20 7242-

8036, e-mail: conwayhall@ethicalsoc.org.uk. Theatre and concert hall. Home of the National Secular Society and the South Place Ethical Society: often hosts lively debates on religion, politics and secularism.

- **1 Gresham College**, Barnard's Inn Hall, EC1N 2HH (*tube: Chancery Lane*), ☎ +44 20 7831-0575, e-mail: enquiries@gresham.ac.uk. Attend free public lectures, in Barnard's Inn Hall (mostly, but other venues are used as well), renowned historic Inn of Court featured in Charles Dickens' *Great Expectations*.
- **1 London School of Economics**, Conference and Events Office, Houghton St, WC2A 2AE (*venues vary within the campus, see individual listings*), ☎ +44 20 7955-6043. LSE hosts a prestigious public lectures programme, which is nearly always free to attend, but may require a ticket in advance for a lecture by a Head of State or Nobel Prize winner. Usually free..
- **1 Peacock Theatre**, Portugal St, WC2A 2HT (*tube: Holborn*), ☎ +44 20 7492-1593. Booking M-F 08:00-19:00, Sa 10:00-17:00. Owned by LSE, and actually part of their campus, this theatre is currently leased to Sadler's Wells as "Sadler's Wells in the West End".
- **1 Sadler's Wells Theatre**, Rosebery Ave, EC1R 4TN (*tube: Angel*), ☎ +44 20 7863-8000. Leading dance production theatre with an amazing history back to the 1690s. Everything from classical ballet to hip hop. For ballet fans, you have often got a much better chance of securing a ticket here than in the Covent Garden venues. Also attached is the Lilian Baylis Theatre, primarily performances by students.
- **Somerset House Ice Rink**, Somerset House, Strand, WC2R 1LA (*tube: Charing Cross*), ☎ +44 20 7845-4600. In the courtyard of Somerset House, this has become a Londoner's favorite, although how it will compete with the newcomers remains to be seen. It is preferable to visit at night, when the Christmas tree is lit up.
- **History of Drinking Tour**, ☎ +44 844 504 808. Guided walking tours covering the history of Britain's love affair with alcohol. Stops off at 4 attractive pubs over the course of two hours.

16.5 Buy

- **1 Exmouth Market**, Exmouth Market, EC1R 4QA (*tube: Farringdon or Angel*). M-Sa 09:00-18:00. Area with lifestyle, fashion, health, book and interior shops.

- **1 Hatton Garden**, Hatton Gdn, EC1N (*tube: Chancery Lane*). This street is the centre of London's jewellery trade and especially famous for diamonds. A lot of dealers and designers to choose from, both contemporary and traditional.
- **1 Leather Lane Market**, Leather Ln, EC1N (*tube: Chancery Lane*). M–F 10:00–15:00. Not much leather sold here these days but worth a visit for some great cheap finds. Clothing, electrical goods, toiletries and food. Combines well with a visit to Hatton Garden which is in the next street east.
- **1 Magma Books**, 117–119 Clerkenwell Rd, EC1R 5BY (*tube: Chancery Lane or Farringdon*), ☎ +44 20 7242-9503, fax: +44 20 7242-9504, e-mail: enquiries@magmabooks.com. M–Sa 10:00–19:00. A fine bookshop specialising in the graphic arts, as well as toys, for not-quite-grown-up boys. A good place to pick up foreign design titles, or simply waste an hour browsing through lots of pretty books. A valuable stop for graphic junkies.
- **1 The Old Curiosity Shop**, 13–14 Portsmouth St, WC2A 2ES (*tube: Holborn*), ☎ +44 20 7405-9891. M–Sa 10:30–19:00. The original shop immortalised in the Charles Dickens' novel by the same name. Nestled amongst the campus of LSE, it is worth a visit just for the old Tudor design itself. As the name suggests, it sells some oddities and knick-knacks, but mostly shoes these days.
- **1 Smithfield Market**, 225 Central Markets, EC1A 9LH (*tube: Farringdon*), ☎ +44 20 7248-3151. M–F 03:00–noon. Smithfield Market is London's largest wholesale meat market and hence a great source of fresh meat from Britain and around the world. Additionally, there are many good restaurants in the vicinity.

16.6 Eat

16.6.1 Budget

- **1 Blue Lion**, 133 Gray's Inn Rd, WC1X 8TZ (*tube: Chancery Ln or Russell Sq, opposite the ITN building*). Offers good food in an easy pub atmosphere.
- **Hare Khrisna cart**, Houghton St. M–F 13:00–14:00. Shows up on the edge of Houghton St regularly on weekdays between 1–2pm offering free vegan food, if you don't mind the soggy and queue. (Alternatively, there is a Hare Khrisna temple at **Soho Sq** if you like proper vegan curry).
- **1 L'Osteria 57**, 57 Gray's Inn Rd, WC1X 8PP (*tube: Chancery Lane*), ☎ +44 20 7430-1990. Italian bistro with large range of pasta dishes and a carne menu. Inside and casual sidewalk seating. Mains £6–14.
- **My Old Dutch**. Pancake house. Offers £5 for any pancakes, but only on Monday. Nice selection of Dutch and European beers. £4–10.
- **Necco**, 52–54 Exmouth Market, ☎ +44 20 7713-8575. M–Sa noon–21:30. Japanese cafe bar with home-made sushi and a range of bento-box combinations. Friendly staff. Lunch around £6.50.
- **The Three Tuns**. LSE Student Union bar, which sells tasty lunchtime meals. £4–6.
- **1 Tinseltown**, 44–46 St John Street, EC1M 4DF (*tube: Farringdon or Barbican*), ☎ +44 20 7689-2424. M–Th noon–05:00; F–Sa noon–04:00; Su noon–03:00. Halal American-style diner, serving burgers, steaks, and grills. Good for Muslims on a budget and hungry, early-morning clubbers. Burger and side dish from £6.99.
- **Quad**. LSE Student Union bar, which sells tasty lunchtime meals. £4–6.
- **1 Whitecross Street Market**, 1 Whitecross Street, EC1V 9AB, ☎ +44 20 7527-1761. M–Sa 10:00–17:00. Eclectic street-food market.
- **Wright's Bar**, Houghton St, Clare Market. Excellent value little cafe with friendly Italian family serving, tasty sandwiches and coffee. Get's crowded with LSE students come lunch.

16.6.2 Mid-range

- **1 Carnevale**, 135 Whitecross Street, EC1Y 8JL, ☎ +44 20 7250-3452, fax: +44 20 7608-2504, e-mail: admin@carnevalerestaurant.co.uk. M–F 12:00–15:30/17:30–23:00; Sa 17:30–23:00. Small vegetarian restaurant with integral deli. Main meal £12.50.
- **The Green**, 29 Clerkenwell Green, EC1R 0DU (*tube: Farringdon*), ☎ +44 20 7490-8010, e-mail: hello@thegreenec1.co.uk. Easygoing gastro-pub with good quality, reasonably priced lunch menu, and tapas in the evening. £10–15 mains.
- **Isolabella**, 45 Red Lion St, WC1R 4PF (*tube: Holborn*), ☎ +44 20 7405-6830, e-mail: info@lingottorestaurant.com. Italian restaurant.
- **Little Bay Farringdon**, 171 Farringdon Rd, EC1R 3AL (*tube: Farringdon*), ☎ +44 20 278-1234, e-mail: farringdon@littlebay.co.uk. M–Sa noon–midnight, Su noon–23:00. European restaurant. Three-course meal £11.00–16.00.
- **1 McQueen**, 55–61 Tabernacle St (*tube: Old Street*), ☎ +44 20 7036-9229.

- **Moro**, 34-36 Exmouth Market, EC1R 4QE (*tube: Angel, Farringdon*), ☎ +44 20 7833-8336, e-mail: info@moro.co.uk. M-Sa 12:30-22:20 (14:30-19:00 tapas only). Offering North African/Spanish cuisine and serving the best tapas in the city. While there are endless options for meat eaters, there are also some tasty delights for vegetarians. Mains £18.50.
- **1 Smiths of Smithfield**, 67-77 Charterhouse Street, EC1M 6HJ, ☎ +44 20 7251-7950. Mo-Fr noon-1500/1800-2300; Sa 1800-2300; Su closed. Grade II listed four-floor restaurant in Smithfield Market. Opening hours listed are for top-floor restaurant and terrace. Ground floor cafe and bar open longer hours: Mo-Fr 0700-1700; Sa-Su 0930-1700. Main meal from £16.

16.6.3 Splurge

- **Pearl Restaurant**, 252 High Holborn, WC1V 7EN (*tube: Holborn*), ☎ +44 20 7829-7000, e-mail: info@pearl-restaurant.com. M-F noon-14:30, 18:00-22:00, Sa 18:00-22:00. Modern international. Two course-menu £47.

16.7 Drink

16.7.1 Pubs and bars

Clerkenwell

- **1 Betsey Trotwood**, 56 Farringdon Rd (*tube: Farringdon*). Live music in the cellar every Friday. Venue is like a very small dungeon, but they know what is good music.
- **1 The Craft Beer Company**, 82 Leather Ln, EC1N 7TR (*tube: Farringdon or Chancery Lane*), e-mail: clerkenwell@thecraftbeerco.com. M-Sa noon-23:00; Su noon-22:30. One of RateBeer's Top 50 bars in the world, and only one of two in the UK (see CASK Pub & Kitchen in Pimlico for the other). Famous for its vast selection beers: cask, keg and bottle.
- **1 Crown Tavern**, 43 Clerkenwell Green, EC1R 0EG (*tube: Farringdon*), ☎ +44 20 7253-4973. M-Fr noon-23:00; Sa-Su 10:00-23:00. A large, traditional pub, rebuilt in 1815 but claiming a history on this site back to 1641. In good weather, outdoor tables in the square can be pleasant. London legend claims that Stalin and Lenin first met in this pub, in a back room (under the "Conspirators' Clock") in 1903.
- **1 The Dovetail**, 9-10 Jerusalem Passage EC1V 4JP, ☎ +44 20 7490-7321, e-mail:



Ye Old Mitre

dovetail@dovepubs.com. Mo-Sa noon-2300; Su closed. Small Belgian bar serving Belgian beer and Belgian food.

- **1 Fluid**, 40-42 Charterhouse St, EC1M 6JN (*tube: Barbican*), ☎ +44 20 7253-3444. Tu W 19:00-midnight, Th-Sa 21:00-02:00. A stylish loosely Japanese themed bar upstairs (they serve sushi), with a more spread out dance floor down a spiral metal staircase. Plenty of sofas everywhere, although on the weekends you will have to get down early to slump in a chair. Bottled beers £2.90+, cocktails £6+. Free entry, except F Sa 21:00-22:00 £3, after £5.
- **1 Fox & Anchor**, 115 Charterhouse St, EC1M 6AA (*tube: Barbican*), ☎ +44 20 7250-1300, e-mail: info@foxandanchor.com. M-Th 07:00-23:00; F 07:00-midnight; Sa 08:30-midnight; Su 08:30-22:00. Independent traditional pub quite close to the Barbican. Beers are often served in pewter tankards for the extra traditional touch. Six rooms are available as well for those who want to sleep where they drink (or just near the Barbican). Great atmosphere but it can be a little more expensive than average, especially the food and lodging.
- **1 Horseshoe**, 24 Clerkenwell Cl, EC1R 0AG (*tube: Farringdon*), ☎ +44 20 7253-6068. Irish pub where they play live Irish music every Thursday at 20:00

(check it on the net!). But, be there in due time, else you risk house full!

- **1 Jerusalem Tavern**, 55 Britton Street, EC1M 5UQ (*tube: Farringdon*), ☎ +44 20 7490-4281. A converted Georgian coffee shop, which sells the Norfolk beer, St. Peters. Well worth a visit but after 17:00 on weekdays, it gets flooded with City workers.

Finsbury

- **1 Cafe Kick**, 43 Exmouth Market, EC1R 4QL (*tube: Angel or Farringdon*), ☎ +44 20 7837-8077. 11:–23:00 daily (Su 22:30). Hidden down a back-street away from the busier parts of Clerkenwell, lies a cosy little bar crammed with several table football machines, and a good selection of cocktails. In the summer people spread out onto the pedestrianised street and chat in the sun. Happy hour 16:00-19:00 daily.
- **1 Water Rats Pub**, 328 Gray's Inn Rd, WC1X 8BZ (*tube: King's Cross*), ☎ +44 20 7209-8747. Has regular live bands.

Holborn

- **1 Cittie of Yorke**, 22 High Holborn, WC1V 6BS (*tube: Chancery Lane*), ☎ +44 20 7242-7670. M–Sa noon–23:00; Su closed. The interior gives the impression of being a historic relic but it was only built in 1924 (although there have been other pubs on the site since 1430). Lack of authenticity aside, it really is an impressive and atmospheric pub, a grade II listed building and on CAMRA's national inventory of historic pub interiors.
- **1 The Knights Templar**, 95 Chancery Ln, WC2A 1DT (*tube: Chancery Lane*), ☎ +44 20 7831-2660. M–W 08:00–23:00; Th–F 08:00–23:30; Sa 11:00–17:00; Su closed. Part of the JD Wetherspoon chain. The building is the former Union Bank and it has nice high-vaulted ceilings with black pillars. The drinks range includes a range of often changing guests beers.
- **1 The Penderel's Oak**, 286–288 High Holborn, WC1V 7HJ (*tube: Holborn*), ☎ +44 20 7242-5669. Su–Th 08:00–midnight; F–Sa 08:00–01:00. Part of the JD Wetherspoon chain. The open-plan, L-shaped ground floor bar is known for a varied selection of guest beers (but poor Wi-Fi). The basement bar is actually part of the Lloyds No. 1 chain, with background music and a different atmosphere.
- **1 The Shakespeare's Head**, 64-68 Kingsway, WC2B 6BG (*tube: Holborn*), ☎ +44 20 7404-8846.

M–Th 08:00–midnight; F 07:00–01:00; Sa 08:00–01:00; Su 08:00–midnight. Part of the JD Wetherspoon chain.

- **1 The Square Pig**, 30-32 Procter St, WC1V 6NX (*tube: Holborn*), ☎ +44 20 7691-3144. M–F noon–23:00. Can be pricey and crowded too, but that's because its used for large language-exchange and on-line meet-ups.
- **1 Ye Olde Mitre**, 1 Ely Ct, EC1N 6SJ (*tube: Chancery Lane or Farringdon; down a narrow alley between Hatton Gdn and Ely Pl*), ☎ +44 20 7405-4751, e-mail: yeoldemitre@fullers.co.uk. M–F 11:00–23:00; Sa–Su closed. Called the hardest to find pub in London. A small but historic and award-winning pub; it dates to 1586 and marked the boundary between the gardens of Christopher Hatton and the Bishop of Ely. Parts of the Tudor pub remain, although it was rebuilt in 1757 and partially altered in 1781 and 1930; now a Grade II listed building. It's tied to Fuller's brewery, so it has their usual range plus a few unusual guests. Only open one weekend in the year, to coincide with CAMRA's Great British Beer Festival in August.
- **1 Ye Old White Horse (The Horse)**, 2 St. Clements Ln, WC2A 2HA (*tube: Holborn*), ☎ +44 20 7242-5618. M–Sa 11:00-23:00. Great little Victorian pub adjacent to the LSE campus. The Horse is one of the last remaining little boozers of its kind; a true throwback. Warm, welcoming, well-preserved interior, well-kept real ales, and a low-priced selection of sandwiches and pub meals make this place worth a visit while passing through Holborn.

St. Luke's

- **1 Old Fountain**, 31 Baldwin Street, EC1V 9NU (*tube: Old Street*), ☎ +44 20 7253-2970. Mo–Fr 1100-2300; Sa–Su noon-2300. Local CAMRA Pub of the Year 2011. This traditional pub is known for its large beer selection, mostly from local and micro-breweries.

16.7.2 Clubs

- **1 Fabric**, 77a Charterhouse St, EC1M 6HJ (*tube: Farringdon*), ☎ +44 20 7336-8898. Th–Sa times vary (check listings). A massive club (think cathedral scale) that provides a more underground version of Ministry of Sound and hosts some of the biggest names in dance music, from Goldie to David Holmes to the Scratch Perverts. There are always big queues, so get down early if you can. Entry £12-18, discount for NUS.
- **1 The Nightjar**, 129 City Road, EC1V 1JB (*tube: Old Street*), ☎ +44 20 7253-4101, e-mail:

info@barnightjar.com. Su-We 1800-0100; Th 1800-0200; Fr-Sa 1800-0300. Speakeasy-style cocktail bar. Regular live music fitting the prohibition era theme. Entry We-Th £5, Fr-Sa £7. Cocktails from £9.

- **1 SOSHO**, 2 Tabernacle St (*tube: Old Street*), ☎ +44 20 7920-0701. Tu noon-midnight, W Th noon-01:00, F noon-03:00, Sa 19:00-04:00, Su 21:00-06:00. Sosho is a former photographic studio and warehouse space converted into a two floor restaurant, bar, lounge and club with a 24 hour licence, midway between the city and central Shoreditch. Sosho is light and airy during the day time, candle lit and loungey in the evening. Serve carefully sourced and *proper food*, with world class cocktails and great music on one of East London's best sound system. With a 24 hour licence it is a late night drinking and DJ bar during the week and a cutting edge clubbing venue at the weekend.
- **1 The Zetter Townhouse**, 49-50 St John's Square, EC1V 4JJ, ☎ +44 20 7324-4545, e-mail: feedback@thezetter.com. Su-We 0700-midnight; Th-Sa 0700-0100. Cocktail lounge in a Georgian townhouse. Also offers some accommodation with thirteen rooms available for hire cocktails from £8.50.

- **1 MiNC Eagle Court**, Eagle Court, 10-11 Britton St, EC1M 5QD (*tube: Farringdon*), ☎ +44 20 7397-1325, e-mail: sales@mincapartments.com. Studio, one and two bedroom service apartments. Very modern and nicely appointed. From £99.

16.8.3 Splurge

- **1 Malmaison London**, 18-21 Charterhouse Sq, EC1M 6AH (*tube: Barbican*), ☎ +44 20 7012-3700, e-mail: london@malmaison.com. Around £200.
- **1 Rosewood Chancery Court London**, 252 High Holborn, WC1V 7EN (*tube: Holborn*), ☎ +44 20 7781-8888, e-mail: london@rosewoodhotels.com. Try this hotel for a very upscale experience. It is in an older building that has been beautifully renovated (formerly HQ of Pearl Assurance). There is high-speed internet, but the charge is £15 per day. The hotel is air-conditioned. The staff is very helpful. A great experience, if you can pay the rates. From £204.
- **1 The Rookery**, Peter's Ln, Cowcross St, EC1M 6DS (*tube: Farringdon*), ☎ +44 20 7336-0931, e-mail: reservations@rookery.co.uk. An atmosphere and decor that more recalls a private gentleman's club than a hotel. From £149.

16.8 Sleep

There are not too many hotel options in this district and visitors are better off looking in neighbouring Bloomsbury.

16.8.1 Budget

- **London School of Economics** (*during vacations*). Single from £32, twin from £50, triple from £64.
- **1 Swinton Hotel**, 18-24 Swinton St, WC1X 9NX (*tube: Kings Cross*), ☎ +44 20 7837-1451, e-mail: swintonhotel@hotmail.com. Good value bed and breakfast in the north west of the district. From £55.

16.8.2 Mid-range

- **1 Hotel Strand Continental**, 143 Strand, WC2R 1JA (*tube: Temple*), ☎ +44 20 7836-4880, e-mail: strandcontinentalhotel@gmail.com. Excellently-located on south side of the Aldwych, straddling Westminster and the City. While it could be noisy at night and it appears small and grimy from the outside, there is a superb Indian restaurant on the 2nd floor. From £70.

16.9 Connect

The only real way to connect is to be inside a business that has Wi-Fi.

16.10 Cope

16.10.1 Newspapers and magazines

- **The Clerkenwell Post**, a local lifestyle paper.

16.11 Go next

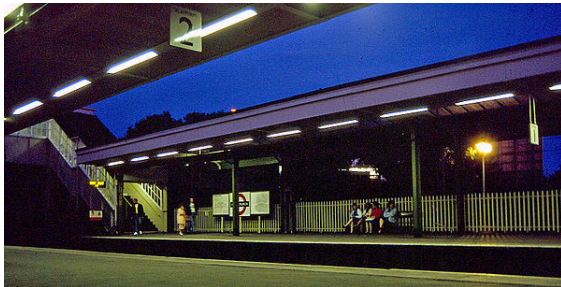
Chapter 17

London/Hornchurch

Hornchurch is an outer district of **East London, England**. It is located about fifteen miles from the centre of the city, in the London Borough of Havering. It is one of two main **tourist centres in Havering** and extends to include the neighbouring areas of **Rainham** and **Upminster**, with a collection of small museums and heritage sites. The area is primarily a residential suburb, but has some value hotel accommodation and is on the London Underground network. It has a large theatre and is a popular location for weddings. There is a large retail area which has a good selection of restaurants, cafes and bars. There are a lot of outdoor activities, parklands and hiking trails.

- **1 Hornchurch London Underground**, Station Lane, Hornchurch, RM12 6LS (*Half a mile south of the town centre*), ☎ +44 3432221234. Mon-Sat 05:00-01:30; Sun 05:30-01:00. On the District line
- **1 Elm Park London Underground**, The Broadway, Hornchurch, RM12 4RW (*1.5 miles southwest of the town centre*), ☎ +44 3432221234. Mon-Sat 05:00-01:30; Sun 05:30-01:00. On the District line
- **1 Upminster Bridge London Underground**, Upminster Road, Hornchurch, RM12 6PL (*1 mile east of the town centre*), ☎ +44 3432221234. Mon-Sat 05:00-01:30; Sun 05:30-01:00. On the District line

17.1 Get in



Hornchurch Tube Station has frequent direct services to Central London, Ealing Broadway, Richmond, Upminster and Wimbledon

On public transport, coming from the City of London the quickest route is a **c2c train** from Fenchurch Street to Upminster and then the District line. From the rest of Central London the journey is best completed by using the London Underground.

17.1.1 By tube

There are three London Underground stations around Hornchurch, none are especially close to the town centre:

17.1.2 By train

The nearest National Rail station is at Emerson Park to the north (served by **Greater Anglia**). This has limited services and requires a connection at either Upminster or Romford.

- **Emerson Park** (*North of the town centre*). Greater Anglia services from Romford and Upminster
- **Rainham** (*About three miles south of Hornchurch town centre*). c2c services from Fenchurch Street and Grays
- **Upminster** (*About a mile east of Hornchurch town centre*). c2c services from Fenchurch Street, Tilbury and Southend. Interchange with the District line

17.1.3 By bus

London Buses routes 165, 193, 248, 252, 256, 365 (24 hour), 370 and 372 all pass through or near **Hornchurch Town Centre**. These routes provide connections to the three tube stations and the National Rail stations mentioned above. 24 hour route 365 provides a connection with the rest of the night bus network at Romford.

- **165.** Rainham—Elm Park—**Hornchurch**—Emerson Park—Romford

- **193.** County Park—**Hornchurch**—Romford—Queen's Hospital
- **248.** Cranham—Upminster—**Hornchurch**—Roneo Corner—Romford
- **252.** **Hornchurch**—Elm Park—Roneo Corner—Romford—Collier Row
- **256.** **Hornchurch**—Emerson Park—Ardleigh Green—Harold Wood—Harold Hill—Noak Hill
- **365.** 24 hour. South Hornchurch—Elm Park—**Hornchurch**—Roneo Corner—Queen's Hospital—Romford—Collier Row—Havering Park
- **370.** Lakeside—South Ockendon—North Ockendon—Upminster—**Hornchurch**—Emerson Park—Heath Park—Romford
- **372.** Lakeside—Aveley—Wennington—Rainham—South Hornchurch—Elm Park—**Hornchurch**

17.1.4 By car

The nearest trunk routes are the A12, A127, A13 and M25

17.2 See

?""UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU""?
Map of London/Hornchurch

17.2.1 Hornchurch cultural centre

Hornchurch has a large theatre and an arts space. There is an annual Hornchurch Festival.

- **1 Fairkytes Arts Centre**, 53 Billet Lane, Hornchurch, RM11 1AX, ☎ +44 1708 456308. Arts centre with occasional public events and exhibits
- **1 Queen's Theatre**, Billet Lane, Hornchurch, RM11 1QT, ☎ +44 1708 443333. 500-seat theatre with an active production company called Cut to the Chase and regular performances. The theatre opened in its current purpose-built site in 1975. The Arts Council of England provide funding for the theatre and it is also a registered charity. **W**

17.2.2 Upminster heritage sites

Upminster has three heritage sites. They have limited opening, mostly weekends during the summer. To make visiting easier, they all open at the same time, and are within walking distance of each other.

- **1 Old Chapel**, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QR. 14:00 to 17:00. Grade II listed and recently restored chapel for Protestant Dissenters. Free.
- **1 Tithe Barn Museum**, Hall Lane, Upminster, RM14 2TX, ☎ +44 1708 500600. Collection of 14,500 artifacts of domestic and agricultural use, ranging from Roman times to the present day. The thatched building it is located in dates from 1450. Free. **W**
- **1 Upminster Windmill**, St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 2QL, ☎ +44 3000301803. 14:00 to 17:00. Grade II* listed smock mill that is being restored to be a working windmill. Free. **W**

17.2.3 Rainham and the River Thames

Rainham is about three miles south of Hornchurch town centre on the River Thames and has become a tourist destination since the development of the RSPB Rainham nature reserve.

- **1 Rainham Hall**, The Broadway, Rainham, RM13 9YN, ☎ +44 20 7799-4552, e-mail: rainhamhall@nationaltrust.org.uk. Limited opening **W**
- **1 RSPB Rainham**, ☎ +44 1708 899840, e-mail: rainham.marshes@rspb.org.uk. **W**

17.2.4 Parks

The area has a lot of good quality large parks. Many of them form part of the Thames Chase community forest.

- **1 Harrow Lodge Park**, Hornchurch Road, Hornchurch, RM12 4AD. Park with a boating lake and cafe **W**
- **1 Hornchurch Country Park (Thames Chase)**, Squadrons Approach, Hornchurch, RM12 6TS. Park on the former site of Hornchurch Airfield, south of Hornchurch. The River Ingrebourne passes through it. The most popular part of the park is to the west of the Ingrebourne, where the ground is flat and paved; this area is most commonly frequented by dog walkers. The woodland to the east of the river is somewhat inaccessible. There is a fishing lake and there are many paths leading from the park

to other near by areas, including Upminster, Dagenham and Rainham. There are a number of pillboxes and other items dating from the Second World War. **W**

17.2.5 Sports

There is a stadium on the boundary between Hornchurch and Upminster, home to local sports team. It is also possible to see cricket matches during the summer at Harrow Lodge Park.

- **1 Hornchurch Stadium**, Bridge Avenue, Upminster, RM14 2LX, ☎ +44 1708 431618. Home to AFC Hornchurch, a non-league football teams and Havering Mayesbrook Athletic Club. **W**

17.3 Do

- **1 Delta Force** (*East London Paintball Centre*), Aveley Road, Upminster, RM14 2TN.
- **1 Hornchurch Sports Centre**, Hornchurch Road, Hornchurch, RM11 1JU. You can find several activities like swimming, squash, cricket and gym.
- **1 Langtons House**, ☎ +44 1708 433523. Langtons House is the register office of the London Borough of Havering. It is a Georgian Grade II listed building overlooking landscaped gardens and an ornamental lake. It includes function rooms and is a popular location for weddings and civil partnerships. The grounds are open as a public park. There is an annual free concert in the summer.
- **1 London LOOP hiking trail** (*Section 22 starts at Harold Wood, 23 at Upminster Bridge and 24 at Rainham*). Hiking trail that encircles the whole of London. **W** ■■■
- **Mayhem Paintball**, 62-64 Globe Rd London E1 4DS, ☎ +44 20 7600-5030, e-mail: info@mayhempaintball.co.uk. 9AM - 5PM. Paintballing center in London easily accessible to Hornchurch.

17.4 Buy

Hornchurch has a good selection of basic high street shops, but offers little more. There are large malls that can be accessed by car and public transport at *Intu Lakeside* and *Westfield Stratford City*. Nearby *Romford* has a wide selection of shops and several shopping centres.

17.5 Eat

There are lots of restaurants throughout Hornchurch, both independent and chains. Many are around the high street area:

17.5.1 Independent

- **1 Le Moulin**, 18B Station Lane, Hornchurch, RM12 6NJ, ☎ +44 1708 472121. Independent authentic French patisserie with good coffee
- **1 Osteria Due Fratelli**, 13-15 Station Lane, Hornchurch, RM12 6JL (*Half a mile north of Hornchurch London Underground Station*), ☎ +44 1708 474054. Independent Italian restaurant £.
- **1 Simply Blues**, 48 Station Lane, Hornchurch, RM12 6NB, ☎ +44 1708 440438. Independent American-style restaurant

17.5.2 Chains

- **1 Ask Italian**, 168 High Street, Hornchurch, RM12 6QU, ☎ +44 1708 464798.
- **1 Chimichanga**, 40-44 Station Lane, Hornchurch, RM12 6NB, ☎ +44 1708 476891. Chain Mexican restaurant £.
- **1 Havester** (*The Compasses*), 125 Abbs Cross Lane, Hornchurch, RM12 4XS, ☎ +44 1708 450240. £.
- **1 Nando's**, 18B Station Lane, Hornchurch, RM12 6NJ, ☎ +44 1708 472121.
- **1 Pizza Express**, 131-133 St Mary's Lane, Upminster RM14 2SH, ☎ +44 1708 224111.
- **1 Prezzo**, 189 High Street, Hornchurch, RM11 3XT, ☎ +44 1708 455501. Chain Italian restaurant
- **1 Wildwood**, 168 High Street, Hornchurch, RM12 6QU (*Half a mile north of Hornchurch London Underground Station*), ☎ +44 1708 471429. £.
- **1 Zizzi**, 41-43 Station Lane, Hornchurch, RM12 6JT. Chain Italian restaurant. Check their website for voucher offers

17.5.3 Indian restaurants

This area has a surprisingly large collection of Indian restaurants:

- **1 Alishan**, 27 Station Road, Upminster, RM14 2SJ, ☎ +44 1708 220131.
- **1 Bollywood Spice**, 197 St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 3BU, ☎ +44 1708 222232.

- 1 **Cafe Le Raj**, 167 St Mary's Lane, Upminster, RM14 3BL, ☎ +44 1708 640340.
- **Cranham Tandoori**.
- **Ek**.
- **Kalijeera**.
- **Korai**.
- **Kushoom Bugh**.
- **Little India**.
- **Masala Grill**.
- **Mustard**.
- **Noor**.
- **Passage To India**.
- **Pink Garlic**.
- **Raj of India**.
- **Spice of India**.
- **Taste of Bengal**.
- **Zarana**.

17.6 Drink

17.6.1 Coffee shops

- 1 **iCoffee**, 7 Suttons Lane, Hornchurch RM12 6RD (*Located just south of Hornchurch London Underground Station*), ☎ +44 1708 450894. Independent coffee shop
- 1 **Starbucks**, 127-133 High Street, Hornchurch, RM11 1TX, ☎ +44 1708 475565.

17.6.2 Pubs and bars

- 1 **The Fatling**, 109 High Street, Hornchurch, RM11 1TX, ☎ +44 1708 442125. New pub opens Thursday 21 November 2013
- 1 **The Harrow** (*Ember Pub & Dining*), 130 Hornchurch Road, Hornchurch, RM11 1DP.
- 1 **J.J. Moon's** (*Wetherspoon*), 46-62 High Street, Hornchurch, RM12 4UN, ☎ +44 1708 478410.
- 1 **KC's**, 155 Billet Lane, Hornchurch, RM11 1UR (*Opposite Emerson Park Station*), ☎ +44 1708 608112.
- 1 **Railway Hotel** (*Ember Inns*), Station Lane, Hornchurch, RM12 6SB.

- 1 **Sutton Arms**, 14-16 Station Lane, Hornchurch, RM12 6NJ.
- 1 **The Windmill** (*Greene King*), 167 Upminster Road, Upminster, RM14 2RB, ☎ +44 1708 442657.

17.7 Sleep

Hotels in walking distance of the town centre and London Underground:

- 1 **Devonshire Hotel**, 94 Station Lane, Hornchurch, RM12 6LX (*Approximately a quarter mile north of Hornchurch London Underground Station*), ☎ +44 1708 440088, fax: +44 1708 202488. £58+.
- 1 **Innkeepers Lodge** (*Railway Hotel*), Station Lane, Hornchurch, RM12 6SB (*Adjacent to Hornchurch London Underground Station*), ☎ +44 845 1551551. £39+.

Hotels more suited to driving:

- 1 **Bell Inn**, 32 Broadway, Rainham, RM13 9YW, ☎ +44 1708 525496. £25-40.
- 1 **Manor Hotel**, Berwick Pond Road, Rainham, RM13 9EL, ☎ +44 1708 555586.
- 1 **Palms Hotel**, Southend Arterial Road, Hornchurch, RM11 3UJ (*No pedestrian access. Approximately 2 miles west of M25 J29*), ☎ +44 1708 346789.
- 1 **Premier Inn**, New Road, Wennington, RM13 9ED, ☎ +44 871 527 8920.

17.8 Connect

Locations with free Cloud WiFi:

- **Greggs**.
- **Hornchurch Sports Centre**.
- **J.J. Moon's**.
- **KFC**.
- **Superdrug**.

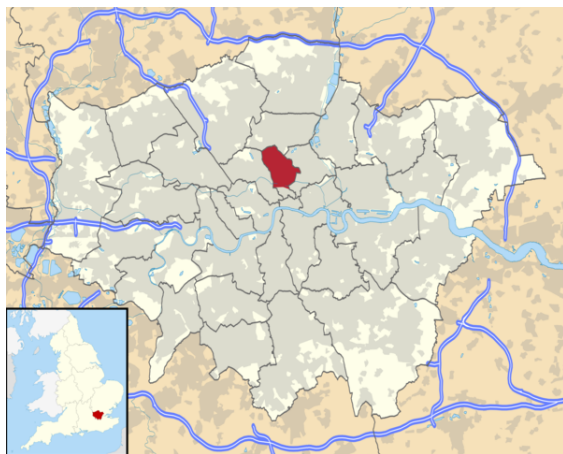
Locations with free O2 Wifi:

- **The Harrow**.
- **Harvester**.
- **McDonalds**.
- **Railway Hotel**.
- **Subway**.

17.9 Go next

Chapter 18

London/Islington



Location of the Islington area in London

Islington is a district of north London covering much of the London Borough of Islington.

18.1 Understand



Typical Victorian architecture of Islington

The south of the district borders the City of London and Clerkenwell and was long seen as something of a poor relation to those two areas. That all started to change in the 1990s when the typical Victorian houses of Islington became very desirable and the area went through huge gen-

trification to become a highly fashionable address. The area around **The Angel**, Upper Street and Essex Road is of special interest to visitors; it is home to a number of interesting shops selling antiques and collectibles as well as art galleries.

Further north, the district becomes a little less grand and largely lower-end residential. **Finsbury Park** is an area in the north-east of the district which grew up around an important railway interchange at the junction of the London Boroughs of Islington, Haringey and Hackney. The park itself is a large important green space in an otherwise densely populated area.

In the north-west of the district its character changes again and **Highgate** takes on many characteristics of the neighbouring district of **Hampstead**.

Islington has long been known for its left-wing politics and in the 1980s the oft-used moniker of *The Socialist Republic of Islington* was not unwarranted. The legacy of that still remains: The borough's two MPs and Council administration are all from the **Labour Party** and a number of regular festivals of a distinctly liberal nature are hosted here.

Islington is also known for being the place where writer and explorer Mary Kingsley was born.

18.2 Get in

?"UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU"?"

Map of London/Islington (Edit GPX)?"UNIQ--indicator-00000001-QINU"?"

18.2.1 By tube

Tube stations in this district are:

- Angel (Northern line)
- Highbury & Islington (Victoria line)
- Tufnell Park (Northern line)

- Archway (Northern line)
- Highgate (Northern line)
- Finsbury Park (Victoria and Piccadilly lines)
- Holloway Road (Piccadilly line)
- Caledonian Road (Piccadilly line)
- Arsenal (Piccadilly line)

18.2.2 By train

Overground stations include Highbury & Islington, Essex Rd, Canonbury, Finsbury Park and Upper Holloway.

18.2.3 By bus

Bus routes 41, N41, 134, 390, 43, 17, C11, 4 and W5 all serve Archway and the surrounding area.

Routes 29, 19, 4, 259, 253 and 254 all connect Finsbury Park with the centre of London.

The Angel, Islington is served by the following routes: 19, 30, 38, 43, 56, 73, 153, 205, 214, 274 and 341.

18.3 See

- **1 The Arsenal Museum**, Emirates Stadium, Highbury House, 75 Drayton Pk, N5 1BU (*tube: Finsbury Park*), ☎ +44 20 7619-5003. M-Sa 10:30-18:00, Su 10:30-16:30, closed matchdays. Impressive museum charting the history of the heralded football club. £7. **W**
- **1 City Road Basin Plaza** (*Off City Rd next to McDonalds and Texaco. Tube: Angel*), ☎ +44 20 7253-6512. A former industrial site which fell into decline in the 50s and 60s. The site remained undeveloped and inaccessible to the public for many years. A multi-million pound project has created public access to the waterway (one of the largest open stretches of water in North London) complete with a newly landscaped public park facing onto the canal.
- **1 Crafts Council**, 44a Pentonville Rd, N1 9BY (*tube: Angel*), ☎ +44 20 7278-7700, fax: +44 20 7837-6891. Tu-Sa 11:00-17:45, Su 14:00-17:45. This gallery promotes contemporary craftspeople working materials such as metal, glass, pottery and textiles but with a unique take on each medium. The work frequently strays into contemporary art and blurs the border between art and craft. The small shop inside provides individually crafted pieces, that are as expensive as you would expect. Free. **W**

- **1 Gillespie Park Ecology Centre**, 191 Drayton Pk, N5 1PH (*Tube: Arsenal*), ☎ +44 20 7527-4374, e-mail: ecologycentre@islington.gov.uk. Daily except on Arsenal FC home match days. Award-winning education centre in this small park in a heavily built up area of the district. Managed habitats include woodland, wetland meadows and ponds. Free.

- **1 Highgate Wood** (*tube: Highgate*), ☎ +44 20 8444-6129, e-mail: highgate.wood@cityoflondon.gov.uk. A 28 hectare remnant of the great Middlesex Wood which once spread across north London. There is a supervised children's playground, a café and an information centre. **W**

- **1 Parasol Unit**, 14 Wharf Rd, N1 7RW (*tub: Angel. Next door to Victoria Miro*), ☎ +44 20 7490-7373. Tu-Sa 10:00-18:00, Su noon-17:00. Contemporary art gallery, which looks closed from initial appearances, but press the buzzer to have the door unlocked. Free entry. **W**

- **1 Victoria Miro Gallery**, 16 Wharf Rd, N1 7RW (*tube: Angel*), ☎ +44 20 7336-8109. Tu-Sa 10:00-18:00. An excellent contemporary art gallery in a converted Victorian furniture factory. Press the buzzer to unlock the door, it is not a typical Tate-tourist magnet. Free entry. **W**

18.4 Do

- **1 Almeida Theatre**, Almeida St, N1 1TA (*tube: Highbury & Islington; just off Upper St*), ☎ +44 20 7359-4404, e-mail: info@almeida.co.uk. Theatre with a reputation for daring and innovative productions.
- **1 Arsenal FC** (*tube: Finsbury Park*). The famous Premier League club play at the Emirates Stadium in the north of the district. Count yourself very lucky if you can secure a ticket! . [@arsenal_tickets](https://twitter.com/arsenal_tickets) on Twitter is the best resource for Arsenal tickets at face value prices, as members who cannot attend a specific game advertise their tickets here.
- **1 Everyman Screen on the Green** (*formerly Screen on the Green*), 83 Upper St, N1 0NU (*tube: Angel, 5 min walk up Upper St*). One of the leading art house cinemas in London. Recently refurbished.
- **1 Vue Islington**, 36 Parkfield St, N1 0PS (*tube: Angel, 1F of the N1 shopping centre*), ☎ +44 8712 240 240. Multiplex cinema.



Camden Passage - one of the leading antique centres in London

18.5 Buy

- **1 Camden Passage Antiques Centre**, Camden Passage, N1 8ED (*tube: Angel*). One of London's leading antique and collectible centres for the past 40 years. The complex is home to dealers in a wide variety of fields and is a must for any visitor to London interested in antiques. Controversially, the main arcade has now become another branch of Jack Wills, but many dealers remain in the area.
- **1 Get Stuffed**, 105 Essex Rd, N1 2SL (*tube: Angel; rail: Essex Road*), ☎ +44 20 7226-1364, fax: +44 20 7359-8253, e-mail: taxidermy@thegestuffed.co.uk. Open by appointment. Taxidermy shop offering a stock of stuffed animals and bones, for an unusual purchase, as well as service for preparing your own specimens.
- **1 Map**, 93 Junction Rd, Upper Holloway, N19 5QX (*tube: Archway*). M–Sa 10:00–18:00. Trendy gift shop with cool products. Much too nice to be in Archway!

18.6 Eat

Diners are spoiled for choice in Islington, especially the **Upper Street area** between Angel and Highbury & Islington tube stations. A wide variety of cuisine and price ranges are available. Mediterranean food dominates but

with options like Indian, Afghan, Italian, French, Thai, and South American there is food for all tastes.

A few minutes walk from Archway station up Highgate Hill will lead you to **Highgate**, the upmarket end of Archway. There are a selection of nice cafes, restaurants and pubs to choose from. Swain's Lane, five to ten minutes walk from Archway station just near Hampstead Heath, has a few nice places to eat.

Angel to Upper Street can be a diner's paradise if you know where to go. Close to Angel places are geared towards the daytime sandwich eaters and coffee drinkers. From Islington Green on you will generally find nicer restaurants at better value. As a rule, the further towards Highbury & Islington the cheaper the restaurants, although the quality does not necessarily decline. Take a walk down the side-streets too as they hold some of the best restaurants, pubs, and bars.

In **Archway**, coming out of the tube station you will see two kebab houses on Junction Road, neither of which are anything special, but rather comically one carries the slogan "Best kebabs in UK" while the other says "Best kebab in world". These are not to be believed. May find other interesting little restaurants down Holloway Road.

The **Finsbury Park area** is home to many minority groups such as Algerians, Greeks, Turks, and sub-Saharan Africans and as such has some of the most diverse range of restaurants available in London. Down Blackstock Road, a locals' favourite is Sim Sim. Just outside the station on Seven Sisters Road, *The Red Zone* offers cheap but good food.

18.6.1 Budget

- **The Afghan Kitchen**, 35 Islington Green, N1 8DU (*tube: Angel*), ☎ +44 20 7359-8019. One of the best cheap eats in London. Authentic Afghan food which is a hugely better than you expect when looking at the place!
- **Angel Mangal Ockabasi**, 139 Upper St, N1 1QP (*tube: Highbury & Islington*), ☎ +44 20 7359-7777. Excellent Turkish meals.
- **Gallipoli**, 102 Upper St, N1 1QP (*tube: Angel, Highbury & Islington*), ☎ +44 20 7359-1578. Well known and serve great Turkish meals, for very reasonable prices. Another branch nearby.
- **Le Mercury**, 140a Upper St, N1 1QY (*tube: Highbury & Islington*), ☎ +44 20 7354-4088. Cosy, romantic French restaurant split amongst three floors. Typical French cuisine at low prices. Mains around £6.
- **Little Bay Farringdon**, 171 Farringdon Rd, EC1R 3AL (*tube: Highbury & Islington*), ☎ +44 20 7278-

1234. Opulent bohemian restaurant serving traditional high-end European cuisine at very low prices 3-Course Meal from £10-16.

- **La Porchetta**, 141-142 Upper St, N1 1QY (*tube: Angel, Highbury & Islington*), ☎ +44 20 7288-2488. Authentic Italian pizzeria: thin wood-fired pizzas, selection of pasta, antipasto, desserts, Italian wine & beer. Buzzing atmosphere. Child friendly.
- **Tortilla**, 13 Islington High St, N1 9LQ (*tube: Angel, opposite the station*), ☎ +44 20 7833-3103. Californian and Mexican take-away, serves fajitas/burritos/etc and Mexican beers. The food is fresh and mostly organic. Well priced, very friendly staff, open kitchen. Small number of benches for eating in. £5.

18.6.2 Mid-range

- **Kalendar**, 15A Swain's Ln, N6 6QX (*tube: Archway and 15-20-min walk*), ☎ +44 20 8348-8300. Stands out as a bohemian deli/cafe with beautiful if not cheap food. Excellent for brunch/long weekend lunches. Chunky rustic furniture, specials on blackboards, free newspapers. Quite child friendly.
- **Masala Zone**, 80-82 Upper St, N1 0NU (*tube: Angel*), ☎ +44 20 7359-3399. This hip Indian restaurant chain's Angel branch. Good value Indian food, try a Thali for a good sized meal with a variety of flavours. Mains around £8.
- **Mem & Laz**, 8 Therberton St, N1 0QX (*tube: Angel*), ☎ +44 20 7704-9089. Large menu of great Mediterranean food, friendly staff, very reasonably priced. Their lunchtime TWO-course special around £7 is available to 6PM, an excellent option for an early dinner.
- **Cafe Mozaic**, 24 Junction Rd, N9 5 RE (*tube: Archway*), ☎ +44 20 7272-3509. Mediterranean restaurant. Right next door to the best kebabs in the world, and yet somehow manages some classiness. Lively atmosphere. Reasonably priced. Sometimes with live musical performances (Friday evening). Outdoor seating. £10.
- **The Northgate**, 113 Southgate Rd, N1 3JS (*tube: Old St, then bus 76 or 141*), ☎ +44 20 7359-7392. Excellent *gastro-pub* menu changed daily. Pricey for a pub, but the consistently high quality never disappoints. Mains £10-12.
- **St. John's**, 91 Junction Rd, N19 5QU (*tube: Tufnell Park*), ☎ +44 20 7272-1587. Expensive gastro pub. Quite pleasant.

- **Sunderban**, 50 Blackstock Rd, N4 2DW (*tube: Finsbury Park*), ☎ +44 20 7359-9243. Su-Th 18:00-midnight, F Sa 18:00-00:30, Arsenal match days: Afternoon Games: Noon-14:00, Evening Games: 17:30-midnight. Delicious North Indian/Bangladeshi cuisine and a good value. One of the best curries in London. Starters £1.75-4.45, Mains £3.25-11.50.

18.6.3 Splurge

18.7 Drink

18.7.1 Angel and Highbury areas

- **The Angel**, Pentonville Rd, N1 9LQ (*tube: Angel*).
- **The Flying Scotsman**, 2-4 Caledonian Rd, N1 9DU (*tube: King's Cross St Pancras*), ☎ +44 20 7837-8271.
- **Keston Lodge**, 131 Upper St, N1 1QP (*tube: Angel*), ☎ +44 20 7354-9535. A retro style bar open very late at the weekends.
- **The Nag's Head**, 12 Upper St, N1 0PQ (*tube: Angel*), ☎ +44 8721 077 077.
- **Pitcher and Piano**, 68 Upper St, N1 0NY, ☎ +44 20 7704-9974, e-mail: angel@pitcherandpiano.com. Stylish bar. Part of a chain.
- **'Round Midnight**, 13 Liverpool Rd, N1 0RW. M 3:30-11:30pm, Tu-Th 3:30pm-12:30am, F 4pm-1:30am, Sa 3pm-1:30am, Su 3-11:30pm. Jazz and blues bar.
- **69 Colebrook Row** (*The Bar With No Name*), 69 Colebrook Row N1 8AA (5 minute walk north from Angel Station), ☎ +1 7540 528593, e-mail: drinks@69colebrookrow.com. Sun-Wed 5 to midnight; Thurs 5 to 1; Fri/Sat 5 to 2. Exceptional seasonal cocktails in a quiet, intimate setting from famous mixologist Tony Conigliaro. You'll need to book ahead. Their barrel-aged Negronis are particularly good. £££. (updated Mar 2016)
- **The York**, 82 Islington High St, N1 8EQ (*tube: Angel*), ☎ +44 20 7713-1835.

18.7.2 Archway

There are plenty of pubs in the area, some of them managing to be slightly more lively or more stylish than the typical local boozer.

- **The Archway Tavern**, Archway Cl, Archway Rd, N19 3TD (*tube: Archway*), ☎ +44 8721 077 077. Pub with a reputed republican history. Live music some nights.
- **The Hideaway**, 114 Junction Rd, N19 5LB (*tube: Archway*), ☎ +44 20 7561-0779. Nice pub/bar. Good pizzas and cheap happy hour drinks. Bar staff can be a bit grumpy.
- **The Landseer**, 37 Landseer Rd, N19 4JU (*10 min walk down Holloway Rd from Archway Stn and off to the left on Landseer Rd*), ☎ +44 20 7263-4658. Smart pub with posh food. Fairly lively. Nice hanging plants.
- **Tufnell Park Tavern**, 162 Tufnell Park Rd, N7 0EE (*tube: Tufnell Pk*), ☎ +44 20 7272-2078.
- **The Charlotte Despard**, 17-19 Archway Rd, ☎ +44 20 7272-7872, e-mail: bar@thecharlottedespard.co.uk. 5pm - 1am. A relaxed and friendly place, with a nice and eclectic clientele.

18.7.3 Finsbury Park

There are many pubs in the area.

- **12 Pins**, 263 Seven Sisters Rd, N4 2DE (*tube: Finsbury Pk*), ☎ +44 20 7880-9019. Irish pub which gets very busy on Arsenal match days.
- **Faultering Fullback**, 19 Perth Rd, N4 3HB (*tube: Finsbury Pk*). Beautiful pub, popular with locals watching football and eating their Thai Food. Since the smoking ban, a large amount of money has been spent on the beer garden at the rear, which now offers a wooden mezzanine floor.
- **Gaslight**, 5 Station Pl, N4 2DH (*tube: Finsbury Pk*). Get very busy on match days.
- **Kings Head**, 26 Blackstock Rd, N4 2DR (*tube: Finsbury Pk*), ☎ +44 871 258 6247. Local pub with friendly Irish landlords and locals.
- **The T-Bird**, 132 Blackstock Rd, N4 2DX (*tube: Finsbury Pk*), ☎ +44 8721 077 077. Open mic night on Thursdays and a free jukebox on Mondays.

18.7.4 Holloway area

- **The Coronet**, 338-346 Holloway Rd, N7 6NJ (*tube: Holloway Road*), ☎ +44 20 7609-5014. A large and unusually nice Wetherspoons pub with a wide range

of cheap drinks, including guest ales, and reasonably price food. Does tend to get busy on Arsenal home matchdays.

- **Big Red**, 385 Holloway Rd, N7 0RY (*tube: Holloway Road*), ☎ +44 20 7609-6662. A biker themed pub with several pool tables and live music some nights. Normally quite busy on Friday and Saturday evenings.

18.8 Sleep

18.8.1 Budget

- **London City Apartments**, 104 Offord Rd, N1 1PF (*tube: Highbury & Islington*), ☎ +44 7510 062 715. Budget studio apartments with kitchens. Maximum 2 person occupancy. From £44.
- **Journey's hostel**, 54-58 Caledonian Rd, N1 9DP (*tube: King's Cross St Pancras*). Budget hostel. From £15 for dorm bed.
- **Pembury Hotel**, 326-328 Seven Sisters Rd, N4 2AP (*tube: Finsbury Pk*). Budget hotel right opposite Finsbury Pk Stn. Popular with football fans as it is close to The Emirates Stadium. Read the reviews on TripAdvisor before booking! From £40.

18.8.2 Mid-range

- **Hilton London Islington**, 53 Upper St, Islington, N1 0UY (*tube: Angel*), ☎ +44 20 7354-7700. Next door the Business Design Centre. From £125.
- **Jury's Inn Islington**, 60 Pentonville Rd, N1 9LA (*tube: Angel*), ☎ +44 20 7282-5500. Large mid-market hotel offering decent value for money. From £79.

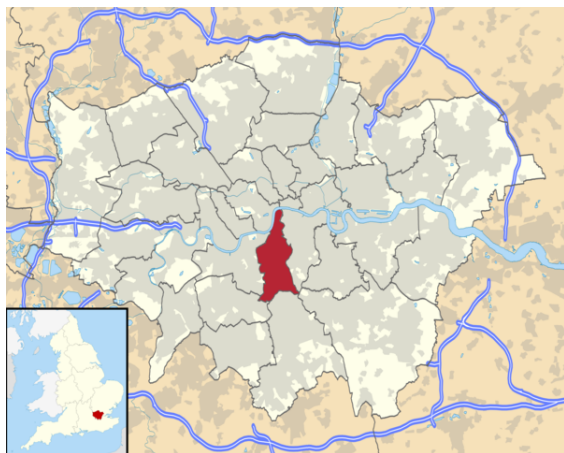
18.8.3 Splurge

18.9 Connect

18.10 Go next

Chapter 19

London/Lambeth



Location of the Lambeth area in London

Lambeth is a borough of inner south-west London. Within the London Borough of Lambeth are the official residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury at Lambeth Palace, St. Thomas' Hospital and County Hall. Lambeth includes the districts of **Kennington** (location of the Imperial War Museum and The Oval Cricket Ground) and **Brixton**.

19.1 Understand



Brixton Town Hall

This destination covers most of the borough of Lam-

beth, except for a chunk around Waterloo station that is covered under **South Bank**. Lambeth was historically a largely deprived area of Inner London with very dense housing. However, this began to change in the 1990s as the gentrification that was apparent in just about all of inner London also manifested itself here.

Brixton is a colorful, unique urban area that is like nowhere else in London. Brixton has a mix of residents, ranging from people who have lived in the district for generations to new residents who have moved prompted by a new trendy image that it has gained. It is a multi-ethnic community, with around 24 percent of the population being of African and/or Caribbean descent, giving rise to Brixton being called the unofficial capital of the British African-Caribbean community in London.

The diverse population originates from the 1940s and '50s, when Britain invited large numbers of immigrants from the West Indies to fill the job gaps.

There is a thriving scene for clubbing and live music, especially reggae/ska and rock. There are also several trendy markets stretching across the district where you can buy all manner of exotic foods, textiles and jewellery. It also well known for its nightlife, particularly the Brixton Academy, along with many other interesting bars, pubs and clubs to explore. **Electric Avenue** (of Eddy Grant song-fame) was the first electric-lit street in the UK; even if it is in a rather obscure location, it's worth checking out for the thriving, competing halal butchers.

Herne Hill is a village-type area on the corner of Brockwell Park, which includes a historic velodrome.

Kennington is a residential district with a rich history. The area is characterized by late Georgian and early Victorian roads and squares. It is dominated by two London landmarks: The Oval, an international cricket stadium, and the Imperial War Museum, a national museum. Kennington appeared in the Domesday Book of 1086 as "Chenintune", which may mean "place of the King". Edward III gave the manor of Kennington to his oldest son Edward, "the Black Prince", in 1337, and the prince built a large royal palace between what is now Black Prince Road and Sancroft Street. Geoffrey Chaucer was employed at Kennington as Clerk of Works in 1389. Kennington remains a Royal manor, and the Duchy of Corn-

wall has a substantial property portfolio within the district. A large number of Members of Parliament have London residences in Kennington; the district falls within the Division Bell Zone, because it is geographically close to the Houses of Parliament.

Kennington Park (south London's oldest public park, laid out by Victorian architect James Pennethorne) and St Mark's Churchyard now cover the site of Kennington Common, which was a place for executions, entertainment and demonstrations. In 1746 the Surrey County Gallows at the southern end of the common was used for the execution of nine leaders of the Jacobite rebellion of 1745. The Common was also where the Chartists gathered for their biggest demonstration in 1848. "The Gymnastic Society" met regularly at Kennington Common during the second half of the eighteenth century to play football. The Society - arguably the world's first Football club - consisted of London-based natives of Cumberland and Westmorland. The tradition of crowds gathering at Kennington Park in advance of marches upon Parliament continues today.

Vauxhall, dominated by its gyratory system, is best-known to many Londoners for its gay scene and as a transport interchange (its bus station is the second-busiest in London; there is also a railway station served by South West Trains, and the Victoria line stops there) - but it is experiencing rapid gentrification along its Thames frontage. Vauxhall is the location of the offices of MI6 and will be the site for the new American Embassy.

The history of Vauxhall is tied to industry: it was there that Vauxhall Motors was founded, and Royal Doulton had a factory. Before that, the Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens, created in 1661, attracted visitors. The largest green space in Vauxhall today is its small Park, which came about in 1890 through the campaigning of Octavia Hill (co-founder of the National Trust) for "More Air for London". In the 1990s, Vauxhall became a prominent feature on London's gay scene; a number of clubs, bars and pubs have placed it as an alternative to Soho. Bonnington Square, close to The Oval, where Vauxhall meets Kennington, developed from a squat, threatened with demolition, into an artists' community, with carefully-tended gardens and community spaces.

19.2 Get in

""UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU""?
Map of London/Lambeth

19.2.1 By tube

The district is served by the following tube stations:

- Brixton (Victoria line)

- Stockwell (Victoria line)
- Vauxhall (Victoria line)
- Kennington (Northern line)
- Oval (Northern line)
- Clapham North (Northern line)
- Clapham Common (Northern line)

19.2.2 By train

The district is served by the following stations:

- Brixton (a three minute walk from the Tube station)
- Clapham High Street
- Herne Hill
- Loughborough Junction
- Streatham
- Streatham Common
- Streatham Hill
- Tulse Hill
- Vauxhall
- Wandsworth Road
- West Norwood

19.2.3 By bus

- 2 (Marble Arch - Vauxhall - Brixton - West Norwood)
- 3 (Oxford Circus - Brixton - Crystal Palace)
- 59 (King's Cross - Waterloo - Brixton - Streatham)
- 109 (Croydon - Streatham - Brixton)
- 133 (Liverpool Street - Brixton - Streatham)
- 137 (Oxford Circus - Sloane Square - Clapham - Streatham)
- 159 (Marble Arch - Brixton - Streatham)
- 196 (Vauxhall - Brixton - South Norwood)

There are also several Night Buses serving Lambeth including:

- N3 (Oxford Circus - Brixton - Crystal Palace - Bromley North)
- N159 (Oxford Circus - Streatham - New Addington)



Lambeth Bridge with Lambeth Palace in the background

19.3 See

- **Brockwell Park**, Herne Hill (*From town walk up Effra Rd, take a left into Brixton Water Ln, and look out for entrance on the right*). Daily. A large hilly green park; 10-min walk from the centre of Brixton. Has the following facilities: Brockwell Lido, children's play area, paddling pool, café, flower gardens, sports facilities, toilets and several ponds. Brockwell Park also has a BMX track. Free. **W**
- **Charles Chaplin plaque**, 287 Kennington Rd. Charles Chaplin lived with his mother in various addresses in and around Kennington Road in Lambeth, including 3 Pownall Terrace, Chester St and 39 Methley Street, and briefly lived with his father and his mistress, Louise, at 287 Kennington Road where a plaque now commemorates the fact. After Chaplin's mother was admitted to the Cane Hill Asylum, her son was left in the workhouse at Renfrew Road in Kennington.
- **Lambeth Palace**, Lambeth Palace, SE1 7JU (*tube: Lambeth North*). Library Exhibition only May-Jul M-Sa 10:00-17:00. The palace has been the official residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury since the 13th century. Guided tours of Lambeth Palace are incredibly popular and there has been a substantial waiting list for some years. £8 for the Library Exhibition. **W**
- **Leake Street**, Leake St, Lambeth (*Near Waterloo under the train arches*). Also known as the "Banksy tunnel", every inch of the walls of this 300 m-street are decorated with graffiti - initially created during the "Cans Festival" organised by Banksy in 2008. Whatever the strict legal position may be, the ongoing creation of graffiti is tolerated, backed up by a (graffitied) billboard advert outside the tunnel stating that this is the case. **W**
- **Kennington Park**, Kennington Park Rd, SE11 4BE (*tube: Oval*). Small London park with some lovely tended gardens. **W**
- **Museum of Garden History**, Lambeth Palace, Rd SE1 7LB (*tube: Lambeth North*), ☎ +44 20 7401-8865, e-mail: info@gardenmuseum.org.uk. 10:30AM-17:00 daily. In an old church, which also has the tomb of Captain Bligh of The Bounty mutiny fame. The museum charts the history of garden design and gardening. £6, under 16s free.. **W**
- **SIS/MI6 Building**, Vauxhall Bridge (*tube: Vauxhall*). Imposing building on the waterfront with a huge number of CCTV cameras and looks more fortified than a prison. Quite a sight to behold and you're able to walk around the outskirts of the building but can guarantee that you're being watched when you do. **W**
- **Imperial War Museum**, Lambeth Rd, SE1 6HZ, ☎ +44 20 7416-5320, e-mail: mail@iwm.org.uk. 10am - 6pm. Set up as a memorial to the British war dead of World War I, the Imperial War Museum focuses on British military history between 1914 and the operations in Afghanistan in the present day. Fronted by two immense guns of the kind used on Royal Navy battleships, the museum's exhibits mix military hardware with historical interpretation. The same institution owns the Central London *HMS Belfast* (South Bank; a WWII cruiser, now a floating museum), *Cabinet War Rooms* and *Duxford Air Museum* (Cambridgeshire) (an airbase a day trip from London with five hangars of historic aircraft). Free except some temporary exhibitions. **W**
- **1 575 Wandsworth Road**, 575 Wandsworth Road, Lambeth, SW8 3JD, ☎ +44 20 7720-9459, e-mail: 575wandsworthroad@nationaltrust.org.uk. Need to book in advance. **W**

19.4 Do

- **Brixton Academy**, 211 Stockwell Rd. Live music venue for audiences as large as 4,000 in a beautiful Art Deco building. **W**
- **Brixton Audio Tour**. Alex Wheatle, the Brixton Bard, takes you on a personal journey through the vibrant streets of Brixton that have been his inspiration.
- **Brockwell Lido**. Outdoor swimming pool that's empty during cold days and has queues around the block whenever the sun is out. **W**



The Southbank Centre

- **The London Eye**, Riverside Bldg, County Hall, Westminster Bridge Rd, SE1 7PB, ☎ +44 870 990 8883. Giant Ferris wheel on the south bank of the river Thames built to celebrate the new millenium. Incredibly busy, gives great views over London but best on a clear day. Best to book in advance and seek special offers. **W**
- **The National Theatre**, South Bank, SE1 9PX, ☎ +44 20 7452-3000. The Royal National Theatre is one of the UK's two most prominent publicly funded theatre companies. The controversial building is "an aesthetic of broken forms" meaning a concrete monster. The riverside forecourt has outdoor performances in the summer. **W**
- **The Old Vic**, 103 The Cut, SE1 8NB, ☎ +44 20 7928-2651. Kevin Spacey has been the artistic director here since 2003 receiving considerable media attention and starring in a number of the shows himself. Great for something a bit different, and further up the cut you can check The Young Vic which focuses on productions of a younger generation. **W**
- **The Oval** (*The Britoval, Kennington Oval*), Kennington, SE11 5SS (*tube: Oval*), ☎ +44 8712 461100, e-mail: enquiries@surreycricket.com. The second home of English cricket in London after Lords. You will find getting a ticket to a match involving England very difficult but Surrey play their home games here and tickets are nearly always available for those. **W**
- **The Southbank Centre**, South Bank, SE1 9PX, ☎ +44 844 875 0073. Southbank Centre is the largest single-run arts centre in the world and includes The Royal Festival Hall and The Queen Elizabeth Hall. It's one of the largest arts centres in the world, occupying a 21-acre site in the midst of London's most vibrant cultural quarter on the South Bank of the Thames. It offers a wide-ranging artistic programme including classical & world music,

rock & pop, jazz, dance, literature and the visual arts. **W**

- **Stockwell Skate Park**, Stockwell Park Walk. Also ironically named *Brixton Beach*, this free skate park was originally built in 1970s. Both skateboarders and BMXers can regularly be seen riding or simply hanging out on the edges. **W**

19.5 Buy



Brixton Market

- **Brixton Markets**. M Tu, Th-Sa 08:00-18:00, W 08:00-17:00. Brixton Market consists of several different parts. The main section is Electric Avenue, selling mainly fruit, vegetables and meat, which also has a very good Chinese supermarket. On Pope's Road you will find clothes and bric-a-brac. You will find more indoor markets around the area such as: Brixton Village (between Pope's Road and Coldharbour Lane), Reliance Arcade (between Brixton Road and Electric Lane) and Granville Arcade (running between Electric Lane and Atlantic Road). These sell everything from wigs, clothes, pets, exotic foods and coffee.
- **Nubian Natural Retail Store & Therapy Centre**, 1&3 Vining St, ☎ +44 20 7733-8277. M-Sa 11:00-18:30. A stylish boutique store selling natural body care, unusual jewellery, books and natural supplements. Offers a great service in a classy environment. Body care range has reputation for being effective and good value for money. Recently opened a therapy centre offering beauty treatments and massage therapies.
- **The Kennington Bookshop**, 306-308 Kennington Rd, SE11 4LD, ☎ +44 20 7735-5505. M-Sa 09:30-18:30, Su noon-17:00. They describe themselves as

offering “an individual, thoughtful and eclectic selection of books, imaginatively displayed in calm, lovely surroundings.” which is quite an accurate description.

19.6 Eat

There are many different types of food available in Lambeth, from Caribbean to Eritrean and fish and chips to noodles. You will find most of the restaurants on Coldharbour Ln and Atlantic Rd. Here are few noted establishments. Clapham High St has a good selection of restaurants.

• Brixton Market:

- **Agile Rabbit**, A small pizzeria-café that hosts bands in the walkway of the covered arcade
- **Cornercopia**, Pioneering ‘locavore’ shop and restaurant that helped kick-start the Market...
- **Honest Burgers**, does exactly what the name says. Wholesome and hearty (honest)!
- **Bellantoni’s** - Dario Bellantoni and his staff bring some sunshine to the market with a selection of own-made pasta and an all-Italian wine list.
- **Mama Lan**, Chinese-fusion, pretty-good ingredients! Lovely sense of flavours
- **Etta’s Seafood Kitchen**, exciting, dreamy food but the rushed service when crowded can leave a bad taste in your mouth.
- **Franco Manca**, Unit 4, Market Row, SW9 8LD, ☎ +44 20 7738-3021. Lunchtimes. Once named Timeout’s #1 cheap eat in all of London and is always ludicrously busy. Authentic Italian sour dough pizza for very cheap prices. Top tip for Saturday dining: Turn up at 11:45, 15 minutes before it opens. You queue 15 minutes guaranteed, but can over an hours wait if you turn up at 12:15.
- **Asmara**, 386 Coldharbour Ln (*Facing the Dogstar*), ☎ +44 20 7737-4144. 17:30-00:30. Small friendly restaurant serving interesting Eritrean food.
- **Bruno’s** (*formerly Cafe Pushkar*), 424 Coldharbour Ln, ☎ +44 20 7738-6161. A vegetarian and organic licenced cafe right in the centre of Brixton.
- **Duck Egg Cafe**, 424 Coldharbour Ln, Brixton, SW9 8LF, ☎ +44 20 7733-0363. Cute little cafe which has changed names a few times over the last few years, but consistently serves fantastic fried breakfasts with excellent quality raw ingredients sourced from the market. Not much seating space though, especially busy on Sundays.
- **Eco Pizza** (*formerly Pizzeria Franco*), 4 Market Row Electric Ln, ☎ +44 20 7738-3021. Until 17:00. Tasty reasonable priced pizzas, calzones and sandwiches using fresh ingredients.
- **Fujiyama**, 7 Vining St, ☎ +44 20 7737-2369. M-Sa noon-01:00, Su noon-midnight. As a Japanese noodle bar, the food is similar to Wagamama’s but this is a much smaller and friendlier place. It is very good value for money, for about £6 you get a plate of noodles that will fill up any big appetite. They have ramen, bento boxes, don buri, miso soups, pan fried noodles and various curry and rice dishes. They also do some freshly squeezed juices along with the usual beers, wines and sake.
- **Gandhi’s Restaurant**, 347A Kennington Rd, SE11 4QE (*tube: Kennington*), ☎ +44 20 7735-9015, fax: +44 20 7735-9572, e-mail: order@gandhis.co.uk. noon-14:30, 18:00-23:30. Traditional Indian restaurant Mains £6-13.
- **Ichiban Sushi**, 58a Atlantic Rd. M-Sa noon-10:30PM. Great freshly prepared sushi and tofu dishes.
- **Negril**, 132 Brixton Hill. M-W 10:00-18:00, Th-Sa 10:00-22:00, Su 10:00-18:00. Jamaican restaurant that serves traditional Jerk chicken and Caribbean curries. Most of the food is organic and they make their own fresh fruit juice. Reasonable priced and has lovely patio area.
- **Number 22**, 22 Half Moon Ln (*tube: Herne Hill, next to Brockwell Pk*). M-F 17:00-23:00, Sa Su noon-23:00. Spanish cuisine and cocktails in a small and comfortable setting and even has a courtyard in the back. Great paella!
- **The Pepper Tree**, 19 Clapham Common Southside, SW4 7AB (*tube: Clapham Common*), ☎ +44 20 7622-1758. A long-established and very popular Thai restaurant serving good food in rather spartan surroundings, alongside Clapham Common. Good value. Expect to queue in peak period. Mains £5-7.
- **Pizza Express**, 316 Kennington Rd, SE11 4LD, ☎ +44 20 7820-3877. Just another chain pizza restaurant.
- **Satay Bar**, 447 Coldharbour Ln (*tube: Brixton*), ☎ +44 20 7326-5001. M-Th noon-23:00, F noon-01:00, Sa 13:00-01:00, Su 17:00-01:00. Brixton’s longest running restaurant, specialising in Indonesian, Malaysian, Thai cuisine. Also has a cocktail

bar and lounge with extensive cocktail list and premium drinks menu. Located next to the Ritzy Cinema. Probably Brixton's busiest restaurant. Run's many specials including lunch special at £4.95.

- **Upstairs**, 89B Acre Ln, SW2 5TN (*Side street off Acre Ln above Opus*), ☎ +44 20 7733-8855. Michelin Bib Gourmand winning restaurant in the unlikelyst of locations. A non-descript door buzzer in what looks like a flat leads you up to a cosy bar serving delicious cocktails before you ascend again to the tiny restaurant. The food is delicious and though expensive, very reasonably priced for such upmarket cuisine with very attentive staff. Not a place for every day, but a great choice for a treat. Expensive.
- **Wang Fa**, 208 Coldharbour Ln (*Next to Loughborough Jct Railway Stn*). M-Sa noon-22:30. Authentic Chinese and Japanese cuisine. Bento boxes, pad Thai, mizo, spare ribs.

19.7 Drink

Brixton has the advantage that every night you can stay out drinking later than almost anywhere else in London. Even on a Sunday, there are plenty of bars open until 2AM if you really do not want the weekend to end. The more interesting and local bars are dotted down backstreets.

19.7.1 Pubs

- **Duke Of Edinburgh**, Ferndale Rd. Only really worth going if the weather is sunny, as the pub itself is nothing to write home about. Step out through the back and you will find a massive beer garden, and the only thing waking you to the reality that you are still in Brixton is the trains that clatter by every 15 minutes or so.
- **The Effra**, 38a Kellett Rd, ☎ +44 20 7274-4180. A winning combination of great Guinness, a friendly mixed crowd and superb live jazz on weekdays and Sundays.
- **The Grand Union**, 123 Acre Lane, Brixton, SW2 5UA, ☎ +44 20 7274-8794, e-mail: feedback@gugroup.co.uk. Chain pub with a difference. Standard pub / bar affair in front and inside, but in the back is a huge beer garden with raised huts you can hire out and a plethora of tables, sofas and other quirky features. Worth a visit in the summer, a wide selection of gourmet burgers on the menu.
- **The Grovenor**, 17 Sidney St. Fabulous old school boozer with two bars and a pool table. There is large function room at the back with a growing reputation for putting on interesting rock, reggae and punk acts.
- **Hootananny**, 95 Effra Rd, Brixton, SW2 1DF, ☎ +44 20 7737-7273. Popular late licence pub with a penchant for live ska music. Incredibly popular on weekends with upbeat fun atmosphere and large outdoor area. Also hosts El Panzon Mexican kitchen for delicious cheap food.
- **Mango Landin**, 40 St Matthews Rd, ☎ +44 20 7737-3044. This place is far more successful than its former Russian incarnation, Babushka's. It manages to balance nightlife and families quite well. It is packed out on the weekends, with varied DJs and occasional Tango lessons on weekdays. There is a organic veg stall on the weekend, and seems to be very family friendly (there is always kids tearing around on the weekend). Overall a nice little pub, no attitude, no bouncers, no charge to get in, and little eccentricity.
- **Marquis of Lorne**, 36 49a Dalyell Rd, ☎ +44 20 7274-1638. Sporting an immaculate and beautifully preserved exterior, this quiet pub deserves to be much better known.
- **Prince Albert**, 416 Coldharbour Ln. A local favourite that still stubbornly remains a simple pub, without succumbing to standard London bar makeover. Good atmosphere with plenty of places to sit down inside plus a tiny outside *beer garden*, which is nice in the summer. Opens for normal pub hours.
- **Prince of Wales/Dex**, 469 Coldharbour Ln, ☎ +44 20 7501-9061. The downstairs pub has a late licence while the exquisitely restored upstairs *Dex Club* is a members only affair and well worth a visit. There is also a *boutique* hotel on the top floor. In the boozer, there's free wi-fi with any bar purchase, making it a good place for daytime meetings.
- **1 The Riverside**, 5 St George's Wharf, Vauxhall, SW8 2LE (*tube: Vauxhall*), ☎ +44 20 7735-8129, e-mail: riversidevauxhall@youngs.co.uk. 10:00–midnight. Gastropub on the Thames Pathway near Vauxhall Bridge. Serves a wide range of food and drink, including Pimms on tap at the bar.
- **The Trinity Arms**, 45 Trinity Gdns, Brixton, SW9 8DR (*Up Brighton Ter on the right*), ☎ +44 20 7274-4544, e-mail: trinityarms@youngs.co.uk. An award winning proper old man's pub with a picture of the Queen pulling a pint on the wall. Right in the middle of the bustle of Brixton near the tube station, but tucked around a corner on Trinity Gardens that feels like it's in a different part of London altogether. Beer garden in front and back.
- **Windmill**, 22 Blenheim Gdns (*Off Brixton Hill*), ☎ +44 20 8671-0700. A bit of a trek from the Brixton tube (about 15 minutes walk), but it's a gem worth

discovering. This small pub regularly hosts live music from up and coming bands, in the past seeing Bloc Party before they hit big time thanks to promoter Tim Perry's meticulous quality filter. Sunday nights they have DJs and BBQs during the summer. Usually only about £3 to get in.

19.7.2 Bars and clubs

- **1 Aqua River Brasserie**, 9 St Georges Wharf, Vauxhall, SW8 2LE (*tube: Vauxhall*), ☎ +44 20 7820-3609, e-mail: info@aquabrasserie.com. Cocktail bar on the bank of the Thames. £7.95 for a cocktail.
- **Babalou** (*Formerly Bug Bar*) (*Under St. Matthew's Church, Brixton Hill*), ☎ +44 20 7738-3184. Until 02:00 (03:00 on Sa). Plays a mixture of jazz/hip-hop/funk and house in this cosy underground venue. Has regular guest DJs and special nights. Admission is charged on the weekends, and expect big queues after 9pm. In the summer there is outside seating, but make sure you get a stamp on weekends, so you get back in free.
- **Brixtonian Havana**, Beehive Pl (*By the Brixton Recreation Centre*). One of the few late, free bars on the weekend. It is famous for its bewildering selection of rums, and you will probably exit with a lighter wallet and head than when you walked in. It can get very busy on the weekends.
- **Dogstar**, 389 Coldharbour Ln, ☎ +44 20 7733-7515. Su-Th til 02:00, F Sa til 04:00. One of Brixton's long time favourites and worth a visit for a night out. It still runs an eclectic mix of dance music, covering hip-hop, reggae, r&b, ska and house. Has dance floor, big old sofas and screen for sports matches. Upstairs there is Moca (Caribbean restaurant) and a third floor to hire out for private parties. Admission free weekdays, charges on weekends.
- **Fire**, 39 Parry Street, ☎ +44 20 3242-0040. Located in the train arches of Vauxhall are three inter-linked clubs (with separate events and queues): **Fire**, **Lightbox** and **Protocol**. The music and crowds range from velvety commercial house for shirtless, partying-till-midday gay audiences to underground techno, South London grime and even Canto and K-Pop nights for the East Asian community.
- **Fridge Bar**, 1 Town Hall Parade, Brixton Hill (*Next to the Fridge nightclub*), ☎ +44 20 7326-5100. Until 02:00 weekdays and until 11:00 on weekends. This has a very stylish bar upstairs, with a chilled out atmosphere, downstairs however is the gloomy, sleazy dance floor which depending on your mood you may love or hate. Music selection is a mix of R&B, soul and hip-hop. Admission is charged on the weekends. Credit cards are not accepted. Security, while friendly, is tight. You will be searched upon entering the bar.
- **1 Hideaway**, 2 Empire Mews, Streatham, SW16 2ED (*rail: Streatham*), ☎ +44 20 8835-7070, e-mail: events@hideawaylive.co.uk. Streatham jazz club. Voted the best jazz venue of 2011 by the House of Commons' cross-party Parliamentary Jazz Club.
- **Hive**, 11-13 Brixton Station Rd, SW9 8PD (*Next to the recreation centre*), ☎ +44 20 7274-8383. Small two floored bar / cafe next to the recreation centre that's great for a bite in the day and a dance upstairs with DJs at night. A little outdoor drinking area outside overlooks the market stalls.
- **Plan B**, 418 Brixton Rd, SW9 7AY, ☎ +44 20 7733-0926, e-mail: office@plan-brixton.co.uk. W-Su 19:00-03:00. Since the closure of Backstage and The Rest Is Noise, they've taken the mantle as the pre-Brixton Academy venue of choice. Refurbished in 2010 after a fire, this trendy bar / club often do drinks deals, play contemporary music & more and more seem to be hosting live music from international touring acts such as Xiu Xiu.
- **The Renaissance Rooms**. Th-Sa 21:00-03:00. Famous for its fun roller-disco nights!
- **Tongue and Groove**, 50 Atlantic Rd, ☎ +44 20 7274-8600. W-Su 19:00-03:00. A long slender bar flanked with comfy leather seating, for slumping on after a long day. The cocktail bar is good, but very expensive (including bottled beers). It charges on the weekends, it is best to make the most of the quieter times in the week. Has one of the swankiest toilets in this part of town.
- **Torture Garden**. An avant-garde fetish club in Brixton—not for the squeamish!
- **White Horse**, 94 Brixton Hill, Brixton. Until 3AM on weekends. Typical London pub with outdoor area and pool table. Serves food. DJs usually play Funk music on the dance floor (although you should expect it to be crowded on Fri and Sat after 11). No entry fee.

19.7.3 Gay and Lesbian

- **Eagle London**, 349 Kennington Lane, Vauxhall, SE11 5QY, ☎ +44 20 7793-0903.
- **Royal Vauxhall Tavern**, 372 Kennington Lane, SE11 5HY. Home to a constant assortment of strange, bawdy, underground, queer and quirky nights from artists, comedians and performers.



The Royal Vauxhall Tavern

19.8 Sleep

- **Belgrave Hotel**, 13 Clapham Rd, ☎ +44 20 7793-0142. Nice little economy hotel with friendly staff. Very simple clean rooms.
- **Chelsea Guest House**, 13 Clapham Rd, ☎ +44 20 7793-0142. Nice little economy hotel with friendly staff. Very simple clean rooms.
- **Church Street Hotel**, 29 Camberwell Church St (2 mi from the Brixton tube stn, bus goes from Brixton Academy to right by the hotel), ☎ +44 20 7703-5984. Small beautifully decorated boutique hotel. Also the amazing **Hotel Pasha** is nearby.
- **London Hotel**, 411 Coldharbour Ln, ☎ +44 20 7737-0837. Small budget hotel.
- **No 7 Guesthouse**, 7 Josephine Ave (A ten minute walk from Brixton tube). A bed and breakfast run by a friendly gay couple.
- **1 Park Plaza Riverbank**, 18 Albert Embankment, SE1 7TJ (tube: Vauxhall), ☎ +44 844 854 5290, toll-free: 0800 814 70000, fax: +44 844 854 5291, e-mail: rppres@pphe.com. Stylish and reputable.

19.9 Connect

- **Aa's Communication Internet Cafe**, 248 Kennington Park Rd, ☎ +44 20 7820-8946.
- **Apollo Home Entertainment**, 400-402 Brixton Rd, ☎ +44 20 7733-8330. A video/DVD hire shop which has branched out into providing internet access.
- **Internet Exchange**, Brixton Library, Brixton Oval (Next to Ritzy Cinema), ☎ +44 20 7926-1056. M 13:00-20:00, Tu, Th 10:00-20:00, W, F 10:00-18:00, Sa 09:00-17:00, Su noon-17:00. Free use

of computers for internet and word processing, although you may have to queue. No food or drink.

19.10 Stay safe

Most of Lambeth is as safe as the rest of London. The South Bank is a major tourist area, do watch out for coats and bags, as opportunist thefts are not unknown.

Back in the 1980s Brixton had a reputation for crime and, even until a few years ago, it was almost impossible to leave Brixton tube station in the evenings without being offered drugs. While the situation has improved a lot recently, it's still sensible to take some precautions in Brixton and the nearby areas at night. Stick to well-lit, busy areas and you have little to worry about. Some South London housing estates have a poor reputation for violent crime; while these are rarely places tourists would have much reason to go, visitors should avoid spending too much time passing through housing estates at night, at least until they have got to know the area. The same goes for the open space of **Clapham Common**; fashionable during the day, at night it has something of a reputation for sexual activity and muggings.

19.11 Connect

19.12 Go next

Chapter 20

London/Leicester Square



Location of the Leicester Square area in London

The area around **Leicester Square**, often called the **West End**, is the entertainment heart of **London**. The area also includes **Chinatown**, **Piccadilly Circus** and **Trafalgar Square**.

20.1 Understand

20.1.1 Chinatown

Chinatown is centrally located in the West End, along and around **Gerrard Street** off Leicester Square. It spreads into Wardour Street at one end and Newport Place at the other. London's Chinatown may not be quite as large as those in **San Francisco** or **Vancouver** but it is still a great place to dine out in the evening, authentically Chinese and definitely different from anywhere else in London.

20.1.2 Trafalgar Square

Trafalgar Square is a large public square commemorating Lord Horatio Nelson's victory against Napoleon's navy at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805. The central monument within the square is a single tall column on which the figure of Nelson stands gazing over London and is one of the great iconic images of London. His monument



Trafalgar Square

is surrounded by four colossal lions and a series of large fountains. Much more than just an open plaza, Trafalgar Square is famous as the location of a large number of important buildings and institutions that surround the square and fill the streets surrounding it. Trafalgar Square also marks the northern end of **Whitehall**, the centre of British government.

In 2003 Trafalgar Square was renovated and expanded to link up directly with the National Gallery on the north side of the square - a great improvement to the traffic which once completely encircled this, the largest public square in the West End. The early 18th century church of St Martins in the Fields stands at the north-east corner of the square. Just by the church, Charing Cross Road gives access to the fabulous National Portrait Gallery, and leads on further to Leicester Square, **Soho** and the famous collection of bookstores on the road itself. To the south, Whitehall leads to Westminster Abbey, the Houses of Parliament and 10 Downing Street.

Christmas time sees the erection of a large Christmas Tree within the square, the annual gift of the people of **Oslo**, capital of **Norway**, as a token of gratitude for Britain's help in WWII. Trafalgar Square is also traditionally the scene of lively celebrations for Londoners on New Year's Eve, though an increasingly heavy police presence has meant that some antics (drunks leaping into the fountains) have all but disappeared. More recently, Trafal-

gar Square has served as an outdoor venue for concerts and VIP appearances, courtesy of the Mayor of London's Office, which is keen to see Londoners use their public spaces better. Visitors to the square on an ordinary day may also discover small-scale demonstrations and public speakers - the Square is a convenient gathering place near to, but not threatening, the seat of British Government down the road at Westminster.

20.1.3 Leicester Square

This smallish London square is the site of most British film premieres and the square itself is surrounded by terrifyingly-expensive cinemas — tickets for an evening screening will cost upwards of £17, 3D screenings will cost upwards of £15. At night, Leicester Square becomes exceptionally busy with tourists and locals, visiting the surrounding clubs and bars. In the north-west corner of the square is a musical clock, incorporating a Swiss glockenspiel, that is popular with tourists. It was popular enough that its remodelling and restoration was actually a requirement when permission was given for the demolition of Swiss Centre in 2008, of which it had been a part. The TKTs half price ticket booth is on the south side of Leicester Square for cheap tickets for theatre performances.

20.2 Get in

20.2.1 By Tube

Leicester Square is served by a Tube station of the same name located just off the north east corner of the Square on Charing Cross Road. The station is on both the Northern and Piccadilly Lines and acts as a convenient place to start any exploration of London's West End.

Chinatown is a short walk from both Piccadilly Circus (Piccadilly and Bakerloo Lines) — walk east along Shaftesbury Avenue, before turning right at Wardour Street, watch for the ornamental gates — and Leicester Square (Piccadilly and Northern Lines) stations.

The nearest tube station to **Trafalgar Square** is Charing Cross on the Northern and Bakerloo Lines.

Piccadilly Circus is served by a Tube station of the same name.

20.2.2 By train

Charing Cross mainline station serves the south-eastern region of England.



20.3 Get around

Walk. This is a small district which lends itself perfectly to exploration on foot.

20.4 See



The National Gallery

- **1 Trafalgar Square** (*Nearest tube: Charing Cross*). The main, central square of London, Trafalgar Square is associated with celebration and demonstration - it is the site of London's lacklustre New Year celebrations, and in 2003 was the site of the triumphant homecoming of the British Rugby team from the World Cup, and a centre for demonstration against Britain's involvement in the Iraq War. In recent years, the square has been associated with the many hundreds of pigeons that used to be found here, but London's Mayor Ken Livingstone passed a bylaw in 2003 making it illegal to feed them. Nelson's Column, surrounded by the four bronze lions can be found here, on the south side of the square. The north-west plinth in the square has been vacant since 1841, and controversial contemporary sculpture has been displayed here in recent years. **W**
- **1 National Gallery**, Trafalgar Sq, WC2 5DN, ☎ +44 20 7747-2885. 10:00-18:00 daily except F until 21:00. Houses the British national collection of western European art dating from the 13th to 19th centuries. A truly awe-inspiring collection, notable works include Hans Holbein's *The Ambassadors*, Van Gogh's *Sunflowers* and Constable's *The Haywain*. The vast majority of art is free of charge to visit. Temporary exhibitions are generally fairly costly, but invariably well researched and presented. The audioguides are very comprehensive, have comments on most of the paintings in the museum, and are free though this fact is not advertised. A donation is suggested. In addition to courses, workshops, lectures and other events, the National Gallery has free talks and tours every day. Free. **W**
- **1 National Portrait Gallery**, St Martin's Pl, WC2H 0HE, ☎ +44 20 7306-0055. 10:00-18:00, except Th F until 21:00. The National Portrait Gallery is just around the corner from the National Gallery and is an entertaining way to learn about British history since the Tudors. Visitors walk around the gallery chronologically, viewing portraits of notable figures from British history - from Henry VII, painted by Hans Holbein, to Blur, painted by Julian Opie. Free except some non-permanent exhibitions. **W**
- **1 St Martins in the Fields**, 8 St Martin's Pl, WC2. A classical church that stands opposite the National Gallery. Since WWI, the homeless have sought shelter at this church, a tradition that continues to this day. **W**
- **Edith Cavell Memorial**, St Martin's Pl WC2 (*just off Trafalgar Sq*). Statue in honour of the World War I nursing heroine. **W**
- **1 Piccadilly Circus** (*tube: Piccadilly Circus*). At the junction of five major roads, Piccadilly Circus is the home of the famous aluminum statue of Eros, which sits atop a fountain. The north side of Piccadilly Circus holds an enormous display board of electric advertisements, including Britain's biggest illuminated display (the widest in the world), advertising a popular soft drink. **W**
- **1 Leicester Square Garden**. Relax and unwind in the garden, and gaze at the activity going on all around, while listening to the buskers, street entertainers and preachers performing in the area.
- **1 Chinatown**. The main sights to see in London's Chinatown are the expressions of Chinese culture and Eastern ambience in Chinatown, and for a good Chinese meal. There are few souvenir shops for tourists and no museums or temples. **W**
 - **Chinese arches** (*Paifang*), at each end of Gerard St and at the entrance to Macclesfield St. The three ornamental Chinese arches are worth a look.
 - **Chinatown phone booths**. Chinatown does incorporate some entertaining combinations of British and Chinese culture, such as the phone booths with pagoda-style sloping roofs.

20.5 Do

20.5.1 Cinemas

Leicester Square square hosts most high-profile London cinema premieres, on which occasions it is fenced and crowded beyond comfort by people desperately trying to take a look at their celebrity of choice.

Mainstream

- **Empire**, 5-6 Leicester Sq, WC2 (*tube: Leicester Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7437-1234. M-F until 17:00 £5, M-F after 17:00 £7.50, £8, £9, Sa Su £7.50, £8, £9.
- **Odeon Leicester Square**, Leicester Sq, WC2 (*tube: Leicester Sq*), ☎ +44 870 5050 007. Also includes the Odeon Mezzanine and Odeon West End M-F until 17:00 £5, £6, £6.50 M-F after 17:00 £10, Sa Su £11.
- **Vue Cinemas**, Leicester Sq, WC2, ☎ +44 871 224 0240.

Arthouse

- **Curzon Soho Cinema**, 99 Shaftesbury Ave, W1D 5DY. Voted “London’s Number 1 Cinema” by *Time Out* readers, great bar and a fantastic art-house program.
- **Prince Charles Cinema**, 7 Leicester Pl (*Down a side street to the north, just up from the Häagen-Dazs*). The cheapest and in some ways most interesting cinema in the area. They do not screen the latest films but usually have an interesting selection, including foreign and art house films and often have theme nights. Get hold of the program at the door or on the internet and consider buying the discount-granting yearly membership if you plan to come back a few times. M £1.99, Tu-F £2.50, Sa Su £3.50.

20.5.2 Theatre



One of the ornamental gates or paifang located at the entrance to Gerrard Street in London's Chinatown

Along with neighbouring Covent Garden this is the capital of London's theatreland and the most famous London theatres are in this district. Check individual theatre websites of the official London theatreland website for current programmes and never neglect the official half price ticket booth in Leicester Square itself:

- **TKTS** (*half price ticket booth*), Leicester Square (*tube: Leicester Sq. Booth is on the south side of the square in the clock tower building*). M-Sa 10:00-19:00, Su 11:00-16:00. Tickets can only be bought in person so do not try to contact by telephone. At times, there may well be long queues, so be prepared.

Please note that most of the booking office numbers given below will only work from within the UK. If you want to make a booking from overseas, use the relevant website.

The Leicester Square Box Office, otherwise known as LSBO also offers a great selection of great deals on tickets to top London shows and musicals. Tickets can be booked over the phone on +44 20 7087-2999, or in person!

- **Adelphi Theatre**, 409-412 Strand, WC2E 7NA, ☎ +44 844 412 4651.
- **Ambassadors Theatre**, Ambassadors Theatre, West St, WC2H 9ND.
- **Apollo Theatre**, 39-45 Shaftesbury Ave, W1D 7EZ, ☎ +44 20 7492-9930.
- **The Criterion Theatre**, 2 Jermyn St, SW1Y 4XA, ☎ +44 844 847 1778.
- **Garrick Theatre**, 2 Charing Cross Rd, WC2H 0HH, ☎ +44 844 579 1974.
- **1 Gielgud Theatre**, 39-45 Shaftesbury Ave, W1D 6AR, ☎ +44 844 482 5130. **W**
- **Harold Pinter Theatre**, 6 Panton St, SW1Y 4DN, ☎ +44 870 060 6637.
- **Her Majesty's Theatre**, 57 Haymarket, SW1Y 4QL, ☎ +44 844 412 4653.
- **Leicester Square Theatre**, 6 Leicester Pl, WC2H 7BX, ☎ +44 844 847 2475.
- **The Lyric Theatre**, 29 Shaftesbury Ave, W1D 7ES, ☎ +44 330 333 4812.
- **The Palace Theatre**, 109-113 Shaftesbury Ave, W1D 5AY, ☎ +44 844 412 4656.
- **The Phoenix Theatre**, Charing Cross Rd, WC2H 0JP, ☎ +44 870 060 6629.
- **Piccadilly Theatre**, Denman St, W1D 7DY, ☎ +44 844 871 7618.
- **Playhouse Theatre**, Northumberland Ave, WC2N 5DE, ☎ +44 870 060 6631.
- **Prince of Wales Theatre**, Coventry St, W1D 6AS, ☎ +44 870 850 0393.
- **1 Queen's Theatre**, 51 Shaftesbury Ave, W1D 6BA, ☎ +44 870 950 0930. **W**
- **Savoy Theatre**, Savoy Ct, Strand, WC2R 0ET.
- **Theatre Royal Haymarket**, 18 Suffolk St, SW1Y 4HT, ☎ +44 845 481 1870.
- **1 Wyndham's Theatre**, 32-36 Charing Cross Rd, WC2H 0DA, ☎ +44 844 482 5120. **W**

20.5.3 Other

- **Chinese New Year Festival.** Worth seeing, though Gerrard St can get unbelievably crowded, as the dragon dancers pass along the street to collect good-ies hung from windows above the shops. In recent years, the festival has expanded south into Leicester Sq and Trafalgar Sq to try to alleviate the congestion.

20.6 Buy

- **M&M's World,** 1 Swiss Ct, WC2H 7DG (*Tube: Leicester Square*), ☎ +44 20 7025-7171. The largest sweet shop in the world. Unlike the New York City store you can only buy the “regular” M&M flavours here, albeit in a wider variety of colours than you would usually find. There is also a wide array of other merchandise available such as homeware and clothing.
- **Nickelodeon Store,** 1 Leicester Square, WC2H 7NA (*Tube: Leicester Square*). The first flagship store in Europe for the Nickelodeon brand. Sells a variety of merchandise with the character Spongebob Squarepants being prominent.
- **THE LEGO STORE,** 3 Swiss Ct, W1D 6AP (*Tube: Leicester Square*), ☎ +44 207 839 3480. Opened in November 2016, this is officially the world's largest LEGO Store. Also has a massive Big Ben (yes, they mean the clock tower and not the actual bell. Feel free to tut loudly) sculpture made of said building blocks.

20.6.1 Books


Charing Cross Road and the tiny Cecil Court which leads off it have long been the centre of the specialist and antiquarian book trade in London. There are fewer outlets than previously as spiralling rents pushed out a lot of the traditional booksmiths but many still remain. Any book lover will be in heaven here.

- **Any Amount of Books,** 56 Charing Cross Rd, WC2H 0QA (*Tube: Leicester Square*), ☎ +44 20 7836-3697. Rare and second-hand books. Specialist in scholarly academic works and art-related titles.
- **David Drummond at Pleasures of Past Times,** 11 Cecil Ct WC2N 4EZ (*Tube: Leicester Square*), ☎ +44 20 7836-1142. Specialises in books and other memorabilia related to the performing arts and old children's books.

- **Goldsboro Books,** 7 Cecil Ct, WC2N 4EZ (*Tube: Leicester Square*), ☎ +44 20 7497-9230, e-mail: enquiries@goldsborobooks.co.uk. First editions and signed fiction.
- **Paul J Hilton,** 12 Cecil Ct, WC2N 4HE (*Tube: Leicester Square*), ☎ +44 20 7379-9825. Antiquarian and general books, especially first edition English literature.
- **Henry Pordes Books Ltd,** 58-60 Charing Cross Rd, WC2H 0BB (*Tube: Leicester Square*), ☎ +44 20 7836-9031, e-mail: info@henrypordesbooks.com. Secondhand, antiquarian and all out-of print books.
- **Quinto Bookshop & Francis Edwards,** 72 Charing Cross Rd, WC2H 0BB, ☎ +44 20 7379-7669, e-mail: sales@quintobookshop.co.uk. Huge collection. Francis Edwards have been in business here since 1856.

20.7 Eat

All sorts of food are available. While London's Chinatown boasts some of the city's best Chinese food, quality and value vary enormously between individual restaurants. While some consistently win awards, others seem to be regularly being refurbished following visits from the local Environmental Health department. Unless you're on an extreme budget, it is worth paying a little more for quality food and service. Be careful especially with the common *all you can eat* deals.

- **Café in the Crypt,** Trafalgar Sq. In the basement of St Martin-in-the-Fields church is the Café in the Crypt which offers reasonably-priced cafe food that you can eat amongst the brick-vaulted ceilings, pillars and gravestones.
- **1 Gaby's Deli,** 30 Charing Cross Road, WC2H 0DE (*Tube: Leicester Square*), ☎ +44 207 7836 4233. M–Sa 10:00–23:00, Su closed. Jewish family-owned restaurant that has been serving gigantic falafel-stuffed pitta since 1965. A true London institution. **W**  (updated Feb 2017)
- **The Portrait Restaurant,** at the National Portrait Gallery, ☎ +44 20 7312-2490. Offers spectacular food accompanied by spectacular art on the 5th floor of the National Portrait Gallery. A must do dining experience.
- **Tokyo Diner,** 2 Newport Pl (*At the eastern end of Lisle St, near the Prince Charles Cinema*). noon-midnight. Offers excellent and well-priced Japanese food.

20.7.1 Chinatown

- **China China**, 3 Gerrard St, ☎ +44 20 7439-7502. At the budget end of the scale, China China at the eastern end of the north side of Gerrard Street offers Hong Kong diner style meals of cold meat on hot rice. around £5 for a generous portion.
- **Friendly Inn**, 47 Gerrard St, ☎ +44 20 7437-4170. Offers cheap fare on the southern side of Gerrard Street. The restaurant lives up to its name with very enthusiastic serving staff, but unless you stick to the set menus, the cost of the meal can soon increase.
- **Leong's Legend** and **Leong's Legend Continued...** serves Taiwanese fare. Chilli crab and omelette dishes are specialities. So popular they opened a second restaurant which is arguably more busier. Those with a craving for Taiwanese pearl tea, should head over to **Bubbleology** at 49 Rupert St, Soho.
- **CNR Cafe** tucked down an alley off Whitcomb St, is worth checking out for cheap Malaysian-Singaporean eats.
- **Lee Ho Fook**, 15-16 Gerrard St, ☎ +44 20 7492-1200. The best known restaurant in Chinatown, as immortalised in Warren Zevon's song *Werewolves of London*. The restaurant plays on this tiny crumb of fame, displaying a much-faded image of the singer in its window. Meals here are relatively costly by local standards, and generally not reported to be outstandingly good.
- **Luxuriance Peking Cuisine**, 40 Gerrard St, ☎ +44 20 7734-0262. This family-owned business that started up in 1980 is famous for its freshly cooked crispy aromatic duck, seafood banquet and pork spare ribs. The interior is comfortable, relaxed and modern.
- **Mr Kong**, 21 Lisle St (at the end of Leicester Place, after the Prince Charles Cinema), ☎ +44 20 7437-7341, e-mail: edwin@mrkongrestaurant.com. Reputed to have the best vegetarian food in Chinatown.
- **New World**, 1 Gerrard Pl, ☎ +44 20 7734-0396. A well-decorated and plush-looking restaurant which serves excellent dim sum on trolleys from midday until around 6PM. Good quality evening food is available thereafter, and the service is very good overall.
- **Wong Kei**, 41-43 Wardour St, W1 (opposite the western end of Gerrard St), ☎ +44 20 7437-3071. A Chinatown institution. Popular with Londoners

and visitors alike and possibly the best value Chinese restaurant in the whole of London. Spread across four floors, this restaurant is infamous for its surly, abrupt service and this has become part of the experience of dining there. Depending on how drunk you look, the higher up the building you will be sent. Tea is complimentary, though somewhat bland. Set meals present excellent value for money, some being under £5. The sweet and sour pork is remarkably good.

- There are several **buffets** in Chinatown, of which the cheapest is **Mr Wu** at £4.95, its and cheerful, and you get exactly what you pay for. Some of them have a larger selection of dishes, but quality varies and can be a lot to be desired. If you do mind, **Hong Kong Buffet** is the most expensive at £12, but is more tasty and you can be sure you're not eating rat-meat.

20.8 Drink

There are relatively few decent places to drink in this district and visitors would do better to head north into **Soho** or east in **Covent Garden**, for a better selection of bars and pubs. However, if your legs are weary, there are a number of convenient drinking places:

- **1997**, 19 Wardour St. Cosy place to visit if you are not feeling in an alcoholic mood. They provide a good selection of iced and *pearl* tapioca teas which are often hard to come by outside of Hong Kong.
- **Cork and Bottle Wine Bar**, 44-46 Cranbourn St, ☎ +44 20 7734-7807. More of a wine bar than a restaurant, the extensive wine list featuring selections from Australia and California. They offer reasonable cuisine to wash down this full bodied wines.
- **De Hems**, 11 Macclesfield St, W1D 5BW (North from halfway along Gerrard St). Dutch-themed pub with an excellent selection of beers. It is often crowded, but has a good atmosphere and a comedy club.
- **O'Neil's**, Irish chain bar lost in the heart of Chinatown. Three levels with a houseband on busier nights, who always seem to play the same U2 and Kings of Leon songs.
- **Trash Palace**, 11 Wardour St, W1D 6PG, ☎ +44 20 7734-0522. Fantastic small gay bar, mixed music and a laid back mixed crowd.
- **Waxy's O'Connor's**, 14-16 Rupert St, W1D 6DD. Irish themed pub with a fibreglass tree inside it. It is

almost invariably unbearably crowded. The smaller **Waxy's Little Sister** opposite it, however, is generally quieter and more relaxed.

- **1 Bubbleology**, 49 Rupert Street, ☎ +44 20 7494-4231, e-mail: assad@bubbleology.co.uk. 11:00-23:30 Monday-Thursday, 11:00-00:00 Saturday, 11:00-23:30 Sunday. Quirky shop selling bubble teas in a very interesting way.

20.9 Sleep

Very few visitors actually stay in this district and the options which are available are not particularly good value. This is a district to visit, not to stay in.

- **Radisson Blu Edwardian Hampshire Hotel**, 31-36 Leicester Square, WC2H 7LH, ☎ + 44 207 839 9399, e-mail: reshamp@radisson.com. Check-in: 15:00, check-out: 11:00. Small luxury hotel furnished in a sleek, contemporary design. From £263.
- **Thistle Piccadilly**, Coventry St, W1D 6BZ, ☎ +44 845 3058330. Affordable and centrally located but a tired property. From £159.
- **The Trafalgar**, 2 Spring Gdns, Trafalgar Square, SW1A 2TS, ☎ +44 20 7870-2900, fax: +44 20 7870-2911. Hilton's first boutique hotel in London. From £240.
- **Premier Inn London Leicester Square**, 1 Leicester Place, Leicester Square, London WC2H 7BP, ☎ +44 871 527 9334. Check-in: 14:00, check-out: 12:00. Premier Inn are a popular mid-range budget hotel chain, but in this location you're unlikely to find a night for under £100. From £98.

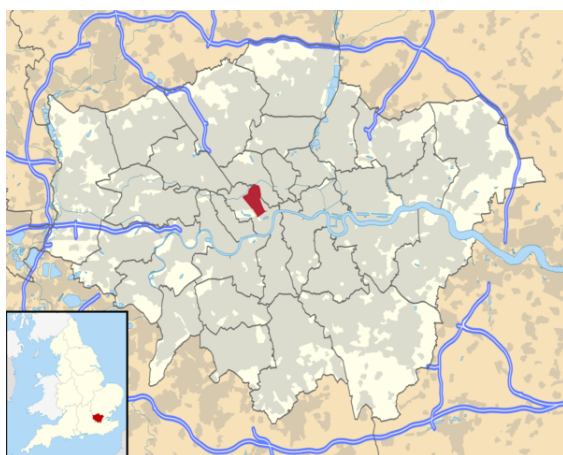
20.10 Connect

20.11 Go next

Leicester Square is a small and very central district; a very short walk can take you to many other areas of London. **Soho** is just north, passed Chinatown, with fashionable night life and eclectic shops. **Covent Garden** is just to the east, with more entertainment and shopping opportunities. **Westminster** is just to the south, passed Trafalgar Square, with its mix of government offices, parks and historic buildings. **Mayfair-Marylebone** is to the west, passed Piccadilly Circus, with more up-market places to shop.

Chapter 21

London/Mayfair-Marylebone



Location of the Mayfair-Marylebone area in London

Mayfair and **Marylebone** are districts of central London.

21.1 Understand

Mayfair and **Marylebone** together cover a large area of western central London, encompassing the whole of **Mayfair** and **Piccadilly** to the south and the area from **Oxford Street** through **Marylebone** to **Regent's Park** and the border with St John's Wood to the north.

Mayfair is named after a fortnight-long May Fair held from 1686 until banned from that location in 1764. (Previously, the May Fair was held in the Haymarket; after 1764, it moved to Fair Field in Bow). The area was owned by the Grosvenor family and much is still held by the Grosvenor Estate, having been originally developed for residences from the late 17th century. Mayfair is an extremely well-heeled district, as symbolised by its appearance as the most expensive property on the London *Monopoly* board, followed closely by one of its main thoroughfares, Park Lane. The district includes several major up-market shopping streets, including **Bond Street**, Regent Street, Jermyn Street.

Dividing the two districts is **Oxford Street**, considered by many to be the 'high street', (i.e. main shopping street) of London. Here are to be found a number of sizeable de-



Oxford Street

partment stores, including the famous Selfridges, as well as shopfronts for all the major brands.

Marylebone, located to the north of Oxford Street, is larger and less grand than Mayfair but still home to some very desirable housing, as well major tourist attractions such as Madame Tussaud's Wax Works Museum, Baker Street and the fictional haunt of Sherlock Holmes, and—to the north—the wide open green spaces of Regent's Park (including London Zoo).

21.2 Get in

21.2.1 By tube

There are a large number of Tube stations in the area, making these districts extremely easy to access, with all sites of interest a maximum of 10-15 minutes walk from any Tube station:

- Piccadilly Circus (Piccadilly and Bakerloo lines).
- Oxford Circus (Central, Bakerloo and Victoria lines)
- Marble Arch (Central line)
- Baker Street (Metropolitan, Circle, Hammersmith & City, Jubilee and Bakerloo lines)



- Bond Street (Central and Jubilee lines).
- Green Park (Piccadilly, Victoria and Jubilee lines).
- Edgware Road (Circle, District and Hammersmith & City lines)
- Regent's Park (Bakerloo line)
- Marylebone (Bakerloo line)
- Hyde Park Corner (Piccadilly line)

The Tube is the best way to reach Oxford Street; although there are plenty of buses serving the area, the traffic congestion is pretty bad, and the wait can be lengthy. The Central Line runs pretty much directly beneath Oxford Street at this point, with four stations along its length: Marble Arch, Bond Street (also served by the Jubilee Line), Oxford Circus (also served by the Bakerloo and Victoria lines), and Tottenham Court Road (also served by the Charing Cross branch of the Northern Line). If you want to shop, go to either Marble Arch or Tottenham Court Road station and walk the length of Oxford Street to experience all it has to offer.

If possible, avoid Oxford Circus Tube Station, as its layout is confusing and it's also very busy; at times it can be difficult to get out of the station at all due to pedestrian congestion outside and access to the station is frequently closed on a temporary basis during the evening rush hour.

21.2.2 By train

Marylebone Station is also a mainline rail station, the terminus for trains from Birmingham, Warwick, Banbury, Aylesbury and High Wycombe. It is one of the best preserved Victorian railway stations left in the capital. With Marylebone Road on the station's southern side, there is no shortage of buses.

21.2.3 By bus

- **23 & 7** travel up Edgware Rd and on towards Bayswater & Notting Hill.

21.3 See

21.3.1 Landmarks

- **1 Marble Arch** (*Where the north-eastern point of Hyde Park meets the south-western tip of Marylebone*). This enormous arch was originally situated in front of Buckingham Palace. In 1851 the expansion of the palace meant the arch could no longer remain where it was, so it was moved to this point on Hyde Park. It now stands rather sadly on a large traffic island, but the subway beneath the roads mean you can stop off at the Marble Arch on your way from Oxford St to Hyde Park. **W**



Regent's Park

- **1 Regent's Park** (*tube: Baker St or Regent's Pk*), ☎ +44 20 7486-7905, e-mail: regents@royalparks.gsi.gov.uk. Large open space very popular with Londoners and less visited by tourists than the other great city parks. A number of lovely lakes, an open air theatre, regular puppet shows, various sporting activities and some splendid ancient trees. There is also a cafe and play area next to the boating pond. **W**

- **1 ZSL London Zoo** (*London Zoo*), Outer Circle, Regent's Pk, NW1 4RY, ☎ +44 20 7722-3333. 10:00-16:00 daily, closed 25 Dec. London's main zoo located in the northern reaches of Regent's Park. Takes a very conservation-driven approach these days and always has great exhibits aimed at children. Opened in 1828 for scientific study, then to the public in 1847. pre-booked: £24 adults, £17.50 under 15s, under 3 free. Gate prices slightly higher.. **W**
- **1 London Central Mosque** (*Regent's Park Mosque*), 146 Park Rd NW1, e-mail: info@iccuk.org. Islamic Cultural Centre and the main mosque in London. Visitors are welcome but must be suitably attired. The Mosque runs classes, prayers, talks and events. **W**
- **1 Wellington Arch**, Apsley Way, Hyde Park Corner, W1J 7JZ (*tube: Hyde Park Corner; in the centre of the Hyde Park Corner roundabout*). Interior access daily: Apr–Sep 10:00–18:00; Oct 10:00–17:00; Nov–Mar 10:00–16:00. A grand neoclassical arch, designed by Decimus Burton and first erected in 1826 as a grand entrance to Buckingham Palace. From 1846 onwards, the arch was topped with a massive equestrian statue of the Duke of Wellington - a major road widening of Piccadilly in 1882 was the opportunity to finally remove the over sized statue to **Aldershot**. The present magnificent statue *Peace Descending on the Quadriga of War* was placed on top of the Arch in 1912, and remains today the largest bronze sculpture in the **United Kingdom**, spectacularly lit at night. During the 1950s, the arch served as the smallest police station in the city, when it was occupied by ten constables, two sergeants and a cat! The arch was opened to the public for the first time in April 2001 after a £1.5 million restoration by English Heritage. (Wellington Arch is also available for corporate and private events - with dramatic views down Constitution Hill and across central London from the Arch's spacious balconies, Wellington Arch is a novel and unique place to impress your guests). £4.20 adult, £3.80 concessions, £2.50 child. **W**
- **1 Grosvenor Square**. Nicknamed *Little America*, it is the long time home of the American Embassy (soon to be moved to Nine Elms across the river) and a statue of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. **W**

21.3.2 Museums and Galleries

- **1 Apsley House** (*The Wellington Museum*), 149 Piccadilly, Hyde Park Corner, London, W1J 7NT



Sherlock Holmes Museum

- (*tube: Hyde Park Corner*), ☎ +44 20 7499-5676. closed until 1.04.2017. The former home of the 1st Duke of Wellington, boasting an impressive collection of paintings, sculpture, medals and swords. adults £6.70, children £4.00, concessions £6.00. **W**
- **1 Handel House Museum**, 25 Brook St W1K 4HB (*tube: Bond Street*), ☎ +44 20 7495-1685, e-mail: mail@handelhouse.org. Tu W, F Sa 10:00-18:00, Th 10:00-20:00, Su noon-18:00. Home to the baroque composer George Frideric Handel from 1723 until his death in 1759. Some of the greatest classical music ever composed was done so at this address. The museum charts Handel's life and works and offers recitals of music in the magnificent setting of the period rooms. By means of contrast, next door was home to Jimi Hendrix when he lived in London in 1969! £2-5. **W**
- **1 Madame Tussauds**, Marylebone Rd, NW1 5LR (*tube: Baker St*), ☎ +44 871 894 3000. M-F 10:00-17:30, Sa Su 09:30-17:30. Madame Tussaud's is a world famous waxwork museum, best known for its Grand Hall, with a collection of international royalty, statesmen and world leaders. Visitors generally report that the entrance fee does not warrant the selection of waxworks on show, which rarely resemble the celebrities. Also, there is usually a long queue stretching down the road. £10-20 (*pricing depends on time of visit, price decreases as closing time approaches, and whether visitors wish to pass through the Chamber of Horrors'). **W** (updated Jan 2017)
- **1 The Royal Academy of Arts**, Burlington House, Piccadilly (*tube: Piccadilly Circus*), ☎ +44 20 7300-8000. Sa-Th 10:00-18:00, F 10:00-22:00. The Royal Academy no longer has a permanent exhibition space, instead hosting art exhibitions. Notable recent exhibitions have included the paintings of Monet, contemporary art associated with the theme of apocalypse, and Aztec art. Each Summer, the

Royal Academy plays host to a Summer Exhibition, displaying 1,200 new works by established and new artists selected by the academy, most of which are available for visitors to buy. Each member has to donate a work of art, so over the years, the academy has built a sizable collection. Exhibitions are invariably excellent, and it is worth paying for audio guides, if they are not included. Visitors should book tickets in advance, as exhibitions are often very popular - particularly shortly after opening. £7-9 ('admission price varies between exhibitions). **W**

- **1 Sherlock Holmes Museum**, 239 Baker St, NW1 6XE (Also known as 221B Baker St), ☎ +44 20 7935-8866. 09:30-18:00 daily. Discover mementos of this famous fictional detective. £15 adult, £10 child. **W** (updated Jul 2015)
- **1 Wallace Collection**, Manchester Square, W1U 3BN (tube: Bond St), ☎ +44 20 7563-9527. 10:00-17:00 daily. The Wallace Collection is one of the world's finest private art collections, the best known of which is Frans Hals's work *The Laughing Cavalier*. Other artists on display include Rembrandt, Titian, Poussin, and Reynolds. Well worth escaping to after the hustle and bustle of Oxford Street. Free. **W**
- **Haunch of Venison Gallery** is one of several commercial, boutique art-galleries scattered around the area.

21.4 Work

- **Mayfair Point**, 34 South Molton St, ☎ +44 20 7344-9700. Located just above Bond Street tube station, Mayfair Point provides office services, from single desk hire through to contracted large office space ideal for small businesses wanting to work in a prestigious location in London. From £60pm.

21.5 Do

- **Curzon Mayfair**, 38 Curzon St, ☎ +44 20 7495-0500. Retro 70s decor, a relaxing bar area and comfortable seating combine with a great art-house billing, easily one of the best cinemas in London.
- **London Friday Night Skate** (Hyde Park Corner). F 20:00. Group street skate every Friday night.
- **Sunday Stroll** (Serpentine Rd). Su 14:00. Group street skate.
- **Regent's Park Open Air Theatre** (Regent's Park). During the summer, a perfect afternoon can be had by taking a picnic in Regent's Park followed by seeing a production at the Theatre.

21.6 Buy

Oxford Street, which has been a shopping mecca and London's primary shopping street since 1908, will max out your credit card and will provide you with a store for anything you need. Virtually all of the major British retail chains have their flagship branches along Oxford Street. Selfridges is worth a visit for its food hall; it also has a great selection of bottled beers. John Lewis is good for fabrics, knitting supplies, other crafts, furniture, and home wares in general. Intersecting Oxford St proper is **Regent St**, which houses the famous Liberty department store, again worth a visit for fabrics and home furnishings. Also interesting is the Dickens and Jones department store.

The eastern boundary of the area is marked by **Tottenham Court Road**, which is London's famous area for specialist electronics, hi-fi and computer equipment shops - most of these are concentrated near the southern half of the road, whilst the northern half is famous for its furnishing stores.

If your taste is for mainstream designer label goods, try **Bond Street**. Synonymous with international designers and luxury goods, it is a great way to experience London's finest at its best. The street is recognized as the premier location for shopping in London, and perhaps the world, featuring brands and designer labels recognized the world over.

Savile Row is synonymous with perhaps the highest quality men's suits in the world. There are many bespoke tailors to choose from, most of whom are behind quite discreet shop fronts. If you feel like really treating yourself, nothing could be more *London* than a suit from Savile Row and a shirt from **Jermyn St**.

Marylebone High Street and the side streets running off it have a range of upmarket specialised shops, in particular for food.

- **Aspreys**, 167 New Bond St, W1S 4AY (tube: Bond St), ☎ +44 20 7493-6767. One of the most famous luxury jewellers anywhere in the world. At least have a look in the window
- **Burberry**, 21-23 New Bond St, W1S 2RE. Visit the flagship store on Bond St and look at the famous check.
- **Fortnum and Mason**, 181 Piccadilly, W1A 1ER, ☎ +44 20 7734-8040. World famous as grocers to

the British Royal Family, Fortnum's original store has been here in Piccadilly since 1707.

- **Grays Antique Markets**, 58 Davies St & 1-7 Davies Mews, W1K 5AB (*tube: Bond St*), ☎ +44 20 7629-7034, e-mail: info@graysantiques.com. M-F 10:00-18:00, Sa 11:00-17:00. A remarkably diverse collection of antique and collectibles dealers all under one roof adjoining Bond St station. Certainly the best option in central London for visitors interested in collectibles in particular.
- **Hamley's**, 188-196 Regent St, W1B 5BT (*tube: Oxford Circus*), toll-free: +44 800 280 2444. Unleash your inner child, and your children at Hamleys, the largest toy store in England. With over seven floors, you could spend hours here.
- **Liberty**, Great Marlborough St, W1B 5AH (*tube: Oxford Circus, the main frontage is on Regent St despite the address*), ☎ +44 20 7734-1234, e-mail: info@liberty.co.uk. The flagship, original store of the world famous British brand. Lovely old building and great fun to browse in Liberty even if you are not going to buy something!
- **Cad & the Dandy** (*Men's Suits Tailors & Shirtmakers*), 12 Savile Row, W1S 3PR, ☎ +44 20 7283-1975. Remarkable bespoke & made to measure suit tailors for men. Fine English fabrics, affordable. Also offer men's wedding suit tailoring. Design your suit using their online designing tool. £450.

21.7 Eat

21.7.1 Budget

- **Maroush**, Edgware Rd. A chain of Middle Eastern food including; belly dancing at night.
- **Migen**. Pan-asian food at budget prices. The owner has his supplies shipped in specifically from the far east, and declares his secret is always using chillies from the country of the dish. If you are stuck for choice, try the agedashi-dofu (deep-fried tofu with dipping sauce).
- **Paul**, Marylebone High St. French patisserie and bakery with some seating available.
- **1 Sea Shell of Lisson Grove**, 49-51 Lisson Grove, NW1 6UH (*tube: Marylebone*), ☎ +44 20 7224-9000, e-mail: enquiry@seashellrestaurant.co.uk. M-Sa 12:00-22:30. A premium fish and chip shop that has some seating as well as dishing up hundreds of take-away packages every day. Londoners travel miles to order here. The effort is well and truly worth it. (updated Nov 2015)

21.7.2 Mid-range

- **1 Carluccio's**, St. Christopher's Place, ☎ +44 20 7935-5927. M-F 08:00-23:00, Sa 09:00-23:00, Su 10:00-22:00. Creative Italian cuisine, enjoy a bottle of pinot grigio at the bar while waiting for a table to free. Main £6-15.
- **1 Giraffe Burgers and Cocktails**. World food at great prices. Great for children
- **1 Tapa Room**, Marylebone High St. With the more formal *Providores restaurant* upstairs.
- **1 MEATliquor**, 74 Welbeck St, W1G 0BA (*tube: Oxford Circus*), ☎ +44 20 7224-4239. American dive bar offering great burgers. No reservations. £20 per head.

21.7.3 Splurge

- **Chez Gerard**, 31 Dover St, W1S 4ND (*at the northern end of Dover St, tube: Green Pk*), ☎ +44 20 7499-8171. French brasserie of some repute. Two storey restaurant.
- **Le Gavroche**, 43 Upper Brook St, W1K 7QR, ☎ +44 20 7408-0881. World famous, multiple-Michelin-starred, restaurant run by Michel Roux Jr. £100+ per head.

21.8 Drink

- **Coco Momo**, 70 Marylebone High. Trendy and upbeat atmosphere with an extensive cocktail list.
- **Jetlag**, Under the iconic BT Tower, ☎ +44 20 3370-5838. M-Th 10:00-23:00, F Sa 10:00-midnight. International cocktail bar delivering cocktails from around the world with Japanese and global inspired food menu. Also a cinema screen showing high definition sport and can be hired out for special functions. Affordable luxury.
- **Low Life**, Marylebone. Basement bar with DJs.
- **The Volunteer**, 247 Baker St. A great pub for a relaxed evening. Great atmosphere and a minute walk from Baker Street Tube.
- **Windsor Castle**. A local pub popular with the London Business School crowd.
- **Sam Smith Pubs**. Sam Smith's pubs are some of the cheaper places to drink in Marylebone as they mostly sell their own beers brewed in Yorkshire. £2-£4 per pint.

- **1 The Angel in the Fields**, 37 Thayer Street (*Bond Street tube*). (updated Nov 2015)
- **1 The Dover Castle**, 43 Weymouth Mews (*Regent's Park tube*). (updated Nov 2015)

21.9 Sleep

21.9.1 Budget

- **Oxford Street Youth Hostel**, 14 Noel St. A busy, vibrant hostel, not a place for a quiet break. Self-catering kitchen. 2-4 bed rooms. Adults from £24.50.

21.9.2 Mid-range

- **20 Hertford Street Apartments**, 20 Hertford St, W1J 7RX, ☎ +44 845 226 9831, e-mail: info@citybaseapartments.com. From £69-400.
- **Holiday Inn Oxford Circus**, 57-59 Welbeck St. Check-in: 14:00, check-out: 11:00. Clean hotel.
- **Holiday Inn London Regents Park**, Carburton St, W1W 5EE, ☎ +44 871 942 9111. The hotel is near attractions including Madame Tussauds and has a restaurant and bar. It is also close to Tube and railway stations.
- **1 The Leonard Hotel**, 15 Seymour St, W1H 7JW (*tube: Marble Arch*), ☎ +44 20 7935-2010, fax: +44 20 7935-6700, e-mail: reservations@theleonard.com. Offers central London accommodation from grand suites to individually decorated bedrooms near the shops of Oxford Street and Bond Street and local attractions.
- **Lincoln House Hotel**, 33 Gloucester Pl (*Marble Arch*). A three star accommodation a few minutes from Madame Tussauds, Sherlock Holmes museum, Hyde Park corner. On average £79.
- **Langham London**, 1C Portland Pl, Regent St. Opened in 1865 as Europe's grand hotel, the Langham still retains its elegance and charm with luxuriously furnished rooms and spectacular views.
- **The Montcalm Hotel**, Great Cumberland Pl, Marble Arch. 120 bedrooms and suites with all marble bathrooms, a minute's walk from Hyde Park, Marble Arch and Oxford Street shopping.
- **Holiday Inn London - Mayfair**, 3 Berkeley Street London W1J 8NE, United Kingdom, ☎ +44 871 942 9110. Check-in : 2PM, Check-out : 12PM

21.9.3 Splurge

- **Claridge's**, 49 Brook St, ☎ +44 20 7629-8860. A London institution for those in the know. On the corner of Brook street and Davies street. Famous for serving traditional afternoon tea and hosts Gordon Ramsay's restaurant. (Not for much longer though)
- **The Connaught Hotel**, Carlos Pl, ☎ +44 20 7499-7070. Individually designed suites and rooms by Guy Oliver. Recently opened Hélène Darroze's restaurant, a Michelin-starred French chef.
- **Dorchester Hotel**, Park Ln. One of the most prestigious five-star luxury hotels anywhere in the world owned by the Brunei royal family. If you have to ask the rates, you probably can not afford to stay here.
- **Grand Residences by Marriott**, 47 Park St.
- **Hyatt Regency London - The Churchill**, 30 Portman Sq, ☎ +44 20 7486-5800, e-mail: london.churchill@hyattintl.com. Five star hotel with 444 rooms and suites. The hotel is host to Locanda Locatelli Michelin star Italian restaurant.
- **London Marriott Hotel Marble Arch**. Less expensive than some of the other hotels in the area. It is on a side street, so it is a little quieter. The rooms are reasonably sized, the beds have been upgraded. The hotel is in a district that has a lot of Middle Eastern shops and restaurants. People can be seen smoking hookahs in the cafes in the neighborhood. Very close to the shopping on Oxford St. Rooms have high speed internet at £15 per day.
- **London Marriott Hotel Grosvenor Square**. In the heart of Mayfair, adjacent to Hyde Park and a stroll from Oxford ST and Bond St. Originally built as a large townhouse, the hotel has been newly refurbished.
- **Park Lane Mews Hotel**, Park Ln. A luxury four star hotel. Minutes walk to Knightsbridge, Oxford Street, Green Park, Buckingham Palace, Regents Street and Hyde Park. Combines the charm of a traditional boutique hotel with modern facilities.
- **The Mandeville Hotel**, Mandeville Pl, ☎ +44 20 7935-5599. Modern amenities including LCD flat-screen TV, iPod docking stations, and WiFi access. £90-185.
- **The Ritz Hotel London**, 150 Piccadilly, W1J 9BR, ☎ +44 20 7493-8181. One of the London's great hotels for more than a century. Located on Piccadilly over-looking Green Park. If you cannot afford to stay here (likely), then a splurge on afternoon tea is recommended. Dress appropriately though otherwise you will not get past the door.

21.10 Stay safe

Whilst Oxford Street is one of the most safe streets in central London, there are, however, a few things to be aware of:

Crowds Oxford Street is very busy most days of the week, and can be unbearably so during the weekends - the areas around the junction with Tottenham Court Road, Marble Arch and Oxford Circus in particular. If you are in a hurry, be a Londoner and avoid the crowds by diverting via the back streets which run parallel to Oxford Street - plus you have the advantages of stumbling upon little gems such as restaurants, cafes and bars that are off the beaten track! You should be careful though, as pickpockets do sometimes lurk in these streets.

Begging and “The Clipboard People” Most homeless people asking for money won't and don't usually physically accost you, however, you will see them selling the “Big Issue”, which is a magazine published by a homeless charity. “The Clipboard People” are usually students who have been recruited by a charity to waylay passersby and ask if they want to sign up to their charity. Please remember that you are not obliged to purchase either product although “The Clipboard People” are usually far more persistent and will try and attract you in a more aggressive manner. To get rid of these people just say “No” firmly or ignore them.

Targeting If you are a young woman on her own you may become targeted by young men working in the t-shirt shops who wish to invite you for a meal and become quite persistent or young men saying that they have “seen you around” and want to know your name. Firmly tell them “No” and walk away, they should leave you alone. If you do have to pass by one of the shops where you have been targeted, usually expect nothing more than a cat-call. Remember if you do feel harassed, please call the Police.

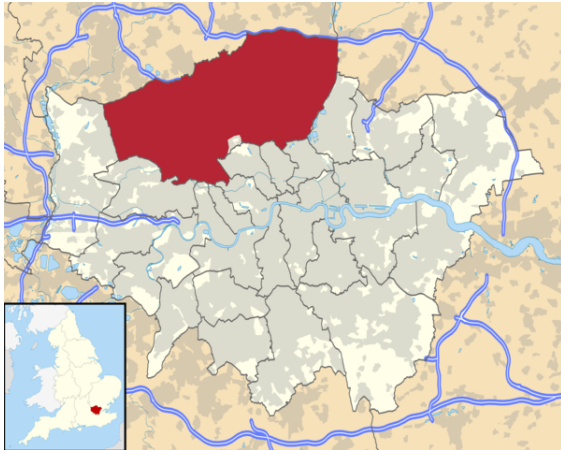
Buses at night It is safer for the lone traveller to sit downstairs and towards the front. It is inadvisable to sit at either the back, (as these seats are monopolised by youths), or upstairs. If you must sit upstairs it is not recommended that you sit at the back.

21.11 Connect

21.12 Go next

Chapter 22

London/North



Location of the North London area in London

North London is the outer northern district of **London**.

22.1 Understand



The New Wembley Stadium (completed in 2007)

Many outer areas of North London were once part of the county of **Middlesex**, which no longer exists for administrative purposes. However, residents of these areas still have the option of using Middlesex in their postal addresses.

22.1.1 Boroughs

North London consists of the following boroughs:

- **Barnet** — the borough includes:
 - **Barnet**
 - **Edgware**
 - **Finchley**
 - **Golders Green**
 - **Hendon**
- **Brent** — the borough includes:
 - **Wembley**
 - **Kilburn**
 - **Neasden**
 - **Willesden**
- **Enfield** — the borough includes:
 - **Enfield, Edmonton and Bush Hill Park**
 - **Palmers Green**
 - **Southgate**
- **Haringey** — the borough includes:
 - **Harringay**
 - **Crouch End**
 - **Muswell Hill**
 - **Tottenham**
 - **Wood Green**
- **Harrow** — the borough includes:
 - **Harrow**, Harrow town centre is a bustling shopping and business area, while Harrow on the Hill, with the famous Harrow school, has remained almost unchanged for a hundred years.
 - **Pinner**
 - **Stanmore**

22.1.2 London Borough of Enfield

Enfield can be split into four distinct areas:

- Enfield Town, Chase, Slades Hill and Hadley Wood. Shopping here in Palace Xchange can be relatively expensive but there are some well-known stores such as United Colours Of Benetton, Ralph Lauren, Armani Exchange, The Arsenal Store, H&M, Next, Rolex, Per Lui, TK Maxx, Pearsons Department Store, JD Sports, M&S, Jane Norman, plus coffee shops (Café Nero, Starbucks and Costa). Also in Enfield Town is the world's first working and commercial ATM at the Barclays Bank on The Town EN2.
- Southgate and Palmers Green - Wealthy suburban areas with beautiful Victorian and Edwardian era houses; a short bus ride from Enfield Town on the 121/329.
- Oakwood, Cockfosters, Grange Park and Cat Hill - Upper-middle-class suburbs bordering London's Metropolitan Green Belt; views of open countryside are not uncommon in both Chase and Oakwood.
- Edmonton and Bush Hill Park - Two outer London middle-class suburbs; location of the Edmonton Green shopping centre, Edmonton Green Bus Station and many shopping villages.

22.1.3 Finchley

This is a large, thriving metropolitan area in central North London and can be divided into several areas including Finchley Central (known historically as Finchley Church End), East Finchley and West Finchley.

Finchley Central is one of the only areas within London to be fortunate enough to have a city farm. College Farm is an attraction for locals and tourists alike and one can expect to see horses, cows, yaks, pigs and other farmyard animals (a rare sight in London). Finchley Central is also home to the famous 'naked lady' statue at the Henly's Corner. There are a number of hotels situated in the district ranging from smaller bed and breakfasts to the Holiday Inn Finchley.

Finchley Central contains an odd mix of upper-middle class suburbia enfolded with some working class aspects too, thus giving it a rather unique vibe. There is a strong Jewish community in Finchley, however, this does not contain many Orthodox Jews who generally choose to make the neighbouring areas of Hendon and Golders Green their home. The Jewish community is represented by a number of synagogues in the area, the most prominent being the New North London Synagogue which is situated on East End Road. This also acts as a local hub for Jewish culture.

There are a number of restaurants in Finchley Central which are reasonably priced and these include specialist restaurants such as Kosher and Halal establishments. Finchley also has a number of bohemian and lively bars, some of which have late licensing laws, though the number of traditional pubs has declined in recent years. Travel in and out of central London is simple via the Northern Line and a variety of bus routes. Although Finchley has a distinctly urban feel, one can venture close by to the neighbouring Mill Hill area in order to experience some of the great British countryside.

22.1.4 Kilburn



Interior of St Augustine's Church in Kilburn

Kilburn is a busy, diverse area situated along a stretch of the Roman Watling Street that makes up the local Edgware Road. Northern Kilburn encompasses the smaller area of Brondesbury. Known as 'Little Dublin', Kilburn spans the boroughs of Brent and Camden.

Being surrounded by generally wealthier areas, Kilburn is a mixture of influences. Historically, it was a focus point for Irish immigration (at some point it was even referred to as "County Kilburn"), and although there are few remaining in Kilburn, their influence is felt in the naming and styling of some of Kilburn's cafes and pubs. The community is currently very diverse, both ethnically and socially, with a mix of wealthy and poor streets.

22.1.5 Tottenham

Tottenham is mentioned in the Domesday book as the homestead of a man named Tota. The village of Tottenham grew up around the area of High Cross, on the junction with the High Road (the Roman road Ermine Street) and what is now Monument Way.

As a rural village this was a popular destination for the wealthy, and Henry VIII is believed to have visited the

Tudor Bruce Castle, then in the hands of the Bruce family (descended from Robert the Bruce). The area stayed semi-rural until the late 19th Century when the railway (with its new, reduced, workmen's rates) brought new trade and the need for more housing to the area. The area rapidly became built up, and by the time of World War II was a major target for Luftwaffe bombing campaigns.

Since then, Tottenham has become most notorious for being one of the most deprived areas of North London and the scene of the Broadwater Farm riots in 1985. Since then, the area has done much to recover, and is now reputed to be the most ethnically diverse part of Western Europe. The 2011 England riots were sparked in Tottenham, which saw some of the worst looting.

22.2 Get in

22.2.1 By Tube

North London is well served by Tube connections from Central London:

- **Metropolitan Line** (purple) runs through Wembley and Harrow terminating outside the London region in **Watford** and Aylesbury, **Buckinghamshire**.
- **Jubilee Line** (silver) runs through Wembley terminating at Stanmore.
- **Bakerloo Line** (brown) runs through Wembley terminating at Harrow and Wealdstone
- **Northern Line** (black) has two branches one terminating at Edgware and the other at High Barnet with a sub-branch line to Mill Hill East.
- **Piccadilly Line** (dark blue) terminates at Cockfosters.
- **Victoria Line** (light blue) runs through Tottenham terminating at Walthamstow.

22.2.2 By train

- From Euston (part of the overground network, orange) through Wembley, along the same route as the Bakerloo line, to Harrow then continuing to **Watford**.
- From Kings Cross to Barnet and Enfield.
- From Liverpool Street to Tottenham and Enfield.
- Tottenham Hale station is a stop on the **Stansted Express** from Stansted Airport to Liverpool Street.

22.2.3 By road

The North Circular Road (A406) is the main west to east road through North London. It has junctions with:

From the North: M1/A1, A10.

From the East: M11.

From the West: M4, A40.

22.2.4 Crouch End

- Tricky as there is no tube to Crouch End
- Crouch End can be accessed relatively easily by the London Overground railway line, by transferring at Gospel Oak.
- You can take a number 91 bus from Trafalgar Square (calls at Aldwych, Holborn, Euston and King's Cross) but it takes almost an hour (off peak) from Trafalgar Square.
- Alternatively you can go by tube to Archway and then take bus number 41 to Crouch End. Or take a Victoria Line/Piccadilly Line train to Finsbury Park, and then the W7 bus.
- There is also a W5 local bus, which runs from Sainsbury's at Harringay Green Lanes and serves the YMCA just down from Crouch End Broadway.

22.2.5 Tottenham

By tube

Tottenham is served by two tube stations on the Victoria line, Tottenham Hale and Seven Sisters.

By train

Seven Sisters, Bruce Grove and White Hart Lane stations are on the National Express line between Enfield Town and Liverpool Street.

South Tottenham station is on the London Overground route between **Gospel Oak** and **Barking**.

By bus

Buses: 123 Wood Green to **Ilford**, 149 **Liverpool Street** to Edmonton, 243 Wood Green to **Waterloo**, and many more services come through Tottenham.

22.2.6 Wembley

By tube

Two London Underground stations are within a short walk of the venues. Wembley Park is on the Metropolitan and Jubilee lines, and Wembley Central on the Bakerloo and London Overground lines. Access to the venues are via Olympic Way and the White Horse Bridge respectively. London Underground services typically run every 5 minutes in each direction until midnight, seven days a week.

By train

Two mainline stations are within a short walk of the venues. Wembley Central is served London Overground, providing services to Watford Junction northbound and London Euston southbound. Services typically run every 20 minutes in each direction Mon-Sat, and every half hour on Sundays. Southern trains also run Mon-Fri peak hour services on the West London Line, also to Watford Junction northbound but to Clapham Junction and Gatwick Airport railway station southbound. Whether matchday services will run at the weekends on this route remains unclear.

Wembley Stadium station is next to the stadium. Services are provided by Chiltern Railways on the Chiltern Main Line to London Marylebone (one stop away) southbound. Services are every half-hour seven days a week. Northbound, trains only run up as far as High Wycombe and are every half-hour seven days a week. However, if travellers go first to Marylebone, there are northbound services that go all the way up to Birmingham Snow Hill. These run every half-hour, seven days a week.

22.3 Get around

It is relatively easy to get around, as there are lots of buses connected to the London grid, as well as tube stations and overground ones.

22.4 See

22.4.1 Enfield

- **1 Capel Manor Gardens**, Capel Manor Gardens, Bullsmoor Lane, Enfield, Middlesex, EN1 4RQ, ☎ +44 8456 122 122. 30 acres of grounds featuring over 60 different gardens and landscapes (some award-winning). Also has a restaurant and gift shop. £5.50 adults, £4.50 concessions, £2.50 children.
- **1 Forty Hall & Estate**. 11:00 - 16:00. A recently renovated 17th century estate featuring a mansion

and grounds. Has a gift shop and café. Free but charges apply to tours and special events. **W**

22.4.2 Harrow

- **1 Harrow School**. Harrow is famous for its school, Winston Churchill attended it as did 7 British Prime Ministers. The school is at the top of the hill, the buildings and surrounding area are a step back in time. Try to go in term time on a Sunday as the pupils in long coats and straw boaters, and the masters in mortar boards are a sight rarely seen anywhere outside of Hollywood films of *Olde England!* **W**
- **1 Harrow on the Hill**. Harrow on the Hill grew around the millennium-old St. Mary's church, and was the centre of power for an area encompassed by what is the current borough. The hill is a place where you can see a chunk of English history in the urban landscape. **W**
- **1 Bentley Priory Nature Reserve**. The place is a beautifully preserved nature reserve but it also contains Bentley Priory, this place was the RAF Fighter Command HQ in the second world war. When London was burning, this place was never bombed, some people say that German Air Command did not destroy it because they wanted to make it their own HQ, this place was inside the RAF Stanmore Air Base but now its been opened to the public. It also has a deer park and a beautiful pond; named Boot Pond. **W**

22.4.3 Kilburn

- **Tricycle Theatre**. Renowned theatre/cinema, recently noted for its 'reality' plays such as 'The Riots' and 'Bloody Sunday: Scenes from the Saville Inquiry'.
- **1 St Augustine's**, Kilburn Park Road, NW6 5XB, ☎ +44 20 7624 1637. Tue 7.00AM - 12.00PM, Sat 10.00AM - 12.45PM. An ornate Anglican church, sometimes incorrectly called the "Cathedral of North London". The church was built in the 1870s, and has altar screens designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott in 1930. **W** (updated Nov 2015)

22.4.4 Wood Green

- **1 Alexandra Palace**. Wood Green's landmark, on a hill overlooking the City of London and the West End. The grand Victorian building was the first

place from which the BBC broadcast regular television, but has been gutted by fire on two separate occasions. It now serves as an exhibition and event venue, and is popular for the surrounding Alexandra Park, its boating lake and ice-rink, and its panoramic views over London. **W**

22.4.5 Wembley

- **1 Wembley Stadium**, Stadium Way, ☎ +44 20 8795-9000. The large arch, the answer to the old stadium's twin towers, is an impressive structure and is often lit up to celebrate special occasions (such as London winning the 2012 Olympic Games bid). **W**

22.4.6 Tottenham



Bruce Castle, Tottenham

- **1 Bruce Castle & Museum**, Lordship Ln (*Buses 123, 243 and 318 stop directly outside the museum. Overground trains stop at White Hart Ln and Bruce Grove*), ☎ +44 20 8808-8772. W-Su 1PM-5PM. Bruce Castle is a manor house, one of the oldest brick houses in England, that is now a public park and museum. The museum mostly concerns the local history of Haringey, and there are regular talks and workshops. Free. **W** (updated May 2016)
- **Bruce Castle Park**. Large park with tree trail and children's playground. Site of the Tottenham Carnival every June.
- **1 Tottenham Marsh**. Part of the Lea Valley Park, a natural habitat for many resident plants and animals. **W**
- **1 White Hart Lane**, Park Ln (*Near to White Hart Lane station*). Tottenham is most famous for its Premiership football team, Tottenham Hotspur. **W**

22.4.7 Hendon

- **1 RAF Museum** (*Longish tube ride from Central London*). A must for any war buffs. It has extensive galleries detailing the history of the RAF and its aircraft. A sound and light show inside the museum focuses on the Blitz. **W**

22.5 Do

22.5.1 London Borough of Haringey

Wood Green

- **Alexandra Palace ice rink**.
- **1 Chocolate Factory**, Clarendon Road, N22 6XJ, ☎ +44 20 8365-7500. Converted sweets factory now used by local artists; there are regular shows and events here. The annual Open Studios is on the second weekend in November.
- **Cinemas**, Wood Green High Road. There are two cinemas on this road.

Tottenham

- **White Hart Lane stadium tour**, Bill Nicholson Way, 748 High Rd (*Use White Hart Ln overground station, or underground to Seven Sisters, then bus 149 or 259 to White Hart Ln*), ☎ +44 844 499 5000. A tour of Tottenham Hotspur's home ground at White Hart Lane. Adults £13.
- **Cycle and boat hire on the Lea**, Stonebridge Lock, Tottenham Marshes (*Walk along the Lea from Tottenham Hale, or take bus 192 from the station*), ☎ +44 7747 873831. W-Su plus bank holidays 10AM-7PM. Hire a canoe, kayak or cycle by the hour.

22.5.2 Wembley

- **Football matches**.
- NFL international series (**American football**) : the best players from the best league on earth battle it out thrice a year in jolly old England.

22.6 Buy

22.6.1 Harrow

- **St. George's and St. Ann's**. Two shopping centres housing a range of high street stores, including Topshop, Primark, TK Maxx, Monsoon.

22.6.2 Wood Green

- **High Road.** Mile-long shopping street containing many high street chains and independent shops.
- **The Mall Wood Green,** The Mall Wood Green, 159 High Road, Wood Green, N22 6YQ (*The nearest Tube station is Wood Green on the Piccadilly Line*). 9:00 - 19:00. It features many high street chains and independent shops, as well as a covered market with a large food section including butchers, fishmongers, fruit and vegetables and international food.

22.6.3 Wembley

There are several specialised shops in the area, as well as large shopping centres. Of course, there are hundreds of other shops and shopping centres nearby in London.

22.6.4 Tottenham

- **West Green Road shops,** West Green Rd, Seven Sisters (*Seven Sisters station, turn left or take bus 141*). Specialist Caribbean and African food, open til late.
- **Tesco,** High Rd (*Seven Sister station*). 24 hours.

22.6.5 Golders Green

Large number of charity/thrift shops in the area. The haul is pretty good if you are looking for ladies' vintage and the Norwood shops often have shipments of castoffs from high street mainstays (Topshop, Dorothy Perkins, and Charles Tyrwhitt), but for actual designer stuff, go to **St. John's Wood** instead.

22.7 Eat

22.7.1 Crouch End

There are plenty of good quality restaurants in Crouch End to choose from.

- **Banners.** Global food, good vegetarian options but hard to get into on a weekend.
- **La Bota,** 31 Broadway Parade, ☎ +44 20 8340-3082. Spanish tapas, very popular.
- **The Kings Head.** Recently redeveloped pub. Trendy crowd, with comedy on a Monday night.
- **O's Thai Cafe.** Good quality reasonably priced Thai food. Buzzy atmosphere.

22.7.2 Edgware

- **Kabul City Restaurant,** 32-34 Station Road (*Short walk from Edgware Tube Station*), ☎ +44 20 8952-6036. A great place for meat lovers! It's mixed kebab grill is cheap and delicious! The best part is that it is bring your own booze, so just stock up from the off licence round the corner.

22.7.3 Harringay

- **The restaurants and food shops of Green Lanes.** One of London's great collections of Mediterranean (primarily Turkish and Greek) restaurants.

22.7.4 Harrow

- **St. George's.** A small number of restaurants on the same floor as the cinema.
- **St. Ann's.** Upstairs food court with a KFC, Burger King, Pizza Hut etc.

22.7.5 Wood Green

- **Karamel Club,** Chocolate Factory 2, 4 Coburg Road, N22 6UJ, ☎ +44 20 8829-8989. Global fusion homemade cuisine and music venue.
- **Vrisaki,** 73 Myddleton Road, N22 8LZ (*Bowes Park rail/Bounds Green tube*), ☎ +44 20 8889-8760. Authentic Greek (Cypriot) food. Highly recommended by Haringey and Enfield residents.

22.7.6 Wembley

Wembley is noted for its large ethnic minority communities, particularly people of Indian origin. As such, there are many Indian takeaways. There are also, of course, many other takeaways, restaurants and pizza parlours.

22.7.7 Tottenham

- **Marmalade,** 40 Lordship Ln (*Bus 318, or a short walk from High Rd*), ☎ +44 20 8808-9111. An excellent homemade food cafe, with superb cakes.

22.7.8 Golders Green

- **Cafe Japan,** 626 Finchley Rd. Very good food. Zagat rated. Book in advance as they get very busy.
- **Kimchee,** 887 Finchley Rd. Good Korean food.

- **L'Artista**, 915-917 Finchley Road, NW11 7PE, ☎ +44 20 8731-7501. Superb Italian food - generous portions, large varied menu; perhaps one of the best Italian restaurants in London whether a quick pizza or party. Somewhat noisy esp. in evenings both from adjacent railway and staff celebrating diners' birthdays with clashing cymbals and parades, quieter in back and in the covered outdoor area. reasonable. (updated May 2016)

8203-1319, fax: +44 20 8203-9339, e-mail: info@ukhostels.com. Check-in: 1PM, check-out: 10AM. £10.

- **Local Friends**, 28 North End Rd. Chinese.
- **Water Margin**, 96 Golders Green Road. Chinese Set lunch menu £5.50.

22.9.2 Wembley

There are several inns and hotels in the area, ranging for the cheap and cheerful to 5 star.

22.9.3 Golders Green

Golders Green has a fair number of small hotels and Bed and Breakfasts within walking distance of the Underground Station.

- **Martel Guest House**. Comfortable rooms, reasonably priced.

22.8 Drink

22.8.1 Wembley

There are numerous bars in the area, although it should be noted that alcohol is not permitted in the arena or stadium.

22.8.2 Crouch End

- **The Railway Pub**. Has just been taken over by new management and the whole pub has been renovated.
- **The Kings Head pub**. Good comedy night downstairs most nights.

22.9.4 Hotels

- **Radisson Blu Hotel, Stansted**, Waltham Close (*directly connected to Stansted airport*), ☎ +44 127 966-1012, fax: +44 127 966-1013, e-mail: info.stansted@radissonblu.com.

22.10 Stay safe

22.10.1 Tottenham

The area has a justified reputation for being blighted with crime. Gangs of male youths are responsible for the majority of crime and disorder, in particular robbery and burglary. Hartington Park is to be avoided from the evening onwards. Keep to the well-lit streets and the High Rd, and avoid flashing jewellery or mobile phones. Tottenham Police Station is located at 398 High Road N17: 5 min walk north from Seven Sisters underground station. It is recommended for people to stay in groups when in Tottenham, and avoid anyone who looks dodgy.

22.8.3 Harringay

- **The Salisbury pub**. Huge ornate late Victorian pub; worth a visit just to look but plenty going on including music and period jazz dancing.

22.8.4 Kilburn

- **The Colin Campbell**. Small, friendly Irish pub with good traditional music sessions on Friday nights.
- **The Black Lion**. Nice gastropub/restaurant.
- **The North London Tavern**. Popular bar/restaurant/arguably not quite as good as the Black Lion.

22.11 Connect

22.12 Go next

22.9 Sleep

22.9.1 Hostels

- **London Backpackers** (*tube: Hendon Central, virtually next to the tube station*), ☎ +44 20

Chapter 23

London/Notting Hill-North Kensington



Location of the Notting Hill-North Kensington area in London

Notting Hill-North Kensington is a district in west London.

23.1 Understand



Notting Hill Carnival

This destination covers the northern part of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, from Kensington

High Street in the south to the Grand Union Canal and Wormwood Scrubs in the north.

Notting Hill is a popular destination for its lively market, gorgeous streetscapes, interesting history and diverse population. It has achieved a level of fame from the eponymously named Hugh Grant film (he actually does live here!), the world famous **Portobello Road** market and of course from the annual carnival.

The area was rural until the 19th century when it was developed as an upper-middle class suburb with quite large homes. During the early 20th century, these large homes were divided into low cost housing which often degenerated into slums. In the 1950s, many Caribbean immigrants settled in the area. In the 1960s it attracted musicians and artists and **Portobello Road** became the centre of English hippie culture. Portobello Road still hosts a very eclectic weekly market and is also home to a similarly off-beat set of permanent shops.

The Notting Hill carnival was first staged in 1964 as a way for the local Afro-Caribbean communities to celebrate their own cultures and traditions. After some rough times in the 1970s and 1980s when it became associated with social protest, violence and huge controversy over policing tactics, this is now Europe's largest carnival/festival event and a *major* event in the London calendar. It is staged every August over the Bank holiday weekend.

During the 1980s, the Notting Hill proper area of the district was largely gentrified although areas in the north west of the district at **Ladbroke Grove** and **Westbourne Park** remain deprived and run down. In local mythology, these more recent residents of Notting Hill are assumed to live from trust accounts, giving rise to the practice of classifying locals as either Rastafarians or Trustafarians.

Further west from Notting Hill providing a natural buffer between the north and south of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, is **Holland Park**. This is the least well known of London's Royal Parks and locals would like to keep it that way. A real gem of a park which is off the tourist trail but very much worth a visit.

23.2 Get in

?""UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU""?

Map of London/Notting Hill-North Kensington (Edit GPX)?""UNIQ--indicator-00000001-QINU""?

23.2.1 By tube

The district is serviced by the following stations:

- Notting Hill Gate (Central, District and Circle lines)
- Queensway (Central line)
- Ladbroke Grove (Hammersmith and City line)
- Westbourne Park (Hammersmith and City line)
- Bayswater (District and Circle lines)

23.2.2 By bus

23.3 Get around

The area is best explored on foot and lends itself well to walking.

23.4 See



Holland Park

- **1 Holland Park** (short walk southwest from Notting Hill Gate tube station) (5-min walk S from Holland Park tube station). Holland Park is a mixture of open spaces, woodland and formal gardens. It includes a large field dedicated to football and cricket, as well as tennis courts. It was originally the private garden of Holland House, much of which was destroyed. As you walk around the park, you can see bits of

the building dotted around the place which give you some idea of how grand it used to be. In the summer this is a great place to catch outdoor opera. An ecology centre located near the police station provides information about the ecology of the park and arranges various activities for children. A cafe is located nearby that sells ice creams and hot food. The park is an ideal way to walk from Notting Hill Gate to Kensington High St. **W**

- **1 Leighton House**, 12 Holland Park Rd, W14 8LZ (tube: Kensington Olympia), ☎ +44 20 7602-3316, e-mail: museums@rbkc.gov.uk. The former Victorian home of artist Frederic (Lord) Leighton. Regarded as one of the finest examples of Victorian residential architecture, it is now a museum showcasing works of many famous artists of that period. Combines well with a visit to Holland Park. **W**
- **1 Maharajah Duleep Singh's House**, 53 Holland Park, W11 3RS (tube: Holland Park). A blue plaque marks the house in which the last Maharajah of the Sikh Empire lived in the 1880s.
- **1 Museum of Brands, Packaging and Advertising** (MOBPA), 111-117 Lancaster Road, Notting Hill, W11 1QT (tube: Ladbroke Gr), ☎ +44 20 7908-0880. Mon closed. A history of consumer culture arranged by decade. Over 12,000 exhibits. £7.50 adults, £3 children, £5 concessions. **W**

23.5 Do

- **Electric Cinema**, 191 Portobello Rd (tube: Notting Hill Gate or Ladbroke Grove). Recently restored cinema boasting all leather armchairs (most with footstools) and a bar in the theatre - this is definitely a Notting Hill experience. The Electric shows a wide range of films from cinema classics, cult and independent films, to regular Hollywood blockbusters. They also have the *Electric Scream* session, specifically for parents with screaming babies! Ticket prices vary depending on how fancy your seat is. More expensive than a normal cinema but a fun experience.
- **Film Walk**. Notting Hill's diversity and streetscapes have earned it a place in many films. Time Out has put together a walk encompassing some of them.
- **Gate Picturehouse**, Notting Hill Gate, W11 3JZ (tube: Notting Hill Gate), ☎ +44 20 7727-4043. Repertory/arthouse cinema with a very varied programme.
- **Musical history tour**. Tom Vague - a local music journalist and historian has put together an excellent do-it-yourself tour of Notting Hill focusing on



Notting Hill Carnival

its rich musical history. You can download it to your mp3 player from the Council web-site.

- **Notting Hill Carnival.** Two day carnival which takes place every year on the August Bank Holiday weekend. It is said to be the largest carnival of its type in the world, attracts over a million people and is a great celebration of London's modern multi-cultural identity. What really gives it flavour is the large local **Caribbean** and **Trinidadian** population. This occurs in an almost circular route north of the Notting Hill, Westbourne Park and Ladbroke Grove areas. If intending to visit, see Transport For London's website in advance as many tube stations are closed for the duration and bus routes diverted. Driving into the area is highly discouraged - many streets are closed. **W**

23.6 Buy

- **Portobello Road Market.** During the week this is the place to go to buy your fruit and veg but on Fridays and Saturdays there are hundreds of stalls selling clothes, antiques, jewellery and lots more.
- **Westbourne Grove.** Smart boutiques, food shops and outdoor cafes.



Portobello Road Antique Gallery

- **Travel Bookstore,** 13-15 Blenheim Cres. Great place to browse. Its other point of interest is that it was the inspiration for Hugh Grant's store in the movie Notting Hill.

23.7 Eat

Food-wise there is so much to choose from, and something to suit all budgets. If you are budgeting then there is great **Malay** food, bangers & mash, falafel and German sausages. For those with a bit more money to burn there is some seriously swanky bars and restaurants including E&O and 192. Some of the most popular dishes sold along the route of the carnival are jerk chicken and goat curry.

- **192,** 192 Kensington Park Rd, W11 (*tube: Notting Hill Gate*), ☎ +44 20 7229-0482. Popular with locals and been around since 1982. Mains £15-20.
- **E&O,** 14 Blenheim Cres, W11 1NN, ☎ +44 20 7229-5454, e-mail: eando@rickerrestaurants.com. Pan Asian food about £30-40 per head.
- **Fresco's,** 25 Westbourne Gr (*tube: Bayswater or Queensway, or buses 7, 23, 27*), ☎ +44 20 7221-2355. M-Sa 11:00-23:30, Su 11:00-22:30. It may not look it at first but this is the best Lebanese food in Notting Hill, and certainly the cheapest. Delicious

food with a huge variety of fresh juices make this place a must. Eat in or take away. £3-10.

- **Geales**, 2 Farmer St, W8 7SN, ☎ +44 20 7727-7528, e-mail: info@geales.com. M-Sa noon-3PM 6PM-11PM, Su 6PM-10:30PM. Fantastic, premium fish and chip restaurant, much favoured by local and out-of-town celebs. Main courses £10-15, cover 50p.
- **Kahn's**, 13-15 Westbourne Gr W2 (*tube: Bayswater or Royal Oak*). Very popular and large Indian restaurant, probably not as good as the Standard though.
- **New Culture Revolution**, 157-159 Notting Hill Gate, W11 2LF (*tube: Notting Hill Gate*), ☎ +44 20 7313-9688. Part of a chain specialising in northern Chinese food and noodles and dumplings especially. Good value and popular with students and budget travellers. Mains £5-7.
- **Notting Hill Brasserie**, 92 Kensington Park Rd, W11 2PN (*tube: Notting Hill Gate*), ☎ +44 20 7229-4481, e-mail: enquiries@nottinghillbrasserie.com. Decidly swanky restaurant (one of the few in Notting Hill serving mixed international food About £60 per head.
- **Standard Indian Restaurant**, 23 Westbourne Gr (*tube: Bayswater or Queensway, or buses 7, 23, 27*), ☎ +44 20 7727-4818. noon-15:00, 18:00-midnight. Just what it says on the label: consistently good Indian food. Currently closed, possibly permanently.
- **Ledbury** is a 2* Michelin restaurant, with exquisite dishes rustled up by talented Aussie chef Brett Graham. Features highly-by food critics, so don't expect cheap bites! Easy to drop £100 in here!

23.8 Drink

Populated by the young, hip and rich it is unsurprising that Notting Hill has so many trendy bars. Expect to pay prices that match the location though.

- **The Lonsdale**, 48 Lonsdale Rd, ☎ +44 20 7727-4080. Like a cocktail bar from the future, the decor in this place is too good to miss. Relatively strict door policy; turn up earlier rather than later if you are not a famous celebrity.
- **Beach Blanket Babylon**, 45 Ledbury Rd, ☎ +44 20 7229-2907. Beautiful bar with fantastical decor. Quality and service at the restaurant seem to vary wildly, but the bar is usually a safe bet.

- **E&O**, 14 Blenheim Cres, ☎ +44 20 7229-5454. Japanese influenced restaurant with a stylish bar attached. Great cocktails.
- **Elbow Room**, 103 Westbourne Gr, ☎ +44 20 7221-5211. A bar with pool tables too, rather than the other way around. Relaxed and friendly.
- **The Cow**, 89 Westbourne Park Rd, ☎ +44 20 7221-0021. A small and trendy pub/bar with a focus on Guinness.
- **The Electric Brasserie**, 191 Portobello Rd. Attached to the Electric Cinema this trendy brasserie is a good place for a drink before or after your movie. Very busy Fr/Sa evenings especially.
- **Trailer Happiness**, 177 Portobello Rd, ☎ +44 20 7727-2700. Intimate and kitsch lounge bar, den and kitchen with the feel of a low rent, mid-60s Los Angeles valley bachelor pad.
- **Nando's**, 58-60 Notting Hill Gate, W11 3HT (*tube: Notting Hill Gate*), ☎ +44 20 7243-1647. 11:30-23:00. Very popular Afro/Portuguese restaurant concept with branches across the UK. Succulent flame grilled peri-peri chicken with a wide variety of tasty side dishes to choose from. Eat in or take away. (updated Dec 2016)

23.9 Sleep

23.9.1 Budget

- **Blue Bells hotel**, 14 Pembridge Sq, W2 4EH (*tube: Notting Hill Gate*), ☎ +44 20 4257-3379, e-mail: info@bluebellshotel.com. In a converted early Victorian building. 30 rooms on four storeys but no lift. Five minutes walk to Notting Hill Gate and Portobello Rd. From £60.
- **Notting Hill Hotel**, 2 Pembridge Sq, W2 4EW (*tube: Notting Hill Gate*), ☎ +44 20 7727-1316. Old converted Victorian building in a quiet square only 5 minutes from Notting Hill Gate. Single, double and family rooms. From £60.
- **Umi Hotel**, 16 Leinster Square (*tube: Bayswater*), ☎ +44 20 7221-9131. On a quiet garden square only 5 minutes walk from Bayswater station. Single, double and family rooms with ensuite bath. A few dormitory rooms. From £80.

23.9.2 Mid-range

- **Abbey Court**, 20 Pembridge Gdns, W2 4FE. Boutique hotel in a converted Victorian house and decorated in that period style. 22 rooms, no lift. From £90.
- **The Gate Hotel**, 6 Portobello Rd (*Near Notting Hill Gate tube at Pembridge Road end of Portobello Rd, only a few steps away from Portobello Market*), ☎ +44 20 7221-0707.
- **Westland Hotel**, 154 Bayswater Rd, W2 (*tube: Bayswater*), e-mail: info@westlandhotel.co.uk. Good location on Bayswater Road very close to Kensington Gardens and five minute walk to Notting Hill Gate. From £110.
- **1 Fraser Suites Queensgate**, 39B Queens Gate Gardens, SW7 5RR (*tube: Gloucester Road*), ☎ +44 20 7969-3555, fax: +44 20 7769-3501, e-mail: info@westlandhotel.co.uk. One of the closest serviced accommodations to Notting Hill, this hotel is known for a range of amenities and services for business guests.

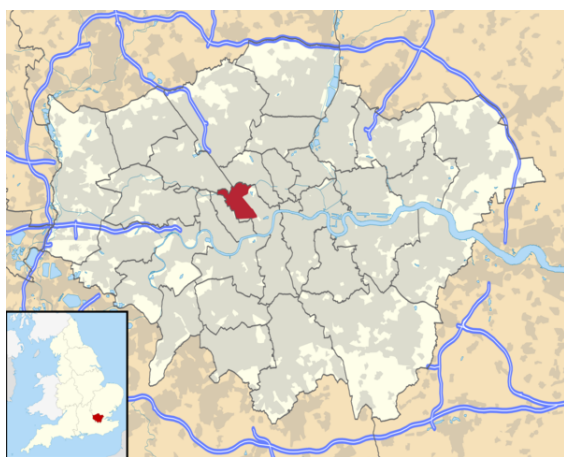
23.9.3 Splurge

23.10 Connect

23.11 Go next

Chapter 24

London/Paddington-Maida Vale



Location of the Paddington-Maida Vale area in London

Paddington-Maida Vale is a district of northwest central **London**, located around the vast **Paddington Station** of Paddington Bear fame.

24.1 Understand

This inner London district is somewhat bereft of attractions but it does have a large range of budget and mid-priced accommodation. That, combined with the convenient central London location and transport links, makes it a popular area with visitors.

Paddington itself and the areas between it and **Hyde Park** - **Bayswater** and **Lancaster Gate** - consist largely of Victorian houses, some of them rather grand, which have been converted into either small residential flats or hotels. **Maida Vale** to the north is similar but almost entirely residential and is most notable for canalside streets and the houseboats of **Little Venice**. **St John's Wood** is distinctly upscale and leafy and includes the home of world cricket at Lords as well as some of the most sought after real estate in London.

24.2 Get in

?""UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU""?
Map of London/Paddington-Maida Vale (Edit
GPX)?""UNIQ--indicator-00000001-QINU""?

24.2.1 By tube

The district is served by the following tube stations:

- Paddington (District, Circle, Hammersmith & City and Bakerloo lines)
- Bayswater (District and Circle lines)
- Queensway (Central line)
- Lancaster Gate (Central line)
- Maida Vale (Bakerloo line)
- Warwick Avenue (Bakerloo line)
- Edgware Road (District, Circle, Hammersmith & City and Bakerloo lines)
- Royal Oak (Hammersmith & City line)
- St John's Wood (Jubilee Line)

24.2.2 By train

Paddington Station is the London terminal for trains from the following cities in the southwest of the country: **Swansea**, **Cardiff**, **Newport**, **Swindon**, **Plymouth**, **Exeter**, **Bristol** and **Bath**, and also for trains from **Reading** and **Oxford**.

24.2.3 By bus

24.3 See

While there is not a great deal to see in the way of traditional visitor attractions, Paddington makes a convenient base for exploring other parts of the city.



Statue of Paddington Bear, Paddington Station

- **Alexander Fleming Laboratory Museum**, St. Mary's Hospital, Praed St, ☎ +44 20 7886-6528. M-Th 10:00-13:00. £2.
- **1 Abbey Road Studios**, 3 Abbey Rd, St. John's Wood, NW8 9AY (*tube: St. John's Wood*). No tours. World-renowned studios where many famous musicians and groups, most notably The Beatles, recorded music. Near the studios is the equally famous zebra crossing immortalized on the cover of the Beatles' album *Abbey Road*. Located in the vicinity, in Cavendish Avenue, is a home which was formerly owned by Sir Paul McCartney. **W**

24.4 Do

- **1 Lord's Cricket Ground**, Wellington Rd, NW8 8QN (*tube: St John's Wood*). The home of Cricket and a must visit place for cricket lovers. Lord's usually hosts two international five-day Test matches every season, as well as limited-overs One Day International and Twenty20 cricket, although tickets for internationals can be expensive and will often sell out. Lord's is also the site of many Middlesex County Cricket Club home matches, with tickets for County Championship games and day/night limited-overs fixtures available on the day. **W**



A packed Lord's, one of the great sights in English sport

- **1 Queens Ice and Bowl**, 17 Queensway, W2 4QP (*tube: Bayswater or Queensway*), ☎ +44 20 7229-0172. Queens is an entertainment centre with 50,000 sq ft of activities including ice skating, 12 lanes of ten pin bowling, karaoke rooms, bar, food and video games.
- **London Underground Tours**, ☎ +44 844 504 808. Guided tours that cover the tube's 150 year history in two hours, including its construction, design and social history.

24.5 Buy

- **Whiteleys**, Queensway W2 (*tube: Bayswater*). Large shopping plaza with many of the usual suspect British high street brands plus a UCI cinema.

24.6 Eat

Good value eats abound in this area. The Bayswater/Queensway area has many excellent Middle Eastern, Indian and Chinese options. Edgware Rd is another good bet for Middle Eastern and the area around Paddington Station itself is a hive of small cafes. Warwick Avenue and Maida Vale are home to some good, stylish mid-market restaurants.

- **Cous Cous Cafe**, 7 Porchester Gdns, W2 4DB (*tube: Bayswater*), ☎ +44 20 7727-6597. Moroccan cuisine at decent value prices. Try the tagines (£10-15) or mezze plates (£7-12)
- **Kalamaras**, 66 Inverness Mews, W2 3JQ (*tube: Bayswater*), ☎ +44 871 3327813. Markets itself as London's oldest Greek restaurant. Not sure if that is true but it has been around a long time in this quiet mews in Bayswater and is a favourite with local residents. Counts several celebs amongst its regular

clientele. Try the taramasalata and keftedes Mains £10-15.

- **New Taxis Thai**, 79 Castellain Rd, W9 1EU (*tube: Maida Vale*), ☎ +44 20 7286-4801. Good Thai restaurant using fresh ingredients to produce food that will not burn too large a hole in your wallet. £15-20 per head.
- **London Street Brasserie**, 16 London St (*Exit Paddington Train Station (Garfunkel's Restaurant on your left), cross the road and walk 2 blocks down London St on your right*), ☎ +44 20 7706-4444. 07:00-23:00. The London Street Brasserie at the Hotel Indigo London-Paddington offers a wide selection of healthy meals in a relaxing atmosphere. Serves a selection of breakfast, lunch and dinner meals. It features seasonal menus that draw from as many natural, organic and zero trans fat ingredients as possible.
- **Rodizio Rico**, 111 Westbourne Gr (*tube: Bayswater*), ☎ +44 20 7792-4035. A Brazilian all you can eat meat (with limited veggie options) buffet. The meat is imported from Brazil and barbecued on site. The meat is delivered to your table on a skewer, the waiter then cuts a portion of it and you put it on your own plate. The meat is fantastic and it just keeps coming. This place is highly recommended.
- **The Street Hawker**, 166 Randolph Ave, W9 1PG (*tube: Maida Vale*), ☎ +44 871 0757916. Pan Asian cuisine at decent value prices. £15-20 per head.
- **The Waterway**, 54-56 Formosa St, W9 2JU (*tube: Warwick Avenue*), ☎ +44 20 7266-3557, e-mail: info@thewaterway.co.uk. Stylish bar and restaurant alongside the canal at Little Venice. Has al-fresco dining area right by the water during summer. Mixed European food Mains £15-20.

24.7 Drink

- **Mad Bishop and Bear** (*In Paddington Station itself, go to The Lawn eating area, and up the escalators to the top floor*). A surprisingly good pub. It is a Fullers pub, serving well-kept real ales. It is in the CAMRA Good Beer Guide. Breakfast is served from opening (M-F 09:00, Sa 07:30, Su 10:00) until noon, standard pub food is served at other times.

24.8 Sleep

This district probably the greatest range of budget and mid-price accommodation in central London.

A lot of the hotels here are converted Victorian houses which makes for a charming stay but can also mean dodgy plumbing and poor heating systems. And always check if the property has a lift if this is important to you.

A good option for the value-conscious is to check the large range of service apartments available. The standard of accommodation at these is often much better than you would get in an equivalently priced traditional hotel.

24.8.1 Budget

- **Ascot Hyde Park Hotel**, 11 Craven Rd (*Few minutes' walk from Paddington Stn*). Popular budget hotel
- **Bluedaws Hotel**, 133-135 Sussex Gdns (*2 min from Paddington Stn or Hyde Pk*), ☎ +44 20 7723-6040, fax: +44 20 7262-8390. Very clean budget hotel. Singles £25, doubles £35, triples £45, including English breakfast.
- **Equity Point London**, 100-102 Westbourne Ter (*It's a 2-min walk from Paddington Stn*), ☎ +44 20 7087-8001, e-mail: infolondon@equity-point.com. An affordable hostel that has clean and cheap rooms. From 15£ including breakfast, internet access and bottom linen.
- **Green Man Bestplace Inn Hostel**, 308 Edgware Rd W2, ☎ +44 20 7723-7980. Very cheap hostel above a pub aimed at young partying types. Gets very raucous indeed. Dorm and private rooms. Dorms from £12, privates from £45.
- **Mina House Hotel**, 21-23 Craven Rd (*Few min walk from Paddington Stn*).
- **Mitre House Hotel**, 178-186 Sussex Gdns, W2 1TU (*5 min walk from Paddington Stn*), ☎ +44 20 7723-8040, fax: +44 20 7402-0990. Two-star hotel.
- **Palace Court Studios**, 1 Palace Ct, W2 4LP (*tube: Queensway*), ☎ +44 845 680 0086. Thirty six self-contained apartments for one to three persons. All apartments are en-suite with own kitchenette and bathroom. Other facilities are communal washing/drying machines, phone in each apartment, Wi-Fi and lift to all floors. Single studio apartments from £56, twin from £64, double from £64, triples from £70.
- **Royal Court Apartments**, 51 Gloucester Ter, W2 3DQ, ☎ +44 20 7402-5077, e-mail: info@rcahotels.co.uk. Good value self-catering apartments in a very convenient location. From £56.

- **Umi Hotel London** (*umi Hotel Bayswater/The Westminster Hotel*), 16 Leinster Sq, W2 4PR (*tube: Bayswater*), ☎ +44 20 7221-9131, e-mail: reception@umihotels.co.uk. Good value budget hotel with 117 rooms in a convenient Bayswater location. Opened in 2007. From about £50.
- **Wake Up! London Backpackers Hostel**, 1 Queens Gdns, W2 3BB (*corner of Queens Gdns and Devonshire Ter*), ☎ +44 20 7262-4471, fax: +44 20 7706-8548. Dorm beds from £13.
- **Barry House Hyde Park**, 12 Sussex Place Hyde Park, W2 2TP (*next to Lancaster Gate and Paddington tube station*), ☎ +44 20 7723-7340, fax: +44 20 7723-9775. from £65.
- **Lancaster London**, Lancaster Ter, W2 2TY (*tube: Lancaster Gate*), ☎ +44 20 7262-6737, e-mail: info@lancasterlondon.com. Right alongside Hyde Park and many of the rooms have clear views over the park. From about £120.
- **Hotel Indigo London-Paddington**, 16 London St, Paddington, W2 1HL (*tube: Paddington*), ☎ +44 20 7706-4444, e-mail: stay@indigopaddington.com. Check-in: 14:00, check-out: 11:00. Close to Paddington Station. From about £130.
- **The Hempel**, W2 3EA, ☎ +44 20 7298-9000. Offers a Zen minimalist atmosphere, very unique for the area. £110-220.

24.8.2 Mid-range

- **Brynteg Hotel**, 109 Sussex Gdns, W2 2RU (*tube: Paddington*), ☎ +44 20 7723-6040, fax: +44 20 262 8390, e-mail: bluedaws_uk@yahoo.co.uk. Recently upgraded 3-star bed and breakfast. Well appointed, modern bedrooms with spotlessly clean and en-suite facilities. Singles £50, doubles £65.
- **Mercure London Paddington Hotel**, 144 Praed St (*tube: Paddington*), ☎ +44 20 7706-8888, e-mail: stay@mercurepaddington.com. Good value for the price. The rooms are tiny, but that is where the resemblance to other London hotels ends. The rooms are immaculate, the plumbing is perfect, the decor is beautiful, and the fitness room is brand new. From - Singles £70, doubles £120.
- **Quality Crown Hotel Hyde Park**, 8-14 Talbot Sq (*tube: Paddington*), ☎ +44 20 7262-6699, e-mail: stay@qualitycrown.com. Four star hotel. Blend of classic and contemporary English town house style. The hotel and the staff are very welcoming. The location is in a quiet garden square.
- **Royal Norfolk Hotel**, 25 London St (*junction of Norfolk Sq/London St in Sussex Gdns, tube: Paddington*). The conversion of two Edwardian London terraced houses into one 60-en suite room hotel, an affluent residential area close to Hyde Park.
- **London Short Letting Apartments**, 7 Spring St, ☎ +44 20 7706-1122. Provides a wide range of short and long let apartments service around west and central London. £75-525.
- **London Perfect Accommodation**, Gloucester Terrace, ☎ +44 20 3287-8605. Great value accommodation in central London and the surrounding areas. £100-500.
- **Danubius Hotel Regents Park**, 18 Lodge Rd, ☎ +44 20 7722-7722, fax: +44 20 7483-2408, e-mail: enquiries@danubiuslondon.co.uk. Very friendly staff. Spotlessly clean quiet room. Great view of Regents Park. Breakfast is excellent. Service the same. The location is superb, particularly for any cricket fan, as it looks right over Lords cricket ground. £148198.

24.9 Connect

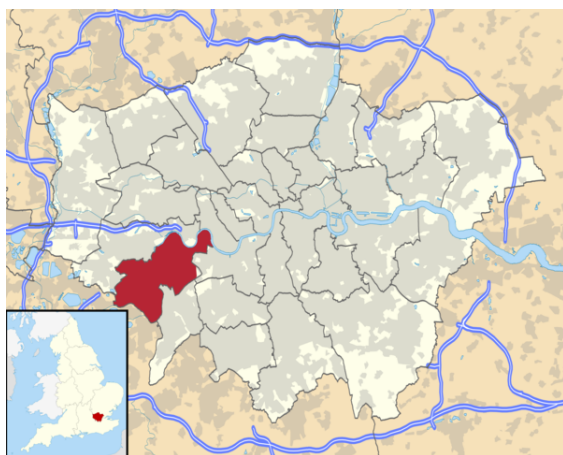
24.10 Go next

24.8.3 Splurge

- **Hilton London Paddington**, 146 Praed St (*at Paddington Stn*), ☎ +44 20 7850-0500, fax: +44 20 7850-0600. Essentially inside Paddington Station. A nice and convenient place to stay, particularly if someone else is picking up the tab.

Chapter 25

London/Richmond-Kew



Location of the Richmond-Kew area in London

Richmond-Kew is a district in south-west **London**.

25.1 Understand



The view from Richmond Hill, Richmond

This is perhaps the area of outer London with the most to offer visitors. The London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames, which includes Richmond and **Kew** is the only borough in London on both banks of the River Thames. This is a leafy and surprisingly rural borough with some lovely riverside scenery. The small area of **Barnes** is by the Thames at the eastern edge of the borough.

Richmond was originally a separate town and before 1965 a part of the county of **Surrey**. Surrey is still used as part of the postal address to distinguish it from the other town called **Richmond** in Yorkshire. The local inhabitants often view themselves (as do others) as something vaguely separate from the metropolis as a whole. This is perhaps due to Richmond's location on a large loop of the River Thames which surrounds most of the area, its enveloping by several vast royal parks and its previously independent identity. The parks are a major attraction for visitors as are the myriad of fine restaurants and interesting shopping. The areas north of the Thames around **Twickenham**, **Hampton Wick** and **Bushy Park** are part of Richmond borough and include the magnificent royal palace of **Hampton Court**.

Located just to the north of Richmond and in the same loop of the Thames, **Kew** is mostly known for the world famous gardens of the same name. It is also home to some fine Victorian architecture.

25.2 Get in

25.2.1 By tube

The district is served by the following tube stations:

- Richmond (District line)
- Kew Gardens (District line)
- Gunnersbury (District line)

25.2.2 By train

- South West Trains services from London's **Waterloo** station stop at Richmond. The journey takes 20-30 min, and trains depart every 15 min or so. South West Trains also service Hampton Wick and Hampton Court stations (although much less regularly than Richmond).
- The London Overground line from **Stratford** terminates at Richmond also stopping at Kew Gardens.

- Kew Bridge Station is served by National Rail trains out of London Waterloo.

25.2.3 By car

Richmond is accessible by taxi in about 30 minutes from Heathrow Airport or from central London depending on traffic conditions - you can expect to pay about £50 or more for the fare. If you are driving yourself, then from outside London you want to come in on the M3 or the M4. From the M3 head towards Central London onto the A316 past Twickenham Rugby Ground until you get to the Old Deer Park. From the M4 leave at Junction 2 on the elevated section, cross Kew Bridge and keep going past Kew Gardens for a couple of miles. There is a fair amount of on-street parking, especially round The Green, but it's expensive - about £5 per hour, with a £60 penalty for over staying your time. The main off-street car parks are slightly cheaper: try the big Old Deer Park car park down by the A316, or the smaller one tucked away down Friars Lane near the Old Palace.

25.2.4 By bus

- Richmond has a bus station. The 337 bus from Clapham Junction, the 391, 33, 419 buses from Hammersmith, and the N10 night bus from Kings Cross all stop here, amongst others.
- Kew can be reached from Richmond and vice versa via the 65 or 391 bus from outside Richmond station.

25.2.5 By boat

There are no regular boat services to Richmond from central London, but in the summer a service runs to/from Hampton Court, and pleasure boats can be hired by the hour near Richmond Bridge.

25.3 Get around

?""UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU""?
Map of London/Richmond-Kew

25.3.1 Kew

The 65 bus runs the length of the Kew Rd, and the 391 runs up Sandycombe and A316 roads. An active person could walk the length of Kew (from A316 to Kew Bridge) in half an hour.

25.4 See

25.4.1 Richmond



Hampton Court Palace

- **Bushy Park.** The second largest of the London Royal Parks, covering an area of 450 hectares (1,099 acres). Lying north of Hampton Court Palace, the history of the park is inextricably linked to the palace, yet it has always had its own distinct rural character. **W**
- **1 Hampton Court Palace,** East Molesey (*Bus R68 from Richmond Station, or by rail from London Waterloo to Hampton Court*), ☎ +44 8444 827777, e-mail: hamptoncourt@hrp.org.uk. Daily 10AM-6PM, last admission 5PM. Historic home to English kings such as Henry VIII, now open to the public. There are many attractions which can occupy a whole day visit, including 60 acres of gardens with the famous maze, the Tudor kitchens, the Chapel Royal, the Great Hall, Mantegna's Triumphs of Caesar paintings, and various exhibitions about Henry VIII. Palace, maze & garden £17.60 adult (cheaper rates online). **W**
- **1 Ham House & Garden,** Ham St, Ham, TW10 7RS (*Bus 371 from Richmond Bus Station*), ☎ +44 20 8940-1950, e-mail: hamhouse@nationaltrust.org.uk. The Duke of Lauderdale's elegant 17th century manor house, a mile or so upriver from Richmond riverside. **W**
- **1 Marble Hill House,** Richmond Rd, TW1 2NL (*Over the river from Ham House*), ☎ +44 20 8892-5115. Was home to King George II's mistress, with well-manicured lawns by the riverside. adults £5.70, children £3.40, concessions £5.10. **W**
- **Richmond Palace.** Remains of the once-magnificent palace, home to English kings since Edward I, adjoins Richmond Green, a pleasant open

green space and historic cricket ground. Only the Gate House and Wardrobe, now converted into flats, remain. **W**

- **Strawberry Hill House**, Strawberry Hill, TW1 4SX, ☎ +44 871-560-9489. Erratic hours, phone to check. Eccentric Gothic home of 18th century poet and author, Horace Walpole, son of England's first prime minister. **W**

- **Richmond Park** (tube: Richmond, then bus 371 or 65). 7AM-dusk. The largest open space in London, covering almost 1,000 hectares (2,500 acres) and home to a huge array of wildlife, including 400 wild deer. Also contains the Royal Ballet School, seen in the film *Billy Elliot*. Popular with cyclists, both for the on-road perimeter circuit and the off-road trails. There are several car parks for walkers and picnickers. Free. **W**

- **Richmond Hill** (From town centre walk up Hill Rise, which becomes Richmond Hill). The view from the top of the hill (between Friar Stile Road and Nightingale Lane) is protected by an act of parliament and takes in the river, the meadows at the bottom of the hill. Much painted by JMW Turner. Well worth the short walk up the hill and it is on the way to Richmond Park if you are walking from the town.

- **Twickenham**, Twickenham Stadium, Rugby Rd, Twickenham, ☎ +44 20 8892-8877. Twickenham, which seats over 80,000, is the home of the England national rugby team, and is used mostly for major internationals and cup finals. Tour the stadium and visit the Museum of Rugby. Check their website to avoid being turned away on match days. tour £20, museum £8. **W** (updated Aug 2016)

- **Twickenham Stoop**, Twickenham Stoop Stadium, Langhorn Dr, Twickenham, ☎ +44 20 8410-6000 (main switchboard), +44 871-527-1315 (tickets). Across the road from the main Twickenham Stadium is this smaller stadium (capacity about 15,000), popularly known as "The Stoop". It serves as home to one top-level team in each form of rugby football. **Harlequin F.C.**, usually referred to as "Harlequins" or simply "Quins", are one of England's most historic rugby union (15 a side) clubs and currently play in the Aviva Premiership, as well as domestic and European cup competitions. They are affiliated with a rugby league (13 a side) club of more recent vintage, **Harlequins Rugby League** (aka "Harlequins RL" or "Quins RL"). The latter club play in Super League, a competition primarily contested in England that also includes a club from France. **W**

- **Museum of Richmond**, Old Town Hall, Whittaker Ave, TW9 1TP (tube: Richmond), ☎ +44 20 8332-1141, e-mail: museumofrichmond@btconnect.com. Tu-Sa 11AM-5PM. Exhibitions on Richmond's history. Free. **W**

25.4.2 Kew



The Temperate House (closed for restoration from 5 Aug 2013 to 2018) at Kew Gardens

- **1 Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew** (Tube: Kew Gardens), ☎ +44 20 8332-5655, e-mail: info@kew.org. From 9:30AM everyday except Dec 24-25, closing time seasonal. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, these extensive, historic and beautiful gardens feature elements illustrating significant periods of garden and landscape art from the 18th to the 20th centuries, as well as a plant collection second to none in the world. Since their creation as a royal estate in 1759, Kew Gardens (as they are commonly known) have made a significant and uninterrupted contribution to the study of plant diversity and economic botany. The gardens cover 120 hectares (300 acres) and are over 1.5 km long. They contain several major glasshouse complexes, not least the famous Palm House opened in 1848, together with a museum and several follies. Adult £16 (including £1.50 voluntary Gift Aid donation), concession £15, children 16 and under free.. **W**
- **The National Archives**, Kew, Richmond, TW9 4DU (4 minutes walk from Kew Gardens Station, clearly sign-posted), ☎ +44 20 8876-3444. Tu Th 9AM-7PM, W F Sa 9AM-5PM, Su M closed. All non-classified government documents can be read and photographed here, with a (free) reader's card having been obtained. There is also a small museum, which does not require the card to access. Free. **W**

- **Kew Bridge.** Fine stone bridge linking Brentford/Chiswick with Kew. **W**
- **Kew Green.** Large lawn, split in two by Kew Rd, with St. Mary's Church, Kew Cricket Club and pubs set on or near it. **W**

25.5 Do



Interior of main section of Princess of Wales Conservatory, Kew Gardens

25.5.1 Richmond

- **Boat ride.** In summer months, either upriver to Teddington Locks or Hampton Court Palace, or downriver to Westminster, offers a good way to relax while enjoying the riverside scenery. Some boats offer a commentary service. The boat ride to Hampton Court takes about an hour and a half, to Teddington Locks about 45 min, and to Westminster about two hours. Boats depart from a dock close to Richmond bridge. You can also hire *rowing boats* next to the bridge.
- **Curzon Cinema,** Water Ln (*A narrow cobbled street which runs down to the river at the crossroads of Hill St, George St and Red Lion St*). Arthouse cinema.
- **London Wetland Centre,** Queen Elizabeth's Walk, Barnes (*tube: Hammersmith, then bus 283; or bus 33 from Richmond*), ☎ +44 20 8409-4400, e-mail: info.london@wwt.org.uk. Substantial nature reserve on the old disused Barn Elms Reservoirs. A major wetland habitat for wintering wildfowl and an excellent choice for any keen birders visiting London, and an entertaining place for kids to learn about nature £4.50-8.13.
- **Orange Tree Theatre,** Orange Tree Theatre, 1 Clarence Street, TW9 2SA (*tube: Richmond*), ☎ +44 20 8940-3633. Offers *theatre in the round*, where the audience surrounds the stage.

- **Richmond Theatre,** The Green, TW9 1QJ (*tube: Richmond*), ☎ +44 870 060 6651. See a pre-West End play at this pretty Victorian theatre.

25.5.2 Kew

- **Along the river path.** Cycle, jog and walk.
- **Tennis** (*By Kew Bridge*).
- **Yoga,** Arch 2, Kew Bridge Arches, ☎ +44 20 8940-0888, e-mail: info@earth-life.co.uk. Offers a range of yoga/pilates classes for all abilities.

25.6 Learn

- **Richmond Adult Community College** offers short- to medium-term courses on subjects such as cooking, foreign languages, IT, and business.

25.7 Buy

25.7.1 Richmond

- **Richmond's high street,** George St. Contains a few boutique clothing stores and all the standard high street chains, such as Habitat, Marks & Spencer's, WH Smith, Boots, Robert Dyas, etc. For more boutique clothes shops, such as Matches, and small art galleries and antiques shops, follow the road up the hill called Hill St, which turns into Hill Rise. The alleys off George Street are lined with mostly privately owned boutiques. Two of these are purveyors of fine chocolates: one is **The House of Chocolate** located on the corner of Brewers Lane, a long-standing family-run business; the other, a stone's throw to the west on Paved Court, is **William Curley**, a chocolatier whose award-winning fare, together with pastries and hot drinks, can be consumed on the premises. Another independent shop is **Gelateria Danieli**, selling gelato ice cream, located on Brewers Lane, which *Time Out* has listed as one of the best ice cream parlours in London.
- **House of Fraser** (*Many locals still call it by its old name, Dickens & Jones*) (*On the corner of George Street and King Street*). Department store.
- **Open Book,** King St. Independent bookshop. Rather cramped, but stacked with a very good selection of new books.
- **Waterstone's** (*On the corner of Hill and Red Lion Sts*). Branch of a big chain store.

- **Farmers' Market**, Heron Square (*Off Hill St*). Sa 11AM-3PM. For local produce.

25.7.2 Kew

- **ABC Music**, 9 Royal Parade, Station Approach, Kew, ☎ +44 20 8940-1892, fax: +44 20 8948-2666. M-Sa 9:30AM-5:30PM. musical instruments and sheet music
- **Kew Bookshop**, 1-2 Station Approach, Kew TW9 3PZ, ☎ +44 20 8940-0030, e-mail: orders@kewbookshop.co.uk. M-Sa 10AM-6PM; Su 11AM-5PM. Independent bookshop
- **Kew Retail Park**. Marks and Spencer, Boots, Next, Costa Coffee, TK Maxx, Mothercare
- **Lloyd's Pharmacy**, 19-21 Station Parade, Kew, ☎ +44 20 8940-5800.
- **Martin's**, 10 Station Parade, Kew, ☎ +44 20 8332-7953. Newsagents
- **Mia Wood**, 9 Station Parade, Kew, ☎ +44 20 8439-9265, fax: +44 20 8439-9275, e-mail: enquiries@miawood.co.uk. Gifts
- **Olivers Wholefoods Store**, 5 Station Approach, Kew, ☎ +44 20 8948-3990. Health foods and alternative therapies
- **The Shoe Station**, 12 Station Parade, Kew, ☎ +44 20 8940-9905. Children's shoes
- **Tesco Express**, 2/8 Station Parade, Kew, ☎ +44 845 0269355. 7AM-11PM. Small supermarket

25.8 Eat

25.8.1 Richmond

Most of the major restaurant chains can be found within a few minutes of the town centre. Aside from those, there are plenty of privately owned restaurants with culinary offerings from all around the world, including **German**, **Japanese**, **Russian** and **Spanish**.

Possibly the most upscale of Richmond's restaurants is located at the **Bingham Hotel**, which was awarded its first Michelin star in 2010.

- **1 Al Boccon di'vino**. An Italian restaurant with no menu. The chef brings out dishes that he wants to cook.

- **1 Backhaus**. A German bakery and general store selling a variety of German food items, including fresh bread and pretzels, sausages, cheese and sweets.

- **1 Chez Lindsay**, Hill Rise. French cuisine.

- **1 Don Fernando's** (*near Richmond station*). Offers decent Spanish cuisine, such as tapas.

- **1 The Dragon Inn**, Sheen Rd. Offers Chinese cuisine and very friendly staff.

- **Fish Works**. Fish restaurant specialising in fish dishes, with a traditional wet fish counter that allows fish to be chosen and cooked to order.

- **Gaicho's Restaurant** (*sits on the Thames towpath just to the west of Richmond Bridge*). With indoor and outdoor seating directly overlooking the river.

- **Gelateria Danieli**, Brewer's Ln (*alley between George St and Richmond Green. From George St it is the alley down the side of TopShop and jewellers Courlander's*). Great ice cream shop as the queues on sunny summer weekends indicate.

- **Hilltribe**, Red Lion St. Thai cuisine.

- **La Buvette**, 49 Kew Road Richmond (*in a former annexe to neighbouring St. Mary Magdalene Church*). Small restaurant that offers French cuisine,.

- **NDK**. Offers a Japanese-style karaoke diner.

- **Pembroke Lodge** (*in Richmond Park*). Self-service restaurant open for morning coffee, lunch and afternoon tea, which sells good value traditional British food and has a lovely view if you sit outside on the terrace.

- **Pizzeria Rustica** (*near Richmond station*). Offers award-winning pizzas.

- **Raj Bohan**, 49 Kew Road Richmond (*near Richmond Station*). Authentic Indian shashlik and other cuisine.

- **Stein's** (*on the riverside*). A Bavarian bierhaus-style restaurant offering authentic German dark beers and food including imported sausages and sauerkraut.

- **The Thai Elephant** (*opposite the Richmond bus station*). Thai cuisine.

Cafés

- **Greedies** (*On a boat moored almost opposite Tide Tables*). Serves breakfast, coffee and lunches. Great views of Richmond Bridge if you are lucky enough to get one of the outdoor tables at the end of the boat.
- **The Hollyhock Cafe** (*In the Terrace Gardens between the Richmond Hill and the river*). Great location in the gardens. It sells mainly coffee and cakes and a few lunch dishes.
- **nano cafe** (*Richmond*), 76 Sheen Rd. Lovely food & Italian coffee full of aroma & flavor.
- **Petersham Nurseries**, Petersham (*off Petersham Road*). Upmarket garden centre with a very upmarket and expensive lunchtime restaurant (closed M and Tu) as well as a cafe (closed M), which sells great soup and sandwiches at lunchtime in a really lovely setting amongst the greenhouses. They have some problems with too many cars upsetting the locals so they encourage people to walk (about 30 min from centre of Richmond) or take a 65 or 371 Kingston bus to Dysart Arms pub stop.
- **Thai Cafe**, Hill Rise (*Heading towards Richmond Park*). Thai cuisine.
- **Tide Tables**. Vegetarian cafe under the arches of Richmond Bridge, in a great location with a large outdoor area overlooking the river and towpath. It does very good fairtrade coffee, juices etc and vegetarian food such as foccacia and quiches. Licensed.

25.8.2 Kew

- **The Glasshouse**, 14 Station Parade, ☎ +44 20 8940-6777.
- **Ma Cuisine**, The Old Post Office, 9 Station Approach, ☎ +44 20 8332-1923, e-mail: info@macuisinekew.co.uk.
- **Rara Nepalese Dining**, Rara Restaurant, 279 Sandycombe Rd, ☎ +44 20 8332-1020, e-mail: dine@rara-kew.co.uk. A really smart Nepalese restaurant.

25.9 Drink

25.9.1 Richmond

- Pubs on the Richmond riverside include **The White Cross** (an 18th-century pub on the Thames, with

seating outside overlooking the towpath, and which is often surrounded by water at high tide), **Edwards, The Slug and Lettuce**, and the **Pitcher and Piano** which has a large outdoor terrace. **The White Swan** is set further back on Old Palace Lane between the river and the Green, and **The Waterman's Arms**, which serves Thai food, is on Water Lane, nearer the town centre.

- In town, **The Old Ship**, a popular sports pub, offers pub grub. **The Richmond Arms** attracts a gay crowd and offers cabaret and karaoke nights. The chain wine bar **All Bar One** is on Hill Street and also serves food.
- Near Richmond train station, **The Bear**, the **Sun**, the **Orange Tree** and **The Railway Tavern** are close by.
- Around Richmond Green, the **Cricketers Arms**, and the **Prince's Head** offer food and drinks while watching the action on the Green, with the **Britannia** slightly set back from the green. **The Duke** is a gastro pub near Richmond Theatre.
- Heading up the hill, the **Victoria Inn** on Hill Rise has a cosy atmosphere and further up the top of the hill is the **Roebuck**, which dates back to 1730 and sits on the brow of Richmond Hill. You can take your drink across the road to the Terrace which overlooks the famous view from Richmond Hill. Nearby is the **Marlborough** on Friar Stile Road, a family friendly pub with a large beer garden out the back (with a children's play area) and the **Lass O'Richmond Hill** on Queens Road and close to Richmond Park's Richmond Gate.

- Further towards Sheen, the **White Horse** (off the main road behind the Red Cow) has a gastro-pub menu and is family-friendly with a gate opening onto a children's playground, while the **Red Cow** offers sports television, and has a popular Tuesday night pub quiz.

25.9.2 Kew

- **Coach and Horses Hotel**, 8 Kew Green.
- **The Kew Gardens Hotel**, 292-294 Sandycombe Rd, ☎ +44 20 8940-2220.
- **Tap on the Line**, Kew Gardens Station, Station Parade, ☎ +44 871 917 0007.

25.10 Sleep

25.10.1 Richmond

- **Bingham Hotel**, 61-63 Petersham Rd, ☎ +44 20 8940-0902, e-mail: info@thebingham.co.uk.
- **Quinns Hotel**, 48 Sheen Rd, ☎ +44 20 8940-5444.
- **The Red Cow**, 59 Sheen Rd, ☎ +44 20 8940-2511, e-mail: tom@redcowpub.com.
- **The Richmond Gate Hotel**, Richmond Hill, ☎ +44 844 855 9121, fax: +44 20 8332-0354.
- **Richmond Inn Hotel**, 50-56 Sheen Rd (*opposite Quinns Hotel*), ☎ +44 20 8940-0171.
- **Richmond Park Hotel**, 3 Petersham Rd, ☎ +44 20 8948-4666, fax: +44 20 8940-7376.
- **Richmond Hill Hotel**, 144-150 Richmond Hill, Richmond-upon-Thames, ☎ +44 20 8940-2247. 5-star hotel.

25.10.2 Kew

- **Coach and Horses Hotel**, 8 Kew Green.
- **The Kew Gardens Hotel**, 292-294 Sandycombe Rd, ☎ +44 20 8940-2220.

25.11 Connect

- The **Richmond police station** is located next to St John the Divine Church, at Sovereign Gate, 18-20 Kew Road.

25.12 Cope

- **The Barn Church (St. Philip's)**, Atwood Ave, ☎ +44 20 8878-5646, e-mail: janlewison@aol.com. Service Su 9:30AM. Church constructed in 1929 from the timbers of a 17th century barn. Free. **W**
- **St. Luke's Church**, The Avenue. Service Su 8AM and 11AM. Free.

25.13 Go next

Chapter 26

London/Soho

For other places with the same name, see Soho (disambiguation).



Location of the Soho area in London

Soho is a district of central **London**, part of the West End, famous for jazz, its **gay village**, sex shops and alternative lifestyles.

26.1 Understand

26.1.1 Orientation

This is generally considered to be the area enclosed by Piccadilly Circus, Shaftesbury Avenue and Cambridge Circus to the south, Charing Cross Road to the east, Oxford Street to the north, and Regent Street to the west. Oxford Street is the main shopping street in **London** but much of it is in the **Mayfair-Marylebone** district.

The area immediately surrounding **1 Old Compton Street** in the southern part of Soho is widely recognised as London's foremost **gay village** and is a *very* stylish part of London indeed. There is some overlap with the **red light district**, though there has been a decline in prostitution and strip bars in the area since the 60s and is not quite as seedy as it once was, although you may still get solicited on the street in certain parts of Soho.



The heart of Soho - this is the intersection of Wardour Street and Old Compton Street - a gay bar, Ann Summers sex shop, a chic cafe and a shoe repairer

Chinatown is sometimes considered to be part of Soho, but it is south of Shaftesbury Avenue and, having a culture distinctly different from the rest of the West End, adjoins – but is not really part of – Soho.

26.1.2 History

Soho has a long and colourful history. The first record of the name comes from the 17th century when the area was pasture after being used as hunting park for the Royal Court of Henry VIII some 100 years earlier.

Despite this royal attention and very grand development taking place in adjoining districts, Soho did not become fashionable until recent times and was mostly known as an area settled by new immigrants. By the mid-19th century it had become the home of prostitutes and low brow music halls. Things looked up in the early 1900s when it gained something of a Bohemian reputation with writers, artists and actors moving in but the sex industry continued to dominate the district until as recently as the 1980s. This lucrative business was always run by organised crime groups and ensured that Soho was a notorious haunt of gangsters throughout much of the 20th century.

The music business began to really prosper here in the 1950s with a beatnik and jazz culture very much to the

fore. Perhaps London's most famous jazz venue, Ronnie Scotts, is still thriving today in Frith Street. Many famous rock bands are also closely associated with Soho. The Rolling Stones played their first ever live concert here (at the legendary Marquee) and The Sex Pistols lived in Denmark Street as well as playing a number of infamous gigs. In the 1970s and 1980s Soho, and the Marquee in particular, was *the* place in London to head for to check out up and coming and often very controversial British bands.

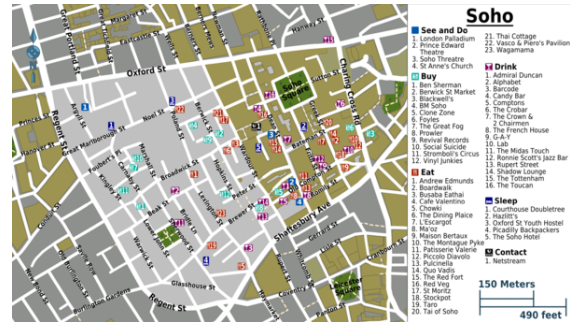
Since the 1980s, the whole of Soho has undergone rapid transformation and development into a fashionable district of upmarket restaurants and media offices. There are though still a few places which are easily associated with its more colourful past and even a small remnant of the previously dominant sex industry remains, much of which has been disrupted by a number of waves of police crackdowns.

Modern day Soho has the densest concentration of restaurants, cafés, clubs and bars in central London and truly represents the vibrant, bustling heart of the city. It is also the modern hub of London's media world with multiple advertising agencies, television and radio studios and post-production companies choosing this as their base of operations.

26.1.3 Reading

Unsurprisingly given its colourful nature, much has been written about Soho. The following is short selection of books, all of which are a great read and would be of benefit to anyone planning to visit Soho.

- *Dirty White Boy, Tales of Soho* by Clayton Littlewood, Cleiss Press 2008. The musings and observations of a clothing store owner in Old Compton St in the 2000s. You will struggle to find a better modern day commentary on Soho. Littlewood's book has been compared to Christopher Isherwood's writings about sordid Berlin in the 1920s. And apart from all that, it is very funny.
- *Dog Days in Soho* by Nigel Richardson, Phoenix 2001. A biography of one sailor's life in Soho in the 1950s, perhaps the single most notorious period in the history of the district. Poignant and very well written. Gives a fine sense of the period just before the evolution of modern day Soho.
- *Soho: A History of London's Most Colourful Neighbourhood* by Judith Summers, Bloomsbury Publishing Ltd 1989. Not easy to find copies of this book but it is worth the effort. Covers the social history of the district from the 18th to late 20th century.



26.2 Get in

26.2.1 By tube

A tube station serves each of the four approximate corners of Soho:

- Tottenham Court Rd to the north-east (Central and Northern lines)
- Oxford Circus to the north-west (Bakerloo, Central and Victoria lines)
- Leicester Square to the south-east (Northern and Piccadilly lines)
- Piccadilly Circus to the south-west (Bakerloo and Piccadilly lines)

26.2.2 By train

The most convenient mainline rail station is Charing Cross, located 10-15 min walk to the southeast.

26.2.3 By car

Access to Soho by car is not recommended, owing to traffic congestion and stringent parking restrictions, and the £8 congestion charge. There is, however, a Masterpark parking station on Poland St, and another car park on Brewer Street.

26.2.4 By rickshaw

More entertainment than transportation really, rickshaws run in Soho and the surrounding areas. They are much more expensive than a black cab, and may seem a lot less safe, but they are a lot of fun and can often be the fastest way to get around these tightly packed streets.

26.2.5 By bicycle

London's cycle hire scheme (known locally as "Boris bikes") has a number of outlets around Soho including on

Old Compton Street, Wardour Street, Soho Square and Golden Square.

26.3 See



Soho Square

Old Compton Street is Soho's unofficial high-street and is full of bars, cafes, clubs and shops. It is a great place to grab a coffee and watch Soho go by.

- **1 Soho Square**, Soho Sq W1. A centuries-old small park that becomes packed on warm sunny days. **W**
- **1 Photographers' Gallery**, 16 - 18 Ramillies St (tube: *Leicester Sq*), ☎ +44 20 7087-9300. M-Sa 11:00-18:00, Th 10:00-20:00, Su 11:00-18:00. The exhibitions are wide and varied, from documentary photographers to fine artists, some long gone, and some on their way up. With the crowds and chaos of Leicester Square on one side and Covent Garden on the other, this is a welcome retreat. Free. **W**

26.4 Do

26.4.1 Explore

- **Wander the streets.** Soho is best discovered by simply wandering its streets. Take the less trodden paths and you will be amazed by the rabbit warren of streets and the seemingly endless number of cafes, bars, shops and more. Some highlights are the gay village on Old Compton St, Soho Square and a tea and cakes in one of Soho's great patisseries.

26.4.2 Watch

- **Dominion Theatre**, 268-269 Tottenham Court Rd, W1T 7AQ. Home of Queen musical *We Will Rock You*



The Prince Edward theatre in Old Compton Street

- **Gielgud Theatre**, 35 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W1D 6AR.
- **Novello Theatre**, 5 Aldwych, London, WC2B 4LD, ☎ +44 844 482 5171. Home of *Mamma Mia* since 1999.
- **London Palladium**, Argyll St, W1F 7TF. Famous old London music hall whose boards have been trodden by many legendary names. These days it shows mostly blockbuster musical productions for the masses.
- **Prince Edward Theatre**, 28 Old Compton St, W1D 4HS, ☎ +44 20 7440-3020.
- **Drury Lane Theatre Royal**, Catherine Street, London, WC2B 5JF ((5mins) *Go right on Long Acre; turn right into Bow Street and after 100 metres it will be on your left in Russell Street/Catherine Street.*). (updated Apr 2016)

26.5 Buy



Carnaby Street

Soho has a diverse range of shops, tending towards the arty, boutique and independent style of outlet.

After a period in the 1970s and 1980s when **Carnaby Street** became little more than a tourist trap and a pale imitation of its innovative, trend-setting heyday in the 1960s, it is now once again a major centre of new design. There are some especially interesting independent fashion stores in the small streets and courtyards off Carnaby Street, so it is well worth exploring the area carefully.

Berwick Street is notable for a collection of independent record shops specialising in different genres of dance music.

26.5.1 Clothing and accessories

- **Ben Sherman**, 50 Carnaby St, W1F 9QA, ☎ +44 20 7437-2031, e-mail: jason.zeller@bensherman.co.uk. The flagship retail outlet of this iconic British fashion brand. Men's and women's clothing, accessories and shoes.
- **The Great Frog**, 10 Ganton St, W1F 7QR (*tube: Oxford Circus*), ☎ +44 20 7439-9357, e-mail: info@thegreatfroglondon.com. Rock and heavy metal jewellery specialist. Been in business here for more than 40 years. The iconic skull ring worn by so many famous rockers was originally designed and produced by Great Frog.
- **Social Suicide**, 8 Ganton St, W1F 7QP (*tube: Oxford Circus*), ☎ +44 20 7617-7696. M-Sa 11:00-19:00, Su noon-18:00. Beautifully tailored men's jackets with a real funky design flair.

26.5.2 Music and record shops

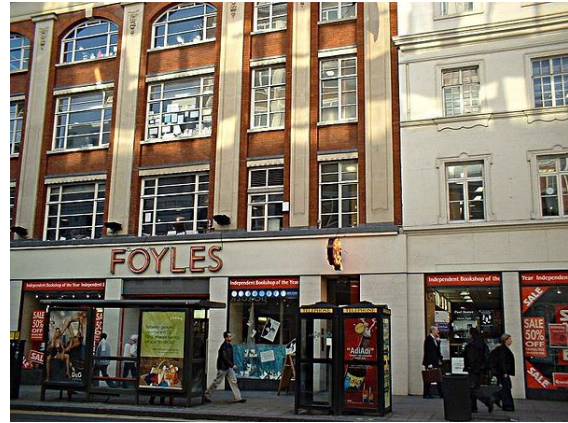
- **BM Soho**, 25 D'Arblay St, W1F 8EJ (*tube: Oxford Circus*), ☎ +44 20 7437-0478, e-mail: mailorder@bm-soho.com. Specialises in house and drum 'n' bass.
- **Revival Records**, 30 Berwick St, W1F 8RH (*tube: Oxford Circus*), ☎ +44 20 7437-4271, e-mail: revival.records@gmail.com. Mostly old rock vinyl but just about any genre could jump out at you.
- **Vinyl Junkies**, 94 Berwick St, W1F 0QF (*tube: Oxford Circus*), ☎ +44 20 7439-2493, e-mail: vjunkies@vinyl-junkies.com. Cutting edge dance music including house, tech and old rare soul. A favourite with many famous DJs and producers.

26.5.3 Gay-related

Unsurprisingly, Soho has a number of gay-related outlets, some of the best known are:

- **Prowler**, 5-7 Brewer St, W1F 0RF.
- **Clone Zone**, 64 Old Compton St, W1D 4UQ. The world's largest gay retail company.

26.5.4 Others



Foyles bookshop in Charing Cross Road.

- **Berwick Street Market**. An absolute gem and a relic of Soho's past. This is an old fashioned London fruit and vegetable market complete with shouting *Barrow Boys* and a whole array of colourful characters. There has been a market at this site since the early 1800s. Best early in the mornings.
- **Foyles**, 113-119 Charing Cross Rd, WC2H 0EB, ☎ +44 20 7437-5660, e-mail: customerservices@foyles.co.uk. 09:30-21:00. London's best known bookshop is a mazy warren containing a seemingly impossible number of books! It is not always easy to find your way around and although greatly improved since the renovation in 1999, the service is notably surly. Nonetheless, this place is a must for all book lovers.

26.6 Eat

26.6.1 Budget

- **Cafe Valentino**, 13a Greek St, W1D 4DN, ☎ +44 20 7437-8837. Late. A small cafe, primarily notable for its very late opening hours.
- **The Dining Plaiice**, 20 Berwick St, W1F 0PY, ☎ +44 20 7437-3280. Decent fish and chip shop in the heart of Soho. Handy for Berwick Street market.
- **Ma'oz**, 43 Old Compton St, W1D 6HG. 10:00-late. The best place for a light fast-food style vegetarian/vegan meal, one of the few places in Soho where a fiver can get you fed.

- **The Montague Pyke** (*A Lloyds No.1 bar*), 105-107 Charing Cross Rd, WC2H 0BP. Offers real ales and two-for-one offers on a variety of meals.
- **Stockpot**, 18 Old Compton St, W1D 4JL, ☎ +44 20 7287-1066. M-Sa 11:30-midnight, Su 11:30-23:30. Good dependable 'British' cuisine Mains average £5-10 without drinks.

Asian fusion

- **Taro**, 61 Brewer St, W1F 9UW. Noodles, sushi, bento boxes and assorted other Japanese goodies. Good cheap eats and reliable quality.
- **Tai of Soho**, 10 Greek St, W1D 4DH (*Just off Soho Sq, parallel to Charing Cross Rd*). (CLOSED) An oriental vegetarian/vegan restaurant that offers a cheap buffet and a variety of spicy dishes.
- **Tuk Tuk Noodle Bar**, 56 Old Compton St, W1D 4UE (*Next door to Admiral Duncan pub*), ☎ +44 20 7734-5951. M-Th noon-midnight, F Sa noon-13:00, Su 12:30-23:30. Honest, authentic and reliable Thai food, served up quickly and is amazing value for money. Can be crowded at peak times, turnover is so fast you won't be waiting too long. £8-12.
- **Thai Cottage**, 34 D'Arblay St, W1F 8EX. A slightly rough around the edges Thai restaurant which is always busy, thanks to the excellent value food which speaks for itself.

Italian and pizza

- **Piccolo Diavolo**, 8 Old Compton St, W1D 4TE. noon-23:30. A little corner of great Italian hospitality in the heart of Soho. A good variety of Italian quality food served with passion by friendly waiters. Mains and pizza around £7.
- **Ristorante Cappucetto**, 9 Moor St (*At the intersection of Old Compton and Moor Sts - close to Cambridge Circus*), ☎ +44 20 7437 2527-9472. Th-Sa noon-01:00, Su-W noon-midnight. One of the oldest established Italian restaurants in Soho - since 1962. Family run, and the service is friendly, with some really good and authentic Italian dishes. Lunchtime meal deal between 12:00-16:00 with a main course and drink for £5.50.
- **Jazz @ Pizza Express**, part of the popular up-market pizza chain, but with a musical twist. Jazz bands play in the basement, often requires prior booking.

26.6.2 Mid-range

- **Andrew Edmunds**, 46 Lexington St, W1R 3LH. Top quality restaurant, great romantic spot. Bookings recommended. From about £25 per head.
- **Balans**, 60-62 Old Compton St, W1D 4UG, ☎ +44 20 7439-2183, e-mail: headoffice@balans.co.uk. daily 24 hrs. Almost a Soho institution, this 24 hour eatery in the heart of the gay village offers a wide range of British and world cuisine in a stylish atmosphere. Has now gone international with branches in Miami, but the original Old Compton Street Balans is still the best, attracting clientele as diverse as TV presenter Dale Winton and politician and former mayor Ken Livingstone among its regulars. £20-25.
- **Busaba Eathai**, 106-110 Wardour St, W1F 0TR, ☎ +44 20 7255-8686. noon-11PM. One of the best choices on a street with any number of fantastic restaurants. You will find a laid back atmosphere with big low wooden tables (expect to share if your party is small). The menu features among other dishes a fine butternut squash curry. Average meal £14-20.
- **The Red Fort**, 77 Dean St, W1D 3SH, ☎ +44 20 7437-2525, e-mail: info@redfort.co.uk. This has been the landmark Indian restaurant in Soho since it opened in 1983. It was badly damaged during the Dean St fire in July 2009 and is currently closed for renovation. No doubt it will be back and serving the same high quality Indian food soon. Vegetarian options are especially good.
- **St Moritz**, 159-161 Wardour St, W1F 8WJ. A slice of the Swiss Alps in central London, offering Fondue, Raclette and other winter comfort foods amongst giant alpine horns and cowbells.
- **1 Scoop** (*Natural Luxury Gelato*), 53 Brewer Street, ☎ +44 20 7494 3082. Come here for some genuine Italian gelato or coffee and cake. Try their hazelnut gelato, which is simply amazing. Large £3.60.

26.6.3 Splurge

- **L'Escargot**, 48 Greek St, W1D 4EF (*tube: Tottenham Court Rd*), ☎ +44 20 7437-6828. This French restaurant has been serving up refined cuisine to the Soho faithful since 1927 and is currently owned and run by celebrity chef Marco Pierre White. The brasserie downstairs is slightly less formal than the Michelin-starred upper level. From £60.
- **Quo Vadis**, 26-29 Dean St, W1D 3LL (*tube: Tottenham Court Rd*), ☎ +44 20 7437-9585, e-mail:

info@quovadissoho.co.uk. Bit of a Soho institution formerly owned by Marco Pierre White. Now under new management but little has changed. Top notch British grill style food in a very smart environment. £60.

- **Vasco and Piero's Pavilion**, 15 Poland St, W1F 8QE (*tube: Oxford Circus*), ☎ +44 20 7437-8774, e-mail: at@vascosfood.co.uk. Umbrian food prepared with the very best ingredients by chef Vasco. All the pasta is freshly made on the premises. The calve's liver is especially famous. Has been in business here for 40 years. £60.

26.6.4 Patisseries

Have tea and cakes in one of Soho's great patisseries.

- **Maison Bertaux**, 28 Greek St, W1D 5DD (*tube: Tottenham Court Rd*), ☎ +44 20 7437-6007. Slightly tatty but utterly and deliciously French, since 1871. Take away or sit at one of their sidewalk tables.
- **Patisserie Valerie**, 44 Old Compton St, W1D 5JX (*tube: Tottenham Court Rd*), ☎ +44 20 7437-3466. 07:30AM-23:00 daily. The original location of this highly successful business (locally nicknamed as "Pat Vals") which has expanded across London with numerous outlets now around the West End. Wonderful French cakes and pastries. Breakfast here is notably good. Has a large seating area upstairs.

26.7 Drink

Soho used to be home to a number of establishments known as "clip joints" that exploited a loophole in the law. The usual scenario of such places: someone would stand outside extolling the number of attractive young ladies inside the establishment, some of which may be offering X-rated services. Upon entering, the unsuspecting customer would be asked for a considerable sum of money for the "entrance fee" or "membership fee" for the club they have joined simply by entering, and/or charged an extravagant rate for a glass of beer. Non-payment would result in threats of physical violence and possibly being frogmarched to a nearby ATM.

Generally, Soho is a safe place for people of all backgrounds. These establishments have mostly disappeared following a change in the law, but visitors should be aware that Soho's reputation as a hub for the sex industry means there are occasionally people who engage in scams and cons. Be careful not to go any place recommended by someone on the street, as this is more than likely a scam that will cost you hundreds of pounds with the suggester getting a commission. Exercise discretion and common sense.

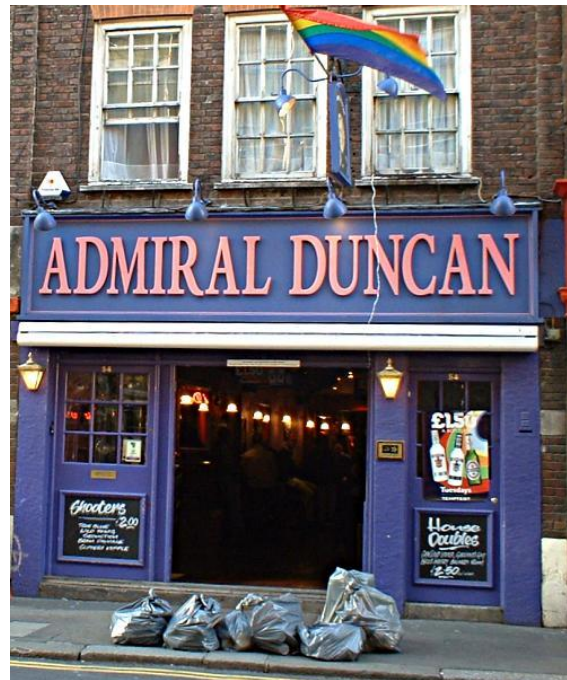
26.7.1 Pubs

- **Garlic and Shots**, 14 Frith St, W1D 4RD. Walk through the unassuming upstairs restaurant and head down the back stairs to find this small hidden basement bar, which boasts 101 different garlic and chilli-infused shots and loud rock/metal music. The 'Bloodshot' is highly recommended! There is also a seated outdoor smoking area out the back.
- **The Crobar**, 17 Manette St, W1D 4AS (*Off Charing Cross Rd*). Metal pub. Very fine atmosphere if you like or are among the metal folks.
- **The Crown and 2 Chairmen**, Dean St, W1D 3SB, ☎ +44 8721 077 077. Has had a fancy refit and has a good selection of beers. You may have to wait a little while for your drink however. Popular with local media industry crowd.
- **The French House**, 49 Dean St, W1D 5BG. The legendary pub in which the French resistance convened during World War II and which was the favoured haunt of legendary Soho characters such as Francis Bacon and Lucian Freud. It is a very small pub, so expect to be jammed in, particularly in winter. Also, note that the pub only serves beer in half-pints. An absolute Soho institution. Think "Jeffrey Bernard is unwell".
- **The Midas Touch**, 49 Beak St, W1F 9SB (*tube: Piccadilly Circus*). Popular pub with locals and usually has some good happy hour deals. Cheap-moderate.
- **The Tottenham**, 6 Oxford St, W1D 2DN (*corner of Oxford St opposite Tottenham Court Rd tube station*). Recently refurbished pub claiming to be the only pub on the whole of Oxford St. An absolute tourist trap but it is very convenient.
- **The Toucan**, 19 Carlisle St, W1D 3BX. Widely mistaken for an Irish bar it actually specializes in Guinness, said to be the best pint in London. Also check out their collection of over 100 different Irish whiskies.
- **Sam Smith Pubs**. Sam Smith's pubs are some of the cheaper places to drink in Soho as they mostly sell their own beers brewed in Yorkshire. The pubs are **The Red Lion**, 14 Kingly Street (Oxford Circus tube station), **The John Snow** (Broadwick Street) and **The White Horse**, 45 Rupert Street (Piccadilly Circus tube station). £2-£4 per pint.

26.7.2 Jazz joints, bars and clubs

- **Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club**, 47 Frith St, W1D 4HT, ☎ +44 20 7439-0747, fax: +44 20 7437-5081, e-mail: ronniescotts@ronniescotts.co.uk. M-Sa 20:30-03:00 including Bank holidays (closed 24-26 Dec); live music 21:45-02:00. Ronnie Scott's world-famous jazz venue. Most performances get booked up quickly: you need to reserve space on a table for dinner. Upstairs, there is a bar ("Ronnie's Bar") with more of a club-like environment. Non-members admission M-Th £20, F Sa £25; members admission M-Th £5, F Sa £10 (ordinary membership £60 per annum).
- There are numerous other jazz bars near Ronnie Scott's, less famous and subsequently cheaper, including:
 - **Jazz after Dark**, 9 Greek St
 - **St Moritz Club**, 159 Wardour St
 - **The Cafe @ Foyles bookshop**, 113-119 Charing Cross Rd, WC2H 0EB, ☎ +44 20 7437-5660, e-mail: customerservices@foyles.co.uk. 09:30-21:00.
- **Ain't Nothin' But...**, 20 Kingly St, W1B 5PZ. M-Th 17:00-01:00, F 17:00-02:30, Sa 15:00-02:30, Su 15:00-00:00. Blues bar. Often £5; free Su-Th and before 20:30 F Sa.
- **Alphabet**, 61-63 Beak St, W1R 3LF, ☎ +44 20 7439-2120. Trendy bar that manages to have a comfortable vibe, despite the great art on the wall and hip clientele.
- **Lab**, 12 Old Compton St, W1D 4TQ, ☎ +44 20 7437-7820. Popular martini bar.
- **Milk and Honey**, 61 Poland Street, W1F 7NU, ☎ +44 20 7065-6800. Cocktail club with original branch in New York City. Members only, although non-members can phone and book a table. Unlike the rest of Soho, the atmosphere is quiet and unforgiving of rowdiness. If you cannot decide on a drink, ask the waiter to make you something and specify a few characteristics (fruity, gin-based, sour etc.) and you'll usually be very pleasantly rewarded.
- **Bar Termini**, 7 Old Compton Street, W1D 5JE (*Tube: Leicester Square, Piccadilly Circus, Tottenham Court Road or Covent Garden*), ☎ +44 7860 945 018 (mobile number), e-mail: drinks@bar-termini.com. S-Th: 10 AM - 11:30 PM. F/S: 10 AM - midnight.. Italian-style bar serving cocktails and charcuterie. Excellent (and reasonable for the area) drinks in a cosy, quiet setting. No loud music, no rowdiness. ££. (updated Mar 2016)

26.7.3 Predominantly gay



The Admiral Duncan

- **Admiral Duncan**, 54 Old Compton St, W1D 4UB. A single room: what it lacks in space, it makes up for with drag performances. Make sure you head here on a Sunday evening for the Divine Ms Frankie Fantastique and her weekly game of "Rock and Roll Bingo".
- **Comptons**, 53-57 Old Compton St, W1D 6HN. A gay institution. Mostly caters to an older, rougher, fetish-oriented and bearish crowd.
- **Duke Of Wellington**, Corner of Old Compton and Wardour Sts. Superb "neighbourhood pub" which is popular with the beary crowd. Good music and great choice of drinks. Downstairs is always busy - upstairs is more subdued with sofa's and tables.
- **Edge**, 11 Soho Square. A three-story bar: at the weekend, it stays open until 3am with drag queens, go-go boys etc.
- **G-A-Y**, 30 Old Compton St, W1D 4UR, ☎ +44 20 7439-1313. Video monitors showing pop divas, and very cheap drinks. The G-A-Y brand also runs a late night bar, G-A-Y Late, as well as events at the nightclub Heaven (see the [Covent Garden](#) page). Fliers and wristbands for free or discounted entry are available both in and outside the Old Compton Street bar.
- **Rupert Street**, 50 Rupert St, W1D 6DR (*Corner of Rupert and Winnett Sts*), ☎ +44 20 7292-7141. Pop-

ular with businessmen. Serves food and has outdoor seating.

- **Shadow Lounge**, 5 Brewer St, W1F 0RF, ☎ +44 20 727 7988. Where the trim, taut and terrific go to party. Often hosts incredible dance party nights.
- **Yard**, 57 Rupert Street, W1D 7PL, ☎ +44 20 7437 2652. Cocktails, shirtless barman and all the usual facilities of a gay bar, plus a large, enclosed outside seating area and first floor balcony—great for sunny summer evenings, great for smokers too.

daily 24 hrs. Very well equipped outlet with full business services as well as a fast internet connection. Even have a few Macs.

26.10 Go next

- If you are looking for gay nightlife, note that it spills across into the **Leicester Square** area.

26.8 Sleep

Soho is a densely built district and there are not too many places to stay here.

26.8.1 Budget

- **Oxford Street Youth Hostel**, 14 Noel St, W1F 8GJ, ☎ +44 770 5984. Busy, vibrant hostel ideal for backpackers, not a place for a quiet break. Self-catering kitchen. 2-4 bed rooms. Adults from £24.50.

26.8.2 Mid-range

26.8.3 Splurge

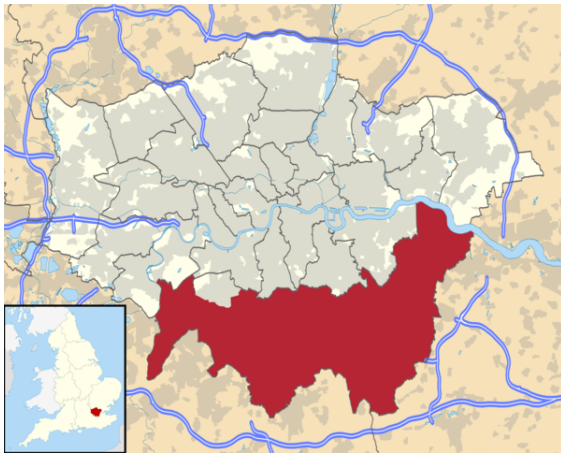
- **Courthouse** (*WorldHotels*), 19-21 Great Marlborough St, W1F 7HL, ☎ +44 20 7297-5555. A Hilton hotel in a spectacular old building. From £200.
- **Hazlitt's**, 6 Frith St, W1D 3JA, ☎ +44 20 7434-1771, e-mail: reservations@hazlitts.co.uk. A quirky little hotel which occupies a number of adjacent Georgian houses. Just about as boutique as boutique gets. From £190.
- **The Soho Hotel**, 4 Richmond Mews, W1D 3DH (*tiny laneway running between Dean and Wardour Sts*), ☎ +44 20 7559-3000, e-mail: soho@firmdale.com. Luxury boutique hotel with 91 rooms in an old converted building. Full range of five star facilities including spa, gym, restaurant and bar. If you can afford it, a fine experience for sure. From £280.

26.9 Connect

- **Netstream**, 9-12 St Annes Ct, W1F 0BB, ☎ +44 20 7434-2525, e-mail: mail@netstreamlondon.com.

Chapter 27

London/South



Location of the South London area in London

South London is generally defined as any part of Greater London that is south of the river Thames. However, this guide will only cover the outer South London boroughs, and 'exclude' the inner South London boroughs namely; Richmond upon Thames, Wandsworth, Lambeth, Southwark, Lewisham & Greenwich.

27.1 Understand

Most areas of present South London were once towns and villages in the counties of **Surrey**, **Kent** & **Middlesex** outside London, which were assimilated by London as it expanded rapidly in the 19th & 20th centuries. Surrey and Kent are still used as part of the official postal addresses for some areas of south London.

Most of outer South London is residential suburbia, but this is punctuated by some sites of tourist interest. The main towns of outer south London are Kingston upon Thames, **Wimbledon**, Sutton, Croydon, Bromley & Bexleyheath. Each of these towns are major commercial centres with major transport interchanges, entertainment, cultural and shopping centres.

Kingston upon Thames would have to be considered the most interesting of the aforementioned towns for vis-

itors. It is a former market town within the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames. It is where many Saxon kings were crowned before the invasion of William the Conqueror in 1066. It has a pleasant riverside location with views across the river to nearby **Hampton Court Palace & Park**, which is a Tudor royal palace, built by Cardinal Wolesley for King Henry VIII. It has extensive viewing areas with rooms from various historical periods. There is also a large formal garden and maze, as well as substantial adjacent parkland and river walks along the Thames. The gardens are home to the annual Hampton Court Flower Show.

27.1.1 Boroughs

South London consists of the following London boroughs:

- **Bexley** — (population estimated in 2008 as 224,000) the borough includes:
 - **Bexleyheath**
 - Crayford
 - Erith
 - Sidcup
 - Thamesmead
 - Welling
 - Belvedere
- **Bromley** — (population estimated in 2008 as 303,000) the borough includes:
 - Beckenham
 - **Bromley**
 - Orpington
 - Chislehurst
 - Biggin Hill
- **Croydon** — (population estimated in 2008 as 342,000) the borough includes:
 - **Croydon**

- Coulsdon
 - Norbury
 - Purley
 - Thornton Heath
 - Coulsdon
 - Old Coulsdon
 - Norwood
 - Norbury
- **Kingston upon Thames** — (population estimated in 2008 as 161,000) the borough includes:
 - Chessington
 - **Kingston upon Thames**
 - New Malden
 - Surbiton
 - **Merton** — (population estimated in 2008 as 202,000) the borough includes:
 - Morden
 - Mitcham
 - **Wimbledon**
 - **Sutton** — (population estimated in 2008 as 188,000) the borough includes:
 - **Sutton**
 - Carshalton
 - Wallington
 - Cheam
 - Worcester Park

27.1.2 Bromley

Bromley is a borough of **London**, situated in the south east of Greater London. Much of the borough was historically in the county of **Kent**, as is reflected by the presence of Kent County Cricket Club's second XI and Twenty20 teams in Beckenham, and the fact that the postal county of Kent is sometimes still used for traditional reasons for much of the borough (though postal counties are no longer required in UK postal addresses). Beckenham and Crystal Palace Park use to host confusingly the London CCC, which has the famous WG Grace before it was disbanded. The London Borough of Bromley was created in 1965 by the London Government Act 1963 and officially incorporated into Greater London. HG Wells grew up in a house along the High St, which until recently had a sci-fi mural in tribute to him. Charles Darwin also lived further out, at **Down House**, which is in the greenbelt to

the southern edge of the Borough. Here one can find **Biggin Hill Airport** a small private airfield, used mainly for civil aviation, an International Air Fair in June and also featured in the Da Vinci Code.

The borough is the largest in London by area and occupies 59 square miles (153 km²). The borough shares borders with Lewisham, Greenwich and Bexley to the north, Southwark and Lambeth to the north west, Croydon to the west; and the counties of Surrey to the south and Kent to the south and east.

27.1.3 Croydon



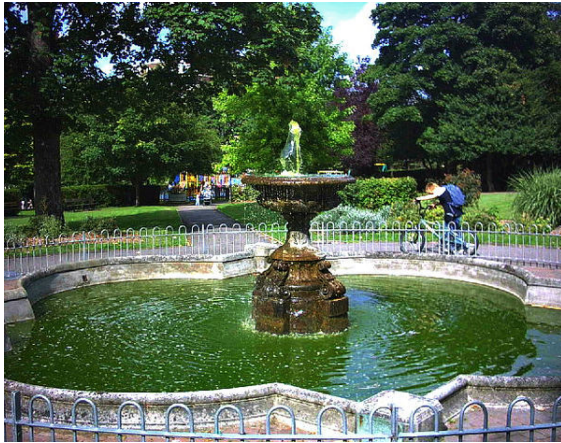
Croydon Town Hall

Known to some as the "*Dallas of the South*" due to the density of shiny glass and steel high rise office blocks, including the Home Office government department. Wellesley Road runs north/south through Croydon and is home to the luxury Saffron Square apartment development, including an iconic 45 storey tower. The pedestrianised shopping precinct west of here is an attractive retail area. Croydon Town hall and the Clock Tower art centre are housed in an imposing Victorian building just to the south of the retail centre. A new major regeneration plan has been announced, called *Croydon Vision 2020*, which includes the new shopping centre and Croydon Gateway site (which includes a third Westfield for London, a park, offices and bars).

Croydon has a cross-section of British history: Among its famous residents were author Sir Arthur Conan-Doyle, model Kate Moss, journalist Émile Zola, dubstep pioneer Benga, and punk rocker Captain Sensible of The Damned.

27.1.4 Sutton

Sutton is a borough and the main town in that borough. The town is a vibrant place with a theatre, lots of public art ranging from murals to statues to an armillary (look it up!), a very large library and many restaurants and coffee



Fountain in Manor Park, Sutton.

houses. The centre has a lot of attractive period architecture, and there are four conservation areas to keep it that way. There is a lush little town centre park called Manor Park, complete with a fountain as its centrepiece. It is also the site of the town's war memorial. The town has a sizeable business sector and one of the biggest shopping areas in London, centred around Sutton High Street. It's not as big as Kingston or Croydon though, being a bit more compact. But you will find many well-known names, including a large Waterstones bookshop, complete with a nice coffee area upstairs.

Finally, being a pretty leafy sort of place, it may be reassuring to know that Sutton benefits from very low crime by London standards.

27.2 Get in

27.2.1 By tube or London Overground

The London Underground system does not cover South London as extensively as North London. The Northern Line (Black) terminates at Morden. The District Line (Green) terminates at **Wimbledon**.

Opened in Summer 2010, the London Overground now links West Croydon and Crystal Palace stations to East London, primarily at Whitechapel station, and North London at Dalston Junction station.

27.2.2 By train

South London is served by several train services from Central London stations. Check the London Transport maps for the correct station as the layout of the lines is rather confused in places.

As a rough guide, services run:

- From London-Waterloo to Kingston.

- From London Waterloo to Surbiton.
- From London-Victoria, London-Blackfriars, London-London Bridge to Bromley, Croydon, Merton, and Sutton.
- From London-Charing Cross and London-Cannon Street to Bexley and Bromley.

27.2.3 Bromley

By car The M25 sits on the southern edge of the borough. Junction 4 (Bromley/Orpington) quickly connects with the A21, though for Chislehurst and areas it may be quicker to use Junction 3. The A21 is the main London to Hastings road and it runs through the borough before heading south to Sevenoaks and Tonbridge.

By train The borough has 27 railway stations which cover much of the area and are served by three Central London stations; London Victoria, London Blackfriars and London Bridge (and, by extension, Cannon Street, Waterloo East and Charing Cross). The main transport hub in the borough is Bromley South, with regular fast trains to London Victoria and a network of buses that stop outside the station and go to all parts of the borough. Orpington is the major station for the east of the borough.

By air Biggin Hill Airport is a former RAF airfield from which the Battle of Britain was coordinated and serves private jets. While the runway is usable by aircraft up to Boeing 737/Airbus A320 size, it is prohibited for airline operators to sell tickets for flights in and out of the airport, thus there are no scheduled or holiday charter flights from the airport. However, there is still a surprisingly large number of business flights.

27.2.4 Croydon

By Underground Croydon is not served by the Underground network. However, the old East London Line has been integrated into the new London Overground network, linking West Croydon Station to Dalston Junction via New Cross, Docklands, and Whitechapel. This service, which started in June 2010, uses new rolling stock with longitudinal seating layouts similar to those used on Underground trains, allowing for more standing room. It is operated by Transport for London as part of the London Overground scheme.

By tram Tramlink, opened in 2000, is the first modern tram system to operate in London. Trams at the moment have destinations at Beckenham, **Wimbledon**, Elmers End and New Addington with all lines travelling through Croydon, on the Croydon Loop. It can also be used to reach the Underground in Wimbledon.



An old tramlink tram bound for Croydon

By train East Croydon station, is the second busiest station in London, and the main station for Croydon. Fast trains run into the centre of London terminating at Victoria or London Bridge stations in about 15–20 minutes.

There are direct service connections to London Gatwick & London Luton airports. Journey times from East Croydon to London Gatwick airport range from 15 to 36 minutes, with an average of 13 services per hour during the day. The journey time from East Croydon to London Luton airport is approximately 66 minutes, with an average of 4 services per hour during the day. The train service for London Luton airport also stops at London St Pancras (average journey time approximately 40 minutes), providing interconnections for Eurostar services to Lille, Paris & Brussels; as well as national services to the north of England & Scotland. There are no direct train services to London Heathrow airport. Typical fastest journey time would be approximately 90 minutes, and involve at least two changes.

It was announced in January 2013 that an upgrade to the Thameslink service meant there will be a new tunnel link from St Pancras providing a direct route from Croydon via Hitchin and Stevenage to Peterborough and Cambridge, although this is not expected until between 2014 and 2019.

All services from London Victoria that head to the South Coast stop here. Journey times from East Croydon to Brighton range from 36 to 60 minutes, with an average of 9 services per hour during the day.

Services are provided by Southern and First Capital Connect.

West Croydon station—which features in the famous story “Casting the Runes” by ghost story master M.R. James—is an interchange station for train, tram and bus. Trains run into the centre of London terminating at Victoria or London Bridge stations in about 20–40 minutes. Services leaving London generally terminate at Sutton but some continue to Guildford, Dorking and Epsom Downs.

By bus Croydon is well served by the London bus network, with a major bus station at West Croydon and a new one opening on the eastern side of Croydon next to the Croydon clocktower and Park Place shopping centre soon. Bus services in the centre of Croydon include, but are not limited to:

- Towards central London: bus routes 50, 60, 109, 250, 468, X68 (a peak time express service).
- Other routes: 75, 119 (Purley Way (Croydon Airport) - Bromley), 157, 197, 264, 289, 312 (South Croydon Bus Garage - Peckham, via Central Croydon, Addiscombe), 407, 410, 450, 455, 466, and X26 (West/East Croydon - Sutton - Kingston - Heathrow Central (Express)).

27.3 Get around

?""UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU""?

Map of London/South

27.3.1 Bromley

Transport for London (TFL) manages bus services in Bromley and these are operated by Selkent and Metrobus.

27.3.2 Croydon

Croydon is mostly pedestrian friendly, North End the main shopping parade was closed for traffic over 10 years ago and most places can be easily reached on foot.

By taxi

There is a large taxi stand, served by black cabs outside the main entrance to East Croydon Station.

By bus

Buses leave at West Croydon station, with most buses leaving Croydon stopping at the bus station next to West Croydon station. The other bus station is opposite East Croydon station on George street, although not all buses going past it stop.

27.4 See

27.4.1 Bexley

- **1 Red House**, Red House Lane, Bexleyheath, DA6 8JF, ☎ +44 20 8304-9878, e-mail:

redhouse@nationaltrust.org.uk. Not open every day. A major building of the history of the 'Arts and Crafts style' and of 19th century British architecture. Has some interesting textile displays. William Morris lived here, the architect was Philip Webb, with wall paintings and stained glass by Edward Burne-Jones. **W**

- **Danson Park.** A truly stunning yet under-visited park, next to Welling, that features a mansion house (Danson House) and boating lake. **W**
- **Woolwich Dockyard.** Historic area for both ship and weapon-making. The Arsenal (of which the football club derives its name from) is little left, although there is an Artillery Museum and parade ground with attached garrison for soldiers which is sometimes used. Will be hosting several events for the Olympics. **W**
- **1 Charlton House.** A Jacobean manor house. Formerly housing a museum and archives, the mansion is now a community centre, and much of the former pleasure grounds are parks. **W**
- **Abbey Woods.** as the name suggests, woods with a now-ruined abbey (Lesnes).

27.4.2 Bromley

- **Chislehurst Caves,** Old Hill, Chislehurst, ☎ +44 20 8467-3264, e-mail: enquiries@chislehurstcaves.co.uk. W-Su 10AM-4PM, seven days during school holidays. A seriously underlooked attraction, the caves are not in fact caves but a twenty-mile long network of passageways, carved from the chalk deep under Chislehurst over a period of 8,000 years. Used as a massive air-raid shelter during World War II, the Caves are now a local tourist attraction. Tours often last for an hour, where you'll learn the fascinating history as well as hear ghost and horror stories. It can also be rented as a venue, and is used for by those into D&D 'cosplay' games. £5, concessions £3, under 5's free. **W** Nearby, the exiled Emperor Napoleon III lived in a country house, which is now Chislehurst golf club. Derwent House is also notable for its exquisite style.
- **1 Crofton Roman Villa,** Crofton Roman Villa, Crofton Rd, Orpington, ☎ +44 20 8460-1442, e-mail: croftonromanvilla@btinternet.com. Apr-Oct, Bank Holidays, W F 10AM-1PM and 2PM-5PM, Su 2PM-5PM. The only villa open to the public in Greater London. It was inhabited from about AD 140-400 and was the centre of a large farming estate. Today you can see the remains of 10 rooms protected inside a public viewing building. Remains

include tiled (tessellated) floors and the under-floor heating system (hypocaust). £1, children £0.70. **W**

- **1 Down House,** Luxted Rd, Downe, BR6 7JT, ☎ +44 1689 859119. Feb-mid-Dec W-Su 11AM-4PM, additional hours in spring and summer. It was at Down House that Charles Darwin worked on his scientific theories, and wrote *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection*, the book which both scandalised and revolutionised the Victorian world when it was published in 1859. Built in the early 18th century, the house remains much as it was when Darwin lived here. The rooms on the ground floor have been furnished to reflect the domestic life of the family and the first floor offers an interactive exhibition on his life, his research and his discoveries. English Heritage has restored the gardens to their appearance in Darwin's time. adults £10.00, children £6.00, concessions £9.00. **W**
- **1 Royal Waterman's Alms Houses,** High Street, Penge. view from the outside only. designed by George Porter and built in 1840-1841 by the Company of Watermen and Lightermen of the City of London. The residents moved out in 1973 and the almshouses became private houses. **W**

- **Petts Wood,** cool place for a picnic, walk or camp.

27.4.3 Croydon

Because it was heavily bombed in WW2, Croydon features a patchwork of old and new architecture.

- **The Whitgift Almshouses.** Form a fine Tudor courtyard.
- **The Town Hall.** Very impressive with a huge clock tower.
- **Clock Tower Museum.** Exhibitions on the gifted black composer Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912) who lived most of his life in Croydon. His works include *The Song of Hiawatha*, a great favourite (before World War II) at the Royal Albert Hall conducted by Sir Malcolm Sargent.
- **Woodside Green.** Visit for a *villagery* experience and go to the Joiner's Arms or Beehive pubs for a pleasant drink or meal. **W**
- **Croydon Airport.** London's former main airport, now disused and is now a tourist attraction. **W**



Croydon Airport, with the de Havilland DH 114 Heron alongside

- **Museum of Croydon.** A museum highlighting Croydon in the past and present includes the Riesco Gallery **W**
- **Shirley Windmill.** Restored and the only surviving windmill in Shirley. **W**
- **Addington Palace.** 18th century mansion in Addington. **W**
- **Croydon Clocktower.** Arts venue, opened by Queen Elizabeth II. **W**
- **Nestlé Tower.** The famous UK headquarters of Nestlé, one of the tallest towers in England. **W**
- **Fairfield Halls.** Arts centre, which opened in 1962, frequently used for BBC recordings. **W**
- **Croydon Palace.** Summer residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury for over 500 years. **W**
- **Croydon Cemetery.** Most famous for the grave-stone of Derek Bentley, wrongly hanged in 1953. **W**
- **Mitcham Common.** Partly in the borough, shared with Sutton and Merton, this massive green space is good for quiet walks when the weather is nice and sledding when there's snow on the ground. **W**

27.4.4 Kingston

- **The Coronation Stone.** Whilst not full of sights, an item of some interest is the coronation stone, on which seven English kings from Edward the Elder to Aethelred the Unready were crowned. The stone is located outside the Guildhall, and is close to the market. **W**

- **The Thames.** Kingston borough has recently put a lot of effort into redeveloping the riverfront, and it is an extremely pleasant way to spend a summer day. It can get very busy, and to avoid the crowds you can cross over Kingston bridge and walk along the quieter Richmond side.
- **Out of Order.** For a good photo opportunity seek out *the phone boxes*, a sculpture by artist David Mach in Old London Road featuring a number of disused red telephone box leaning against each other like dominoes.

27.4.5 Sutton



Interior of All Saints Carshalton

- **All Saints Carshalton,** West end of Carshalton High Street, opposite Carshalton Ponds, ☎ +44 20 8647-2366, e-mail: jct@thewlis.org.uk. Historic Anglican church with a very ancient history. The church's website states that the church's tower in all likelihood dates from before the Norman conquest, and the first nave was probably built around 1150, though most of the present-day church was built in the 19th and early 20th centuries. (updated Jan 2016)

27.5 Do

27.5.1 Bexley

- **Green Chain Walk,** begins at the gardens by the **Thames Barrier** and is a leafy pedestrian and cycle path that continues deeper into the south-eastern suburbs. Can also check the pretty villages of Kent dotted around just outside London.
- Watch a match at Welling United or Charlton Athletic.

27.5.2 Bromley

- **Churchill Theatre.** Offers a range of theatrical performances, including touring productions, performances by (very good) local amateur groups, and pantomime during the Christmas and New Year period (usually starring somebody who used to be in Neighbours). **Bromley Little Theatre** is close to the North Station. Bromley also has a medium-sized Odeon cinema.
- **Quaser**, a laser-tag arena along Bromley Road in Downham, which is good fun for the kids or a rainy afternoon..
- There is a large swimming pool in the **Pavilion Leisure Centre**, which has flume shoots and a wave-machine.

27.5.3 Croydon

- **Fairfield Halls**, Park Lane, Croydon, CR9 1DG, ☎ +44 20 8688-9291 (Box Office). Theatre / Arts centre.
- **BRIT School.** Performing Arts and Technology school owned by the BRIT Trust (known for the BRIT Awards).
- **Croydon Grants.** Entertainment Venue. Includes a large 11-screen Vue Cinema, The Milan Bar (a Wetherspoons chain pub), Reflex 80's Bar and Disco, Nandos and Tiger Tiger restaurant and night-club.
- **Outdoor Spaces.** The London Borough of Croydon has 120 parks & open spaces which you can visit freely.

Sport

- **1 Crystal Palace Football Club**, Selhurst Park Stadium, Whitehorse Lane, SE25 6PU, ☎ +44 8712 000071 (Ticket office). Crystal Palace F.C are a professional football league club. The club currently competes in the second tier of English Football, The Championship. The team plays its home matches at Selhurst Park, capacity 26,309 (all seated), where it has been based since 1924. **W**
- Another popular south London side, with more of a family-feel is **Charlton Athletic** who play at The Valley, also 26,000 all seated capacity.
- **Surrey County Cricket Club**, Whitgift School, Haling Park, South Croydon, CR2 6YT. Surrey County C.C is one of the 18 professional county

clubs which make up the English domestic cricket structure. They play four home games away from the Oval (Kennington, Lambeth/South London) each season. Two of these games are played at the Whitgift School, the other two games are played in Guildford. See their website for fixture list.

- **Croydon Football Club**, Croydon Arena, Albert Road, South Norwood, SE25 4QL, ☎ +44 20 8654-8555. Croydon F.C are a semi-professional "non-league" football club founded in 1953, as Croydon Amateurs. They currently compete in the Kent League Premier Division. Croydon Sports Arena is 2 minutes walk away from the Arena tram stop. They are somewhat overshadowed by **Croydon Athletic** though. There is several other 'semi-pro' sides playing various divisions, in the southern suburbs of which they are named after, such as **Welling United**, **Bromley F.C.**, **Sutton United** and **Cray Wanderers** - the oldest association football club still in existence in London. Tickets are typically between £3-10, which is far cheaper than watching Crystal Palace or a Premiership side, and arguably a more authentic experience, as you'll be sharing a seat (or more likely standing) pitchside, next to passionate fans, who help run or own shares in the club.
- **Croydon Pirates** is one of the largest baseball clubs, actually located at Roundshaw, just in the Borough of Sutton. They boast two diamonds and often host the London Baseball Tournament in August. They have a team in the highest division of baseball in the UK, which is still amateur. . Similarly, there is **Richmond Flames**, which sport several sides in different leagues and play further afield in south-west London.

Most of London's sporting venues are within easy reach of Croydon, via public transport.

- **1 Wimbledon - Lawn Tennis Championships**, The All England Lawn Tennis Club, Church Road, Wimbledon, SW19 5AE (*ake tram from Croydon to Wimbledon, then either use special bus service or short walk using directions provided on website. Typical journey time should be no more than 30-40 minutes*), ☎ +44 20 8944-1066. It is one of the four Grand Slam tennis tournaments, held each year over a two week period in late June & early July. **T. W**

27.5.4 Kingston

- **Bike along the riverside.** Follow the Thames path to Richmond upon Thames, Kew (home of the botanical gardens) and beyond into Barnes and Putney. In the opposite direction you will find Hampton

Court, which has open air picnic concerts during the summer months.

- **Chessington World of Adventures**, Leatherhead Road, Chessington, Surrey, KT9 2NE (*From the South, take M25 junction 9. From the North, take M25 junction 10*), ☎ +44 870 999 0045. 10-5 (winter), 10-8 (summer). Theme park, zoo and Sea-Life centre. £23 over-12, £16 under-12, discounts for families and groups.
- **Football**. Football enthusiasts can catch two clubs that play at Kingsmeadow, also known as The Cherry Red Records Fans' Stadium due to a commercial sponsorship deal.
 - **AFC Wimbledon**, ☎ +44 20 8547-3528, +44 20 8546-9582 (tickets). Founded in 2002 by former fans of Wimbledon F.C. when that club received approval to move from London to **Milton Keynes**, where the club is now known as Milton Keynes Dons. After a series of promotions in the following years, AFC Wimbledon are now in Football League Two, the fourth tier of England's professional club system.
 - **Kingstonian F.C.**. Formed in 1885, currently play in the Ryman Premier Division, three promotions away from AFC Wimbledon.

It is possible to also still see speedway and dog-racing at Wimbledon stadium, which is in the Borough of Merton.

27.6 Buy

27.6.1 Bromley

Each of the towns and villages in the borough has its own distinct high street but Bromley High St remains the main shopping centre and runs the length of the town. The northern section is mainly comprised of a cinema, specialist shops and restaurants. As the high street gets to the Market Square, there are a number of pubs. The central section of the High Street, between Market Square and Elmfield Rd, is pedestrianised.

- **Bromley Charter Market** (*In a car park behind Bromley North Station*). Th.
- **Farmer's market**. At weekends.
- **Glades shopping mall** (*Runs parallel to the east side of the High Street*). The bulk of the better-known stores are in this area.

- **The Mall** (*The southern section of the High Street, which runs down to Bromley South Station*). Does not get many shoppers.
- **Time Trek** Cute little comic-book shop near Bromley South station. Has imported manga and action-models too. **TK Maxx** is a large department store for great-valued clothes nearby.

27.6.2 Croydon

Croydon is one of the top 20 retail destinations in the **United Kingdom**, it has two large and a smaller shopping centers. All the major chain stores can be found in Croydon, along with most department stores.

- **Centrale Shopping Centre**, North End (*Close to West Croydon station*). M-W, F Sa 9:30AM-7PM, Th 9:30AM-9:00PM, Su 11AM-5PM. Shopping centre opened in 2004, situated on 4 floors. Shops include House of Fraser, Debenhams, Next, Zara, H&M, French Connection and Aldo. The Food Gallery is on the top floor of centre and includes a wide variety of restaurants.
- **North End**. The shopping road in Croydon
- **Purley Way** (*To the south west of Central Croydon, but still in the borough*). A retail-heavy road including large stores such as one of the four IKEA's in London, a B&Q warehouse, TK Maxx, Vue, Megabowl, Mothercare, Argos Extra, Sainsbury's and more. Retail parks include Valley Park, Purley Way Retail Park and Croydon Collonades, Waddon Goods Park.
- **Supermarkets**. Include, in Croydon, Sainsbury's (Whitgift Centre), Tesco's (on Brighton Road 5 mins walk from town cntr), Lidl (West Croydon), Marks & Spencer (Whitgift Centre), Waitrose (East Croydon), Tesco's (Purley), John Lewis (Purley Way)
- **Surrey Street Market**. Market which has a Royal Charter dating back to 1276 linking it to the Archbishop of Canterbury.
- **Whitgift Shopping Centre**, North End (*Close to West Croydon bus station*). M-W, F Sa 9AM-7PM, Th 9AM-9PM, Su 11AM-5PM, Bank holidays 10AM-6PM. Main shopping centre, situated on 3 floors and used to be biggest shopping centre in Europe. Shops include Marks & Spencer, Boots, WHSmith, Sainsbury's Central, Mothercare and Books Etc. Various restaurants and cafes throughout the centre.

27.6.3 Kingston

Kingston has the most extensive range of shops in the southeast of England outside central London, and is very popular, especially at weekends. Virtually all major chains have branches, as well as several independent shops and boutiques.

- **Bentall centre**, Clarence St. Biggest shopping mall. Four-storey mall, which is anchored by a multi-level department store, Bentsalls, which sells high-end fashion, home ware and specialty food products. John Lewis is the other main department store in town and is noted for quality. It has a branch of Waitrose supermarket in the basement.
- **Fife Road** (*Between the Bentall Centre and the railway station*). Several clothing boutiques.
- **Kingston Marketplace**. The marketplace was historically at the heart of Kingston's prosperity, benefiting from a Royal Charter forbidding any other markets within seven miles. Today it mostly sells fruit and vegetables, although there are some other stalls. There are also occasional visiting markets from France and Germany that sell regional produce and takeaway food and drink.

27.7 Eat

27.7.1 Bexley

- **Real China** along Bexleyheath High St. One of the best buffets in all of South London. The sumptuous interior and atmosphere will have you believe you really are in China!

27.7.2 Bromley

- **Cinnamon Culture**, 46 Plaistow Ln, Sundridge Park, ☎ +44 20 8289-0322. Stylish Indian restaurant not far from the town centre.
- **Abbaye Belgian Restaurant** (242 The Glades Shopping Centre) and **Belgo's** offer 'Belgian' mussels and draught trappist beer.
- **Pan-Chicago** American deep-pan Pizza.
- There is a large choice of typical restaurants you would see on most High Streets, such as **Zizzi** or **Pizza Express**, with some good curryhouses spread around like **Tinga** next to the Odeon Cinema. Opposite is **Taste Buffet**, which has standard Chinese dishes, but the friendly service lends a personal touch to your dining. £6.40 Lunchtimes.

27.7.3 Croydon

Visitors are often surprised by the variety, quality and affordability of Croydon's restaurants. Whilst the pedestrianised centre is overflowing with chains, the High St and South End Rd (south of the flyover) has an excellent selection of independent places, which is (sadly) becoming a victim of its own success, and itself is beginning to be taken over by the chains.

Budget

- **Cafe Giardino**, Centrale Centre and Whitgift Centre. Italian.
- **Cafe Santa Fe**, 201 High St, ☎ +44 20 8688-6717.
- **Chicken Cottage**, 263 London Road, ☎ +44 20 8689-1666. Fast-food chicken and ribs.
- **Fatty Arbuckles**, Valley Park, Purley Way, ☎ +44 20 8680-4717. American Diner.
- **Noodle Time**, 56-58 George Street, ☎ +44 20 8681-6598. Noodle Bar.
- **Yo! Sushi**, 21 North End, ☎ +44 20 8760-0479. Sushi bar.

Mid-range

- **Addington Village Inn**, 36 Addington Village Rd, ☎ +44 1689 842057. Various.
- **Aphrodite Greek Taverna**, 19 Westow Street, ☎ +44 20 8653-9895. Greek.
- **Beefeater**, 419 Streatham High Rd, Norbury, ☎ +44 20 8764-1671. English family pub chain.
- **Chat House Tandoori**, 14-16 Brighton Rd, ☎ +44 20 8680-5719.
- **Chiquitos Restaurant & Bar**, Unit 3 Valley Park, ☎ +44 20 8686-8341. Mexican.
- **Little Bay Croydon**, 32 Selsdon Road, South Croydon, CR2 6PB, ☎ +44 20 8649-9544, e-mail: croydon@littlebay.co.uk. M-Sa noon-midnight, Su noon-11PM. Three-course meal £11.00-16.00. There are live opera performances on Monday and Wednesday evenings, and live folk music on Saturdays. There are interesting murals on the toilet walls (at least in the men's) which might not be suitable for children! f.

- **Nandos**, 26 High St, ☎ +44 20 8681-3505. Peri Peri Chicken.
- **Nandos**, Hesterman Way, ☎ +44 20 8688-9545. Peri Peri Chicken.
- **Ocean Fish Restaurant**, 56 Lower Addiscombe Road, ☎ +44 20 8406-3634. Seafood.
- **Old Orleans**, City Limits Colonades Leisure Park, ☎ +44 20 8225-1900. American.
- **The Spreadingeagle**, 39-41 Katharine Street, ☎ +44 20 8781-1134, e-mail: spreadingeagle@fullers.co.uk. Food served M-F noon-3PM, 5PM-9PM, Sa noon-9PM, Su noon-6PM. A Fullers' "Ale & Pie" house serving up fresh, homemade pies and other pub classics, along with a great selection of cask conditioned ales.
- **Tiger Tiger**, 16 High Street, ☎ +44 20 8662-4949. English.



A French restaurant in Sutton High Street

Splurge

- **Auberge**, Units 2153-2156, Whitgift Centre, ☎ +44 20 8680-8337. French.
- **La Brasa**, 108a High St, ☎ +44 20 8760-9610. Argentinian. Winner of numerous 'Best local restaurant 200x' awards and is a real gem - small and unpretentious and serving flavoursome steaks, chicken and other delights. They buy good quality meat which actually has some taste, and it shows.
- **Croydon Steak House**, 31 South End, ☎ +44 20 8688-8422.
- **Frankie & Benny's**, Valley Leisure Park, ☎ +44 20 8760-5021. Authentic Italian and American.
- **Paradise Island**, 67 South End, ☎ +44 20 8688-9848. Seafood.

27.7.4 Kingston

The area of Kingston of New Malden has a sizeable Korean population and there are a large number of restaurants along the High St. Korean barbecue, such as *galbi* or *samgyeopsal* is available in numerous places. Another option is *bibimbap*, a mixture of various vegetables, rice and chilli paste.

27.7.5 Sutton

Sutton town centre's range of restaurants has expanded greatly in the last ten to fifteen years, and there are now culinary offerings of French, Spanish, British, Mexican, Malaysian, Thai, Japanese, Pakistani, Portuguese and Turkish cuisine, as well as the more longstanding presence of Italian, Indian and Chinese eateries. You can't miss them, as they are mainly concentrated in the area to either side of the mainline station. Cream of the crop for fine dining is undoubtedly **Brasserie Vacherin**, listed in both the Good Food Guide and the Michelin Guide.

- **Brasserie Vacherin**, 12 High Street, Sutton, SM1 1HN (turn right out of Sutton railway station; it's just 50 yards from there.), ☎ +44 20 8722-0180. French. This is one of four restaurants in London run by renowned chef Malcolm John. If you want a fine dining experience, this is the place to head for. For starters maybe choose crab ravioli or Atlantic prawns and for main course grilled lemon sole - these are exceptional. Likewise the desserts of crepe suzette and the cheese platter. But it's all good from the meat to the fish to the vegetables, as they know what they're doing here.
- **Uno Tapas**, 19-21 High St, Sutton, Greater London SM1 1DJ (turn right out of Sutton railway station; walk about 100 yards down Sutton High Street, crossing Sutton Court Road. The restaurant is on your left.), ☎ +44 20 8661-9477. Spanish. A popular

meeting spot in the town centre, this place is always buzzy on account of the tasty tapas on offer here. It's very large, so you should (just about) get a table without booking.

27.8 Drink

27.8.1 Bromley

Borough-wide, Bromley's town centre drinking establishments are generally the sort of generic chain fayre you would find anywhere. However, away from the centres, there are good pubs, many in the traditional vein.

- **The Anglesey Arms**, 90 Palace Rd, Sundridge Park. Traditional feel, friendly staff and good ale, albeit a bit on the pricey side. Shepherd Naeme pub.
- **The Prince Frederick**, 31 Nichol Ln, Sundridge Park. Allegedly the only pub named after George II's son, *Poor Fred*, Prince of Wales. It has managed to retain its traditional feel by maintaining separate saloon and lounge bars. A good choice of ales and lagers but no food. Greene King pub.
- **The Red Lion**, 10 North Rd, Sundridge Park. Some christen this *the best pub in Bromley*. A friendly atmosphere, good quality ales and decent, affordable pub food make this an excellent choice. Greene King pub.
- **Sundridge Park**. A small neighbourhood just to the north of Bromley, has retained some well-liked, traditional pubs.

27.8.2 Croydon

- **Bar Red Square**, 63-67 High St, ☎ +44 20 8688-1020. Wine Bar.
- **Black Sheep Bar**, 68 High St, ☎ +44 20 8680-2277. Alternative and very friendly rock bar which provides a nice change from the rest of the town centre's establishments. Very cheap drinks until 10pm most days. It is a members bar but arrive with any form of ID and you will be signed up for free and allowed in.
- **Green Dragon**, 58-60 High St, ☎ +44 20 8667-0684. Pub with an eclectic but very good natured crowd. Live bands and DJs some nights of the week.
- **The Spadeagle**, 39-41 Katharine Street, ☎ +44 20 8781-1134. Good place to get a pint with a tasty pie.

27.8.3 Kingston

There are a large variety of pubs and bars from cheaper chain pubs such as Wetherspoons to the trendy riverside bars. The main club is **Oceana** which is always very popular and attracts a great number of people from surrounding areas. Oceana's popularity of late however has taken a nosedive due to a widely publicised murder, their close neighbours 'The Hippodrome' is now considered the place to be.

27.9 Sleep

27.9.1 Bromley

- **Avis Hotel**, 33 Rodway Road, Bromley, BR1 3JP. Mid-range.
- **Bromley Court Hotel** on Bromley Hill, is an elegant old-time place, that has been taken over now by Best Western.
- **Bickley Manor Hotel**, Thornet Wood Rd, Bromley, Kent BR1 2LW
- **Sundridge Park Manor Hotel**

27.9.2 Croydon

There is a wide range of accommodation for visitors to the London Borough of Croydon. The Tourist Information Centre promotes establishments which are members of the National Quality Assurance Standards Scheme. Each establishment is inspected annually by trained assessors from the AA, RAC or English Tourism Council (ETC). Members of the Quality Assurance Scheme are graded according to quality, facilities and level of service. The grading is denoted by stars (H) or diamonds ("). Any establishment which has no grading is not part of the Scheme, therefore quality cannot be assured. The AA, RAC and English Tourism Council (ETC) have joint grading schemes for hotels, guest accommodation and self-catering. Hotels are graded from one to five stars. These indicate the quality, facilities and level of service. The more stars the higher the quality, level of service and range of facilities offered. Guest accommodation includes guest houses, bed & breakfasts and some hotels. They are graded from one to five diamonds. All establishments must meet minimum standards for facilities and services. More diamonds are awarded for higher standards of quality and customer care.

- **Aerodrome Hotel**, Purley Way (Next to Croydon Airport), ☎ +44 20 8680-1999. Luxury hotel, recently re-fitted to become a luxury hotel.

- **Express by Holiday Inn**, 1 Priddys Yard (*Central Croydon*), ☎ +44 20 8253-1200. Built in 2003, new and modern.
- **Jury's Inn**, Wellesley Rd (*Central Croydon*), ☎ +44 20 8448-6000. Modern hotel.
- **Premier Inn**, The Colonnades Leisure Park (*West Croydon*), ☎ +44 870 990 6554. Hotel which offer warm and cosy rooms. From £40.
- **Premier Inn**, 104 Coombe Rd (*South Croydon*), ☎ +44 8701 977 069. Hotel which offer warm and cosy rooms. From £40.
- **1 Selsdon Park Hotel & Golf Club**, 126 Addington Road, ☎ +44 20 8657-8811, fax: +44 20 8651-6171, e-mail: selsdon.reservations@principal-hayley.com. Check-in: 3PM, check-out: 11AM.
- **Travelodge**, Norfolk House, Wellesley Rd (*Central Croydon, next to Jury's Inn*), ☎ +44 871 984 6318. Cheap and modest. From £40.

27.10 Stay safe

27.10.1 Croydon

- The Purley Way is a difficult place to get about by foot: some areas can be reached by tram but the park is designed for cars.
- Avoid flashing valuable possessions in the town centre to avoid attracting unwanted attention.
- Croydon town centre becomes very popular on Thursdays with TigerTiger open to under 21's, and its weekends with a multitude of popular bars in the town centre. Always prebook your taxi for safety on a night out because the local London Black cabs are very expensive. That said, the night bus network in Croydon is very good, and the vast majority of journeys will be completed without incident: as ever, common sense applies.
- It is advised to be cautious in this area as it can include a rough element.

27.11 Go next

Chapter 28

London/South Bank



Location of the South Bank area in London

The **South Bank** is on a sharp 90° bend of the Thames in central **London** and one the city's cultural centres. It is a small area but it contains many artistic and creative sites, as well as an eclectic range of other attractions, boutique shopping and trendy food and drink places. The size of the district, as well as the pedestrianised area along the bank of the River Thames called "The Queen's Walk" (part of the Thames Path and the Jubilee Walkway) – casually, the **London South Bank Walk** – make it ideal for exploring by simply strolling around.

28.1 Understand

The **South Bank** has long been associated with the arts. In the Middle Ages, its position just south of the **City of London**, but outside the reach of its laws, made it an entertainment hub for the citizens, featuring everything from theatres to prostitution (both illegal in the medieval City). This waned for a time as customs changed but waxed again in modern times. In 1951 the "Festival of Britain" was held on this site, intended to give the nation a sense of recovery after the war, and the area was re-developed to accommodate it. Much of the Southbank Centre dates from this event, as can be inferred from its brutalist concrete architecture.

Further around the curve of the Thames, almost directly



View of the London Eye at night

opposite the City, is the area known as **Bankside**. This straightforward name is derived from the equally uncomplicated Middle English *Banke syde*. The same factors that shaped the South Bank were at work here and many mediaeval theatres stood here, including William Shakespeare's **Globe** (now marked by a replica working theatre). The rowdier neighbourhood also helped justify the Clink, one of the oldest prisons in England. Close by is **Borough Market**, which has been here in some form since at least the thirteenth century (and may even be Anglo-Saxon). Due to its position near the principal docks of the city, it became one of London's most important food markets in the nineteenth century and was known as "London's Larder". It retains a similar position now, although rather more fashionable and popular with "foodies" than would have been the case for its previous incarnations.

Shad Thames (also known by the names **Butler's Wharf** and **London Bridge City**) is the part of this district furthest to the east. In juxtaposition to the rest of the area, the history of this part is industrial. For example, it held the largest warehouse complex in Victorian London. Now, however, its proximity to The City, just across Tower Bridge, makes its population are largely city workers and its property prices are appropriately high. For the traveller, the restaurants and similar destination here are also frequented by wealthy city workers and consequently somewhat expensive and upmarket. One of the area's more iconic industrial buildings, Bankside Power

Station, was refurbished during the 1990s and reopened in the new millennium as the **Tate Modern**, which in just sixteen short years has arguably come to outshine its older sister gallery further upstream, the Tate Britain.

The whole district is within easy walking distance of **Covent Garden**, **Soho**, **Westminster** and the City of London. It is the perfect location for a relaxing stroll and a spot of people watching. You can take in beautiful views across to the Houses of Parliament and St Paul's, especially in the early morning and at dusk, and the packed programme of theatre, exhibitions, music, film and free events means there are plenty of inspiring things to see and do for all ages.

28.2 Get in

?"UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU"?"

Map of London/South Bank (Edit GPX)?"UNIQ--indicator-00000001-QINU"?"

28.2.1 By tube

The district is serviced by the following tube stations:

- **Borough** (Northern line). Convenient for the eastern part of the district and Borough Market especially.
- **Lambeth North** (Bakerloo line). On the south west edge of the district, good access to Lambeth Palace and the Thames Path along the river.
- **London Bridge** (Jubilee and Northern lines). Most convenient for the eastern end of the **London South Bank Walk**.
- **Southwark** (Jubilee line). Near the heart of the district.
- **Waterloo** (Jubilee, Northern, Bakerloo lines). In the heart of South Bank, perfect to access Riverside Walk.

On the north bank, with easy access to this district, are:

- **Blackfriars** (Circle and District lines). Walk over Blackfriars Bridge to the eastern edge of Bankside.
- **Embankment** (Bakerloo, Circle, District and Northern lines). Walk over the pedestrianised and recently renovated Hungerford Bridge to the Royal Festival Hall area. Beautiful views.
- **Monument** (Circle and District lines). Walk over London Bridge to Bankside and Borough Market.

- **Tower Hill** (Circle and District lines). Walk over Tower Bridge to Shad Thames.
- **Westminster** (Jubilee, Circle and District lines). Walk over Westminster Bridge to arrive at London Eye and County Hall.

28.2.2 By rail

South Bank

- **London Waterloo**
- **London Waterloo East**
- **Charing Cross**. North of the river, head south and cross at Hungerford Bridge.

Bankside

- **London Bridge**

28.2.3 By bus

The **Riverside Bus service (RV1)** is a great way to get around. It links over thirty of London's attractions on its route from the South Bank to Bankside, London Bridge, Tower Gateway and Covent Garden.

28.2.4 By boat

The district is serviced by the following piers:

- **Bankside** (RB1 and RB2 river bus routes; Tate–Tate and Westminster–St. Katherine's tours)
- **Festival** (Westminster–St. Katherine's tour)
- **London Bridge City** (RB1 and RB3 river bus routes)
- **London Eye** (RB1 river bus route; Westminster–Greenwich and London Eye tours)

The Tate Boat runs every 40 minutes between Tate Modern and **Tate Britain** (Millbank Pier), also stopping at the London Eye. It takes 20 minutes.

28.2.5 By foot

This district borders on several others and is easily accessible by walking, or similar, from these. (The southern districts, **Lambeth** and **London/Southwark-Lewisham**, are larger and walking from the further parts of these is not practical; otherwise, any point in the other neighbouring districts is within reach of South Bank.) The pedestrian

Hungerford Bridge links Embankment to the South Bank Centre and all road bridges have pavements for pedestrians too. Additionally, the whole area can be reasonably navigated on foot or by wheelchair.

28.2.6 By bicycle

As above, the district borders several others and cycling from most parts of these districts to South Bank is reasonably early.

For travellers without personal bicycles, there is a London-wide **Barclays Cycle Hire** scheme run by Transport for London. These bikes can be rented for short or long periods using a credit or debit card at any docking station (if staying in London for a long term, special keys can be bought from Transport for London for use instead of a card, which can be cheaper over time).

28.3 See

28.3.1 Landmarks

South Bank

From west to east:

- **1 Garden Museum**, Lambeth Palace Rd, SE1 7LB (*Lambeth North* or *Westminster*), ☎ +44 20 7401-8865, fax: +44 20 7401-8869, e-mail: info@gardenmuseum.org.uk. Su–F 10:30–17:00; Sa 10:30–16:00. The first museum in the world dedicated to the history of gardening, based in the deconsecrated Church of St Mary-at-Lambeth. The exhibits cover everything from royal gardens to allotments. £5–7.50 (£4–6.50 seniors, £3.00 concessions, children free).
- **1 Lambeth Palace**, Lambeth Palace, SE1 7JU (*Lambeth North* or *Westminster*). Only open to pre-booked guided tours. The official London residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury since the thirteenth century and now a Grade I listed building. Tours must be booked in advance and tickets can be purchased via **Ticketmaster**. tours £10 per person + £2.50 booking fee (children free). **W**
- **1 Archbishop's Park** (*Lambeth North* or *Westminster*). 07:30–15 minutes before sunset. This park used to be the grounds of Lambeth Palace but has been a public park since 1901. In addition to the green space it provides, it contains a range of sports facilities (booking required, except for the cricket nets) and a playground.
- **1 The South Bank Lion** (*The Red Lion*), Westminster Bridge, south east side (*tube: Westminster*).
- This statue was once the mascot of the Red Lion Brewery and stood on its roof until the brewery was demolished to make way for the Royal Festival Hall. It was moved to Waterloo and then to its present position on the bridge. Keen students of biology may notice that the statue is missing certain male body parts. It was originally anatomically correct but was deemed too lewd and scandalous when placed closer to pedestrians' eye-level and was castrated so as not to cause offence. **W**
- **1 County Hall**, Belvedere Rd (*tube: Westminster* or *Waterloo*), ☎ +44 871 663 2501. The former seat of regional London government, now home to attractions such as the Dali Universe, the London Aquarium, the London Dungeon, Namco Funscape.
- **1 Sea Life London Aquarium**, County Hall, Belvedere Rd (*tube: Westminster* or *Waterloo*), ☎ +44 20 7967-8000, e-mail: info@londonaquarium.co.uk. 10:00–19:00 daily. One of the largest aquariums in Europe, it boasts a collection of 350 species of fish, from sharks to stingrays. From £19.44 (25% off after 15:00). **W**
- **1 London Dungeon**, County Hall, Westminster Bridge Rd, SE1 7PB (*tube: Westminster* or *Waterloo*), ☎ +44 871 423 2240. M–W 10:00–17:00; Th 11:00–17:00; F 10:00–17:00; Sa–Su 10:00–18:00 (open until 18:00 during school holidays). Brings to life the gorier elements of London's past, with faithful recreations of disaster, disease, and torture. Younger children may be scared. £25.20 (£19.80 child, £17.50 disabled), discounts for online booking.. **W**
- **1 London Eye**, Westminster Bridge Rd (*tube: Westminster* or *Waterloo*), ☎ +44 870 990 8883, fax: +44 870 990 8884, e-mail: customer.services@balondoneye.com. Jun–Sep 10:00–21:00 daily, Oct–May 10:00–20:00 daily (except 25 Dec and 3–8 Jan). An enormous, 135 metre-high observation wheel with 32 exterior glass-walled capsules. It offers incomparable views over central London and up to 40 km (25 mi) away on a good day. Tickets are sold for specific times, so if visitors wish to go on the London Eye at a specific time, they are strongly advised to book in advance, particularly in the summer. On a busy day, you can easily spend 1–3 hr queuing just to buy a ticket. However, you can also purchase tickets in advance online. Then you can collect your tickets at the London Eye in a separate queue, which takes a few minutes or less. Adult £24.95, child £19.95, free entrance under 3 years, 15% discount purchased online. **W**
- **1 Southbank Centre**, Belvedere Rd (*tube: Embankment* or *Waterloo*), ☎ +44 871 663 2501. Large

1960s development on the South Bank. Built largely of concrete, views on its architectural merits vary considerably. Presents a varied programme of music, literature, dance, performances and exhibitions on contemporary art and culture at its venues the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall and The Hayward. A host of new eateries and shops have now opened along the riverside and terrace. The Royal Festival Hall hosts almost daily classical music concerts throughout the year, tickets often available on the day. The Royal Festival Hall has recently been through a long redevelopment though still holds its classic 1960s design. Free events are held daily, ranging from free music to festivals, interactive art installations to the popular slow food market. **W**

- **1 Queen Elizabeth Hall (QEH)** (*tube: Embankment or Waterloo*). Music venue hosting daily performances. **W**
- **1 Undercroft**, Queen's Walk (*tube: Embankment or Waterloo, near the South side of Waterloo Bridge*). London's most famous and popular skateboarding area, situated partly underneath Queen Elizabeth Hall along Queen's Walk and the Thames. Also popular with graffiti artists, BMXers and so forth. Free.
- **1 BFI Southbank**, Belvedere Rd (*tube: Embankment or Waterloo*). Tucked under Waterloo Bridge, BFI Southbank, formerly known as the National Film Theatre, pitches itself as the home of film and has three screens showing classic (including silent), foreign language and less mainstream films. Recently redeveloped, it now has a new entrance on Theatre Alley, a shop dedicated to film, an interactive exhibition space and an excellent bar/restaurant at the back. Visitors can also access the Mediatheque - wind your way through the BFI's extensive film and TV archive for free. Cool bar and restaurant. Tickets are generally available on the spur of the moment. **W**
- **1 National Theatre**, Belvedere Rd (*tube: Embankment or Waterloo*), ☎ +44 20 7452-3000 (M-Sa 10AM-10PM), +44 20 7452-3400, fax: +44 20 7452-3030, e-mail: info@nationaltheatre.org.uk. Three large auditoriums, the Olivier, the Lyttelton and the Cottesloe. The Olivier theatre is the largest with an open stage and a fan shaped auditorium around it. This ensures that all seats provide a good view. Most of the more 'popular' productions are put on here as the space provided is much larger than most theatres. The Lyttelton theatre is more traditional with a proscenium arc with good views from most seats. The Cottesloe is a small studio theatre, seating around 400. Some tickets will be avail-

able on the day, either day seats (arrive before 09:30 and queue) or standby (arrive before 6PM and queue), or you can buy online. Popular shows, especially those around Christmas in the Olivier sell out months in advance. Tickets to The National Theatre are generally better value than most other theatres. There is also the '£10 Travelex' season in the summer that provides a large number (over 100,000 seats a year) at £10. Booking in advance is required for these. There is also an exhibition space in the Lyttelton theatre foyer that frequently holds popular photographic exhibitions. Free jazz is often played in the evening in the ground floor foyer. During summer there is a free daily outdoor festival of performance, music, comedy and cabaret known as Watch This Space. Deckchairs (and artificial grass) are provided to watch on. Free exhibitions. Backstage tours £5. (<http://www.nationaltheatrelondon.com/tickets/>) **W**

- **1 BFI IMAX Cinema**, 1 Charlie Chaplin Walk (*tube: Waterloo*), ☎ +44 870 787 2525. Set back from the riverside is the BFI IMAX, the largest cinema screen in the UK at 26 m wide, 20 m high. Shows family-friendly 3D IMAX films as well as action films which work well on the huge screen. Also hosts special all-nighters such as the Lord of the Rings Trilogy.
- **1 OXO Tower**. Home to designer-marker boutiques, selling everything from hats and homeware to wedding dresses and jewellery. Modern gallery on the ground floor which is free and open every day, various cafes, a florists and hairdressers here to. Upstairs there's the Tamesa Brasserie and Bincho Yakitori (Japanese tapas). Also contains a restaurant and bar on the top floor, giving you a great view over the Thames. You pay for the privilege through the food bill, though you can go up the tower and have access to a separate balcony for free. Interesting views of the surrounding South London area and great views of the Embankment. **W**

Bankside

- **1 City Hall**, The Queen's Walk (*tube: London Bridge*). M-F 08:00-20:00. Greater London Authority offices. The brand new headquarters for London's Mayor and Assembly, a radically-designed glass fronted and rounded building. **W**
- **1 HMS Belfast**, Morgan's Ln (*tube: London Bridge*). Mar-Oct 10:00-17:15 daily, Nov-Feb 10:00-16:15 daily. A historic boat, part of the **Imperial War Museum**. £7.20-10.30, child under 16 free. **W**

- 1 **Clink Prison Museum**, 1 Clink St, SE1 9DG (*tube: London Bridge*). A museum that tries to recreate the conditions of the original prison that used to be on this site from the 12th century until 1780, which was notorious the name of it has since become slang as a generic term for prison. **W**
- 1 **Winchester Palace**, Corner of Clink St and Storey St (*tube: London Bridge*). Ruins of the 12th century palace which was the London residence of the Bishops of Winchester. **W**
- 1 **The Golden Hind** (*tube: London Bridge*). Replica of Francis Drake's ship is located in a small closed dock to the west of Southwark Cathedral.
- 1 **Southwark Cathedral**, London Bridge (*tube: London Bridge*). Off the traditional tourist path, Southwark Cathedral has been the site of worship since the year 852. Literally in the shadow of London Bridge, the Cathedral is a shelter from the noise of the city. Next to the Cathedral is the **Borough Market** open Th-Sa with a wide range of speciality food to buy, a good area for lunch. **W**
- 1 **The Shard** (*The View from the Shard*), 32 London Bridge Street, SE1 9SG (*tube: London Bridge, which the Shard is next to and above.*), ☎ +44 84 4499-7111. 1 April–31 October 10:00–22:00 daily; 1 November–31 March Su–W 10:00–19:00, Th–Sa 10:00–22:00. Go up the tallest building in the European Union to see the farthest panoramic view of London ever to have a (rather hefty) price tag stuck on it. Adult (16+) £29.95 / £24.95 advance, children (4-15) £23.95 / £18.95 advance, students (16+ with valid student ID) £24.95 / £19.95 advance, disabled (one carer goes free) £23.95 / £18.95 advance, infants (0-3) free. Advance bookings available up to the day before. **W** (updated Mar 2015)



View into the main Turbine Hall of the Tate Modern



Tate Modern

28.3.2 Museums and galleries

From west to east:

- 1 **Tate Modern**, Bankside (*tube: Southwark, Blackfriars*), ☎ +44 20 7887-8888, e-mail: visiting.modern@tate.org.uk. Su-Th 10:00-18:00 (last admission 17:15), F Sa 10:00-22:00 (last admission 21:15). An enormous art gallery converted from the former Bankside Power Station, a visit to Tate Modern could easily take half a day. The gallery collects together contemporary and modern art from around the world, arranged thematically. The most stunning aspect of the building, is the enormous Turbine Hall, which plays host to a single piece of work commissioned for the space each year. On 17 June 2016, an extension of the gallery will open in a new ten-storey building behind the existing power station. Permanent collection free but all donations welcome. **W**
- 1 **London Fire Brigade Museum**, 94a Southwark Bridge Rd, SE1 0EG (*tube: London Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 8555-1200, e-mail: museum@london-fire.gov.uk. M–F 10:30 & 14:00. Admission by guided tour only, which must be booked in advance. The museum is housed in part of a Victorian fire station and its collections include fire engines and historical equipment. £5 (£3 concessions). **W**
- 1 **Topolski Century**, Concert Hall Approach, 150-152 Hungerford Arches (*tube: Waterloo, Embankment*), ☎ +44 20 7620-1275. M-Sa 11:00-19:00, Su noon-18:00. Painted between 1975 and 1989,

Topolski Century is a unique, monumental work of a Polish artist Feliks Topolski (1907-1989) that presents a remarkable record of the key events and the iconic figures of the 20th century such as Churchill, Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Picasso and Coco Chanel. Six-hundred feet long and twenty feet high, Topolski Century is the artist's eye witness testimony to the era that shaped our lives. It is global in its scope and is Topolski's legacy to future generations. £2 (£1 concession). **W**

- **1 Hayward Gallery**, Belvedere Rd, ☎ +44 20 7921-0813, fax: +44 20 7401-2664, e-mail: hginfo@hayward.org.uk. Sa-M, Th 10:00-18:00, Tu 10:00-20:00, W 10:00-20:00, F 10:00-21:00 (except 24-27 Dec and 1-2 Jan). The largest public art space in the UK and the exhibitions showcase masters and young British and international artists, usually accompanied by outdoor installations that bring the area to life. The gallery often holds free exhibitions which can be enjoyed by all. Particularly strong on contemporary art exhibitions. Hosts a single temporary exhibition at any time. £7.50, child (12-16) £4, senior (60+) £7, student £6. **W**
- **1 The London Bridge Experience**, 2-4 Tooley St (*tube: London Bridge*), toll-free: +44 800 043 4666. The London Bridge Experience and London Tombs are two scare attractions for one price and have been voted the UK's Best Year Round Scare Attraction for three years running. From £19.50. **W**
- **1 The Old Operating Theatre** (*tube: London Bridge*). 10:30-17:00 daily. Britain's oldest operating theatre is an unusual tourist attraction, located in the roof space of St. Thomas's Church along with the herb store originally used by St. Thomas's Hospital's apothecary. **W**
- **1 Fashion & Textile Museum**, 83 Bermondsey St. Founded by veteran designer Zandra Rhodes. **W**
- **1 Design Museum**, Shad Thames (*tube: Tower Hill, London Bridge*), e-mail: info@designmuseum.org. 10:00-17:45 daily (last admission 17:15) (except 25-26 Dec). A must for anyone with an interest in modern and contemporary design. The permanent exhibition follows the change in British homes from the early 20th century until present day, which is constantly updated to include new design classics. There are temporary exhibits which run for 3-4 months. Recent exhibits have included Saul Bass, Peter Saville and Archigram. The museum also runs *Designer of the Year* which awards a prize to a person or organisation that has produced an impressive piece of design (past winner was Jonathan Ive, who designed the iMac and iPod). There is a small shop that has plenty of art and design books as well as designer goods to take home with you. £7, student or concession £4. **W**

28.4 Do



Shakespeare's Globe Theatre



Shakespeare's Globe Theatre

- **1 Florence Nightingale Museum**, St Thomas' Hospital, Westminster Bridge Rd (*tube: Waterloo, Westminster*). Tells the story of the Lady with the Lamp. Various family events, including art workshops. Located in the grounds of St. Thomas' Hospital. **W**
- **1 Menier Chocolate Factory**, 51/53 Southwark St (*tube: London Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7907-7060 (theatre), +44 20 7407-3222 (gallery), e-mail: office@menierchocolatefactory.com. Restaurant, theatre, gallery and bar. **W**
- **1 Namco Funscape**, County Hall, Westminster Bridge Rd, SE1 7PB (*tube: Waterloo*), ☎ +44 20 7967-1066, e-mail: countyhall@namco.co.uk. M-Su 10:00-midnight. Entertainment centre including an amusement arcade, bowling alleys, ping pong tables, pool tables and bumper cars.

28.4.1 Theatres

- **1 Old Vic Theatre**, The Cut, Waterloo (*tube: Waterloo*). One of the oldest theatres in London which

is now under the artistic direction of Kevin Spacey.
W

- **1 Shakespeare's Globe**, 21 New Globe Walk (*tube: Blackfriars, Southwark*), ☎ +44 20 7401-9919, fax: +44 20 7902-1475, e-mail: info@shakespearesglobe.com. May-Sep 09:00-17:00 daily, Oct-Apr 10:00-17:00 daily. Sam Wanamaker's largely authentic reconstruction of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, built using traditional techniques, stages plays in the Summer months. Around the year, there is an exhibition ending with either a tour of the theatre itself (in winter, and mornings in the summer), or a virtual tour (summer afternoons). Tickets for plays are often available on the day, particularly if you are prepared to stand in the yard. **W**
- **1 Young Vic Theatre**, The Cut, Waterloo (*tube: Waterloo, Southwark*). Fab theatre on The Cut which is home to younger theatre artists, especially directors. Presents plays for audiences of all ages and backgrounds. Lively bar and restaurant too.

28.4.2 Tours

- **Blackfriars Westminster Walking Music Project** (*tube: Southwark*), e-mail: pbaxter@hotmail.co.uk. Users can download an mp3 that soundtracks their walk between Blackfriars Bridge and Westminster Bridge. The tailor made music reflects the changing environment.
- **Frog Tour**, ☎ +44 20 7928-3132. Along the Thames and through the streets of London in an amphibious vehicle. Operated by Capital Frogs Ltd, County Hall, on the south side of Westminster Bridge.

28.4.3 Itineraries

- **London South Bank Walk**. The walk along the South Bank of the Thames is a relaxing walk through central London, away (albeit only a short distance) from the traffic. Pedestrians can walk alongside the river almost the whole way from Tower Bridge to Lambeth Bridge, following the route of the Jubilee Walkway, a route through central London that takes in most of London's key attractions, which was developed for the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977.

28.5 Buy

- **1 Borough Market** (*Off Borough High St*). W-Th 10:00-17:00, Fr 10:00-18:00, Sa 8:00-17:00. One

of London's favourite wholesale working food markets, on Fridays and Saturdays offering a general retail market with specialties sold directly from the producers, organic products, delicatessen, cheese, wines, fish and imported continental fare. Around the market are other excellent food shops, for a total food experience! Pick up some food and enjoy it under Southwark Cathedral. **W**

- **1 Gabriel's Wharf**. An eclectic mix of shops and restaurants, the design shops at Gabriel's Wharf are exclusively run by small businesses who design and manufacture their own products, the majority of work available will have been made by the person selling it to you. If you can't find exactly what you are looking for it is possible to commission many of the designers directly. Shops to look out for include Bicha, Game of Graces and Anne Kyyro Quinn.
- **1 Hay's Galleria** (*tube: London Bridge*). A beautiful converted wharf on the Jubilee Walk which, since 1987, has been home to cafés, shops and traditional barrows. Originally a warehouse and associated wharf (Hay's Wharf) for the port of London, it was redeveloped as a visitor attraction in the 1950s and has lots of boutique shops.
- **1 Southbank Book Market**, Queen's Walk (*under Waterloo Bridge*). M-Su 10:00-19:00. Daily second-hand book sale near the bank of the Thames. A nice place to just browse for books (classic and modern), maps and prints.
- **1 Oxo Tower Wharf**, Barges House St (*tube: Waterloo*). Huge galleria.

28.6 Eat

There is a great selection of cafes, bars and restaurants for all budgets, so make sure you take time to watch the world go by. Have a light lunch at the cool **Concrete day/night bar** in The Hayward, a try crepe in **Gabriel's Wharf**, or treat yourself to cocktails-with-a-view at the upmarket **Skylon** or **Oxo Tower Restaurant**. There's also 'Japanese tapas' at **Bincho** and Japanese favourite **Wagamama**, dim sum at **Ping Pong**, contemporary English at **Canteen**, modern oriental at **Ozu** and **Chino Latino**, and a brasserie-style menu at **Tamesa**.

28.6.1 Budget

- **Joe's Kitchen**, 5-7 Marshals Road, Borough, London SE1 1EP, ☎ +44 20 7939 1490. Taking inspiration from Borough Market, London, Joe's offers great tasting fresh food perfect for breakfast and lunch There are a host of classics to kick start your day, from freshly made pancakes to Joe's Café

Breakfast, and eggs cooked just how you like them. (updated Jun 2016)

- **1 Marie's Cafe**, 90 Lower Marsh, SE1 7AB (*Behind Waterloo station*), ☎ +44 20 7928-1050. M-F 07:00-22:30; Sa 7:00-16:00 / 17:00-22:30. A favourite with locals, don't be put off by the shabby exterior of this greasy spoon/Thai cafe hybrid. The Thai menu is authentic and very tasty and service is quick. Very close to the Old Vic and around 10 minutes walk from the Southbank Centre: a great alternative to Southbank's uninspiring chain restaurants whether you are on a strict budget or not. Mains £4-6, 'bring your own' alcohol policy.
- **1 My Tea Shop**, 23 Duke Street Hill (*Just outside London Bridge station*), ☎ +44 20 7407-1110. A miniscule (there's just four tables) *greasy spoon* café with lots of charm that serves up traditional English breakfast all day. Prices start at £3, and a full English breakfast with sausages, beans, bacon, mushrooms and a fried egg along with toast and a hot beverage won't set you back more than £5.50.
- **1 SC Food Market**, Southbank Centre Square (*behind the Royal Festival Hall*). F noon-20:00; Sa 11:00-20:00; Su noon-18:00. Dozens of market stalls selling fresh food. Each trader at this market is required to produce both ethical and sustainable products.
- **1 Café 171**, 171 Union Street, SE1 0LN (*Inside the Jerwood Space, 3 mins from Southwark station*), ☎ +44 20 7654 0100. M-F 8:30-17:00; Sa 11:00-15:00; Closed Su and Bank Holidays. Menu of the day. Comforting home-made hot meals, soups, sandwiches and cold snacks, as well as cake and desserts. A very pleasant and relaxed environment in a large space including an indoor terrace. £3-£6.25. (updated Jan 2016)

28.6.2 Mid-range

- **1 Cantina Vinopolis**, 1 Bank End, SE1 9BU (*tube: London Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7940-8333, fax: +44 20 7089-9339, e-mail: cantina@vinopolis.co.uk. M-W 18:00-23:30; Th noon-15:00 / 18:00-23:30; F-Sa noon-23:30; Su noon-16:00. This high vaulted brasserie was converted from Victorian railway arches. Offers fresh produce, the dishes are full of flavour and tasty.

28.6.3 Splurge

- **OXO Tower Restaurant Bar & Brasserie**, 8F, OXO Tower Wharf, Barge House St (*tube: Waterloo*), ☎ +44 20 7803-3888, e-mail: oxo.reservations@harveynichols.com. M-Sa

noon-14:30 and 18:30-23:00, Su noon-15:00 and 18:30-22:00. Offers spectacular views and the complete dining experience with mouthwatering dishes and indulgent wines to match.

- **1 The Garrison**, 99-101 Bermondsey St, ☎ +44 20 7089-9355, e-mail: info@thegarrison.co.uk. M-Th 08:00-23:00; F 08:00-midnight; Sa 09:00-midnight; Su 09:00-10:30. Gastro-pub with fine-dining and cinema downstairs. Mains come in between £10-25.

28.7 Drink

28.7.1 Pubs and bars

South Bank

The cultural centre on the western side of the district includes several notable drinking establishments.

- **1 Doggett's Coat and Badge**, 1 Blackfriars Bridge, SE1 9UD (*near Blackfriars Bridge, on the south-west side*), ☎ +44 20 7633-9081. M-W 10:00-23:30; Th-Sa 10:00-00:30; Su 10:00-23:00. A four-floored pub overlooking the Thames near Blackfriars Bridge.
- **1 Founders Arms**, 52 Hopton St, SE1 9JH (*tube: Blackfriars or Southwark; near Blackfriars Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7928-1899, e-mail: foundersarms@youngs.co.uk. M-Th 09:00-23:00; F-Sa 09:00-midnight; Su 09:00-23:00. Riverside Youngs' pub with an excellent view looking straight across the Thames at St. Paul's Cathedral and the rest of The City's iconic skyline.
- **1 The Hole In The Wall**, 5 Mepharm St, SE1 8SQ (*tube: Waterloo*), ☎ +44 20 7928-6196. M-Sa 11:00-23:00; Su noon-22:30. With a homey and comfortable decor, the appeal of the Hole in the Wall lies in its close proximity to the station and the excellent range of beers on the hand. Use to have a rep for being a spooks hangout due to it being close to MI6 at Vauxhall and is subsequently featured in several spy novels. The rattling of trains above the arches can be heard inside.

Southwark

The non-riverside core of the district doesn't have quite as many drinking establishments as the other areas but there are places worth visiting.

- **1 Charles Dickens**, 160 Union St, SE1 0LH (*tube: Southwark*), ☎ +44 20 7401-3744, e-mail: andrewkeeshan@thecharlesdickens.co.uk. M-Sa

noon–23:00; Su noon–18:00. A traditional pub with a rustic atmosphere, despite being deep in the city. Its changing selection of beers come from around the UK.

- **1 Roxy Bar and Screen** (*tube: Borough*), ☎ +44 20 7407-4057, e-mail: bookings@roxybarandscreen.co.uk. M 11:00–midnight; Tu–Th 11:00–01:00; F 11:00–01:30; Sa 11:00–02:30; Su 11:00–midnight. Bar-cinema hybrid. Shows films every night except Friday and Saturday, when it is a normal bar. The back room is fitted with a high-definition projector and screens a range of films, acting as second-run cinema as well as a bar. Listings can include major sports events as well as mainstream and niche movies. Tickets from £3.
- **1 Windmill Tavern**, 86 The Cut, SE1 8LW (*tube: Southwark or Waterloo*), ☎ +44 20 7207-3984, fax: +44 20 7928-5300, e-mail: johnc@windmilltaverns.com. M–W 11:00–23:00; Th–Sa 11:00–midnight; Su 11:00–22:30. Friendly bar staff pouring chilled beers from a wide selection. Great pub food.

Bankside

The area around Borough Market, directly opposite The City, attracts as many pubs as it does restaurants.

- **1 Barrowboy & Banker**, 6–8 Borough High St, SE1 9QQ (*tube: London Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7403-5415, e-mail: barrow@fullers.co.uk. M–Sa 11:00–23:00; Su noon–19:00. This used to be the first branch of NatWest bank in the UK and it maintains a lot of the old bank fittings, from pillars to marble floors.
- **1 Brew Wharf**, 14–16 Stoney St, SE1 9AD (*tube: London Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7378-6601, e-mail: vinum@vinopolis.co.uk. M–Sa noon–23:00; Su noon–20:00. This gastropub is part of Vinopolis but it is definitely beer-focussed—it even has its own microbrewery—with a large selection from around the world. Pint from £4.60.
- **1 George Inn**, 77 Borough High St, SE1 1NH (*tube: London Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7407-2056, e-mail: georgeinn@nationaltrust.org.uk. The current Inn was built in 1676 after the original establishment was burned down in the Great London fire of 1666. The George is London's only surviving galleried coaching inn, and is one of the oldest pubs south of the Thames.
- **1 The Hop Exchange building**, 24 Southwark St, SE1 1TY (*tube: London Bridge*). used to supply hops to the many breweries that were based in the

area in the past. Two different sister pubs now occupy the site:

- **Katzenjammers** (*Basement*), ☎ +44 20 3417-0196. M–Th noon–23:00; F–Sa noon–midnight; Su noon–22:30. German theme pub sharing a building with its sister The Wheat-sheaf in the basement of the Hop Exchange. Stocks Schnapps and German beer, some of which can be hard to find in London, as well as serving Bavarian cuisine.
- **The Wheatsheaf** (*Basement*), ☎ +44 20 7407-9934. M–F 11:00–23:00; Sa noon–23:00; Su noon–22:30. Sharing a building with its sister Katzenjammers in the basement of the Hop Exchange. Several, constantly rotating guest beers are regularly on offer. (The original Wheatsheaf had to be moved due the Thameslink railway passing directly over it.)

- **1 The Market Porter**, 9 Stoney St, SE1 9AA (*tube: London Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7407-2495. M–F 06:00–08:30 / 11:00–23:00; Sa noon–23:00; Su noon–22:30. A real ale pub that offers “a beer festival every day of the week”. It puts new and different casks on as the previous one sell out and can have several new beers become available within a single day. Uses its early morning market licence to open with the dawn on weekdays. No bar food served on Saturdays but the restaurant upstairs is still open (M–Th noon–15:00; F–Su noon–17:00).

- **1 The Rake**, 14 Winchester Walk, SE1 9AG (*tube: London Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7407-0557. M–F noon–23:00; Sa 11:00–23:00; Su noon–22:00. Tiny pub that used to be a cafe, attached to Borough Market (it shares the gents' toilets) and owned by the market beer shop, Utobeer. Specialises in bottled beer, especially local and international craft beers.

- **1 The Southwark Tavern**, 22 Southwark St, SE1 1TU (*tube: London Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7403-0257, e-mail: enquiry@thesouthwarktavern.co.uk. M–W 11:00–midnight; Th–F 11:00–01:00; Sa 10:00–01:00; Su noon–midnight.

Shad Thames

The area by Tower Bridge contains some of the best pubs in the city.

- **1 The Bridge House**, 218 Tower Bridge Rd, SE1 2UP (*tube: London Bridge or Tower Hill, near Tower Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7407-5818, fax: +44 20 7407-5828, e-mail: bridgehouseoffice@tiscali.co.uk. M–W 11:30–23:00; Th–Sa 11:30–midnight; Su noon–23:00. The only pub in London owned by Adnams brewery.

- **1 Dean Swift** (*tube: Tower Hill*), ☎ +44 20 7357-0748, e-mail: beer@thedean swift.com. M–Sa noon–midnight; Su noon–23:00. Beer specialist, which often includes casks from the local Kernel brewery as well as further afield.
- **1 Draft House**, 206–208 Tower Bridge Rd, SE1 2UP (*tube: London Bridge or Tower Hill, near Tower Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7378-9995, e-mail: towerbridge@drafthouse.co.uk. M–Sa noon–23:00; Su noon–22:30. A branch of the small, local chain of American-influenced pubs which “aims to do for beer what our culture has done for food and wine”.
- **1 The Horniman**, Unit 26, Hays Galleria, SE1 2HD (*in Hays Galleria, near London Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7407-1991. M–Tu 10:00–23:30; W 10:00–midnight; Th–Sa 10:00–00:30; Sa 10:00–23:00.

28.7.2 Clubs

- **1 Concrete**, Belvedere Rd, SE1 8XX (*in the Hayward Gallery*). Open until 03:00. Free nightly music events. The best place to sample underground electro, indie, dub-step and more.

28.8 Sleep

28.8.1 Budget

- **1 St Christopher’s Village**, 161–165 Borough High St, SE1 1HR (*tube: London Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7939-9710, e-mail: bookings@st-christophers.co.uk. Check-in: 14:00, check-out: 10:00. Youth Hostel with late night bar. From £12.00 per night.

28.8.2 Mid-range

- **1 Days Inn Waterloo**, 54 Kennington Rd, SE1 7BJ (*tube: Lambeth North*), ☎ +44 20 7922-1331, fax: +44 20 7922-1441, e-mail: book@hotelwaterloo.com.
- **1 Express by Holiday Inn London Southwark**, 103-109 Southwark St, SE1 0JQ (*tube: Southwark*), ☎ +44 20 7401-2525, e-mail: info@exhisouthwark.co.uk. Situated on the River Thames, clean and charming hotel.
- **1 Novotel London City South**, 53–61 Southwark Bridge Rd, SE1 9HH (*tube: London Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7089-0400, fax: +44 20 7089-0410, e-mail: H3269@accor.com. Great views along with a fitness gym and spa.

- **1 Southwark Rose Hotel**, 47 Southwark Bridge Rd (*tube: London Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7015-1480, e-mail: info@southwarkrosehotel.co.uk. A boutique hotel less than 200 metres from the Thames. Air conditioned rooms with en suites, meeting room facilities.

28.8.3 Splurge

- **1 London Bridge Hotel**, 8–18 London Bridge St, SE1 9SG (*tube: London Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7855-2200, fax: +44 20 7855-2233, e-mail: reservations@londonbridgehotel.com. Check-in: 14:00, check-out: noon. Four star boutique hotel popular with business travelers with its sleek and contemporary design and furnishings.
- **1 Marriott London County Hall**, Westminster Bridge Rd (*tube: Waterloo*), ☎ +44 20 7928-5200. Check-in: 14:00, check-out: noon. With Big Ben checking on you across the street, it’s home to the largest pool in any London hotel. Provides first class service, luxurious spa treatment on site and trendy bar downstairs.
- **1 Park Plaza County Hall**, 1 Addington St, SE1 7RY (*tube: Waterloo*), ☎ +44 20 7021-1800, fax: +44 20 7021-1801, e-mail: ppchinfo@pphe.com. Stylish and reputable.

28.9 Connect

The Southbank Centre, the National Theatre, the Royal Festival Hall, the BFI Southbank and the BFI IMAX all have free wi-fi available. The London Eye’s ticket office, and the area immediately surrounding it, also has free wi-fi.

Waterloo Station offers fifteen minutes of free wi-fi (per 24-hours) after which you will have to register and buy additional access.

The Cloud provides pay-only wi-fi along the Festival Riverside (by the Thames, in front of the Southbank Centre).

London Marriott Hotel County Hall and the local Park Plaza hotels offer free wi-fi, with connection details available at their receptions.

28.10 Go next

Chapter 29

London/South Kensington-Chelsea

“Chelsea” redirects here. For other uses, see Chelsea (disambiguation).



Location of the South Kensington-Chelsea area in London

South Kensington-Chelsea is a district of central **London**. It is one most densely populated places in London and most affluent areas in the world. For travellers, the main points of interest are Albertopolis, containing several of the UK’s major museums, and the shopping around Knightsbridge and Sloane Square.

29.1 Understand

This district is defined as the southern part of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (*RBK & C*), from the Thames in the south to Kensington High Street in the north, also taking in Hyde Park in the east and the area around Kensington Olympia in the west. It includes the area south of the Royal Parks commonly known as **High Street Kensington** and **South Kensington** west to **Earl’s Court** and **Olympia** and south to **West Brompton**, **Sloane Square** and **Chelsea**. **Hyde Park** and **Kensington Gardens** combine to form the largest green space in metropolitan London and provide a real oasis in the heart of this vast city.

South Kensington hosts four of London’s largest and finest museums, as well as its oldest and arguably most



Royal Albert Hall, Kensington

famous concert hall, and is home to the venerable Imperial College. **High Street Kensington** leads to a long line of shops and department stores, offering a less hectic version of Oxford Street as well *very* upmarket stores in **Knightsbridge**. Sloane Street connects Knightsbridge to Chelsea via Sloane Square and is lined with luxury brand boutiques.

Chelsea is an extensive riverside area of London that extends broadly from Sloane Square in the east to the World’s End pub in the west and down to the River Thames. The **King’s Road** marks the main thoroughfare of Chelsea.

The district contains the second largest number of American immigrants in the United Kingdom, many of whom work in the financial sector in **The City**, while others are connected to institutions such as the American International University, which has a campus just off High Street Kensington. Many local shops, from convenience stores to supermarkets, stock American products in their ethnic food sections. South Kensington is sometimes called the “21st arrondissement” due to the number of French expatriates living there; enough to technically make London the sixth largest French city. The community results in many French cafés, delicatessens and other businesses in the area. Knightsbridge is known for both its Russian and Arab populations, with the accompanying restaurants and institutions they bring.

The whole of the district contains some of the most expensive residential property in the world but is a little more downmarket towards its western edges.

29.1.1 Albertopolis



Albertopolis

Following the success of the Great Exhibition of 1851, of which he was a key figure, Prince Albert, husband of Queen Victoria, proposed a cultural hub to continue the Exhibition's work and to promote both arts and sciences together in one area. Profits from the Exhibition were used to purchase land, which was then in the countryside, and begin an ambitious plan for the area. The prince was so influential that the project became known as "Albertopolis", first in mockery and later with affection. The first building, the South Kensington Museum (now the Victoria and Albert Museum), opening in 1857. Today Albertopolis, loosely the area around Exhibition Road, contains a collection of world-class museums, universities, conservatories, and other cultural institutions. Its tradition for innovation continues: in 2012 Exhibition Road was redeveloped and converted into a shared space for both pedestrians and motorists, with no kerb to separate the two.

29.1.2 History of Chelsea

Chelsea's modern reputation as a centre of innovation and influence originated in a period during the 19th century when the area became a veritable Victorian artists' colony: artists such as Dante Gabriel Rossetti, J.M.W. Turner, James McNeill Whistler, William Holman Hunt and John Singer Sargent, as well as writers such as George Meredith, Algernon Swinburne, Leigh Hunt and Thomas Carlyle all lived and worked here. A particularly large concentration of artists existed in the area around Cheyne Walk (pronounced *Chey-nee*) and Cheyne Row, where the pre-Raphaelite movement had its heart.

Following the Second World War, Chelsea, like many other formerly prosperous areas became rather run down and poor. It became prominent once again as an artistic

centre, Bohemian district and hot spots for young professionals in the 1960s. The Americans called this period "Swinging London" and the King's Road became the definition of style and fashion and both the Beatles and the Rolling Stones lived in the neighbourhood.

In the 1970s, the "World's End" area of the King's Road was home to Vivienne Westwood's shop ("Sex"), and witnessed the genesis of punk music and style with many Mohawks to be seen on the road against the background of the closed down shops. Thereafter, working class youth culture was priced out of the area and gravitated to Camden, Islington, Ladbroke Grove, Brixton and Brick Lane.

The 1980s saw the rise of the Sloane (archetypally Princess Diana) and the Mohawks gave way to twin set pearls, pink Polo shirts and what an American would call a "preppy". Chelsea seems to have settled into stylish affluence and aspiration.

29.2 Get in

?""UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU""?

Map of London/South Kensington-Chelsea

29.2.1 By tube

This is a large district, served by a similarly large number of tube stations:

- South Kensington (District, Circle and Piccadilly lines). For the museums.
- Knightsbridge (Piccadilly line). For Harrods, Harvey Nicholls and other upmarket stores.
- High Street Kensington (District and Circle lines). For general shopping and Kensington Gardens.
- Hyde Park Corner (Piccadilly line). For Hyde Park
- Gloucester Road (District, Circle and Piccadilly lines)
- Sloane Square (District and Circle lines) For King's Road.
- Earls Court (District and Piccadilly lines)
- Kensington Olympia (District line)
- West Brompton (District line)

29.2.2 By bus

Like most parts of Zone 1 (Central London), this area is well connected by a variety of bus services. Here is a general list of the bus routes serving each major destination in this area:

- **South Kensington Museums:** 14, 49, 70, 74, 345, 360, 414, 430, C1
- **Knightsbridge:** 9, 10, 14, 19, 22, 52, 74, 137, 414, 452, C1
- **High Street Kensington:** 9, 10, 27, 28, 49, 52, 70, 328, 452, C1
- **Sloane Square:** 11, 19, 22, 137, 170, 211, 319, 360, 452, C1
- **King's Road Chelsea:** 11, 19, 22, 49, 211, 319
- **Earl's Court:** 74, 190, 328, 430, C1, C3
- **Hyde Park Corner:** 2, 9, 10, 14, 16, 19, 22, 36, 38, 52, 73, 74, 82, 137, 148, 414, 436, C2

The most useful buses for visitors to this area are:

- **9:** from Aldwych via Trafalgar Square and Piccadilly Circus serving Hyde Park Corner, Knightsbridge, Royal Albert Hall, and High Street Kensington (to Hammersmith)
- **10:** from King's Cross St. Pancras and Euston Station via Oxford Circus/Oxford Street and Marble Arch serving Hyde Park Corner, Knightsbridge, Royal Albert Hall, and High Street Kensington (to Hammersmith)
- **11:** from Liverpool Street Station via the City of London, St. Paul's, Aldwych, Trafalgar Square, Westminster, and Victoria Station serving Sloane Square and King's Road Chelsea (to Fulham)
- **14:** from Warren Street Station via Tottenham Court Road, Shaftesbury Avenue/Soho, and Piccadilly Circus serving Hyde Park Corner, Knightsbridge, South Kensington Museums, and Fulham Road (to Fulham and Putney)
- **19:** from Finsbury Park and Islington/Angel via Tottenham Court Road, Shaftesbury Avenue/Soho, nad Piccadilly Circus serving Hyde Park Corner, Knightsbridge, Sloane Square, and King's Road Chelsea (to Battersea)
- **74:** from Baker Street via Oxford Street and Marble Arch serving Hyde Park Corner, Knightsbridge, South Kensington Museums, and Earl's Court (to West Brompton, Fulham, and Putney)

- **211:** from Waterloo Station (near South Bank/London Eye) via Westminster and Victoria Station serving Sloane Square and King's Road Chelsea (to Fulham and Hammersmith)
- **C1:** from Victoria Station serving Sloane Square, Knightsbridge, South Kensington Museums, Earl's Court, and High Street Kensington (to White City/Westfield London)

All of these routes use iconic London red double-deck buses, except C1. They typically operate at least every 10 minutes. Any travelcard pass is valid for all buses (otherwise, buses are £1.40 per boarding using Oyster pay-as-you-go; capped at £4.40 in total per day).

29.3 See

29.3.1 Museums



"Dippy" the diplodocus, much-loved resident of the Natural History Museum

Exhibition Road and Cromwell Road in South Kensington are home to several world class museums and all have free entry, only charging for special temporary exhibitions. They do accept (and encourage) donations if you feel you have enjoyed your visit.

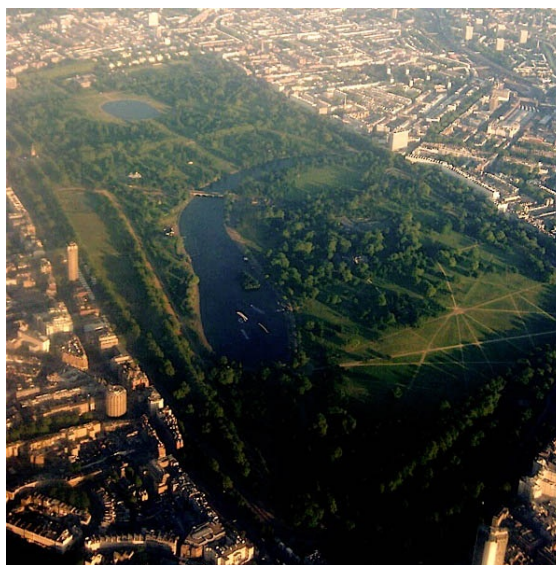
Each of them more than justifies a full day's visit. It's probably more rewarding to spend your time on a relaxed visit to one or perhaps two of the South Kensington museums, giving yourself a chance to breathe in the atmosphere of the institutions and wander through some of the less obvious galleries, than it is to attempt to fit all of them into one day.

- **1 Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A)**, Cromwell Rd (*tube: South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7942-2000, e-mail: vanda@vam.ac.uk. 10:00–17:45, F until 22:00. Named in honour of Queen Victoria and her consort Prince Albert, this museum has existed for over 150 years. It contains a huge collection of decorative arts from all over the world and far back in time, trying to see everything in one day would be exhausting. There are regular exhibitions concentrating on a particular theme from Chinese art to fashion designers. Frequently they put on children's activities and late DJ nights. Free/donation. **W**
- **1 Natural History Museum**, Cromwell Rd (*tube: South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7942-5000, e-mail: info@nhm.ac.uk. 10:00–17:30. Probably the most popular of all the museums here and a must see for many visitors to London. Home to no less than 70 million specimens from across all the life sciences. It's difficult to say what the most popular exhibit here is; the diplodocus which towers over the entrance hall, the (now slightly tacky-looking) animatronic tyrannosaurs in the dinosaur gallery, or the life-size model blue whale in the mammals gallery. Also well worth a check are the recently-opened Darwin Centre (book on a free tour to see some of the most interesting, and sometimes gruesome, specimens not on public display); and the studio dedicated to BBC wildlife personality extraordinaire, David Attenborough. The NHM's "Earth Galleries" were once the adjacent Geological Museum, an independent institution until the 1980s, and still located in a separate building with a separate entrance. Free/donation. **W**
- **1 Science Museum**, Exhibition Rd (*tube: South Kensington*), ☎ +44 870 870 4868, e-mail: feedback@nmsi.ac.uk. 10:00–18:00. Dedicated to scientific exhibitions and collections bar those related to the life sciences. A number of famous historical machines and inventions are housed here including Stephenson's Rocket. The space exhibits are especially popular. Exhibitions tend to concentrate on explaining scientific principles with working models and there is a strong emphasis on education and attracting children. The Science Museum first opened a "Children's Gallery" in the 1930s and it continues to lead the way in this area; now, there are three separate galleries aimed at all ages of younger visitor, from 5 to 16. The museum also runs "Science Nights" whereby children spend

an evening learning principles and participating in experiments before spending the night sleeping in the museum with the exhibits. Also houses a vast library of scientific and medical books and journals. Free/donation. **W**

- **1 The Geological Museum (The Red Zone)**, Cromwell Rd (*tube: South Kensington*). 10:00–17:30. This venerable old institution was absorbed by the neighbouring Natural History Museum in 1985 but still has something of a separate identity. Unsurprisingly, devoted to all things geological with especially popular exhibits on volcanology and earthquakes and fossils of all types. Very popular with kids and often under-rated. Free/donation. **W**
- **1 National Army Museum**, Royal Hospital Road, SW3 4HT (*tube: Sloane Square*). Closed until spring 2017. Free/donation. **W** (updated Dec 2016)

29.3.2 Parks and gardens



Kensington Gardens and Hyde Park.

This area, while urban, is not lacking in green areas. Many residential squares have gated gardens in their centre, although only the residents will usually have keys to access them. Many other green areas will be open, however. The dominant green area is, of course, Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens. These royal parks are contiguous and often mistaken for just one park, called Hyde Park, although they are officially separate and have different opening hours. Together they are one of the larger metropolitan parks on Earth and cover more land than some small countries. The parks are popular for urban bird-watching as they hold over a hundred different species, from common urban birds and waterfowl

to kestrels, owls and parrots. Flocks of the latter, ring-necked parakeets, have established themselves throughout London, although no one knows from where they originally came (one theory is that they escaped from the filming of *The African Queen* in 1950, although there are records of urban parrots as far back as the Victorian period).

- **1 Chelsea Physic Garden**, 66 Royal Hospital Rd SW3 4HS, ☎ +44 20 7352-5646. Apr–Oct: Tu–Fr & Su 11:00–18:00; Nov–Mar: closed. Garden founded by apothecaries in the 17th century to the medicinal properties of plants. It was only opened to the public in the 1980's when it became a charity. The heat-sink caused by its thick walls, combined with the general waste heat of London itself, keeps the garden much warmer than it would otherwise be at this latitude. Due to this, the garden contains the world's most northerly example of a grapefruit outside of a greenhouse, and the largest fruiting olive tree in the country. The collection contains thousands of different plant species. £10.50. **W** (updated Jun 2016)
- **Hyde Park** (*tube: Lancaster Gate, Marble Arch, Hyde Park Corner or Knightsbridge*). 05:00–midnight. The eastern half of the twin parks. Of the two Hyde Park is open for longer and has more open, unwooded land; it is often host to concerts, fun fairs and events. Free. **W**
 - **1 Diana Memorial Fountain**. **W**
 - **1 Rose Garden**.
 - **1 The Serpentine**. The *Serpentine* is a small, artificial lake within Hyde Park which contains a range of waterfowl and fish. It was first made by damming the River Westbourne but it is now fed by three boreholes. The western end of the lake is actually in Kensington Gardens, in which it is called **The Long Water**. **W**
 - **1 Speakers Corner**. By custom, in this far northeastern corner of the park (by the Marble Arch Tube stop near **Mayfair**), people are free to say whatever they like about who and whatever they like. Worth checking out to see the lunatics and exhibitionists spouting off.
- **Kensington Gardens** (*tube: High Street Kensington, Notting Hill Gate, Queensway or Lancaster Gate*). 06:00–dusk. The western half of the twin parks and the half that is often forgotten in public consciousness. It tends to be more formal than its neighbouring park and it closes at dusk, while Hyde Park is open until midnight. Free. **W**
 - **1 Albert Memorial**. Highly detailed, Gothic-style monument to commemorate Prince Albert, husband of Queen Victoria. Opposite the **Royal Albert Hall**. **W**

- **1 Diana Memorial Playground**. Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Playground
- **1 Elfin Oak**. A 900-year-old tree stump carved and painted to feature elves and small animals. **W**
- **1 Italian Gardens**.
- **1 Kensington Palace**, Palace Green, W8 4PX (*tube: Queensway*), ☎ +44 20 3166-6000. Nov–Feb 10:00–17:00 daily, Mar–Oct 10:00–18:00. A royal residence which is still used by some members of the ruling family. Much of it is however open to the public and it is a very popular tourist attraction perhaps due as much to its association with Princess Diana as anything else. The King's Gallery here is a magnificent Regency period court drawing room and contains some impressive paintings including a Van Dyke. Also a nice restaurant on site called The Orangery. £6.25–12.50. **W**
- **1 The Round Pond** (*half way along the Broad Walk*). A pond that is round. Deckchairs can be hired for £1.50. The park benches and grassy areas are free. **W**
- **1 The Serpentine Gallery**. A nice free art gallery, near to the Serpentine. Each summer a pavilion next to the gallery is designed by a different architect, which then houses various cultural events. **W**
- **1 Kensington Roof Gardens**, 99 High Street Kensington, W8 5SA (*entrance in Derry Street, off Kensington High Street just next to High Street Kensington station*), ☎ +44 20 7937-7994. 09:00–17:00 (but call ahead as they are sometimes closed for private functions). High above High Street Kensington is an unlikely place to find ornamental gardens. Nevertheless, three themed gardens can be found here: a Spanish Garden, a Tudor Garden and an English Woodland, covering 1.5 acres of rooftop. They were created in the 1930s by the owners of what was then the department store underneath. You can gaze at a stream and its resident flamingos while looking over the rooftops of Kensington. A restaurant and night-club can also be found up here. Free. **W**
- **1 Roper's Garden**, Cheyne Walk. Small green area, with benches, by the Thames. Created in the crater of a World War II bomb site, it contains an ancient cherry tree to commemorate the visit of Gunji Koizumi, the man who introduced judo to the country. Named after Margaret Roper née More, to whom the area was a gift from her father, Sir Thomas More, on her marriage to William Roper.



T. S. Elliot's plaque

29.3.3 Blue plaques

Blue plaques mark the buildings in which the notable people of the past lived and worked. The scheme started in London in 1866 and continues to this day. There are hundreds of houses and other buildings marked in this way in the area; the following are just a sample of those that can be viewed. This can be a pleasant way to look around the city, something to see on your journey, or the focus of a pilgrimage to see the historic sites related to a specific figure.

- **1 Alfred Hitchcock's House**, 153 Cromwell Road, SW5 0TQ (*tube: Earl's Court*). A plaque erected in 1999 marks the house where the famous director lived from 1926 to 1939.
- **1 Bram Stoker's House**, 18 St Leonard's Terrace, SW3 4QG (*tube: Sloane Square*). In 1977, the London Dracula Society unveiled the plaque that marks the home of the author of *Dracula*.
- **1 Mark Twain's House**, 23 Tedworth Square, SW3 5DR (*tube: Sloane Square*). The American writer lived at this address from 1896 to 1897.
- **1 Oscar Wilde's House**, 34 Tite Street, SW3 4JA (*tube: Sloane Square*). The famous Victorian writer lived at this house.
- **1 Rosalind Franklin's House**, Donovan Court, Drayton Gardens, SW10 9QS (*tube: South Kensington or Gloucester Road*). One of the discoverers of the DNA molecule lived here in the 1950s until her death in 1958.
- **1 T. S. Elliot's House**, 3 Kensington Court Gardens, W8 5QE (*tube: High Street Kensington*). The poet lived and died in this house.

- **1 Sir William Gilbert's House**, 39 Harrington Gardens, SW7 4JU (*tube: Gloucester Road*). One half of the comic opera writing team Gilbert & Sullivan lived here.
- **1 Sir Winston Churchill's House**, 28 Hyde Park Gate, SW7 5DJ (*tube: Gloucester Road or High Street Kensington*). One of the UK's greatest prime ministers lived and died at this address.

29.3.4 Churches and buildings



East window of the Holy Trinity Sloane Street Church

- **1 Billionaries' Row**, aka Kensington Palace Gardens (*tube: High Street Kensington or Notting Hill Gate*). One of the most expensive residential streets on the planet! Most of the buildings here are embassies or ambassadorial residences but the rest of the mansions belong to some of the richest people in the country (or elsewhere). For added historical value, during World War II, the current Norwegian embassy was where King Haakon VII led the Norwegian government-in-exile (commemorated by a blue plaque) and MI19's "London Cage" prisoner-of-war facility was located here. There is no public

right of way but the Crown Estate allow pedestrians and cyclists to use the street; photography is not permitted.

- **1 Brompton Oratory** (*Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary*), Brompton Rd, SW7 2RP (*tube: South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7808-0900, e-mail: bromptonoratory@aol.com. Beautiful Italianate church created during the Catholic revival of the 19th century. **W**
- **1 Carlyle's House**, 24 Cheyne Row, SW3 5HL, ☎ +44 20 7352-7087, e-mail: carlyleshouse@nationaltrust.org.uk. W-Su 14:00–17:00. Now preserved by the National Trust, this 18th century house was the home of the historian Thomas Carlyle from 1834 and now houses a museum dedicated to his life and work. £2.50-4.90. **W**
- **1 Chelsea Old Church**, 64 Cheyne Walk, SW3 5LT (*tube: South Kensington, Gloucester Square or Sloane Square*), ☎ +44 20 7795-1019, e-mail: chelseaoldchurch@yahoo.com. Tu-Th 14:00–16:00. This church on the bank of the Thames was built in 1157. It is the only church in London with chained books. A statue of Thomas More sits in front of the church. **W**
- **1 Crosby Hall**, Cheyne Walk, SW3 5AZ (*tube: Sloane Square*). Not open to the public. All that remains of a Tudor mansion originally located in the City of London. In 1910, to avoid demolition to make way for a bank, it was moved brick by brick and reassembled at Cheyne Walk. It is now a Grade II* listed building and possibly the largest private home in the capital. **W**
- **Holy Trinity Church**, Sloane St, London SW1X 9BZ (*tube: Sloane Square*), ☎ +44 20 7730 7270. From their website: "In common with the aims of the Arts & Crafts Movement, the architect of Holy Trinity Church, John Dando Sedding, believed that a church should be 'wrought and painted over with everything that has life and beauty—in frank and fearless naturalism.'" Naturalism or not, the church is known as an ornate building. **W** (updated Dec 2015)
- **1 Royal Hospital**, Royal Hospital Rd (*tube: Sloane Square*), ☎ +44 20 7881-5516, e-mail: tours@chelsea-pensioners.org.uk. Tours: M-F 10:00 & 13.30. Museum: M-F 10:00–16:00. A retirement home for soldiers created by King Charles II. Tours around the listed building and grounds are regular and include the museum (which can be visited separately) whose exhibits contain military memorabilia donated by Chelsea Pensioners over the years. Tours: £4–8 per person. Museum: Free. **W**

29.3.5 Other



Earls Court Police Box

- **1 Brompton Cemetery**, entrances on Old Brompton Road and Fulham Rd (*tube: West Brompton, Earl's Court or Fulham Broadway*). One of the "Magnificent Seven" old cemeteries in London. Graves range from plain to ornate and the site can be a tranquil place to walk amid the bustle of the city. It was opened in 1840 and is still a working cemetery, although it was closed for a some time in the late twentieth century. Can be nice, if morbid, for an afternoon stroll, especially as a route (and cycle route) between Old Brompton Road and Fulham Road. **W**
- **1 Penfold Post Box**, Kensington High Street, W8 (*near the junction with Melbury Rd*). One of the few Victorian hexagonal Penfold post boxes still in use. Although there are others in this district, this one is notable for a narrow escape during WW2: minor bomb damage can still be seen in the base of the pillar.
- **1 Police Box**, Earls Court Road, outside Earl's Court station (*tube: Earl's Court*). This police box was intended as part of a 1990s high-tech revival of the 1920s-60s police box system. The experiment failed and this is now the only police box left in London. It remains as street furniture and is quite popular with fans of the TV series *Doctor Who*.

- **1 Royal College of Art**, Kensington Gore, SW7 2EU (*tube: High Street Kensington or South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7590-4444, e-mail: media@rca.ac.uk. usually 10:00–17:30. A Victorian school, an currently active University, with a mission to advance knowledge of the fine arts. Exhibitions are common. Times and admission charges vary but can often be free, although visitors may need to book tickets to certain events. **W**
- **1 Royal College of Music**, Prince Consort Rd, SW7 2BS (*tube: South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7591-4300, e-mail: info@rcm.ac.uk. Museum: T–F 11:30–16:30; Performances: varies. Victorian school of music created on a suggestion by Prince Albert. It is still an active school but visitors may be more interested in its museum and performances. The free museum houses instruments dating back to the 15th century with several unusual pieces. Performances—by students, professors or visitors—are often free as well. Museum: Free. Performances: Varies but many are free (although tickets may be required). **W**
- **1 Saatchi Gallery**, Duke Of York's HQ, King's Road, SW3 4RY. Daily 10:00–18:00. Prestigious contemporary art gallery worth a visit. From 5 Apr to 4 Sep 2016 it has a large exhibition on the Rolling Stones, for which there are timed tickets and an admission charge. Usually free. **W**
- **1 London Cru**, 21/27 Seagrave Road, ☎ +44 20 7381-7871, e-mail: mail@londoncru.co.uk. Urban winery based in West London run by a team of experts that include international winemaker Gavin Monery and Master of Wine student Mark Andrew. The winery offers public tours, wine tastings, courses, and custom winemaking. from £15.
- **1 Earl's Court Exhibition Centre**, Warwick Road, SW5 9TA (*tube: Earl's Court or West Brompton*), ☎ +44 20 7385-1200, e-mail: info@eco.co.uk. Hosts frequent conventions, exhibitions, concerts and events. Located on the site used for Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show in the 19th century. It has two halls, Earl's Court One and Earl's Court Two. See it while you can; the site has controversially been scheduled to be demolished and redeveloped. Times and prices vary.
- **1 Hyde Park Tennis and Sports Centre**, South Carriage Drive, W2 2UH (*tube: South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7262-3474, e-mail: hydepark@willtowin.co.uk. Times vary by month and area; generally open in daylight hours. Contains six hard tennis courts, two mini tennis courts, a six-rink lawn bowling green and a nine-hole putting green; plus support facilities such as changing rooms and a café. Bowling greens, tennis courts and nearby football pitches can be booked. Putting is mostly drop-in only (as is some tennis). Some equipment can be rented from the sports centre. £7.50 bowling green; £5.50 putting green (adult).
- **1 Institut Francais du Royaume-Uni**, 17 Queensberry Pl, SW7 2DT (*tube: South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7871-3515. M–F 09:00–23:00; Sa 10:00–23:00; Su depends on events. The first in a worldwide network of institutes to promote and present the best of French culture. The site includes a café-restaurant, a cinema showing French films, the largest French library in the UK and a French language centre, as well as running other events. Set in a Kensington block that also includes the French consulate and a French school.
- **Le Bistrot**. M–F 09:00–20:30; Sa 11:30–20:30; Su 13:15–20:30. French café.
- **Children's Library**, 32 Harrington Rd, SW7 2DT, ☎ +44 20 7871-3550. Tu–F 14:00–17:00; Sa noon–18:00.
- **Ciné Lumière**, 17 Queensberry Pl, SW7 2DT, ☎ +44 20 7838-2144, e-mail: box.office@ambafrance.org.uk. M–F 09:00–23:00; Sa 10:00–23:00. Watch French-language movies in the Institute's cinema. £9 general ticket.
- **Language Centre**, 13 Cromwell Pl, SW7 2JN, ☎ +44 20 7871-3535, fax: +44 20 7581-0061, e-mail: language-centre@institutfrancais.org.uk. M–Th 09:00–20:30; F 09:00–16:00; Sa 09:30–16:30. Learn French or take courses on French culture from France's official teaching centre in the UK. Intensive courses can be completed in just two weeks, general courses are closer to 10–15 weeks. From £295 per

29.4 Do



Royal Albert Hall at dusk

- **1 Boating on the Serpentine (Hyde Park)**. Rowing boats and pedalos are available for hire from Easter until the end of October. £12/hour (adults), £5/hour (children).

course & from £120 for 3 sessions of private tuition.

- **La Médiathèque**, 17 Queensberry Pl, SW7 2DT, ☎ +44 20 7871-3545, fax: +44 20 7871-3519, e-mail: library@institutfrancais.org.uk. Tu–Sa noon–19:00 (18:00 on Th). The largest French library in the UK. Read and borrow French books from the library. Non-members are free to browse; members can borrow books.
- **1 Olympia London**, Hammersmith Road, W14 8UX (*tube: Kensington (Olympia)*), ☎ +44 20 7385-1200. Another exhibition centre, owned by the same company as Earl's Court Exhibition Centre. It hosts the same range of conventions, fairs and events. Olympia has four halls and a conference centre, with a mix of trade shows and public events, so there is almost always something to see. Times and prices vary.
- **1 Royal Albert Hall**, Kensington Gore (*tube: South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7589-8212. Since opening in 1871 as part of Queen Victoria's memorial to her late husband it has become one of the most famous venues in the UK, and remains one of London's main concert halls. It still mainly caters for a classical audience, but it also hosts many other varied events including the odd contemporary rock/pop acts, and its corridors are sometimes used as exhibition spaces. During July–September the Albert Hall hosts the **BBC Proms**. This British national institution is a series of nightly classical concerts with world-leading performers for which standing tickets can be bought on the door on the night for as little as £5.
- **1 Royal Court Theatre**, Sloane Sq, SW1W 8AS (*tube: Sloane Square*), ☎ +44 20 7565-5000. Britain's leading national theatre company dedicated to new work by innovative writers from the UK and around the world.
- **1 The Troubadour**, 263-265 Old Brompton Rd, SW5 9JA (*tube: Earl's Court or West Brompton*), ☎ +44 20 7370-1434, e-mail: info@troubadour.co.uk. Café: 09:00–midnight; club: 20:00–02:00. Famous bohemian cafe with a pleasing menu of hearty dishes such as fishcakes, burgers and delicious filling salads. Good wine list too and lovely leafy garden out the back. There is a great little music venue downstairs and even accommodation on the top floor. As a music venue, the Troubadour has been programming acoustic music since the 1950s when Bob Dylan et al took to the stage. It's bigger now and has gone electric but is still one of the best venues in London for up and coming talent. The musical spectrum is broad. On any night you might catch solo singer-songwriters or full bands. No heavy rock or

covers bands though. More recently it has hosted Adele, Laura Marlin, Jamie T and The Kleeks. There is a good menu too but arrive early to get a table. It can get very busy. Well worth a visit. Entry from £6. Food from about £10-20.

29.5 Buy



Harrods

- **1 The Duke of York Square Shopping Complex** (*Just off King's Road, near Sloane Square*). Has a range of spacious branches of popular fashion chains, but lacks some of the road's character, however the small adjoining public space of Duke of York square is a welcome place for a rest between shopping, and a popular place to hang out.
- **1 Harrods**, 87–135 Brompton Rd SW1X 7XL (*tube: Knightsbridge*), ☎ +44 20 7730-1234. M–Sa 10:00–20:00. The most famous store in London, favoured by the British establishment and owned by Mohamed Al-Fayed. Fairly strict dress code so do not turn up looking like a backpacker and expect to gain entrance. **W**
- **1 Harvey Nichols**, 109-125 Knightsbridge, SW1X 7RJ (*tube: Knightsbridge*), ☎ +44 20 7235-5000. M–Sa 10:00–20:00. Large department store full of designer goods and an excellent cafe.

- **1 The Hummingbird Bakery**, 47 Old Brompton Rd, SW7 3JP (*Opposite South Kensington tube station*), ☎ +44 20 7584-0055. A nice little bakery with wonderful cupcakes. Try their red velvet cupcake that is incredibly popular with the locals. A regular size cupcake ranges from £1.55-1.85.
- **1 H.R. Owen Ferrari London**, 125 Old Brompton Rd, SW7 3RP (*tube: Gloucester Road or South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 3053-0760, fax: +44 20 7341-6303. M–F 09:00–18:00; Sa 09:00–17:00. If the expensive clothes and products in other shops don't appeal, expensive cars are also available in this area.
- **1 King's Road** (*tube: Sloane Square, for north-east end*). One of London's smartest fashion streets, having evolved from the cutting-edge of bohemia and innovative fashion in the 60s to a more genteel place to indulge in retail therapy, albeit with a notable presence of trendy young Londoners (including many so called Sloane Rangers). It is a very attractive street that retains the atmosphere of a small town whilst being in the heart of a huge city. There is a huge range of fashion stores from up-market chains to one-off boutiques, as well as variety of other shops, complimented by cafés, restaurants, bars, pubs and clubs. There is an obvious affluence to the road without any bling or snobbi-ness. King's Road stretches south-west from here for miles, though the best of the shopping is in the first mile.
- **1 Lamborghini London**, 27 Old Brompton Rd, SW7 3TD (*tube: South Kensington, opposite the south entrance*), ☎ +44 20 7589-1472. M–F 09:00–18:00; Sa 10:00–15:00. If you fancy a new car and have a lot of spare change, it might be worth a look. Poorer people are allowed to look at the shiny cars too.
- **1 Sloane Street** (*tube: Sloane Square or Knightsbridge*). Lined with high-end designer label stores, such as Chanel, Dior, Fendi, Gucci, Hermès, Jimmy Choo, Louis Vitton, and many more.
- **1 Whole Foods Market**, 63-97 Kensington High Street, W8 5SE (*tube: High Street Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7368-4500. M–Sa 08:00–22:00; Su 12:00–18:00. The Kensington branch of this American chain of natural food supermarkets is the largest in the world.

29.6 Eat

29.6.1 Budget

Despite being a very upmarket and affluent area, there are still many places to eat on a budget, especially on the high

street areas by the stations, each of which has its share of chain restaurants and fast food outlets. Gastropubs are another eating options, which can be found in the Drink section.

- **1 La Nuova Delizia**, 63-65 Chelsea Manor Street, SW3 5RZ, ☎ +44 20 7376-4111, fax: +44 20 7585-1573, e-mail: info@ladelizia.org.uk. Noon–23:00. Quaint Italian bistro offers 18 different pizzas, three risottos, various pasta dishes, gnocchi and other traditional Italian entrees. It's top-notch food at a great value. £10–12 for a main meal.
- **1 Little Japan**, 32 Thurloe Street, SW7 2LT, ☎ +44 20 7591-0207. Japanese restaurant and take-away between South Kensington station and the museums.
- **1 McDonald's**, 108-110 Kensington High St, W8 4SG (*directly opposite High Street Kensington station*), ☎ +44 20 7937-3705. 24 hours. This is just a McDonald's, pretty much the same as any other, but this one's easily remembered location and hours of operation make it a useful to know about.
- **1 Pop's**, 272-274 Old Brompton Road, SW5 9HR (*tube: Earl's Court or West Brompton*), ☎ +44 20 7835-1442. M–Sa 06:30–18:30; Su 08:00–18:30. Simple and straight-forward "greasy spoon" café for a good all-day breakfast or other budget meal. £5.50 for a Full English Breakfast.

29.6.2 Mid-range

- **1 Beirut Express**, 65 Old Brompton Rd, SW7 3JS (*tube: South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7591-0123. 11:00–00:30. Part of the local Maroush chain of Lebanese restaurants based in Edgware Rd. From £14.
- **1 La Bouchee**, 56 Old Brompton Rd, SW7 3DY (*tube: South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7589-1929. M–F noon–15:00/17:30–23:00, Sa noon–16:00/17:30–23:00, Su noon–16:00/17:30–22:30. Decent, reasonably priced French Restaurant. £14.50 for 2 courses.
- **Fifth Floor Café**, 109-125 Knightsbridge (*tube: Knightsbridge*), ☎ +44 20 7823-1839, fax: +44 20 7823-2207. M–Sa 08:00–23:00, Su 11:00–17:00 (afternoon tea 15:00–18:00 all week). The aptly name café on the fifth floor of **Harvey Nichols**. A roof terrace gives a view of the rooftops of Knightsbridge.
- **1 Firezza**, 116 Finborough Rd, SW10 9ED (*tube: West Brompton*), ☎ +44 20 7370-2255. M–Th 17:00–23:00; Fr–Sa noon–midnight; Su noon–23:00. Takeaway pizza isn't unusual but this local company produces not only gourmet pizza but

square, metric, gourmet pizza. Take out and delivery only. From £8.99 per half metre.

- **1 Great India Tandoori**, 79 Lower Sloane St, SW1 W8DA (*tube: Sloane Street*), ☎ +44 20 7730-2207. noon–15:00; 18:00-midnight. One of Chelsea's most popular restaurants. Established by Satir Ahmed in 1960.
- **1 Kensington Creperie** (*Cafe Creperie*), 2 Exhibition Rd (*tube: South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7589-8947, e-mail: mail@kensingtoncreperie.com. Tu–Su 11:00–23:30, M noon–23:30. A small, cute, often crowded cafe and authentic French creperie, popular with the local French and various other South Ken expats. Given its location near the tube, it is a fine place to sit outside and watch the fashionable young people pass by. £3–8.50.
- **1 The Pig's Ear**, 35 Old Church St, SW3 5BS (*tube: South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7352-2908, e-mail: pigsear@theunionbar.co.uk. M–F noon–22:00; Sa noon–22:50; Su noon–21:00. Lively, old-world style pub/restaurant on Old Church Street. Acclaimed bistro fare and a wide selection of wines by the glass. Mains around £10–16.
- **1 Sole Luna Pizza & Pasta**, 32-34 Thurloe St, SW7 2LT (*Adjacent to the northern exit from South Kensington underground station*), ☎ +44 20 7581-0098. This Italian bistro-style restaurant offers good food but the prices are too high compared to the rather bad service. The waiters, which change often, are not very attentive and almost yank the plates and glasses from the customer as soon as they have finished. The restaurant can be very busy due to its location, but the service leaves a lot to be desired. £4–25.

29.6.3 Splurge

- **1 Babylon** (*Entrance at street level from Derry Street, just off Kensington High Street right next to the station*), ☎ +44 20 7368-3993, e-mail: babylon@roofgardens.virgin.com. M–Sa 11:30–midnight, Su 11:30–17:30. Set amid Kensington Roof Gardens, seven floors above High Street Kensington station with a view over the city. £39.50 for 2 courses.
- **1 Bibendum**, 81 Fulham Rd, SW3 6RD (*tube: South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7581-5817, fax: +44 20 7823-7925, e-mail: reservations@bibendum.co.uk. Restaurant: M–F noon–14:30 / 19:00–23:00; Sa 12:30–15:00 / 19:00–23:00; Su 12:30–15:00 / 19:00–22:30. Bar: M–Sa noon–23:00; Su noon–22:30. Café: M–F 08:30–17:00; Sa 09:00–noon. Café, restaurant and oyster bar in Michelin House, an ornately tiled

art nouveau building which belies the fact that it used to be a garage, albeit one catering to the few rich patrons who could afford an automobile in Edwardian London. Bibendum is the name of the character most commonly known as the Michelin Man.

- **1 Gordon Ramsay**, 68 Royal Hospital Road, SW3 4HP (*Tube: Sloane Square*), ☎ +44 20 7352-4441, e-mail: royalhospitalroad@gordonramsay.com. Lunch M–F noon–14:30, dinner: M–F 18:30–23:30, closed weekends. The original, flagship branch of the Ramsay empire. You are highly unlikely to find the man himself behind the stove these days, but this triple Michelin-starred eatery deserves its reputation as one of the finest on the planet. The lunch menu is just about affordable, but getting a reservation is problematic. Dress code applies.
- **1 Tom's Kitchen**, 27 Cale Street, SW3 3QP (*tube: South Kensington or Sloane Square*), ☎ +44 20 7349-0202, e-mail: info@tomskitchen.co.uk. M–F 08:00–14:30/18:00–22:30, Sa 10:00–15:30/18:00–22:30, Su 10:00–15:30/18:00–21:30. Populist spot for Tom Aikens's aptly named restaurant, albeit certainly in the "Splurge" category, the fish and chips make it certainly worth the difficulty getting reservations and the rather high cost.
- **Côte Brasserie** (*Chelsea Brasserie*), 7-12 Sloane Square (*tube: Sloane Square*), ☎ +44 20 7881-5999, e-mail: sloanesquare@cote-restaurants.co.uk. M–Sa 07:00–23:00, Su 08:00–22:30. Modern restaurant/bar at the **Sloane Square Hotel** serving French cuisine. Popular lunch place for people working in the area.

29.7 Drink

29.7.1 Chelsea

The southern area by the river has had a bohemian reputation since the nineteenth century, when it was a famous artists colony. In the 1960s it was part of the Swinging London culture, in the 70's it was famous for punks, and in the 80's known for rich Sloane Rangers.

- **1 Builders Arms**, 13 Britten St, SW3 3TY (*tube: South Kensington or Sloane St*), ☎ +44 20 7349-9040, e-mail: buildersarms@geronimo-inns.co.uk. M–Sa 11:00–23:00; Su noon–22:30. Gastropub near the Royal Marsden Hospital and just off the King's Rd.
- **1 Chelsea Potter**, 119 Kings Rd, SW3 4PL (*First pub when walking away from Sloane Square tube station*), ☎ +44 20 7352-9479. M–F 11:00–23:00; Sa 11:00–midnight; Su noon–midnight. Traditional



Courtfield

pub fare, but when warm outside, best people watching spot around. Also, Aussie and Kiwi barmen solidify the awesome environment here.

- **1 Coopers Arms**, 87 Flood St, SW3 5TB (*tube: Sloane St*), ☎ +44 20 7376-3120, e-mail: coopersarms@youngs.co.uk. Great pints, including Peroni on tap. Best Sunday Roast around, and more of a gastropub than a traditional pub.
- **1 Maggie's**, 329 Fulham Rd, SW10 9QL (*tube: West Brompton, Earl's Court, Gloucester Road or South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7352-8512, e-mail: info@maggies-club.com. Tu–W 23:00–02:30; Th 22:30–02:30; F–Sa 22:30–03:30. 80's themed nightclub. Named after 80's prime minister Margaret Thatcher, whose speeches can be heard playing in the toilets. At the splurge level of costs, both to get in and at the bar. £15 entry.
- **1 The Phoenix**, 23 Smith St, SW3 4EE (*tube: South Kensington or Sloane Square*), ☎ +44 20 7730-9182, e-mail: thephoenix@geronimo-inns.co.uk. M–Sa 11:00–23:00; Su noon–22:30. Great pints, tremendous place for a pint on a sunny day. be sure to grab one of the outdoor tables and enjoy a cool pint on a hot day here (when not raining in London).
- **1 Queens Head**, 27 Tryon St, SW3 3LG (*tube: Sloane Square*), ☎ +44 20 7589-0262. M–Th 12:00–23:00; F–Sa 12:00–00:00; Su 12:00–23:00. LGBT traditional pub; real ale and standard pub

food separates it from the trendier Kings Rd establishments. Karaoke every other Saturday.

29.7.2 Earls Court–Brompton

The western side of this destination is, in relative terms, the cheaper end of the area. Major urbanisation, and drinking establishments, came with the underground stations in the 1860s.

- **1 Courtfield**, 187 Earl's Court Rd, SW5 9AN (*tube: Earl's Court*), ☎ +44 20 7370-2626. M–Sa 08:00–midnight; Su 09:00–23:30. CAMRA-listed gastropub, serving food and a range of beers.
- **1 Drayton Arms**, 153 Old Brompton Rd, SW5 0LJ (*tube: Gloucester Road*), ☎ +44 20 7835-2301. M–Sa 12:00–23:00; Su 12:00–22:30. A mix of traditional pub and bohemian nightspot. A good range of beer and slightly more upmarket than some other pubs in the area.
- **1 Gloucester Arms**, 34 Gloucester Rd, SW7 4RB (*tube: Gloucester Road*), ☎ +44 20 7584-0020. M–W 11:00–23:00; Th–Sa 11:00–00:00; Su 12:00–22:30. Traditional pub.
- **1 The Prince of Teck**, 161 Earl's Court Rd, SW5 9RQ (*tube: Earls Court*), ☎ +44 20 7373-4291, e-mail: info@princeofteck.co.uk. M–Th 11:00–23:30; F 11:00–00:00; Sa 08:00–00:00; Su 08:00–23:30. Traditional pub downstairs with a dining area on the first floor.
- **1 Troubadour Wines**, 267 Old Brompton Rd, SW5 9JA (*Right next door to its famous sister, The Troubadour Cafe; tube: Earl's Court or West Brompton*), ☎ +44 20 7341-6341. 12:00–22:00. This cozy wine bar is a quieter alternative to the buzz next door. With a great selection of wines from around the world, many of which are not available anywhere else in London, this is a peaceful oasis where you can discover delicious and good value wines. Drink in or take home.
- **1 Zetland Arms**, 2 Bute St, SW7 3EX (*tube: South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7589-3813. M–Sa 11:00–midnight; Su 12:00–23:00. Traditional pub near South Kensington station.

29.7.3 Knightsbridge–Sloane Square

The eastern side of this destination is the most exclusive. Knightsbridge was constructed in the nineteenth century, at a time when pubs and beer shops were considered something only frequented by poor people. The owners and designers of Knightsbridge included pubs in the plans, for their servants, but made sure to place them down side streets where they wouldn't spoil the view.

- **1 Admiral Codrington**, 17 Mossop St, SW3 2LY (tube: *South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7581-0005. M–Tu 11:30–23:00; W–Th 11:30–midnight; F–Sa 11:30–01:00; Su noon–22:30. Gastropub.
- **1 The Antelope**, 22 Eaton Terrace, SW1W 8EZ (tube: *Sloane Square*), ☎ +44 20 7824-8512, e-mail: antelope@fullers.co.uk. M–Th & Sa 12:00–23:00; F 12:00–23:30, Su 12:00–22:00. Traditional pub with many original features preserved from its Georgian origin.
- **1 The Hour Glass**, 279 Brompton Rd, SW3 2DY, ☎ +44 20 7581-2840. This small, triangular, very easy-going pub just a little away from the main street bustle is a favorite among the locals, above all because the seating inside is designed to prevent overcrowding, but also for its pavement seating and up-scale gastropub fare.

29.8 Sleep



The Park Tower Knightsbridge Hotel

This destination has many hotels and accommodation across a range of price points. As with most things in London, cost is often relative to the distance from the centre. For this destination, the hotels around Knightsbridge in the east are more in the splurge range, while those around Earls Court in the west are mostly budget or mid-range. For more splurgey, upmarket hotels, you might want to look at **Mayfair-Marylebone**. For more

budgety, affordable hotels, try either **Hammersmith and Fulham** or **Paddington-Maida Vale**.

29.8.1 Hostels

If privacy and luxury are not big concerns, or just not in your price range, these hostels will at least give you a place to sleep for the night.

- **1 The Londonears Hostel**, 1 Barkston Gdns, SW5 0ER (tube: *Earl's Court*), ☎ +44 20 7373-4322, fax: +44 20 3417-6386. Youth hostel for those willing to sleep in a bunk bed in a dormitory with many others. From £12 for a bed in a dormitory with up to 14 people.
- **1 Park House Women's Hostel**, 227 Earl's Court Rd, SW5 9BL (tube: *Earl's Court*), ☎ +44 20 7373-2851, e-mail: PH@viridianhousing.org.uk. Women only. Single rooms with shared facilities. From £49.

29.8.2 Budget

Many of these listings are converted townhouses, often on streets full of other converted townhouses.

- **1 Ambassadors Hotel**, 16 Collingham Rd, SW5 0LX (tube: *Gloucester Road*), ☎ +44 1480 212898, fax: +44 1480 353145. Popular three star hotel situated on Collingham Road between Earls Court and Kensington. The hotel offers 140 en-suite rooms, all with modern amenities. Book direct for best rates and low prices.
- **1 Avonmore Hotel**, 66 Avonmore Road, W14 8RS (tube: *West Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7603-4296, +44 20 7603-3121, fax: +44 20 7603-4035.
- **1 Chelsea House Hotel**, 96 Redcliffe Gdn, SW10 9HH (5 min from *Earl's Court Underground*, go to right on *Earls Court Road*, the hotel's 50 m after crossing *Crompton Rd*), ☎ +44 20 7835-1551, fax: +44 20 7370-6800, e-mail: info@chelsea-house.co.uk. Check-in: 14:00, check-out: 10:00. The staff is very gentle and helpful. It is clean, and the rooms are all right, they are a bit small, have fridge, a small TV, but no table. The hotel is not nice, but OK. The breakfast is uninteresting, except the coffee, which is awful! But, the tea and the juice are good. It is close to many pubs, cafés and shops. Good place to stay, but lots of traffic.
- **1 easyHotel Earl's Court**, 42-48 West Cromwell Rd, SW5 9QL (5 min from *Earl's Court tube station*), e-mail: enquiries@earlscourt.easyHotel.com. Check-in: 15:00, check-out: 10:00. Guests can only book an easyHotel on the website and rooms are priced on the basis of the earlier you book, the less you pay. £varies.

- **1 Eccleston Square Hotel**, 37 Eccleston Square, ☎ +44 20 3503 0693, e-mail: stay@ecclestonsquarehotel.com. Check-in: 12:00, check-out: 12:00. £40. (updated Aug 2015)
- **1 Exhibition Court Hotel 4**, 25 Collingham Pl, SW5 0QF (*tube: Earl's Court or Gloucester Road*), ☎ +44 20 7370-2414, e-mail: info@exhibitioncourthotel4.co.uk. Neat and tidy 2-star hotel less than 5 minutes walk from Earls Court tube station. They have a 24-hour front desk. Double rooms with bathroom from around £60 (summer pricing) with basic breakfast included. The rooms are nicer than many of the double rooms in the hostels along Earls Court Rd, for much the same price, although there is no wi-fi internet.
- **1 The Jade** (formerly "Green Court Hotel"), 52 Hogarth Rd, SW5 0PU (*tube: Earl's Court Station or West Brompton*), ☎ +44 20 7373-6297. Check-in: 15:00, check-out: 10:30. Long-established private 2-star hotel around 2 minutes' walk from Earls Court tube station. Well-heated, double-glazed and secure. Telephone and cable TV in room (Sky News, CNN), free wi-fi and continental breakfast. From £45.
- **1 Kensington West**, 25 Matheson Road, W14 8SN (*tube: West Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7602-9954, fax: +44 20 7371-1338, e-mail: stay@kensingtonwest.org. Refurbished 2 star hotel offering 24 hour reception, wireless internet, and flat screen TVs. From £65.
- **1 The Lord Jim Hotel**, 23-25 Penywern Rd, SW5 9TT (*tube: Earl's Court*), ☎ +44 20 7370-6071, fax: +44 20 7373-8919, e-mail: LJH@lgh-hotels.com. One of the best hotels on Penywern Road, they have 45 rooms ranging from singles to quads. Breakfast is included, some rooms en suite. There is a TV lounge, a 24-hour concierge, and the staff is friendly and helpful. It is clean and the shared bathrooms are not bad at all. Online booking £37 for the booking itself, between £17-33 per person single.
- **1 Merlyn Court Hotel**, 2 Barkston Gdns, SW5 0EN (*tube: Earl's Court*), ☎ +44 20 7370-1640, fax: +44 20 7370-4986, e-mail: london@merlyncourthotel.com. Lovely and friendly family run bed and breakfast hotel. Totally no smoking. Located in a quiet Edwardian Garden Square. Bright and clean rooms. Family rooms are available. From £45 (without bathroom); from £65 (with bathroom).
- **1 St. Mark Hotel**, 4 Barkston Gdns, SW5 0EN (*tube: Earl's Court*), ☎ +44 20 7373-0060, fax: +44 20 7373-4796. This hotel offers 25 guest rooms all with private en-suite facilities. Book online for best deals.

29.8.3 Mid-range

- **1 Holiday Inn London Kensington Forum**, 97 Cromwell Rd, Kensington, SW7 4DN (*tube: Gloucester Road*), ☎ +44 871 942 9100. 4 Star hotel near Kensington High Street with 906 rooms offering the usual Holiday Inn services
- **1 Kensington House Hotel**, 15/16 Prince of Wales Ter, W8 5PQ (*tube: High Street Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7937-2345, fax: +44 20 7368-6700, e-mail: reservations@kenhouse.com. Boutique townhouse rooms and accommodation just off Kensington High Street.
- **1 Montana Hotel**, 67/69 Gloucester Rd, SW7 4PG (2 minutes walk from Gloucester Road tube station), ☎ +44 20 7584-7654, fax: +44 20 7581-3109, e-mail: info@montanahotel.co.uk. Good standard tourist class accommodation in an excellent area.
- **1 NH Harrington Hall Hotel**, 5-25 Harrington Gdns, SW7 4JW (*tube: Gloucester Road*), ☎ +44 20 7396-9696, e-mail: nhharringtonhall@nh-hotels.com. Beautiful old building and useful location, with friendly and welcoming staff. From £178 per night.
- **1 Simply Rooms & Suites**, 21 Avonmore Road, W14 8RP (*tube: Kensington (Olympia) or West Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 3384-4698, fax: +44 20 7602-9035, e-mail: stay@simplyroomsandsuites.co.uk. New 4 Star hotel boutique hotel offering high spec bedrooms in an excellent location off Kensington High Street (opened May 2010).
- **1 The Sloane Square Hotel**, 7-12 Sloane Sq, SW1W 8EG (*tube: Sloane Square*), ☎ +44 20 7896-9988, e-mail: reception@SloaneSquareHotel.co.uk. Modern and stylish hotel with good location in Chelsea close to a great array of shops.

29.8.4 Splurge

This destination has some of the most luxurious hotels in the city, if you can afford them.

- **1 The Beaufort Hotel**, 33 Beaufort Gdns, SW3 1PP (*tube: Knightsbridge*), ☎ +44 20 7584-5252, toll-free: 0800 328 2572, fax: +44 20 7589-2834, e-mail: reservations@thebeaufort.co.uk. A privately owned small boutique hotel close to Harrods and Harvey Nichols offering first class service and contemporary style.
- **1 The Berkeley**, Wilton Pl, SW1X 7RL (*tube: Knightsbridge*), ☎ +44 20 7235-6000, fax: +44 20 7235-4330, e-mail: info@the-berkeley.co.uk. Five

star luxury hotel. Individually designed suites and rooms. Features Marcus Wareing's restaurant and fine afternoon tea in London at the caramel room.

- **1 Blakes Hotel**, 33 Roland Gdns, SW7 3PF (*tube: Gloucester Road, South Kensington or Earl's Court*), ☎ +44 20 7370-6701, toll-free: +1 800 9263173, fax: +44 20 7373-0442, e-mail: reservations@blakeshotels.com. A fashionable small *couture* luxury 5-star hotel respected for client privacy.
- **1 54 Boutique Hotel**, 54 Queen's Gate, SW7 5JW (*tube: South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7761-4000, fax: +44 20 7761-4040, e-mail: enquiries@fiftyfourboutiquehotel.co.uk. Across the road from the Natural History Museum.
- **1 Cadogan Hotel**, 75 Sloane St, SW1X 9SG (*tube: Sloane Square or Knightsbridge*), ☎ +44 20 7235-7141, fax: +44 20 7245-0994, e-mail: info@cadogan.com. Cadogan is a classic Edwardian townhouse hotel, provides comfortable elegant five star hotel accommodation and service. From £209 per night.
- **1 K+K Hotel George**, 1-15 Templeton Pl, SW5 9NB (*tube: Earls Court*), ☎ +44 20 7598-8700, fax: +44 20 7370-2285, e-mail: hotelgeorge@kktel.com. 154 rooms and free wireless (and wired) internet access. The hotel is also right next door to Earl's Court exhibition center.
- **1 Marriott London Kensington Hotel**, 147 Cromwell Rd, SW5 0TH (*tube: Earl's Court or Gloucester Road; opposite Sainsbury's supermarket*), ☎ +44 20 7973-1000, fax: +44 20 7370-1685. From £160 per night.
- **1 myhotel Chelsea**, 35 Ixworth Pl, SW3 3QX (*tube: South Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7225-7500, fax: +44 20 7225-7555, e-mail: chelsea@myhotels.com. Four star hotel on a quiet residential street on the doorstep of fashionable shops and minutes from South Kensington and King's Rd.
- **1 No. 11 Cadogan**, 11 Cadogan Gdns, SW3 2RJ (*tube: Sloane Square*), ☎ +44 20 7730-7000, fax: +44 20 7730-5217, e-mail: info@no11cadogangardens.com. This designer hotel and private club is arguably London's finest *couture* space with its beautiful facilities and impeccable service.
- **1 The Park Tower Knightsbridge Hotel**, 101 Knightsbridge, SW1X 7RN (*tube: Knightsbridge*), ☎ +44 20 7235-8050, fax: +44 20 7235-8231, e-mail: theparktowerknightsbridge@reservestartwood.com. Five star luxury hotel in a Modernist tower across the road from Harvey Nichols, with views over

Knightsbridge and Hyde Park. From £309 per night.

29.9 Connect

There are public phone booths on the main streets throughout this area.

29.9.1 Internet cafés

- **1 Internet Café**, Earl's Court Rd (*across the road from Earl's Court station, above the Bureau de Change*). M–F 08:30–23:30; Sa–Su 10:00–23:30. 50p/half hour.
- **1 Global Talk Internet**, 42-44 Thurloe St, SW7 2TN (*just outside South Kensington station*), ☎ +44 20 7584-1277.
- **1 Kensington Call Shop**, 124A Cromwell Rd, SW7 4ET (*tube: Gloucester Road*), ☎ +44 20 7373-0909.

29.9.2 Libraries

There are three public libraries within this destination, all of which have wi-fi networks available to anyone. They all also have computers available for public use but a library membership card is required to book these machines.

- **1 Brompton Library**, 210 Old Brompton Rd, SW5 0BS (*tube: Earl's Court*), ☎ +44 20 7361-3010, fax: +44 20 7938-1445. M–Tu 09:30–20:00; W 09:30–17:00; Th 09:30–20:00; F–Sa 09:30–17:00.
- **1 Chelsea Library**, Chelsea Old Town Hall, King's Rd, SW3 5EZ, ☎ +44 20 7361-3010, fax: +44 20 7938-1445, e-mail: libraries@rbkc.gov.uk. M–Tu 09:30–20:00; W 09:30–17:00; Th 09:30–20:00; F–Sa 09:30–17:00; Su 13:00–17:00.
- **1 Kensington Central Library**, Phillimore Walk, W8 7RX (*tube: High Street Kensington*), ☎ +44 20 7361-3010, fax: +44 20 7361-2976, e-mail: libraries@rbkc.gov.uk. M–Tu 09:30–20:00; W 09:30–17:00; Th 09:30–20:00; F–Sa 09:30–17:00.

29.10 Cope

29.10.1 Emergencies

For medical supplies, there are pharmacies throughout this area. The principal emergency medical facility in this destination is Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, with more facilities in neighbouring areas.

- **1 Chelsea and Westminster Hospital Urgent Care Centre**, 369 Fulham Rd, SW10 9NH (*tube: Fulham Broadway, Earl's Court or South Kensington; but not very close to any, take a bus or taxi if necessary*), ☎ +44 20 3315-8080, fax: +44 20 3315-8121. 24 hours. The Urgent Care Centre offers a walk-in service for minor injuries and illnesses at the hospital's Accident & Emergency Department.

There is one police station in this area. The next closest are in Notting Hill (**Notting Hill-North Kensington**), Belgravia (**Westminster**) and Fulham (**Hammersmith and Fulham**).

- **1 Kensington Police Station**, 72 Earl's Court Rd, W8 6EQ (*tube: High Street Kensington & Earl's Court*). M–F 10:00–18:00.

29.10.2 General supplies

The two largest supermarkets within this area are in the western, slightly cheaper area. Most general supplies can be found at either.

- **1 Sainsbury's Superstore**, 158a Cromwell Rd, SW7 4EJ (*tube: Gloucester Road or Earl's Court*), ☎ +44 20 7373-8313. M 07:00–23:59; T–F 06:00–23:59; Sa 06:00–22:00; Su 11:00–17:00. A small selection of travel supplies, including visitor-to-the-UK power adaptors, can be found in the pharmacy section.
- **1 Tesco Kensington Superstore**, West Cromwell Rd, W14 8PB (*tube: Earl's Court*), ☎ +44 845 677 9388. M 06:00–midnight; Tu–Sa 24 hours; Su 11:00–17:00. Larger selection of world foods (for the homesick). Some travel supplies split between the pharmacy and electronics sections.

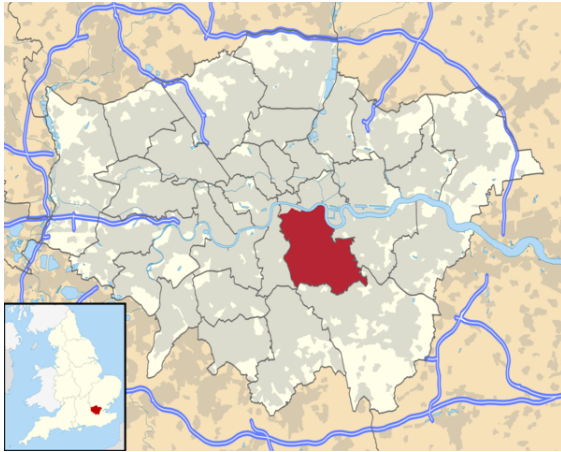
29.11 Go next

Your interests may decide your onward journey:

- For more shopping like Sloane St and King's Rd, try **Mayfair-Marylebone**, which includes Oxford St, Regent St, Bond St, etc.
- For cultural centres like Albertopolis, you want to look at **South Bank**, home of (amongst others) the National Theatre and the British Film Institute.
- Museums abound in London but one of its other major examples is the British Museum in **Bloomsbury**.

Chapter 30

London/Southwark and Lewisham



Location of the Southwark and Lewisham area in London

Southwark and Lewisham are two boroughs of inner south east London.

30.1 Understand



Deptford Market

Southwark was one of the earliest extensions of settlement in London beyond the walls of the **Square Mile** and across the river, beginning back in the Roman period and

is traditionally referred to as “**the Borough**” in order to distinguish it from the “Square Mile” of the **City**. The eastern part of the district, downstream of Tower Bridge, is generally referred to (and marketed heavily) as “the Pool of London”, referring to the old docks and wharves of the area that have been reconverted into housing and retail areas. The north-western riverside portions of the borough of Southwark are dealt with in our **South Bank** district.

The **Crystal Palace** was a huge steel and glass building designed by Joseph Paxton to house the Great Exhibition, Prince Albert’s brainchild for *bigging up* the British Empire to the rest of the world. It was erected in **Hyde Park** and closed in 1851. Parliament closely voted not to retain it as a permanent feature in Hyde Park and it was later transported to the top of **Sydenham Hill**. The surrounding area, still known to many locals as **Upper Norwood**, is now known as Crystal Palace. The palace itself burned down in 1936 in still unexplained circumstances.

Dulwich has a number of recognised sub-districts, which include North Dulwich, bordering Herne Hill, **Dulwich Village**, which includes the traditional village centre, and is the home to the Dulwich Picture Gallery as well as James Allen’s Girls’ School, Dulwich College and Dulwich Park and East Dulwich which bounds **Peckham** and has a number of independent shops, restaurants and bars along Lordship Lane.

Lewisham is a largely residential borough of south inner London and includes some of the most run-down areas in the whole city. To the east of this borough is the historic, more gentrified **Blackheath**, burial site of London’s plague victims, now ideal for flying a kite. **Deptford** (home of the Queen Elizabeth I’s naval dockyard) and **Surrey Quays** are on the riverside.

30.2 Get in

South East London is generally not served by the Underground so the suburban rail services and the bus network are used to get around.

30.2.1 By train and Tube

- London Bridge is the main station for south east suburban line rail services to Dartford, Orpington, Hayes and Croydon, stopping at various stations throughout this area. These services are not shown on the standard tube map but pretty much everywhere in this area is within walking distance of a station served by these services and the oyster fare card works on all of them. Many of these services continue on from London Bridge station to Charing Cross station - 5 minutes walk from **Leicester square** and **Covent Garden** - and to Canon St station in the **City of London**. From 2015 to 2017 construction work at London Bridge will mean that some services will run straight through to Charing Cross or Cannon St without stopping at London Bridge. Check before you board the train as which train terminates where will change as work progresses.
- There are also services from London Victoria to Orpington and Woolwich which serve stations in this area.
- The **London Overground** shares a route with trains from Crystal Palace and West Croydon to London Bridge as far as New Cross Gate then veers northwards to Canada Water then crosses under the river to the **East End** and **Islington**. Another branch of the Overground links Canada Water eastwards to Peckham and Clapham Junction.
- The Docklands Light Railway runs from Lewisham rail station northwards to Greenwich and then under the river to the Isle of Dogs in the **East End**. These are driverless trains so get a seat at the front for a drivers eye view.
- The Jubilee line serves Canada Water and Bermondsey stations then goes west to Stratford station in **East London** and east to the **South Bank**, the **West End** and North West London.
- For Northern Line and Bakerloo line services to the northern part of Southwark borough see our **South Bank** page.

30.2.2 By bus

All parts of this area are served by regular bus services. Many bus stops have 'spider maps' - diagrammatic representations of the buses serving that area and where they go to. These can be worth a look as they have a lot of info. Pdf's of these maps can be downloaded [here](#) and [here](#).

For those who like to party late into the night in Central London the night buses serve all parts of this area, all

night long. Most night buses run at hourly intervals but many places are served by more than one route so service intervals are reduced. Check services on **TFL's website**.

- 1 (Canada Water - Centre Point)
- 3 (Oxford Circus - Crystal Palace)
- 21 (Moorgate - Lewisham)
- 35 (Shoreditch - Clapham Junction)
- 47 (Shoreditch - Catford)
- 54 (Beckenham - Charlton)
- 63 (Kings Cross - Crystal Palace)
- 68 (Euston - West Norwood)
- 75 (Lewisham - Croydon)
- 108 (Lewisham - Docklands)
- 124 (Catford, St Dunstons - Grove Park)
- 136 (Peckham - Grove Park)
- 160 (Catford Bridge - Sidcup)
- 168 (Hampstead Heath - Old Kent Road)
- 171 (Holborn - Catford Bus Garage)
- 176 (Tottenham Court Road - Penge)
- 180 (Lewisham - Belvedere)
- 181 (Lewisham - Grove Park)
- 185 (Lewisham - Victoria)
- 208 (Lewisham - Bromley)
- 225 (Canary Wharf - Hither Green)
- 284 (Lewisham - Grove Park)
- 321 (New Cross Gate - Sidcup)
- 381 (Peckham - Waterloo)
- 436 (Paddington - Lewisham)
- 484 (Lewisham - Camberwell)
- 453 (Deptford - Marylebone)
- 931 (Crystal Palace - Lewisham)
- P4 (Lewisham - Brixton)



Crystal Palace Park

30.3 See

- **Crystal Palace Park** (*Crystal Palace or Penge West rail stations are adjacent to the park*). While the original Crystal Palace is no longer there, the 200 acre park is a lasting reminder of the grandeur of the scheme. There is a wide range of things to see and do, including a hedge maze, a sports centre with Olympic-sized pool, a boating lake, fishing, an athletics stadium and an open air concert bowl by a lake among other things. The park is a great place for a walk and also for cycling around. A significant attraction within the park is the Dinosaur Park. Large Victorian concrete and cast iron dinosaurs are scattered around widely. The dinosaurs, built by Benjamin Waterhouse Hawkins in the early 1850s to meet the emerging passion of wealthy Victorians for fossils and paleontology, they predated Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* by six years and were unique in the world. After falling into a state of disrepair in the 1980s and 1990s they were splendidly renovated using a Lottery grant in the early 2000s and are now protected as a grade I listed structure. The dinosaurs were designed by the Victorians on their idea of what one would look like and differ somewhat from modern interpretations. Free. **W**
- **Riverside developments.** Developments of Shad Thames and Surrey Quays which contains numerous London Dock artifacts. Bermondsey St has undergone extensive redevelopment in the last seven years and it has been transformed into a highly desirable place to live and work.
- **St. Paul's Church,** Deptford High St, SE8, ☎ +44 20 8692-7449, e-mail: rector@paulsdeptford.org.uk. Built in 1720, it has been called *A remarkable example of English Italianate Baroque*. Located a short walk from Deptford train station, which opened in 1836, and is reputedly the oldest railway station in London, and

the oldest suburban station in the world to survive on its existing site.

- **Sydenham Hill Wood,** Sydenham Hill, SE26 6ND (*Forest Hill rail stn*), e-mail: awhite@wildlondon.org.uk. A remnant of the great hornbeam and oak woodland that once traversed South London. Run as a reserve by the London Wildlife Trust. Some splendid old trees and healthy bird and insect populations. **W**
- **Southwark Park,** Gomm Rd, SE16 (*tube: Rotherhithe*). A large, open and green park in an otherwise densely built part of London. Wide range of sporting facilities, a cafe, boating lake and an art gallery. **W**

- **Rotherhithe's Nordic Churches,** once an important place for Scandinavian dockers, the only trace of this legacy left is the Norwegian, Finnish (next to each other) and Swedish Churches. While not having regular services, you can go for traditional saunas at these churches.

30.3.1 Museums and galleries



The Brunel Museum

- **Brunel Museum,** Railway Ave, Rotherhithe, SE16 4LF (*DLR station: Canada Water*), ☎ +44 20 7231-3840, e-mail: education@brunel-museum.org.uk. Daily 10:00-17:00. A museum dedicated to the works of the great engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel including a major exhibition about the founding of the London tube system. Also a fine collection of Victorian industrial paintings on show. £3.00 concs £1.50. **W**
- **The Horniman Museum,** 100 London Rd, Forest Hill, SE23 3PQ, ☎ +44 20 8699-1872. Daily

10:30-17:30. Is a fine museum with an eclectic collection of stuffed animals, wonderful collection of world musical instruments, with interactive information. There is also an aquarium with an admission charge. A real hidden gem for those with an interest in the anthropology of African and Asian cultures. Pleasure gardens with a fine view over London, are adjacent to the Museum, perfect for a picnic on a fine day. Free. **W**

- **Dulwich Picture Gallery**, Gallery Rd, Dulwich Village, ☎ +44 20 8693-5254, fax: +44 20 8299-8700. Tu-F 10:00-17:00, Sa Su and bank holiday Mondays 11:00-17:00; Closed Good Friday, 1 Jan and 24-26 Dec. One of London's lesser known treasures showcasing a magnificent collection of old masters, including works by Poussin, Claude, Rubens, Murillo, Van Dyck, Rembrandt, Watteau, Gainsborough and many others. Originally assembled for the King of Poland in the 1790s, an alternative home was found for the collection of artworks in the "clean air of Dulwich" after the kingdom of Poland's partition and temporary disappearance as an independent state. The Gallery was designed by Sir John Soane and opened in 1817. A new extension recently completed by Rick Mather adds additional space to the compact gallery. DPG received the Museums and Heritage Award for Excellence in 2005 and was Winner of the Independent Award for Britain's Favourite Visitor Attraction. It also worth exploring the lush grounds of **Dulwich College** or **Dulwich Park**, both a scenic stroll away. £4, senior citizens £3, unemployed, disabled, students and children free, additional charge for special exhibitions. **W**

- **Fashion and Textiles Museum**. Situated in the vicinity of Bermondsey Spa Gardens, is an intriguing museum with those for a passion for fashion. **W**
- **Imperial War Museum**. Located in the former Bethlehem Mental Hospital (and the origin of the word Bedlam) in Southwark. Contains a vast array of military exhibitions including an eagle statue from Hitler's desk and replica-shell of Fat Boy, dropped on Nagasaki to end WW2. Free. **W**
- **Design Museum**, Shad Thames, Southwark, SE1 2YD. 10:00-17:45 daily (last admission 17:15) (except 25-26 Dec). A must for anyone with an interest in modern and contemporary design. The permanent exhibition follows the change in British homes from the early 20th century until present day, which is constantly updated to include new design classics. There are temporary exhibits which run for 3-4 months. Recent exhibits have included Saul Bass, Peter Saville and Archigram. The museum also runs

Designer of the Year which awards a prize to a person or organisation that has produced an impressive piece of design (past winner was Jonathan Ive, who designed the iMac and iPod). There is a small shop that has plenty of art and design books as well as designer goods to take home with you. £7, student or concession £4. **W**

- **The Cuming Museum** (*Newington Library*), 151 Walworth Rd. Tu-Sa 10:00-17:00. The first gallery tells the story of the Cuming family and their collection the second gallery focuses on the history of Southwark and is split into three areas, settling here, a place to visit and world connections - the Southwark gallery looks at the people who have lived and worked here from Roman times to today the third gallery in the museum is the temporary exhibition gallery - our exhibitions change every four to six months. free. **W**
- **1 Rangers House**, Chesterfield Walk, SE10 8QX, ☎ +44 20 8294-2548. At Blackheath, maintains a large ceramic collection. adults £6.70, children £4.00, concessions £6.00. **W**
- **White Cube Bermondsey**, 144 - 152 Bermondsey Street, SE1 3TQ, ☎ +44 207 930 5373. Tu-Sa 10:00-18:00, Su 12:00-18:00. Art gallery with exhibitions by major British and international artists. Free. (updated Dec 2016)

30.4 Do



Christ's Chapel of God's Gift, in Dulwich

- **Dulwich Festival**. Local arts festival held annually in May.
- **Carnaval del Pueblo**, the less-famous sister of the Notting Hill Carnival, located in **Burgess Park**, it is the largest Latin American out-door festival in Europe.

- **Lewisham People's Day** - Diverse summer festival hosted in Mountsfield Park, Catford, which attracts large crowds, though often some of the wrong kind.
- **Telegraph Hill Festival**, which runs throughout the Telegraph Hill ward from 15 March to 1 April.
- **Blackheath Heath Fireworks Display**, every Guy Fawkes night (5 Nov) the Lewisham council put on a spectacular free fireworks display. In the past few years, crowds of over 100,000 have amassed so stake a good spot earlier. There is also a funfair and circus on the Heath.
- **Sands Film Studios**, 82 Saint Marychurch St, Rotherhithe, SE16 4HZ, ☎ +44 20 7231-2209. This film production company runs an informal cinema club which shows seldom seen and rare films. The club aims to disseminate a better knowledge of the history of world cinema. Club screenings are usually at 9PM every Tuesday. Attendance is free but you do need to join the club (also free and easily done by email - check the website).
- **St. Paul's, Deptford**, one of the finest Baroque churches in the country, built in the 18th Century and often has classical concerts and organ recitals. John Betjeman is attributed as referring to the church as "a pearl at the heart of Deptford". Adjacent to the beautiful (and quite eerie at night) church yard is Albury Street, which contains some fine 18th century houses which were popular with sea captains and shipbuilders. Christopher Marlowe, (a contemporary of Shakespeare) was murdered in a nearby house, and buried in an unmarked grave in the churchyard of **St. Nicholas**, the ancient parish church. <http://www.stpaulssinfonia.com/>
- **Tsar Peter the Great Monument**, which is located at the waterfront adjacent to Deptford Creek and paid for by the Russian government to commemorate the cultural exchange between two great seafaring nations (it could be argued that Deptford Docks inspired the birth of the Russian navy). The writer and gardener, John Evelyn (1620–1706) who lived at Sayes Court, (now unfortunately run-down and neglected) hosted the young, rowdy Peter the I (1672–1725) as a guest for about three months in 1698; during his naval apprenticeship on his great tour of Western Europe. Interestingly, Sir Francis Drake was knighted by Queen Elizabeth I aboard the Golden Hind in Deptford Docks too.
- **Camberwell** is home to several art galleries including **Camberwell College of Arts**, the **South London Gallery** and numerous smaller commercial art spaces. The annual **Camberwell Arts Festival** is well supported. **Jazz in the Crypt**, for the discerning jazz crowd, is located below St. Giles Church, on Camberwell High St, and has seriously good acts each Friday night. The **Blue Elephant Theatre** on Bethwin Road is the only theatre venue in Camberwell.
- **The Broadway Theatre**, Catford, hosts pantomime, stand-up comedy, serious dramas and off-West End musicals, often for a bargain price compared to what you would pay in Theatreland. It has a rather ornate art-deco facade and interior. Likewise there is **The Albany** at Deptford, as well as the **Brockley Jack** which has an intimate theatre, seating only about 50 at the back of a rather nice same-named pub in Brockley.
- **Beckenham Place Park**, large picturesque park, where you can also play golf. Kent CCC are known to play Twenty20 matches here in Summer. Beckenham also has a nice weekend market.
- Catch a match at **Millwall** or **Crystal Palace F.C.** These two rival teams have been somewhat yo-yo's of recent seasons, yet enjoy zealot-like support from fans in the rougher-parts of London, particular Millwall who have become infamously portrayed in several hooligan films. It should be fairly easy to purchase tickets for both **The New Den** and **Selhurst Park** respectively, though you'll want to sit in the home end, to be on the safe side. Near to Selhurst Park, is the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre, which boasts an international athletics arena (which hosted some of the earliest FA Cup finals) and Olympic swimming pool. It is possible to watch the **London Towers** basketball team and **London Olympians** American football club too.

30.5 Buy

- **Bermondsey Antiques Market** (*New Caledonian Market*), Bermondsey Sq (*at junction of Bermondsey St/Long Ln, tube: London Bridge*). F 05:00-14:00. A very famous long-standing market which attracts dealers from all over southern England every Friday morning. Antiques and collectibles from almost every imaginable genre. Used to be infamous for fencing stolen goods but that is no longer the case.
- **Deptford Market**, Deptford High St, SE8 4AG. The old working-class area of Deptford still has a lively street market from 07:00 on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. This is a real street market and it is neither trendy or touristy! Likewise, **East Street Market** in Walworth, which has a real mix

of African-Caribbean food stalls and antiques and oddities dealers. The birthplace of Charlie Chaplin is here, with several landmarks named after him.

- **Peter Layton and Associates** (*London Glass Blowing Gallery*), 7 The Leathermarket, Weston St, SE1 (*tube: London Bridge*), ☎ +44 20 7403-2800. A gallery, studio and shop which showcases contemporary glass pieces.
- **Lewisham Shopping Mall** Tons of High Street chains and a fruit market outside too, plus **H&M**, **M&S** and **TK Maxx** department stores.

30.6 Eat

The area is home to two historic desserts, a particular kind of light lemony bread pudding called the **Deptford Pudding**. Similarly Crystal Palace, another area gives us the spectacular, fruity, layered jelly that is **Crystal Palace Pudding**. See if you can track them down!

- **Cafe East**, 100 Redriff Rd, Surrey Quays, SE16 7LH (*at the Surrey Quays shopping Centre*). Wonderful Vietnamese food and if you like spicy authentic oriental food, this place is an amazing value.
- **The Sausage Man**, worth it for the name alone! This is a friendly mobile German deli, under Lewisham Clock Tower, serving the best frankfurters and bratwurst this side of Cologne.
- There is several large Turkish food/grocery stores in the district, which are open 24/7 and sell a whole range of (Net ar eastern) products including very good daily baked rolls and cakes. **TFC** along Bromley Road, and **Turkish Food Express** near the stations in **Catford** are great value as is its sister branch, **TFC** on Lewisham High St.
- **Vietnamese** There are several authentic restaurants in (V-Town) **Deptford** such as Le Gia (41-42 Broadway) or Dat Cang (236-238 Evelyn Street) and Cafe Mama Pho
- **Los Toreros Tapas Bar**, 35 Westow St, Crystal Palace, SE19 3RW, ☎ +44 20 8771-0087. Tapas and a wide selection of other Mediterranean food.
- **Catford Bridge Tavern** is an up-market gastropub conveniently located next to the Catford stations. Has a classy selection of gourmet food.
- **Pizza Express**, 94 The Village (*Dulwich*), ☎ +44 20 8693-9333. Local branch of the popular up-market pizza chain.
- **A Torre**, 19 Westow St, SE19 3RY, ☎ +44 20 8653-9895. Portuguese restaurant.
- **The Yellow House**, 126 Lower Rd, SE16 2UE (*tube: Surrey Quays*), ☎ +44 20 7231-8777, e-mail: info@theyellowhouse.eu. Informal Restaurant and bar serving modern pub type food and a range of wood-fired pizzas.
- **Maggies Cafe**, 322 Lewisham Road, SE13 7PA (*tube: Lewisham DLR*), ☎ +44 20 8244-0339, e-mail: info@maggiesrestaurant.co.uk. Down below platform 4 of Lewisham train station, is a charming Irish café, extremely popular with the locals, which can make it hard to get a table come lunch-time. A mixed clientèle of City commuters and construction workers frequent this institution. They serve an all-day 'Make-your-own' fry-up for £6, where you can order what and as much as you like off a set-menu. Besides the traditional 'heart attack on the plate', they do pies, pastas, steaks and salads, as well as curiously good curries, owing to the fact that the eponymous Maggy being married to a Bangladesh chef. Good banter is delivered with free refills of tea and coffee. Make you sure you ask for the Specials and also try the infamous Irish Musturd.
- **Ichiban Sapparo** - Catford Broadway, 1-min walk from Catford Bridge station, behind the Town Hall. A very good and bargain-priced (by London standards) Japanese restaurant. On Monday to Thursday evenings (18:00-22:00) they serve £12 order all-you-can eat sushi and noodle dishes, which are freshly made by the experienced chefs.
- **Tai Won Mein noodle houses**, Rushey Green, SE6 (*Near Catford Bridge*). Offers fantastic Chinese cuisine, well, large portions at least, at a budget price. They only take cash.
- **Pasha Kyrgyz Kazakh Restaurant** at Hotel Pasha (see 'Sleep' section) in Camberwell. A sumptuous interior complete with running stream, splendid carpets and lounge area, with great food to match. The varied menu is authentic Central Asian-Turkic dishes, such as kebabs with also rather more unusual surprises. Reasonably priced dishes with large portions. On the weekend, there is live entertainment provided such as a sword-swallowers, traditional band and/or bellydancers. The hotel furthermore offers massages and a hammas (Turkish bath). <http://www.hotelpasha.com/#>
- **A2 Nigerian Restaurant** - interesting if you want to try something different. There is a few other African joints to try in the Catford area, such as **Planet 68** on the other side of Rushey Green.

- **Mekan** -next to the old Catford cinema, at the Gy-ratory. It is an excellent Turkish restaurant, with a relaxed dining experience. Big generous portions.
- **1 The London Particular**, 399 New Cross Road London SE14 6LA (*Between New Cross and New Cross Gate stations*), ☎ +44 20 8692-6149, e-mail: info@thelondonparticular.co.uk. 10am ~ 4.30pm. Open till 10pm Fri and Sat.. Very good food at very good prices. Catch them now before they
- **1 Nouvelle spice**, 315 New Cross Road, New Cross, SE14 6AS (*Between New Cross and New Cross gate stations*). 12:00-23:30. Best Indian food around here. Good value buffet during the day.

30.7 Drink

- **Ministry of Sound**, Gaunt St. World famous night-club with a reputation for strong DJ's.
- **Old Salt Quay**, 163 Rotherhithe St, SE16 5QU, ☎ +44 20 7394-7108. River-side pub with great views across the Thames.
- **The White Hart**, 96 Church Rd (*Cnr of Church Rd and Westow St*), ☎ +44 20 8768-1001. M-Th noon-23:00, F Sa noon-midnight, Su noon-22:30. Really great pub with great mix of seating, specialist nights, interesting beers, great modern British pub food, and a nice outdoor area. Different nights including live music, quiz nights. Mixed crowd. Relaxed weekend day times, can get busy in the evenings. Decor is a mix of traditional, industrial/modern and quirky/shabby chic. Friendly staff.
- **Bizonia** - A gay communist/east-German-themed underground bar.
- **The Venue**, at **New Cross**, is a night-club popular with the artsy crowd of nearby **Goldsmiths University**. It boasts 5-floors with a range of music from indie to techno, and houses famous cover-bands such as Bjorn Again, although it can be chavvy and is known to kick-off quite regularly. Lots of bohemian pubs are close by where up-and-coming bands (Athlete, Bloc Party and Art Brut all started around here) and DJ's ply their trade, such as **The New Cross Inn**, **The Hobgoblin** and **Amersham Arms**. Also, try the **Goldsmiths Union**, for cheap student parties.
- **1 The Royal Oak**, 44 Tabard Street, SE1 4JU (*tube: Borough*), ☎ +44 20 7357-7173. Serves excellent Harvey's beer, the only pub in London owned by that brewery, as well as delicious food. Classy selection of traditional British pub-grub along with more exotic choices, such as swordfish or crocodile. Routinely voted CAMRA London Pub of the Year

30.7.1 Lewisham area

- **The Fox & Firkin** in **Ladywell**, is a buzzing joint with the 20-something crowd, and has late opening times, as well as film nights and great live music. A stone's throw away, is the **Jolly Farmer** which has a lot more bearded, grey-haired clientele, and hosts regular folk jam sessions and decent pints.
- For a truly authentic Irish pub, try the **Blythe Hill Tavern** in **Catford**, where you'll be made to feel like a local, with warm service. Also, has good diddly-dee music if that's your thing. The **Catford Bridge Tavern** is a newly refurbished up-market gastropub conveniently located next to the stations, with 5 handpumps serving ales. **The London & Rye** is a cheap and cheerful Wetherspoons on Rushey Green named after a long-gone coaching inn, with a mixed crowd. **The Goose on the Green**, near the old village pump, is the oldest establishment in the area, and was a reputed drinking hole for Karl Marx, it is wonder if he would approve of today's working-class bunch who frequent it. If you fancy a quiet pint, the **Catford Ram** at the back of the Mews shopping precinct, serves yummy Youngs ale. There is also a few clubs such as **Motown**, **The Spot** and **Riva**.
- **The Dog & Bell**, 116 Prince St, Deptford, SE8 3JD. A quiet old-time boozer, with a fine selection of ales (usually 3 handpumps) and above-average meals. Features a billiard table and sometimes morris-dancing. There is a quiz on Sundays, and a performing arts venue across the street, in a converted brick warehouse.

30.7.2 Peckham

- **Frank's Cafe**, 95A Rye Lane (*Head to the Peck-hamplex cinema then follow the path round to the right and into the car park.*). Summer months only. A unique bar open in the summer months on the top floor of a multi-storey car park, with fantastic views over London.

30.8 Sleep

- **Hotel Pasha**, A rather unique place fronting Camberwell High St. It includes a central Asian restaurant, spa treatment and a shisha balacony, with views over the diverse neighbourhood below. <http://www.hotelpasha.com/#>
- **Queen's Hotel**, 122 Church Rd, Crystal Palace, SE19 2UG, ☎ +44 20 8653-6622, e-mail: queeneurogroup@yahoo.co.uk. From £60.

- **Travelodge at Depford Bridge.** Right next to the DLR station. Newly furnished place with funky design and cafe. £40-100
- **McMillan Student Village,** Creek Rd, Deptford. Fantastic place for a good night's kip after a heavy night out.
- **Hilton London Docklands Riverside,** 265 Rotherhithe St, SE16 5HW, ☎ +44 20 7231-1001. Five star riverside hotel.
- **Journeys Greenwich West Hostel,** 86 Tanners Hill, despite the name its actually in Deptford, about 15mins walk to Greenwich, but it cheap! Dorms and Rooms from: £10
- **New Cross Inn,** 323A New Cross Road, rooms from £13, if you don't mind the area
- **The Clarendon Hotel,** 8-16 Montpelier Row. Rooms from: £75, backs onto Blackheath, nice views
- Or try a homestay. Lots of people rent out rooms in the area, to students practicing their English but tourists too!

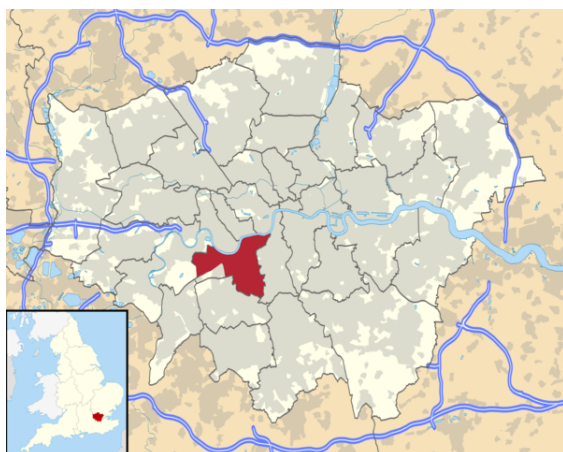
30.9 Go next

Because it doesn't appear on the Tube map this area can get overlooked by tourists but it has good fast links to Charing Cross station (for **Leicester Square** and **Covent Garden**), to Cannon Street station (for the **City**) and to London Bridge station (for the **South Bank**) so it is a good base for visiting central London.

The **Greenwich** World Heritage site is a bus ride from most places in Southwark-Lewisham, or take the DLR from Lewisham station.

Chapter 31

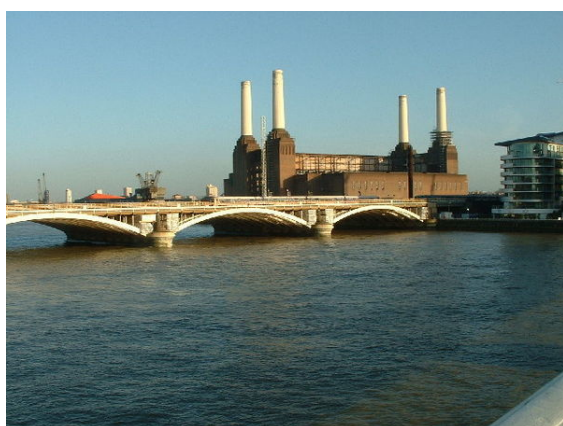
London/Wandsworth



Location of the Wandsworth area in London

Wandsworth is a district of southwest London.

31.1 Understand



The iconic Battersea Power Station

Wandsworth consists largely of modest housing built as suburban retreats in the 19th century, interspersed with a patchwork of green “commons”, a relic of the borough’s history as small villages. Today the smart houses, cafes and bars close to the expansive green lung of **Clapham Common** are popular with young professionals working in the City, whilst cosmopolitan **Tooting** is home to

a large South Asian community. Some of the smartest and newest developments are to be found along the river-front in **Putney** and **Battersea**, where shiny apartment blocks rub shoulders with the industrial shell of the famous power station.

31.2 Get in

31.2.1 By tube

The district is serviced by the following tube stations:

- Clapham Common (Northern line)
- Clapham South (Northern line)
- Tooting Broadway (Northern line)
- Tooting Bec (Northern line)
- Balham (Northern line)
- East Putney (District line)

31.2.2 By train

- Clapham Junction is major station on south London routes and a huge number of services pass through there including from Waterloo station (SouthWest Trains), Victoria Station (Southern Railway), West London (London Overground) and various destinations in suburban South London and the South and Southwest of England. Many London bus routes also operate through the Clapham Junction area.
- Tooting Thameslink goes to Holborn Viaduct and Wimbledon, and direct to Luton airport. There is also a proposed tram link. Trains can be caught at Tooting, Wandsworth Common and Balham stations.
- Trains leave **Waterloo Station** for Putney every 10 minutes and the journey takes around 20 minutes.

31.2.3 By bus

- Putney is connected by bus from the following areas:
 - South Kensington, Knightsbridge and Hyde Park (Bus 430, Bus 14, Bus 74).
 - Clapham Junction (Bus 39, Bus 337, Bus 37). Victoria Station (Bus 170). Earl's Court (Bus 74).
 - Bus 14 also connects Putney with Oxford Street area (Warren Street, Goodge Street, Tottenham Court), West End (Piccadilly Circus) and Buckingham Palace area (Green Park). Bus 220 connects Putney with Hammersmith and Shepherd's Bush. Bus N10 is a night bus that connects Putney with King's Cross Station and Euston Station.



Clapham Common

- **London Wetlands Centre**, Barnes. Great for twitchers (bird-watching). **W**

31.3 Get around

31.4 See

- **Battersea Park** (*tube: Sloane Sq and then a 15-min walk over Chelsea Bridge*), e-mail: mike@batterseapark.org. A lovely park on the southern banks of the Thames known for its wildlife and some splendid examples of mature trees. **W**
- **Battersea Power Station**. One of the great icons of the old smog-filled London of the mid 20th century and regarded as a fine example of industrial design of the art deco era. This coal-fired power station is not unsurprisingly now disused and sits empty as a protected Grade II listed building. Several development plans have been considered and turned down amid much controversy. In many ways best viewed from a distance on the north side of the Thames at Chelsea. **W**
- **Clapham Common** (*tube: Clapham Common*). This large open space in densely built Wandsworth has been a source of comfort to Londoners for time-in-memorial. The common is roughly triangular shape with an area of 88 hectares. It is mostly open grassy parkland with scattered mature trees. There are three ponds here which are notably popular with local fisherman. The Grade II listed bandstand was fully restored in 2006. **W**
- **Wandsworth Museum**, 38 West Hill, Wandsworth, SW18 1RZ, ☎ +44 20 8875-8323, e-mail: contact@wandsworthmuseum.co.uk. A modest museum covering local history which relocated in 2010; has an excellent cafe. **W**


31.5 Do

- **Tooting Bec Common**. is a real gem, with tennis courts, football fields and plenty of open space. Sports facilities include Tooting Leisure Centre and Pool, golf, horse riding, Tooting Bec Lido (the biggest open air pool in the UK), athletic track and the nearby Streatham Ice Rink.



Putney Bridge on the Thames at Wandsworth

- **Clapham Picturehouse**, 76 Venn St, SW4 0AT (*tube: Clapham Common*), ☎ +44 20 7498-3323. Repertory/arthouse cinema with a very varied programme
- **Easy Peasy Skate** (*Battersea Pk*). Sa 10:30. For absolute beginners.
- **Putney Walk**. Starts at Putney Rail Station, passing historical houses, old pubs, a cemetery, the Embankment, etc.

- **Putney Arts Theatre**, Ravenna Rd, SW15 6AW, ☎ +44 20 8788-6943. Comes recommended for anyone interested in anything to do with theatre. They run drama courses for adults and children and around eight shows a year are produced by adults and children alike. Putney Theatre company offers opportunities for anyone interested in any type of theater work from acting to writing to set design. Group 64 is the youth drama group for kids, they run weekly classes, holiday projects but also put together shows.
- **Putney Leisure Centre**, Dryburgh Rd, SW15 1BL, ☎ +44 20 8785-0388. All-year warm swimming pool and sauna session. £4.
- **Thames Path**. Start from Embankment St. If you feel energetic, from Embankment street walk south to Lower Richmond Rd via Festing Rd (a road of cute little white houses). Continue walking to the west until you reach Barnes Village.
- **Tooting & Mitcham United Football Club**, Imperial Fields, Bishopsford Rd, Mitcham (*tube: Morden, buses 280, 118, 201, Mitcham tram stop*), ☎ +44 20 8648-3248. The *Stripes* are a football club based at Imperial Fields. This recently built stadium got promoted into Ryman Premier, two seasons ago looking forward to go into higher divisions. The club has a café/bar with real ale and with big screen TV (sky sports) and has a gym. **W** 

31.6 Buy

- **Clapham Junction** (*An area near the busy Clapham Jct Railway Stn*). Good selection of shops including high street chains, supermarkets and department stores, complimented by bars, cafes and restaurants. Nearby **Northcote Road** has many independent shops and a Saturday market for organic food, an indoor antiques market, arts and crafts, etc and was voted London's second favourite shopping street.
- **Putney High Street**. Shopping, also international and British dining experience.
- **Tooting and Broadway Markets**, Tooting High St, SW17 0RJ (*tube: Tooting Broadway*). Provide a varied and interesting selection, including fruit and vegetables, clothes, furniture and household items.

31.7 Eat

There are two eating 'hubs' in the Wandsworth borough. St Johns Hill and Battersea Rise near Clapham Junction

have an excellent range of restaurants, with new ones opening all the time - very popular with the young professionals who flock here after work. For the tourist looking to escape the overpriced horrors of central London this is a good, easy-to-reach option. The second hub is Tooting, which has many excellent Indian restaurants, however the area doesn't really compare to Brick Lane.

31.7.1 Budget

- **Chanteroy Delicatessen**, 233a Wimbledon Park Rd (*Tube: Southfields*), ☎ +44 20 8874-1446. 08:00-20:00. A small delicatessen offering primarily French breads, meats and cheeses. Fresh filled baguettes are made to order and there is often a queue out the door. The staff are all native French speakers. £1.50-3.
- **The Bertie and Boo Coffee Shop**, 162 Balham High Rd (*tube: Balham*), ☎ +44 20 8772-9987. Cheerful, quirky coffee shop serving freshly made sandwiches and cakes. Free wifi.

31.7.2 Mid-range

- **Preto @ Putney**, Brazilian steakhouse, with a great-value buffet (£17 with meat cooked to your liking).
- **Dosa 'n' Chutney** (*Near to Tooting Broadway underground on Upper Tooting Rd and close to the border with Collier's Wood*). Large restaurant.
- **Gourmet Burger Kitchen**, 333 Putney Bridge Rd. Gourmet burger, a favorite for many. Try the venison sausage, sweet potato and rocket leaves burger, an awesome mix of sweet and savory. **Wagamama** is a nearby if you fancy something Asian slightly cheaper. Meal for 2 £25.
- **The Indian Restaurant**, 197-199 Replingham Rd (*tube: Southfields*), ☎ +44 20 8870-1483. A very good Indian restaurant. More a *restaurant that does Indian food* than your traditional *curry house*. The owner is very friendly, passionate about her food and always happy to help you order. Starters £4-7, main courses £8-15.
- **Ma Goa**, 242-244 Upper Richmond Rd. Indian, has won various awards for its fine Indian cuisine.
- **La Mancha**. Some of the best Tapas outside of Spain.
- **Lahore Karahi**, 1 Tooting High Street, SW17 0SN (*tube: Tooting Broadway*), ☎ +44 20 8767-2477.

M-Su 11:00-midnight. BYO, Halal. Pakistani restaurant serving great food at decent prices, albeit in very basic premises with cheap furnishing. No alcohol is served but you can bring your own at no charge. A meal for two is about £30.

- **Lola Rojo**, 78 Northcote Road, Battersea., ☎ +44 20 7350-2262. Tu-Sa 10:00-22:30, Su 10:00-16:00. Chef Antonio Belles' comfy, neighborhood restaurant and deli serves contemporary Spanish tapas.
- **Mirch Masala**, 213 Upper Tooting Rd (*tube: Tooting Broadway*), ☎ +44 20 8672-7500. Noon-Midnight. BYO, Halal. This place would not win points for interior design, but despite the canteen-style furnishings you have the advantage of an open kitchen, so you can see exactly what they are doing to your food. The staff are numerous, fast and friendly, and you are barely sat down before a plate of poppods appear in front of you like magic. The menu caters very well for vegetarians, but still offers plenty of lamb, chicken and fish dishes, all generous portions and very reasonably priced.
- **Radha Krishna Bhavan**, 86 Tooting High St (*tube: Tooting Broadway*), ☎ +44 20 8767-3462. noon-15:00, 18:00-23:00 daily. Fully licenced. The decor is charmingly *eccentric*, which just means it is a bit bonkers. Sunset palm trees on the walls and large masked figures glare back at you. The specialty here is South Indian (unlike Brick Lane which is mainly Bangladeshi), so you may discover plenty of dishes you have never heard of before. The poppods have some very tasty dips and every dish is very cheap for London, meaning you can try loads of different dishes between a large group. Highly recommended. Starters £2.50, mains £5-6.
- **Cafe Rouge**, 200-204 Putney Bridge Rd. French chain restaurant. As the location is a bit hidden it is often quiet, ideal for a romantic dinner for couples.
- **Thai Girder**, 36 Replingham Rd (*tube: Southfields*), ☎ +44 871 971 7344. A Thai restaurant with an iron girder running through the middle of the place.

31.7.3 Splurge

Various restaurants and bars in **Putney Wharf area**. Just behind the St Mary's Church.

- **Chez Bruce**, 2 Bellevue Rd, SW17 7EG, ☎ +44 20 8672-0114, fax: +44 20 8767-6648. Michelin star restaurant serving Modern European cuisine. Despite the award, unpretentious, great food and service; situated across the road from Wandsworth Common. £52.

- **Thai Square**, Putney Bridge, 2-4 Lower Richmond Rd. Thai bar/restaurant. Good, if expensive food, impressive decor, great view of the Thames river.

31.8 Drink

31.8.1 Balham

- **The Bedford**, 77 Bedford Hill. Famed for the comedy and live music in the large galleried back room

31.8.2 Clapham

Clapham has many upmarket pubs and bars, particularly around the northeast area of the Common

31.8.3 Tooting

Tooting has many new wine bars, and renovated and traditional pubs.

- **Lahore**, Upper Tooting Rd. Favoured by the Good Food Guide and many other awarding bodies. Serving Pakistani cuisine.
- **The Selkirk** (*formerly The Frog Forget Me Not*), Selkirk Road.
- **Yars Village**, Mitcham Rd (*Opposite Smith Brothers Dept Store*). Cafe style Indian food, cooked fresh with an open kitchen. Great food served by attentive waiters, BYO alcohol.

31.8.4 Putney

Putney is blessed with a fine selection of pubs. Among the most atmospheric are the ones on the river bank.

- **Boathouse**, 32 Brewhouse Ln (*In Putney Wharf area*).
- **The Bricklayers Arms**, 22 Waterman St. Rated 3rd best pub in England 2012 by National Geographic. Traditional style pub with an eclectic clientele, well-kept beers, no TV, and no food.
- **The Coat & Badge**, 10 Lacy Rd. The old-world outward appearance of this pub (established 1715) belies an interior that is distinctly modern. This Putney pub packs in a sizeable crowd of trendy locals, keen to enjoy the attentive service, good pub grub and a wide choice of wines and beers.

- **Duke's Head**, 8 Lower Richmond Rd. A Lovely gastropub with great views on and along the river. A regular for locals.
- **Moomba Bar & Kitchen**, 5 Lacy Rd. Moomba has been a long term fixture on the Putney food and drink scene. It enjoys rave reviews for its stylish decor, gorgeous menus and friendly service.
- **The Slug and Lettuce**, 146-148 Putney High St. The pub has a comfortable, relaxed atmosphere with comfy chairs and pleasant surroundings. They also serve a variety of modern food. Catering for vegetarians is provided.
- **The Rocket** fancy-dan Wetherspoons right on the waterfront next to Putney Bridge.
- **The Spotted Horse**, 122 Putney High St. Described as the oldest pub on the high street, a refurb has made this local the new kid on the block. Thankfully, the local charm and hospitality remains.

31.8.5 Battersea

- **Adventure bar**, 91a Battersea Rise, ☎ +44 20 7223-1700. Cocktail bar with daily happy hour.

31.9 Sleep

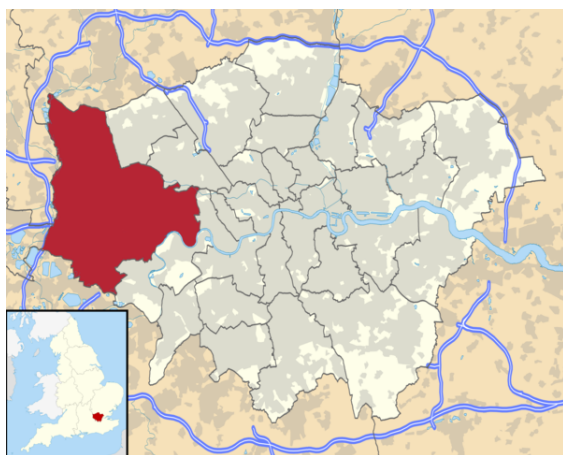
- **Brewers Inn Wandsworth**, 147 East Hill, SW18 2QB, ☎ +44 20 8874-4128, e-mail: brewersinn@youngs.co.uk. A Youngs' pub with rooms. Full English breakfast included. £120.
- **Flexistay ApartHotel Tooting**, Thirsk Rd, CR4 2BD (*tube: Tooting Broadway*), ☎ +44 20 7828-1526. Budget serviced apartments. Single and double studios available. nightly, weekly an monthly rentals. £350 per week.
- **Holiday Inn Express Wandsworth**, Smuggler's Way SW18 1EG, ☎ +44 870 7201298. The usual Holiday Inn Express set up.
- **The Lodge Hotel London**, 52-54 Upper Richmond Rd, Putney, ☎ +44 20 8874-1598. Situated in a great central London location, this three star Best Western hotel is both high quality and affordable.

31.10 Connect

31.11 Go next

Chapter 32

London/West



Location of the West London area in London

West London refers to the outer western suburbs of Greater London, a diverse area that ranges from the densely-populated but tree-lined streets of Chiswick, Acton and Ealing, through to the semi-rural western districts that lie between Heathrow Airport and Uxbridge. As you might expect from the outer reaches of a metropolis, much of West London is suburban 'commuter belt' territory. Even so, a great many centres located on or near West London's key transport links have much to offer both the traveller and casual visitor in the way of accommodation, food, sights and experiences. Tracing a meandering course on the area's southern edge is—of course—the River Thames, the focus of many local opportunities.

32.1 Understand

West London's popularity with travellers and short-to-mid-term residents (backpackers, working holiday makers, etc.) can be explained by a number of factors, not least its proximity to **Heathrow Airport**, London's largest airport, and the area's multiple, easy transport connections with the West End and Central London.

West London was once part of the county of **Middlesex**, which no longer exists for administrative purposes; Middlesex, however, is sometimes still used as part of the postal address for these areas - don't let this confuse you!



Chiswick House

32.1.1 Boroughs

West London consists of numerous suburbs, villages and satellite towns. Several areas are particularly popular with travellers and backpackers on account of their attractions, their facilities and their many accommodation options.

West London consists of the following boroughs:

- **Ealing**—the centrally-located Borough of Ealing includes the following areas:
 - **Acton**, an area popular with visiting Australians, New Zealanders and South Africans. Popular with travellers on account of its entertainment options, relatively cheap accommodation (short stay and rental) and excellent transport links with the rest of London and further afield (Acton has the largest number of Tube and train stations that have 'Acton' in their name). Although part of the London Borough of Ealing, Acton very much retains its own identity.
 - **Ealing** itself, popularly known as the "Queen of the Suburbs"
 - **Southall**, also known as 'Little India', and a must-visit if you have the time to venture out of Central London. If you do only one thing when here, make sure you

have a curry in one of the many authentic Asian restaurants.

- **Hounslow**—the borough includes the following areas:

- **Chiswick**, a leafy, generally well-heeled district, known for its wide variety of quality shopping and food outlets.
- **Brentford**, situated on the main transport links from Heathrow airport to central London, this is a mainly commercial area. The riverside area on the north bank of the Thames has a number of new housing developments and hotels.
- **Hounslow**, a largely working class area with many of the residents employed at nearby Heathrow airport

- **Hillingdon**—this westernmost Borough of Greater London includes:

- **Uxbridge**, the administrative centre of Hillingdon Borough. A vibrant area on the edge of London, good shopping experience and good transport links to the West End.
- **Hayes**, industrial and housing areas with good access to the airport.
- **Ruislip**, a residential area with some woodland areas.

32.2 Get in

32.2.1 By tube



Ealing Broadway rail and Underground station

West London is well served by Tube connections from Central London:

- **Piccadilly Line** (blue) - runs through Chiswick, then divides at Acton Town with branches to Heathrow and Uxbridge
- **District Line** (green) - runs through Chiswick, then divides at Turnham Green with branches to Richmond and Ealing Broadway
- **Central Line** (red) - divides at North Acton with branches to Ealing Broadway and West Ruislip
- **Metropolitan Line** (purple) - runs through North London, then divides at Harrow on the Hill with one branch joining the Piccadilly Line to Uxbridge. This is a quicker route to Uxbridge from Central London

32.2.2 By train

The following routes are useful for areas of West London not well served by the Tube.

- **Southwest Trains**—from Waterloo and Clapham Junction to Chiswick and Hounslow (Chiswick mainline train station is located several hundred metres south of the Great West Road and Chiswick High Road)
- **First Great Western**—from Paddington to Ealing Broadway, Southall and Hayes
- **Heathrow Connect**—from **Heathrow Airport** to Hayes, Southall and Ealing Broadway

32.2.3 By bus

A number of key bus routes exist that can readily transport visitors to West London from the centre of town:

- **Route 27**—runs to and from Camden / Chalk Farm and Chiswick Business Park, via Baker Street, Paddington, Notting Hill, Olympia and Hammersmith (24 hour service)
- **Route 94**—runs to and from Piccadilly Circus and Acton Green, via Bayswater and Shepherd's Bush (24 hour service)

Night bus services to and from Central London are more restricted but incredibly useful once the Tube has closed for the night:

TfL Map of Night Services

- **N11**—runs to and from the City of London (Liverpool St station) and Ealing Broadway Tube station, via the West End, Victoria, Chelsea, Fulham and Hammersmith

The **Oxford** to London bus service runs every 15 minutes and stops at Hillingdon tube station on the Piccadilly/Metropolitan line.

32.2.4 By road

The main routes through West London are:

- the A4 and M4 Motorway linking London with the Lower Thames Valley, **Bath**, **Bristol** and **South Wales**
- the A40 and M40 Motorway linking London with **Oxford**, **Birmingham** and the West Midlands

32.2.5 By plane

Heathrow Airport is in West London, connecting from many international locations.

32.3 Get around

32.4 See

Although not nearly as concentrated as Central London, West London's attractions are many and varied:

32.4.1 Landmarks

- **1 Chiswick House and Gardens**, Burlington Lane, Chiswick, (*Bus 190 (Hammersmith-Richmond)*), ☎ +44 20 8995-0508. W-Su and bank holidays 1 Apr-31 Oct 10:00-17:00, Sa until 14:00. Maintained by English Heritage, Chiswick House is a famous and fine example of the 18th century Palladian style of British architecture. The third Earl of Burlington (1694-1753), who designed this elegant Classical villa close to the Thames, drew inspiration from his *grand tours* of Italy, while William Kent was employed to create sumptuous interiors to contrast with the pure exterior. The Neo-Classical gardens, although much reduced from their original size, are the perfect complement to the house. adults £6.10, children £3.70, concessions £5.50, English Heritage members free. **W**
- **1 Boston Manor House**, around a mile from the centre of Brentford along the Boston Manor Rd, ☎ +44 845 456 2800. A Jacobean manor house (built in 1622), it is a pleasant and informative place to while away an hour or two, particularly during the summer when the extensive open parklands to the rear of the building make for a delightful stroll. **W**
- **Ealing Studios**. Not open to the public. The oldest film studio in the world. **W**
- **Ealing Town Hall**, 5 New Broadway, Ealing, W5 2BY, ☎ +44 20 8579-2424. Victorian Gothic building built in 1888 and still in use as town hall.

32.4.2 Parks

- **Ealing Common**, Ealing. **W**
- **Ealing Green**, Ealing.
- **Fassnidge Park**, Uxbridge.
- **Lammas Park**, Ealing.
- **1 Osterley Park and House**, Jersey Road, Isleworth, TW7 4RB, ☎ +44 20 8232-5050, e-mail: osterley@nationaltrust.org.uk. House 4 Mar-1 Nov W-Su 13:00-16:30, gardens 3 Mar-1 Nov W-Su 11:00-17:00, park 29 Mar-24 Oct 08:00-19:30, 25 Oct-28 Mar 08:00-18:00. House and gardens £8.40, children 5-16 £4.20, children under 5 free, family ticket (for two adults and up to three children) £21; gardens only £3.70, children 5-16 £1.85, children under 5 free; park free. **W**
- **Ruislip Lido**, Ruislip (*Off the Ruislip to Northwood Rd*). A man made lake surrounded by woodland, the Waters Edge Pub/Restaurant, a sandy beach (No swimming allowed), narrow gauge railway rides around the lake. **W**
- **1 Syon Park**, Brentford, ☎ +44 20 8560-0881. House: 24 Mar-31 Oct W Th Su, bank holiday Mondays, Good Friday, Easter Saturday 11:00-17:00 (last entry 4:15PM), gardens 10:30-17:00 daily or dusk if earlier except 25-26 Dec. The stately home of the Dukes of Northumberland for 400 years, Syon House and its 200-acre estate are located between Brentford and Isleworth. The main house was built to a design by the English architect Robert Adams, the grounds laid out by Capability Brown. The Great Conservatory, commissioned to be built in 1826, was featured in the Peter Cook and Dudley Moore film *Bedazzled*, and is a popular local wedding venue; Syon House itself has appeared in a vast number of period dramas. Well worth a visit. Syon House & Gardens & Great Conservatory £7.50, concessions/child £6.50, family £17.00; Gardens & Great Conservatory £3.75, concessions/child £2.50, family £9.00. **W**
- **Walpole Park**, Ealing (*Just east of the town square*). Relaxing experience. There is a small pond and an ice cream stall. There are also great playground facilities, and even a miniature zoo! **W**

32.4.3 Museums

- **1 Gunnersbury Park Museum**, Gunnersbury Park, Popes Ln, W3 8LQ, ☎ +44 20 8992-1612, fax: +44 20 8752-0686, e-mail: gp-museum@laing.com. Apr-Oct 11:00-17:00, Nov-Mar 11:00-16:00. Local history museum for Ealing and Hounslow, housed in the former home of the Rothschild family. Free. **W**
- **1 London Museum of Water and Steam**, Green Dragon Ln, Brentford, TW8 0EN, ☎ +44 20 8568-4757, fax: +44 20 8569-9978, e-mail: info@kbsm.org. Tu-Su 11:00-16:00. Formerly known as 'Kew Bridge Steam Museum', this museum of London's water supply is well worth a visit for anyone with an interest in the industrial revolution. Housed in the former Kew Bridge Pumping Station (a fascinating building in its own right), the Steam Museum possesses the finest collection of steam pumping engines in the world. Different engines are to be seen working on different days, so it is worth checking the website before visiting if a particular engine is of interest. Themed days are a feature of the Steam Museum's calendar, and purchase of an entry ticket permits limitless further visits throughout the following year. Multi visit ticket £9.50. **W**
- **1 London Motor Museum**. **W**
- **1 The Musical Museum**, 399 High St, Brentford, TW8 0DU (*near Kew Bridge station*), ☎ +44 20 8560-8108, fax: +44 20 8847-9383. Tu-Su 11:00-17:30. Something of an undiscovered gem. The recently reopened museum houses a vast collection of working automatic musical instruments, from barrel organs to player pianos and beyond. Tours with knowledgeable and highly enthusiastic guides are highly recommended, as is the opportunity to listen to the Mighty Wurlitzer (which rises from the floor in the main auditorium). In addition to its function as a museum, the venue also hosts occasional cinema screenings of classic films (preceded by music from the Mighty Wurlitzer, or - in the case of silent film - accompanied by it) and houses a popular cafe with Thames views. Among the unusual (and hard-to-find) items usually available in the gift shop are clocks made from 78 rpm shellac discs, and original player piano rolls. £10, concessions £7.50, children under 16 £4. **W** (updated Nov 2015)
- **PM Gallery & House**, Walpole Park, Mattock Ln, Ealing, W5 5EQ (*tube: Ealing Broadway*), ☎ +44 20 8567-1227. Tu-F 13:00-17:00, Sa 11:00-17:00. Houses Pitzhanger Manor House and an art gallery. **W**

32.4.4 Galleries

- **For Arts Sake**, 45 Bond St, Ealing, W5 5AS, ☎ +44 20 8579-6365, fax: +44 20 8566-2974. M-F 10:00-17:30, Sa 10:00-18:00, Su 11:00-16:00. Modern British printmaking as well as ceramics and jewellery.

32.4.5 Other

- **Hounslow Urban Farm**, Faggs Road, Feltham, Middlesex TW14 OLZ, ☎ +44 20 8831-9658.
- **1 Brentford Dock**. Fans of British TV may be interested to know that the riverside area to the south of Brentford High Street is frequently used for outdoor filming by popular series such as ITV's 'The Bill'. The backdrop of the estate (sited on the former Brentford Dock, the terminus for GWR trains transferring goods to the Thames) appears frequently in shows requiring a 'gritty', urban atmosphere. The northern aspect of the Brentford Dock estate belies its extremely picturesque marina (filled with a variety of narrowboats, Dutch barges and pleasure craft) and waterside views, however. Indeed, for connoisseurs of post-war architecture, Brentford Dock is often mentioned in the same breath as the Barbican estate in the City of London, and cited as an example of a successful and aesthetically-pleasing social housing development from a period most commonly characterised by its failures. **W**

32.5 Do

32.5.1 Ealing

Many events take place in Ealing each year, including

- **Ealing Jazz Festival**, Ealing.
- **Ealing Beer Festival**, Ealing.
- **Ealing Comedy Festival**, Ealing. Ealing hosts an annual comedy festival in the summer. Speaking of comedy in Ealing, in the late 1940s and 1950s Ealing was famous for a series of comedy movies filmed there.
- **Questors**, Mattock Ln, Ealing. The cinema is currently under reconstruction, said to include over 10 screens!

32.5.2 Brentford

- **Watermans Centre**, Brentford. The Watermans Centre is one of West London's finest arts and cultural venues. Watermans is especially noted for its

promotion of Asian arts, particularly in the fields of visual arts, theatre and comedy. It also houses a leading independent cinema, gallery spaces and a noted Indian restaurant.

- **Brentford Football Club.** Known for being one of the more family-friendly London football clubs, with a loyal local following and deep roots in the community. Uniquely, there are (good) pubs on all 4 corners!

32.6 Buy

32.6.1 Markets

- **Ealing Market,** Leeland Rd, Ealing. 9:00-13:00. Street market with farm products.

32.6.2 Shopping centres



Ealing Broadway Sq at Christmas time

- **Ealing Broadway Shopping Centre,** Ealing (*Moments from Ealing Broadway Station*).
- **Arcadia Centre,** Ealing (*Opposite Ealing Broadway Shopping Centre*).
- **The Chimes Mall,** Uxbridge. Among the top 100 shopping destinations in the UK.

- **The Pavilions,** Uxbridge. Home to many high street names including Marks & Spencers and Argos to name but a few.

32.6.3 Shops

- **Hippy Heaven,** Ealing. Sells nice trinkets, jewelry, incense, and stones. There is also a tattoo/piercing shop, with skilled artists.
- **The square in Ealing Broadway,** Ealing. Often eventful, with beautiful decorations at Christmas time and musicians performing in the Summer. Christmas and Easter markets also take place in the shopping centre square.

32.6.4 Clothing

- **Roberto Revilla,** Roberto Revilla London, Tailors Workroom, Basement Shropshire House, 179 Tottenham Court Road, London W1T 7NZ, ☎ +44 20 3006 8451, e-mail: contact@robertorevillalondon.com. Bespoke tailoring services and luxury accessories.

32.7 Eat

Chiswick is an area of West London with a wide range of options. There are at least 30 restaurants in Chiswick. Chiswick High Road has the usual wide selection of fast food outlets and supermarket food. For the more discerning, an extensive range of restaurants and eateries exists for all tastes and budgets that makes Chiswick a definite destination for the gastronome.

32.7.1 Budget

- **Coco's Noodle Bar,** 70 The Mall, Ealing, W5 5LS (*tube: Ealing Broadway*), ☎ +44 20 8840-8525. M-Sa noon-23:00, Su noon-22:00. Oriental restaurant serving delicious food from all over East and South-east Asia.
- **Edwards,** 28-30 New Broadway, Ealing, W5 2XA, ☎ +44 872 148 4921. Breakfast and dinner-serving.
- **The Green Cafe and Bar,** 9 The Green, Ealing, W5 5DA, ☎ +44 20 8579-7493. Has an extensive burger menu.
- **Haha's,** 5 Mattock Ln, Ealing, W5 5BG (*tube: Ealing Broadway*).

- **The Okawari**, 13 Bond St, Ealing, W5 5AP, ☎ +44 20 8566-0466, fax: +44 20 8566-2010. Su-Th noon-15:00, 18:00-23:00, F Sa noon-15:00, 18:00-23:30. Famous for its wonderful Japanese food, and with Takara plum wine on the menu it is worth a trip. Boxes from £9.
- **Thai Tiara**, 76 Whitton High St, Twickenham, TW2 7LS, ☎ +44 20 8898-3303.

32.7.2 Mid-range

- **Caffè Uno**, Ealing. Breakfast and dinner-serving.
- **High Road Brasserie**, 162-164 Chiswick High Rd, Chiswick, ☎ +44 20 8742-7474. M-Th 07:00-midnight, F 07:00-01:00, Sa 08:00-01:00, Su 08:00-23:00. A recent addition to the High Street restaurant scene, highly reviewed in the local and national press. Menu includes brasserie classics, seafood platters, and fancy sandwiches. Daily set menu a real bargain at £15 a head for three courses. Three courses à la carte with wine averages £30-45.
- **Sam's Brasserie and Bar**, Barley Mow Centre, 11 Barley Mow Passage, Chiswick (*Just off the High St and adjacent to Turnham Green*), ☎ +44 20 8987-0555. 09:00-midnight. Trendy, relaxed, foody eatery popular among locals. Two course menu £15.
- **1 La Trompette**, 5-7 Devonshire Rd, Chiswick (*tube: Turnham Green 418 m, Chiswick Park 821 m*), ☎ +44 20 8747-1836, fax: +44 20 8995-8097, e-mail: info@latrompette.co.uk. Probably the best restaurant in West London, great value French cuisine, excellent wine list. Prix fixe at £23.50 lunch, £29 dinner, although an a-la-carte meal would generally be over £50.

32.7.3 Splurge

- **Henley's Restaurant and Bar**, 140 Bath Rd, Hayes Middlesex, UB3 5AW (*At Radisson Edwardian Hotels*), ☎ +44 20 8817-2607, e-mail: henleys@radisson.com. M-F 07:00-midnight. Mains £20.
- **Qs Waters Edge**, 4 Packet Boat Ln, Cowley, UB8 2.

32.8 Drink

You will never be short of a pub in West London. Up-market bars and clubs are also plentiful.

32.8.1 Acton

- **The Aeronaut**, 264 Acton High St., W3 9BH (*Walk north from Acton Town Tube station*), ☎ +44 20 8993-4242, e-mail: aeronaut@drinkinlondon.co.uk. 12PM-midnight Mo-We, open until 1AM Th, Su, open until 1.30 Fr, Sa. Styled as a 'Pub, Brewery and Circus', The Aeronaut has been turning the Acton pub experience upside down. Rated highly on review sites, this theme pub is inspired by Acton-born turn-of-the-century pilot, George Lee Temple (the first Englishman to fly an aeroplane upside down). Features its own micro-brewery and a program of cabaret acrobats and circus performers. Refurbished and re-opened (late 2013) on the site of the old Redback Tavern. Sadly seriously damaged by fire shortly after midnight on 1st January 2017 and is consequently closed until further notice. (updated Jan 2017)

32.8.2 Ealing

Pubs in the centre of Ealing tend to be lively and rather noisy.

- **The Drayton** (*Opposite West Ealing Station*). Homely old fashioned pub.
- **The Haven Arms** (*Near Ealing Broadway Station*). Homely old fashioned pub.
- **North Star** (*Near the tube station*). Slightly more upmarket and stocks a wide variety of draught beers.

32.8.3 Uxbridge

Uxbridge is home to a many fine eateries and public houses. Many pubs are located along historic Windsor Street.

32.8.4 Feltham

Feltham's two main drinking establishments are

- **The Moon on the Square** (*In The Centre*). A Wetherspoon's chain pub.
- **Red Lion** (*On the corner of the High St and Browell's Ln*). Used to have a giant boot in the beer garden for children to play in, but it has been removed. Has a new chef since summer 2009 and the lunchtime and evening food menus are good, as is the quality and price of the meals.

32.8.5 Brentford

Historically (and perhaps unsurprisingly, given its roots as an industrial working-class area) Brentford has been known as a “drinker’s town”. Indeed, it was long reputed that in the Victorian terraces surrounding the football ground, there was “a pub on every corner”. To an extent this is still true today, with a sizable number of small drinking establishments still eking out a living in the backstreets to the west of the Ealing Road. Most are perfectly friendly to outsiders, while maintaining a core clientele of local drinkers, primarily men.

For the visitor to Brentford seeking a more eclectic drinking culture, pubs such as the **Magpie And Crown** (on the High Street, opposite the Magistrates’ Court) offers a fine selection of real ales and imported beer (including fruit beer on draught), while the **Old Firestation** (also on the High Street) appeals to a younger, more affluent crowd with its contemporary ‘bar’ vibe and award-winning cocktails. **The Weir** (on Market Place) offers waterside *al fresco* drinking in its attractive beer garden, while the **Brewery Tap** (to be found hidden at the end of Catherine Wheel Road - don’t give up looking!) is a tiny two-room pub offering traditional food, live jazz and a highly quirky clientele to those with a desire to discover something of Brentford’s true character.

Visitors might note that pubs such as the Albany Arms and Beehive are most heavily patronised by locals who might be less welcoming to outsiders than in the pubs noted above.

Beer-lovers with a taste for sampling local brews should note that many of Brentford’s pubs are ‘tied houses’ (owned by the brewery rather than the landlord) serving Fuller’s ales. Fuller’s are a local brewers based in Chiswick (although serving a country-wide market for beers such as London Pride), less than 2 miles along the Thames. Drinkers can thus be assured that their pint of Fuller’s is, if nothing else, both local and fresh.

32.9 Sleep

With its proximity to Heathrow Airport, Uxbridge has some good hotels. There is a recently opened (2009) travel lodge in the bus stations and numerous independent pubs offering accommodation in the local area.

32.9.1 Budget

- **Caspian Hotel**, 14 Haven Green, Ealing, W5 2UU (*Opposite Ealing Broadway Stn*), ☎ +44 20 8997-3524, fax: +44 20 8998-8236, e-mail: caspianhtl@aol.com. On the slightly cheaper end of the scale. Doubles from £50.

- **London Guest House**, 167 Horn Ln, Ealing, W3 6PP, ☎ +44 20 8993-6699, fax: +44 20 8896-9012, e-mail: info@londonguesthouse.uk.com. Doubles from £55.

- **Travelodge**, Feltham (*Very close to Feltham train station and the shops*). Doubles from around £30.

32.9.2 Mid-range

- **The Bridge Hotel**, Western Ave, Greenford, UB6 8ST, ☎ +44 20 8566-6246, fax: +44 20 8566-6140, e-mail: bridgehotel@youngs.co.uk. Doubles from £75.

- **Best Western Chiswick Palace & Suites**, 73 Chiswick High Rd, Chiswick, ☎ +44 20 8994-1712, fax: +44 20 8742-2585, e-mail: reservations@chiswickhotel.co.uk. Doubles from £88.

- **Clayton Hotel Chiswick**, 626 Chiswick High Rd, Chiswick, ☎ +44 20 8996-5200. 116 designer rooms hotel. from £92. (updated Feb 2017)

- **Ramada Jarvis Hotel**, Uxbridge Rd, Ealing (*btwn Ealing Broadway and Ealing Common Stns*). Up-market hotel. Doubles from £78.

- **1 St. Giles Heathrow Hotel**, Hounslow Road, Feltham, Middlesex, TW14 9AD (*Very close to Feltham train station and the shops*), ☎ +44 20 8817 7000. from £45. (updated Feb 2017)

- **1 Premier Inn** (*Premier Inn London Heathrow Airport (Bath Road) Hotel*), 15 Bath Road, Hounslow, Middlesex TW6 2 AB (*From west - M4 Junction 4, south on M4 to A4, then east to hotel; from east - M4 Junction 3 south on A312 (The Parkway), then west on A4 to hotel*), ☎ +44 871 527 8508. This hotel is just outside the northeast perimeter of Heathrow Airport. It is a very well maintained facility with excellent service. A free shuttle runs from the hotel to Heathrow’s terminals on a routine schedule. This hotel has a full-service restaurant, as well as a Costa coffee shop. Basic WiFi is free and an upgrade can be purchased. Rooms are £50 to £60 on up; parking is £10 per day. (updated Aug 2015)

32.9.3 Splurge

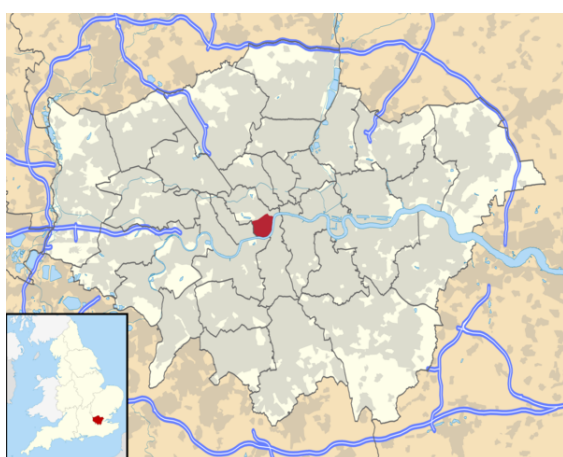
32.10 Connect

32.11 Go next

Chapter 33

London/Westminster

For other places with the same name, see Westminster (disambiguation).



Location of the Westminster area in London

Westminster is a district of central London.

33.1 Understand

Westminster is a city in its own right, the twin to the ancient **City of London** further east and historically they jointly formed the focus of what is today regarded as London. The Palace of Westminster came to be the principal royal residence after the Norman Conquest of England in 1066, and later housed the developing Parliament and law courts of England. The neighbouring Westminster Abbey became the traditional venue of the coronation of England regents. Westminster has therefore been the seat of royal, and later parliamentary, government and power for 900 years.

As a result, many of its attractions are of an historical and cultural variety. Even so Westminster very much retains a bustling, modern feel as the centre of British government and is often used as shorthand for Parliament and the political community (including the elected Government) of the United Kingdom generally.

For the traveller and for the scope of this article, it is important to understand though that the district of West-



The Clock Tower of the Palace of Westminster

minster is bounded to the north by **Trafalgar Square** and **Mayfair**, to the east by **Covent Garden** and to the west by **Knightsbridge** and **Chelsea**.

St. James's is the area of Westminster that encompasses Buckingham Palace, the Palace of Westminster and the eponymously named park. This is a *very* affluent area of the city and has a great deal to offer visitors. **Belgravia** to the west of Buckingham Palace is probably the grandest residential area in the whole of the United Kingdom. **Victoria** and **Pimlico** in the south-west are the least grand parts of the district but still have much to offer including the Tate Britain, some wonderful Regency architecture and a number of good value accommodation options.

33.2 Get in

?""UNIQ--maplink-00000000-QINU""?
Map of London/Westminster (Edit GPX)?""UNIQ--

indicator-00000001-QINU""?

33.2.1 By bus

Victoria Bus Station, in front of the train station with the same name and is really more like lots of bus stops in one area. Nevertheless, lots of bus routes come through the station and out again to other parts of London.

33.2.2 By tube

The district is serviced by the following tube stations:

- Westminster (Circle, District and Jubilee lines)
- Embankment (Bakerloo, Circle, District and Jubilee lines).
- Green Park (Jubilee, Piccadilly and Victoria lines)
- Hyde Park Corner (Piccadilly line)
- Pimlico (Victoria line)
- St James's Park (Circle and District lines).
- Victoria (Circle, District and Victoria lines).

33.2.3 By train

The nearest mainline train stations are **London Waterloo** and **London Victoria**. It is worth taking the tube from these two stations to arrive at Westminster.

33.2.4 By coach

Victoria Coach Station is not far from the similarly names bus and train stations. Coaches arrive here from across the country and all over Europe. Multiple other coach lines pick up and drop off in the same area, especially on either side of Colonnade Walk, a row of shops and office blocks between Victoria train and coach stations.

33.2.5 By boat

- **Westminster Millennium Pier**. You can take a circular cruise.

33.3 See

33.3.1 Palace of Westminster


- **1 Palace of Westminster** (*more widely known as the Houses of Parliament*), Parliament Sq (*tube*:



Westminster Abbey



Westminster Bridge, Big Ben and The Palace of Westminster

Westminster). On the **UNESCO World Heritage List**, the Palace of Westminster is the seat of Parliament in the United Kingdom. It's often termed the "Mother of All Parliaments" - an exaggeration, but perhaps only a slight one. The present building largely dates from the 19th century when it was rebuilt following a fire in a splendid example of Victorian **neo-Gothic** architecture. The House of Commons (elected Members of Parliament or MPs) is located to the north of the building and is decorated with green leather upholstery, and the House of Lords (unelected Lords) is located to the south and decorated with red leather upholstery. **W** 

Watch committees and debates

While the house is sitting (most of the year), visitors can sit in the Strangers' Gallery of the Commons and Lords.

There is no charge to do this.

You should queue at St. Stephen's Entrance (opposite Westminster Abbey). Depending on the popularity of debates happening in the Houses, queueing for admission can take 30min or more. Avoid *Wednesday lunchtime* when the Prime Minister takes questions, and you are unlikely to find space at all unless you have a ticket from a Member of Parliament. If you do not wish to visit the *Commons*, then tell one of the police officers standing guard outside that you only wish to see the *House of Lords*, and you should be able to enter immediately.

- **St. Stephen's Hall.** Upon entry, you pass through a metal detector, and are very thoroughly searched. You then proceed into *St. Stephen's Hall*, where you are seated to wait for admission. A representative of the Sergeant-at-Arms gives you a slip of paper to write your name and address on.
- **House of Commons Strangers' Gallery.** When called, you proceed from St. Stephen's Hall to the Central Hall, and then upstairs. You must leave all items (bags, cameras, mobile phones, writing and written material) outside and then proceed through to the Strangers' Gallery. Upon entry, you can pick up a copy of the proceedings being discussed in the House that day. You should be quiet, anything above a whisper may lead to you being asked to leave. After leaving the Commons, you head back down to the Central Hall.
- **House of Lords Strangers' Gallery.** If you head away from the Commons, you pass along a corridor towards the Lords. If you ask to visit the Strangers' Gallery, a representative of Black Rod asks you to complete another slip of paper with your name and address. You then proceed up a staircase to the Lords Strangers' Gallery. Again, all items need to be left outside. Of the two chambers, the Lords is by far the more impressive, featuring the stunning throne (opposite the Strangers' Gallery) upon which the Queen delivers a speech outlining the Government's plans for the year ahead at the State Opening each year. Also, the queue for the Lords is always very short.
- **Westminster Hall.** After visiting the two Houses, visitors pass back through St. Stephen's Hall, and through Westminster Hall. Westminster Hall is one of the few areas of Parliament in which photography is permitted, and it is a very impressive place, dating back to the 9th century. Plaques on the floor mark where the bodies of deceased members of the royal family lay in state (most recently the Queen Mother in 2002), and significant events which took place in the hall (such as the trial of King Charles I).

Tours of Parliament

- **Summer Opening**, ☎ +44 870 9063773. 28 Jul-27 Sep M-Sa. While the Houses are in recess, the Palace of Westminster is generally closed - apart from the long Summer recess, during which tours are run through the building, led by Parliamentary employees. Popularity of these tours means you're best advised to book in advance - a stall erected on the green opposite the Palace of Westminster on Millbank sells tickets in the Summer. £7.
- **1 Elizabeth Tower** (commonly referred to as *Big Ben*). Strictly limited numbers of tickets are available to climb the Elizabeth Tower, which was renamed from Clock Tower in 2012. It contains the Great Bell, commonly known as *Big Ben*. British visitors should write to their Member of Parliament to request tickets. Unfortunately there are **no tours for overseas visitors**. Free. **W**
- **1 The Jewel Tower**, Abingdon Street, SW1P 3JX (*Opposite the Houses of Parliament*), ☎ +44 20 7222-2219. This small tower across the road from the Houses of Parliament is the only part of the original Palace of Westminster still standing. While it is overshadowed in splendour by the surrounding buildings, it's well worth a visit, and has good displays about the early history of Westminster. adults £3.90, children £2.30, concessions £3.50. **W**
- **State Opening of Parliament.** Open to UK students Key Stage 1 only. Probably the most colourful event in the UK's legislative calendar, this takes place in May or June every year, or after a general election, when the Queen travels to the Houses of Parliament to open the new parliamentary session. During this event, the lords and other office holders can be seen dressed in their ceremonial robes, and there is always an elaborate procession when the Queen makes her way to the Houses of Parliament from Buckingham Palace. Many traditions of the State Opening can trace their origins to a more turbulent past, when the relationship between the monarch and Parliament was sometimes antagonistic. In particular, since the English Civil War, the monarch has been banned from entering the House of Commons chamber, and instead must send a representative to summon the MPs to the Lords chamber, where she delivers her speech. **W** (updated Nov 2015)

33.3.2 Buckingham Palace

- **1 Buckingham Palace** (*tube: St James's Park, Green Park or Victoria*). Summer Opening: 31 Jul-29 Sep 09:45-15:45 (closed rest of year). The main residence of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II



Buckingham Palace

(reigned since 1952, coronated 1953). Other residences include Sandringham House, Windsor Castle, Holyrood Palace and Balmoral Castle. These other residences are generally easier to visit (open more days and less queues), and also of interest is the former Royal Yacht Britannia in Edinburgh where the Queen's bedroom can be seen.

In the summer, 19 State Rooms are open to the public, while the Queen is staying at her Scottish palace at Balmoral. Places are strictly limited, and it might not be possible to just turn up and get a ticket for a specific entry time, visitors should really book in advance to ensure admission. Summer Opening: £8.75-15.50. **W**

- **1 St James's Palace** (*tube: Green Park*). Not open to the public, but can be seen from the street. The most senior of the Royal palaces in London (built between 1531 and 1536) and the official seat of the monarch. **W**
- **1 The Guards Museum**, Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, SW1E 6HQ (*tube: St James's Park or Victoria*), ☎ +44 20 7414-3428, e-mail: guardsmuseum@aol.com. Daily 10.00–16.00. £5 adults; £2.50 concessions; £1 serving military personnel. **W**

33.3.3 Parliament Square

- **1 Henry VII Lady Chapel** (*tube: Westminster*). Described as “the wonder of the entire world”, this chapel at the eastern end of Westminster Abbey is a breathtakingly beautiful masterpiece of medieval architecture. **W**
- **1 St. Margaret's Church**, Parliament Sq (*tube: Westminster. Next to Westminster Abbey within Parliament Sq*). M-F 09:30-15:45, Sa 09:30-13:45, Su 14:00-17:00. St. Margaret's is the church of

the British Parliament, more specifically, the *parish church of the House of Commons*. **W**

- **1 Westminster Abbey** (*tube: Westminster*), ☎ +44 20 7654-4900, fax: +44 20 7654-4894, e-mail: info@westminster-abbey.org. Abbey admission: M Tu, Th F 09:30-15:45, W 09:30-19:00, Sa 09:30-13:45 (extended in summer to 15:45), Su open for worship only, the Abbey closes 1 hr after last admission; Chapter House admission: 10:30-16:00 daily; Westminster Abbey Museum: 10:30-16:00 daily; Pyx Chamber: 10:30-16:00 daily; Cloisters: 08:00-18:00 daily. Note that the Abbey itself charges tourists for entry, but not for worshippers. Attend a church service for free and enjoy some of the finest choral music in London from the choir. Evensong at 4PM or 5PM, depending on time of year, is an especially good bet. The Abbey is the traditional scene for the Coronation of British monarchs and the burial place of many past kings and queens. The Abbey contains a good gift shop and the Cellarium Café, which traces its history to the 14th century, is a good place to buy a noontime meal. £12, concessions £6 (seniors 60+, children 11-16, students with full-time student card), family ticket £18 (two adults and two children under 18), children under 11 free (maximum of two children per paying adult). **W**

33.3.4 Pimlico

- **1 Tate Britain**, Millbank (*Nearest tube: Pimlico*). M-Su 10:00-17:50. This gallery houses the Tate collection of British art from 1500 through to contemporary art. A side wing collects together the gallery's collection of paintings by Turner, including some stunning seascapes. Temporary exhibitions are exceedingly varied - recent examples include exhibitions of Turner's paintings of Venice and the work of photographer Wolfgang Tillmans. The best known exhibition is the Turner Prize, consists of works by four artists shortlisted for the annual contemporary art prize, which runs from late October to January each year. Free (though there is a charge for temporary exhibitions). **W**

33.3.5 Royal Parks

- **1 Green Park** (*tube: Green Park*). In contrast to the other Royal Parks in the area, Green Park can seem a little plain. It has no lakes or buildings and few monuments. It is still a pleasant green, lightly wooded, area in the centre of London, neighbouring two other parks and Buckingham Palace. **W**
- **1 St. James's Park** (*tube: St James's Park or Westminster*), e-mail: stjames@royalparksgsi.gov.uk. The oldest of the Royal Parks of London. **W**



St. James's Park

33.3.6 Statues and monuments

As the centre of government and a city with nigh on a millennium of history, Westminster is not short of statuary. A lot of this is part of other attractions, such as the statesmen commemorated in Parliament Sq, but many stand elsewhere.

- **1 Wellington Arch**, Apsley Way, Hyde Park Corner, W1J 7JZ (*tube: Hyde Park Corner; in the centre of the Hyde Park Corner roundabout*). Interior access daily: Apr–Sep 10:00–18:00; Oct 10:00–17:00; Nov–Mar 10:00–16:00. The Arch was designed in the 1820s by Decimus Burton as a Roman-style triumphal arch to commemorate victory in the Napoleonic Wars; although money ran out before it was completed. Adrian Jones' chariot statue on the top, "Peace descending on the Quadriga of War", was added in 1912. The original equestrian statue, added in 1846, was widely disliked and now stands in **Aldershot**. The arch is now owned by English Heritage and is open to the public: it contains exhibits about the arch and English history, while the view from the top is quite impressive. £4.20 adult, £3.80 concessions, £2.50 child. **W**

The same roundabout is the site of several war memorial sculptures:

- **Duke of Wellington** (*North side*). Equestrian statue of the Iron Duke, with four soldiers at each corner of the pedestal, representing regiments that fought under him: a Grenadier, Scottish Highlander, Irish Dragoon, and Welsh Fusilier. The bronze came from melting down captured French cannons. **W**
- **Royal Artillery Memorial** (*West side*). A stone howitzer by WWI veteran Charles Sargeant Jagger **W**
- **Australian War Memorial** (*South-west corner*). Created by Tonkin Zulaikha Greer and Janet Laurence to remember the Australians who died in both World Wars. Made from Australian granite. **W**

- **Machine Gun Corps Memorial** (*North-east corner*). A statue of David holding Goliath's sword by Francis Derwent Wood commemorating the dead of the WWI corps. **W**
- **New Zealand Memorial** (*East side*). Sixteen cruciform bronze pillars designed by Paul Dibble and John Hardwick-Smith. **W**

- **1 Simón Bolívar**, South-east corner, Belgrave Sq (*tube: Hyde Park Corner*). **W**
- **1 Thomas Cubitt**, Corner of Denbigh St and St George's Drive (*tube: Pimlico*).

33.3.7 Victoria

- **1 Westminster Cathedral**, 42 Francis Street, SW1P 1QW. Daily 9.30 to 17.00 (or longer). The brick and stone Catholic Cathedral (not to be confused with the much more famous Westminster Abbey) is near Victoria Station, just off Victoria Street. Construction started in 1895, and some of the interior is still unfinished. Worth a quick visit if you are passing. Cathedral: free. Tower: £6 adults, £3 concessions. **W**

33.3.8 Whitehall

- **1 Banqueting House**, Whitehall SW1A 2ER (*tube: Westminster*), ☎ +44 870 751 5178. M–Sa 10:00–17:00, closed Su, Bank Holidays and 24 Dec–1 Jan (inclusive); The Banqueting House is liable to close at short notice for government functions, telephone to check before you travel. Designed and built in 1619–1622 by the Neo-Classical architect Inigo Jones, The Banqueting House is now all that remains of Whitehall Palace, the sovereign's principal residence from 1530–1698 when most of it was destroyed by fire. Renowned for its architecture and paintings (by Rubens, among others), the building is also famous for being the scene of Charles I's execution in 1649 at the end of the English Civil War. £4, students (with ID) and seniors (60+) £3.00, children 5–16 £2.60, under 5 free. **W**
- **1 Cabinet War Rooms and Churchill Museum**, Clive Steps, King Charles St, SW1A 2AQ (*tube: Westminster*). 09:30–18:00 daily (last admission 17:00), closed 24–26 Dec. A branch of the Imperial War Museum, the Cabinet War Rooms preserves the underground corridors and rooms from which Churchill and the cabinet directed the war against Hitler and the Nazis, maintained almost exactly as they were left in 1945. Newly-opened in 2004, the attached Churchill Museum is the world's first permanent museum dedicated to the life and

wartime achievements of Sir Winston Churchill, recently voted the *Greatest Briton*. £10, children under 16 free, seniors £8, students £8, unwaged £5, group concessions available. **W**

- **1 Downing Street** (*tube: Westminster*). Site of the London residences for the Prime Minister (No. 10) and the Chancellor (No. 11). **W**
- **1 Household Cavalry Museum**, Horse Guards, Whitehall, SW1A 2AX (*tube: Charing Cross or Westminster*), ☎ +44 20 7930-3070, e-mail: museum@householdcavalry.co.uk. Apr–Oct: daily 10:00–18:00; Nov–Mar: daily 10:00–17:00. £7 adults; £5 concessions.
- **1 Whitehall** (*tube: Westminster, Charing Cross*). This street runs between Parliament Square and Trafalgar Square, and is the site of several British government buildings. Horseguards Parade, and the heavily guarded entrance to *Downing Street* (see above) are on the west side. Banqueting House is on the east side. In the centre of the street sits the Cenotaph, a war memorial erected following World War I, which is the centre of the annual Remembrance Day ceremony on 11 November. **W**

33.4 Do



Queen's Guard from the Coldstream Guards regiment

33.4.1 Guards

Due to the number of palaces, government buildings and barracks in the area, there are several opportunities to witness guards and the ceremonies related to them. Buckingham Palace and some other royal residences are guarded by the Queen's Guard while the Queen's Life Guard are on duty on the other side of St James's Park, at Horse Guards Parade near Whitehall. Along the same lines, there are also the less ostentatious armed police guarding Downing Street and the Houses of Parliament, but they do not perform any ceremonies.

The Queen's Guard are usually drawn from one of the five regiments of Foot Guards in the British Army, wearing their dress uniforms of red tunics and bearskins (or a grey overcoat in poor weather). Occasionally soldiers from other regiments, including those of Commonwealth nations, form the Guard instead. When the Queen is in residence, there are four guards on duty outside Buckingham Palace; at other times there are just two. Guards are also on duty outside St. James' Palace.

The Queen's Life Guard is drawn from the Household Cavalry which is made up of two regiments, the Life Guards and the Blues & Royals. The Household Cavalry are the monarch's official bodyguard. When the Queen is in residence in Buckingham Palace, there are fifteen guards on duty; at other times there are just twelve. Both regiments have similar uniforms but the Life Guards wear red tunics and the Blues & Royals wear blue tunics.

The five regiments of the Queen's Guard wear very similar dress uniforms but they can be recognised by little details. The shoulder and collar badges of each regiment are different but this may be hard to spot for many travellers. The key clues are the buttons on the tunic and the plume on the side of the bearskin. Each regiment arranges the buttons in groups, with a different number of buttons per group for each regiment. Each regiment also wears a certain colour of plume on a certain side of the bearskin (except the Scots Guards who wear no plume at all).

- **1 Changing of the Guard**, Buckingham Palace (*tube: Green Park or St James's Park*). May–Jul 11:30 daily; for other times, see website. Each morning between May and July at 11:30 the guard changes outside Buckingham Palace. The rest of the year, the guard changes on alternate days, weather permitting. A board is placed outside the palace in the morning to say whether the Changing of the Guard ceremony will take place or not. There is no charge to view the Changing of the Guard—simply turn up and stand at the fence in front of the Palace, but it is worth getting there early to ensure a good view, particularly when the weather is fine. Free.
- **1 Changing of the Guard**, Horse Guards Parade, Whitehall (*tube: Charing Cross or Westminster*). M–Sa 11:00; Su 10:00. Each morning the guard is also

changed at Horse Guards Parade. As this changing of the guard is less famous than the Buckingham Palace affair, the crowds are usually smaller; plus there are no railings here to spoil the view. The ceremony does not take place in very wet weather. The cavalry are based at Hyde Park Barracks and can be seen proceeding through the park, under the Wellington Arch, along Constitution Hill and The Mall each morning.

- **Dismounting Ceremony** (*Four O'Clock Parade*), Horse Guards Parade, Whitehall (*tube: Charing Cross or Westminster*). Daily 16:00. In the late afternoon at Horse Guards an officer will inspect the guards, after which the mounted sentries return their horses to the stables for the night. They are replaced by two dismounted sentries. This ceremony was born as a punishment detail in 1894 but it was retained as a tradition when the 100-year punishment period ended in the 1990s.

- **1 Trooping the Colour** (*The Queen's Birthday Parade*), Horseguards Parade, Whitehall (*tube: Charing Cross or Westminster*). Held annually on a Saturday in June, beginning around 10:00. A ceremony performed by regiments of the British and Commonwealth armies to mark the official birthday of the Queen. The Queen travels by carriage down The Mall from Buckingham Palace to Horse Guards Parade, where she inspects the troops and then entire Household Division performs a march past the Queen as she receives their salute. Tickets to Horse Guards Parade are awarded by ballot but the parade along the rest of the route can be watched for free. Up to three tickets can be requested by sending a letter (this is by post only), enclosing a self-addressed envelope, to the Brigade Major of the Headquarters Household Division, in January or February; these will be entered into the ballot and those chosen will be sent offer letters which contain payment details. Those without a ticket can get their best view by standing on The Mall, along the edge of the parade, or on the edge of St James's Park by Horse Guards Parade. Arriving before 09:00 is recommended. About £20 if successful in the ballot. **W**

- There are two rehearsals for Trooping the Colour:

- **Major General's Review.** The Saturday two weeks before Trooping the Colour; usually in late May. Tickets are made available by the same ballot as Trooping the Colour. Free but tickets are still required..
- **Colonel's Review.** The Saturday the week before Trooping the Colour. Tickets are made available by the same ballot as Trooping the Colour. £10.

- **Beating Retreat**, Horse Guards Parade, Whitehall (*tube: Charing Cross or Westminster*). Held on the Wednesday and Thursday evenings before Trooping the Colour. This was originally a 16th-century tradition for recalling troops to a castle at sunset before the gates closed. Today, the ceremony has evolved into a military pageant of music and precision drilling, while also serving as practice for military bands. The proceeds from ticket sales go to charity. £15–40.

33.4.2 Cinema

- **1 Cineworld Haymarket**, 63-65 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4RL, ☎ +44 871 200 2000 (high cost number). Slightly off the main area for cinemas and entertainment around Leicester Square and Theatreland this cinema offers projections of recent movies on three large screens. (updated Jun 2016)
- **1 Vue Piccadilly**, 19 Lower Regent Street London SW1Y 4LR, ☎ +44 8712 240 240 (high cost number). Multi screen of the Vue network very close to Piccadilly Circus. (updated Jun 2016)

33.4.3 Theatres

Outside of **Leicester Square** and **Covent Garden**, there are several important theatres in Westminster, most notably near Victoria Station. For current programmes please check the relevant theatre website or the **official London theatreland listings**. Budget travellers should look for last minute bookings and off-peak performances. Most of the booking office numbers given will only work from within the United Kingdom. If you want to make a booking from overseas, use the relevant website.

- **1 Apollo Victoria Theatre**, 17 Wilton Rd, SW1V 1LG (*tube: Victoria*), ☎ +44 844 826 8000.
- **1 Trafalgar Studios** (*Whitehall Theatre*), 14 Whitehall, SW1A 2DY (*tube: Charing Cross or Westminster*).
- **1 Victoria Palace Theatre**, Victoria St, SW1E 5EA (*tube: Victoria*), ☎ +44 844 871-7618.

33.4.4 Music

- **1 St John's Smith Square** (*SJSS*), St John's Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HA, ☎ +44 20 7222 2168, e-mail: info@sjss.org.uk. Monday-Friday, 10am-5pm. Former baroque church by Thomas Archer. From the '60 converted into a concert hall and featuring world class classical music performers with daily concerts from September to July. (updated Jun 2016)

33.4.5 Tours

- **Free Walking Tours**, Duke of Wellington Arch (*tube: Hyde Park Corner exit 2*). 11:00 and 13:00 daily. There are a number of regular free walking tours in London but the most well known leaves from The Duke of Wellington Arch twice daily and covers many of the important sights in Westminster. Duration about 2 and half hours. Free/donation.

33.5 Buy



Jermyn St

A lot of the land in this district is owned by a small number of entities—most of Belgravia is owned by the Duke of Westminster via his family's Grosvenor Group property company and a lot of the rest comes under the Crown Estate, the Royal Parks, or central government—and the residents prefer exclusivity, so chain stores have mostly been kept out of the northern, more upper class, areas. Victoria, on the other hand, hosts a lot of the common high street shops found elsewhere in the UK, as do the riverside areas Pimlico and Millbank.

- **1 Cardinal Place**, Victoria St (*tube: Victoria or St. James's Park*). High street shops like Marks & Spencer and a selection of chain restaurants.
- **1 Les Senteurs**, 71 Elizabeth St, SW1W 9PJ (*tube: Victoria or Sloane Square*), ☎ +44 20 7730-2322, fax: +44 20 7259-9145, e-mail: sales@lessenteurs.com. Specialist perfumery.
- **1 Retromania**, 6 Upper Tachbrook St, SW1V 1SH (*tube: Victoria*), ☎ +44 20 7630-7406, e-mail: retromania@faracharity.org. Charity shop specialising in vintage and retro clothing.

33.5.1 Clothing

Perhaps the world's most famous shirts are made in **Jermyn St, SW1**, just south of **Saville Row**, and resident

shirtmakers include:

- **1 New & Lingwood**, 53 Jermyn St, SW1Y 6LX, ☎ +44 20 7493-9621. M–W 09:00–18:00; Th 09:00–19:00; F 09:00–18:00; Sa 10:00–18:00.
- **1 Turnbull & Asser**, 71 Jermyn St, SW1Y 6PF, ☎ +44 20 7808-3000.
- **1 Hilditch & Key**, 37 Jermyn St, SW1 6DT, ☎ +44 20 7734-4707, fax: +44 20 7434-0704. With another branch at **1 73 Jermyn St, SW1Y 6NP**
- **1 Harvie & Hudson**, 77 Jermyn St, SW1Y 6NP, ☎ +44 20 7930-3949. M–Sa 09:30–18:00; Su closed.
- **1 Charles Tyrwhitt**, 100 Jermyn St, SW1Y 6EE, ☎ +44 20 7839-6060. M–Sa 08:00–20:00; Su noon–18:00 (browsing from 11:30).
- **1 Emma Willis**, 66 Jermyn St, SW1Y 6NY, ☎ +44 20 7930-9980, fax: +44 20 7930-9072, e-mail: sales@emmawillis.com. M–Sa 10:00–18:00; Su closed.

33.6 Eat

33.6.1 Budget

- **1 A R M Chicken**, 15 Elizabeth St, SW1W 9RP (*tube: Victoria or Sloane Square*), ☎ +44 20 7730-7742. Halal. Traditional British kebab shop for cheap, unhealthy food next door to Victoria Coach Station. £3.90 kebab; £4.40 burger meal.
- **1 Friar's Inn**, 21 Elizabeth St, SW1W 9RP (*tube: Victoria or Sloane Square*), ☎ +44 20 7730-1990. Halal. Fish and chip shop near Victoria Coach Station. Split into separate restaurant and takeaway sections.
- **1 Westminster Cathedral Cafe**, 42 Francis St, SW1P 1QW. Weekdays 10.00-16.00. The cafe in the basement of Westminster Cathedral is one of the cheapest places to have lunch in the area. Simple tasty hot lunches (Jacket Potatoes etc) cost under £5.

33.6.2 Mid-range

- **Cardinal Place**, Victoria St (*tube: Victoria or St. James's Park*). A selection of chain restaurants together in the shopping centre. Includes Browns Bar & Brasserie, La Tasca, Leon, Nandos, Royal Quarter Café, Wagamama, and Zizzi.
- **1 The Ebury Restaurant and Wine Bar**, 139 Ebury St, SW1W 8NA (*tube: Victoria*), ☎ +44 20 7730-5447, fax: +44 20 7823-6053, e-mail:

ebury@eburyrestaurant.co.uk. M–Sa 11:00–23:00; Su noon–22:30. French/European restaurant.

- 1 **Inn the Park**, St. James's Pk, SW1A 2BJ (*tube: St James's Park*), ☎ +44 20 7451-9999, e-mail: info@innthepark.com.
- 1 **Seafresh**, 80–81 Wilton Rd, SW1V 1DL (*tube: Victoria or Pimlico*), ☎ +44 20 7828-0747, fax: +44 20 7828-8873. M–F noon–15:00/17:00–22:30; Sa noon–22:30. Fish and chips restaurant and take-away.
- 1 **Olivimare**, 10 Lower Belgrave St, SW1W 0LJ (*tube: Victoria*), ☎ +44 20 7730-9022, e-mail: info@olivorestaurants.com. M–F noon–14:30/19:00–23:00; Sa 12:00–15:00/19:00–23:00; Su 12:00–15:00/19:00–22:30. Sardinian seafood restaurant. Part of a small, local chain found only in this area. £17–30 main course.
- 1 **The Orange**, 37 Pimlico Rd, SW1W 8NE (*tube: Sloane Square*), ☎ +44 20 7881-9844, e-mail: reservations@theorange.co.uk. M–Th 08:00–23:30; F–Sa 08:00–midnight; Su 08:00–22:30. Modern gastropub. Four en suite bedrooms are also available for hire on the second floor.
- 1 **Quaglinos**, 16 Bury St, SW1Y 6AJ (*tube: Green Park*), ☎ +44 20 7930-6767. Owned by famed designer Terence Conrad, it serves standard food with a menu that changes frequently. It features live jazz every night and on Sunday lunch.

33.6.3 Splurge

- 1 **The Cinnamon Club**, The Old Westminster Library, 30–32 Great Smith St, SW1P 3BU (*tube: Westminster*), ☎ +44 20 7222-2555, e-mail: info@cinnamonclub.com. Award winning Indian restaurant. Housed in a converted Grade II listed library.
- 1 **Green's**, 36 Duke St, SW1Y 6DF (*tube: Green Park*), ☎ +44 20 7930-4566, e-mail: dukestreet@greens.org.uk. M–Sa 11:30–15:00/17:30–23:00. This restaurant and oyster bar is owned by Simon Parker Bowles. It mostly serves seafood, although meat dishes are available too, including the signature dish “Haddock Parker Bowles”, a personal favourite of the owner.
- 1 **Hunan**, 51 Pimlico Rd, SW1W 8NE (*tube: Sloane Square*), ☎ +44 20 7730-5712. M–Sa 12:30–14:00/18:30–23:00. Chinese restaurant with no menu. Diners tell the staff what they don't like and how spicy they want it; the kitchen prepares a range of dishes to match. The food comes in a long series of tiny portions.

- 1 **Tinello**, 87 Pimlico Rd, SW1W 8PH (*tube: Sloane Square*), ☎ +44 20 7730-3663, e-mail: info@tinello.co.uk. M–Sa noon–14:30/18:30–22:30. Italian restaurant.
- 1 **Wiltons**, 55 Jermyn St, SW1Y 6LX (*tube: Green Park*), ☎ +44 20 7629-9955. M–F noon–14:30/18:00–22:30. Oyster bar, game and seafood restaurant. Traditional fine English dining in a restaurant established in 1742.

33.7 Drink



The Star Tavern



CASK Pub & Kitchen

33.7.1 Belgravia

Like neighbouring **Knightsbridge**, Belgravia was built with its pubs out of sight down side alleys and mews. They were intended for the household servants rather than their masters, who did not wish their views spoiled by such unsightly establishments.

- 1 **The Grenadier**, 18 Wilton Row, SW1X 7NR (*tube: Knightsbridge or Hyde Park Corner*), ☎ +44



Wetherspoons, Victoria Station

20 7235-3074. M–Su 12:00–23:00. An oddly quiet and secluded pub in the centre of the city due to being tucked away in a side street of another side street. It was built in 1720 as an officer's mess for the 1st Regiment of Foot Guards and became a pub in 1818. The pub is said to be haunted by the ghost of a junior officer who was caught cheating at cards and flogged to death.

- **1 The Star Tavern**, 6 Belgrave Mews West, SW1X 8HT (*tube: Knightsbridge or Hyde Park Corner*), ☎ +44 20 7235-3019, e-mail: startavern@fullers.co.uk. M–F 11:00–23:00; Sa noon–23:00; Su noon–22:30. One of only two London pubs (and seven nationally) to feature in every edition of CAMRA's Good Beer Guide since its first publication; see The Buckingham Arms for the other one. The pub has a seedy past—it was infamous as a hangout for gang bosses and crime lords in the 1950s and 60s, and the Great Train Robbery was planned here, and celebrities of the era would come to socialise with the criminals. Today it is a safer, friendlier and more comfortable establishment that has recently been refurbished.

33.7.2 Pimlico & Millbank

- **1 CASK Pub & Kitchen**, 6 Charlwood St, SW1V 2EE (*tube: Victoria or Pimlico*), ☎ +44 20 7630-7225, e-mail: reservations@caskpubandkitchen.com. M 16:00–23:00; Tu–Sa noon–23:00; Su noon–22:30. One of RateBeer's Top 50 bars in the world, and only one of two in the UK (see The Craft Beer Company in Clerkenwell for the other). A specialist beer bar with a regularly changing selection of real ales and craft beer casks, plus a larger assortment of local and international bottles. Monday to Saturday, gourmet burgers are served by Forty Burgers; with traditional British roasts on Sundays.

- **1 Morpeth Arms**, 58 Millbank, SW1P 4RW (*tube: Pimlico*), ☎ +44 20 7834-6442, e-mail: morpetharms@youngs.co.uk. Victorian pub built on the site of the cells of Millbank Prison, briefly Britain's National Penitentiary before being downgraded to a holding facility for convicts sentenced to transportation to Australia. The pub is said to be haunted by the ghosts of prisoners who didn't last long enough for the journey. For the living, the pub is next to the bank of the Thames and very close to the Tate gallery.

33.7.3 Victoria

- **1 The Albert**, 52 Victoria St, SW1H 0NP (*tube: St. James Park*), ☎ +44 20 7222-5577. M–W 10:00–23:00; Th–Sa 10:00–midnight; Su 10:00–22:30. A nice, but often crowded, traditional pub, dating back to the 1860s, named in honour of Queen Victoria's husband. Portraits of British prime ministers, many of them signed, hang on the stairwell, and Chelsea pensioners (British war veterans) can often be seen propping up the bar.
- **1 The Buckingham Arms**, 62 Petty France, SW1H 9EU (*tube: St. James's Park*), ☎ +44 20 7222-3386, e-mail: buckinghamarms@youngs.co.uk. M–F 11:00–23:00; Sa 11:00–18:00; Su closed. One of only two London pubs (and seven nationally) to feature in every edition of CAMRA's Good Beer Guide since its first publication; see The Star Tavern for the other one. The building is a refitted early Victorian pub.
- **1 The Cask and Glass**, 39–41 Palace St, SW1E 5HN (*tube: Victoria*), ☎ +44 20 7834-7630, e-mail: cask&glass@shepherdneame.co.uk. M–F 11:00–23:00; Sa noon–20:00. Small traditional pub (one of the smallest in central London, in fact). Good beers and quaint interior.
- **1 Wetherspoons**, 1F, Victoria Station Concourse, SW1V 1JT (*inside Victoria Train Station, in the centre, above the island of shops*), ☎ +44 20 7931-0445. M–Th 07:00–23:00; F–Sa 07:00–midnight; Su 07:00–23:00. A pub that doesn't even have its own name and may be missed by many of the two hundred thousand commuters and travellers who pass it each day, this place nevertheless serves good beer and food (it's part of the J D Wetherspoon chain). There is additional seating on the balconies on either side of the pub. Given its location, it also displays departure boards on its own screens.
- **1 The Willow Walk**, 25 Wilton Rd, SW1V 1LW (*tube: Victoria*), ☎ +44 20 7828-2953. M–F 07:00–midnight; Sa 08:00–midnight; Su 08:00–23:00. Part of the J D Wetherspoon chain of pubs, just outside the East side of Victoria Station, a few doors down

from the Apollo Victoria Theatre. Serves Real Ale and good food. Entrances on both Wilton Rd and Vauxhall Bridge Rd.

33.7.4 Westminster

- **1 The Lord Moon of the Mall**, 16-18 Whitehall, SW1A 2DY (*tube: Charing Cross*), ☎ +44 20 7839-7701. Su–Th 08:00–23:00; F–Sa 08:00–midnight. A J D Wetherspoon pub at the top of Whitehall, close to Trafalgar Sq. Serves a good range of cask beers.
- **1 The Red Lion** (*The Prime Minister's Local*), 48 Parliament St, Whitehall, SW1A 2NH (*Half way between Parliament Sq and 10 Downing St; tube: Westminster*), ☎ +44 20 7930-5826, e-mail: redlionwestminster@fullers.co.uk. M–Sa 11:00–23:00; Su noon–21:00. A good place to see politicians and political commentators. The pub television shows (muted) debates from the House of Commons, and division bell rings here to summon Members of Parliament to vote on important issues in Parliament.
- **1 The Speaker**, 46 Great Peter St, SW1P 2HA (*tube: St James's Park*), ☎ +44 20 7222-1749. A pub for local workers, including many civil servants and the odd Parliamentarian. The Parliament theme includes political caricatures on the walls. Markets itself as a real pub, with no fruit machines, music or television screens. Guest beers change every month.
- **1 St Stephen's Tavern Pub**, 10 Bridge St, SW1A 2JR (*tube: Westminster, almost on top of the station*), ☎ +44 20 7295-2286, e-mail: ststephentavern.london@hall-woodhouse.co.uk. M–Th 10:00–23:30; F 10:00–midnight; Sa 10:00–23:30; Su 10:00–22:30. Victorian pub established in 1875 directly opposite the Palace of Westminster and the closest pub to “Big Ben” (from which it gets its name—while now officially known as Elizabeth Tower, Victorian journalists nicknamed it St Stephen's Tower). Often busy with tourists and other visitors to Parliament.

33.8 Sleep

33.8.1 Budget

There are lots of small B&Bs in the Pimlico and Victoria areas which offer very good value for this part of London.

- **1 The Wellington**, 71 Vincent Sq, SW1P 2PA (*tube: Pimlico*). Located in quiet area. Rate includes simple breakfast. Internet access available. 10 min from Victoria Station. From £30.

33.8.2 Mid-range

- **1 Belle Cour Hotel & SPA**, 4 Upper Tachbrook St, SW1V 1SH (*tube: Victoria*), ☎ +44 20 7828-0206, e-mail: bellecouruk@gmail.com. A charming four star boutique hotel near Victoria station. From £125.
- **1 DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel London—Westminster**, 30 John Islip St, SW1P 4DD (*tube: Pimlico*), ☎ +44 20 7630-1000, fax: +44 20 7233-7575, e-mail: LONWM.info@hilton.com. Check-in: 15:00, check-out: noon. A central London boutique hotel in Westminster. Offers a restaurant, bar, meeting venue and event offers. From £150.
- **1 Corinthia Hotel London**, 10 Whitehall Place, SW1A 2BD. Check-in: 15.00, check-out: noon. Comfortable hotel with rooms, suites and pent-houses.
- **1 St Ermin's Hotel**, 2 Caxton St, SW1H 0QW (*tube: St James's Park*), ☎ +44 20 7222-7888, e-mail: Reservations@sterminshotel.co.uk. Small but well appointed rooms in a convenient location near Westminster Abbey. From 115.
- **1 Luna & Simone Hotel**, 47/49 Belgrave Rd, SW1V 2BB (*tube: Pimlico or Victoria*), ☎ +44 20 7834-5897, fax: +44 20 7828-2474, e-mail: stay@lunasimonehotel.com. Small yet comfortable hotel with friendly staff. Double ensuite £70-90.
- **1 Sanctuary House Hotel**, 33 Tothill St, SW1H 9LA (*tube: St James's Park*), ☎ +44 20 7799-4044, e-mail: sanctuaryhousesereception@fullers.co.uk. Small hotel in a lovely old building close to Westminster Abbey, part of a popular Fullers pub. From £195.

33.8.3 Splurge

- **1 St James Court Hotel**, 55 Buckingham Gate, SW1E 6AF (*tube: St James's Park or Victoria*), ☎ +44 20 7834-6655. Check-in: 14:00, check-out: 13:00. Four star hotel close to Buckingham Palace and The Houses of Parliament. Has three restaurants, Spa, and Gym. £150.
- **1 The Grosvenor**, 101 Buckingham Palace Rd, SW1W 0SJ (*tube: Victoria*), ☎ +44 871 376-9038, fax: +44 871 376-9138, e-mail: grosvenor@guoman.co.uk. Handily located next door to Victoria railway and tube station.
- **1 St. James's Hotel & Club**, 7-8 Park Pl, SW1A 1LS (*tube: Green Park, just off St. James's St near Mayfair*), ☎ +44 20 7316-1600, fax: +44 20 7316-1603, e-mail:

info@stjameshotelandclub.com. Check-out: Noon.
A luxury townhouse hotel. From £215.

33.9 Cope

33.9.1 Public toilets

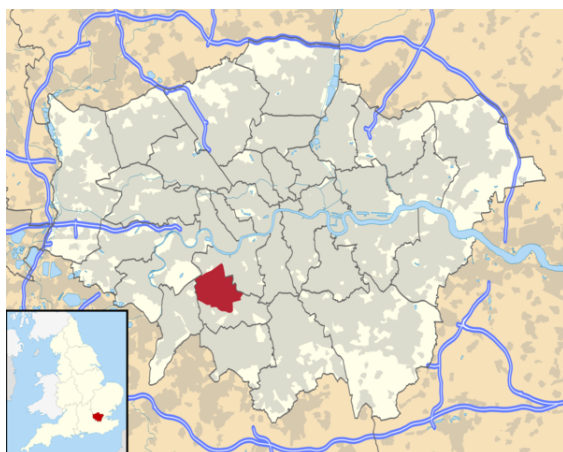
For £0.25 per message, visitors to the Westminster area can use a toilet-finding service called SatLav. Just text the word “toilet” to 80097 in order to receive a reply with directions to the nearest public toilet.

33.10 Go next

- Just across the river on the **South Bank** are the **London Eye** and the **Saatchi Gallery**

Chapter 34

London/Wimbledon



Location of the Wimbledon area in London

Wimbledon is a district in south-west **London**.

34.1 Understand



Wimbledon High Street

Wimbledon is a well-known and affluent suburb in the southwest of **London**, **England** and is part of the London Borough of Merton . It is, of course, best known for the All England Lawn Tennis Championships (or often just referred to as *Wimbledon*) held every summer and which form part of the worldwide tennis grand slam series. This

is the oldest tennis championship in the entire world.

34.2 Get in

34.2.1 By tube

Wimbledon is serviced by the following stations:

- Wimbledon (District line). During the Tennis Championships, direct buses run from outside for a small charge.
- South Wimbledon (Northern line).
- Southfields (District line). This is the most convenient station for the tennis club.

Please note that the quickest route into Wimbledon from central London is usually via a combination of Tube and the National Rail. Though the District Line is the most obvious choice from central London, it is usually the least efficient. Trains depart every 3–5 minutes from Waterloo to Wimbledon during week days with a journey time of about 15 minutes (South West Trains operates this service.)

34.2.2 By train

Wimbledon Station is the most important transport hub in the area. Located in central Wimbledon, it is well served by South West Trains and First Capital Connect train companies.

Services run from **London Waterloo** via **Clapham Junction** to Wimbledon Station (about 15 min). Trains from Wimbledon go to **Guildford**, **Hampton Court**, Dorking, Shepperton and **Woking**. Change at Clapham Junction to get to **Brighton**, **Epsom**, **Gatwick**, **Reading**, **Portsmouth** and further afield.

Wimbledon Station has two entrances, one at the front of the station serving as a drop off point for cars and a taxi stop and one to the side that leads to buses and a shopping mall. Disabled access to the 10 platforms are

by lifts. Public toilets can be found near the tube District Line platforms. There are food and drink shops within the station complex.

34.2.3 By plane

Wimbledon is almost equidistant between the two major London Airports, **Gatwick Airport** and **Heathrow Airport**.

The quickest way from Gatwick is to catch a fast Southern train for Victoria and get off at Clapham Junction. Here, change onto a South West Trains service south bound to Wimbledon (weekdays: 15 an hour).

From Heathrow, you can either catch the London Underground Piccadilly Line from Heathrow to **Earls Court** and change onto the District Line to Wimbledon, or you can catch the Heathrow Express (or Heathrow Connect) service to **London Paddington Station** and then catch a Wimbledon bound District line train from there. Both of these require luggage movement through underground stations.

34.2.4 By tram

Wimbledon is served by the Wimbledon to Croydon tramlink which terminates at Wimbledon Station (route 3), other tram stops in the area include Dundonald Road and Merton Park. A route map can be found [here](#)

34.2.5 By car

The A219 runs through Wimbledon Hill Road, Wimbledon Bridge to the Broadway and beyond. The A3 is the main route to Wimbledon when coming in from the M25 Motorway or Heathrow Airport. From Gatwick Airport follow the M23/M25/A217. The nearest petrol station is an Esso Garage with a Tesco Metro (Open 24 hours) found along the Broadway towards South Wimbledon underground station.

34.3 Get around

Wimbledon is mostly pedestrian friendly and most places can be easily reached on foot. Buses leave outside the Centre Court Shopping Mall next to Wimbledon station. The **main bus station** is near Hartfield Rd on Sir Cyril Black Way (behind Morrisons supermarket and the car park on Hartfield Rd). Additionally, there is a taxi stand outside the main entrance to Wimbledon Station.

34.3.1 By bus

Wimbledon is served by local bus routes including routes 57 Kingston/Clapham Park), 93 (Putney

Bridge/North Cheam), 131 (Kingston/Tooting Broadway), 156 (Vauxhall), 163 (Morden), 164 (Sutton), 200 (Raynes Park/Mitcham), 219 (Clapham Junction), 493 (Richmond/Tooting) and N87 Night Bus (Aldwych/Kingston). A bus map of Wimbledon (PDF) can be found [here](#).

34.3.2 By car

Parking available at Centre Court Shopping Mall. Off-street parking is normally made available by home owners looking to make some additional income from the rental of their driveways and garages. Prices are normally in the region of £30-50. Alternatively, you can try renting one of these private parking spaces online through various services.

34.4 See

- **1 Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum**, Centre Court, All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Church Rd. 10:30AM-5PM, closed 24-26 Dec, 1 Jan, middle Su and first M after the Championships. £6, concessions £5, children under 16 £3.75, children under 5 free, tours available with additional fee **W**



The windmill on Wimbledon Common.

- **1 Wimbledon Common**, ☎ +44 20 8788-7655, e-mail: rangersoffice@wpcc.org.uk. 24 hrs. A large area (460 hectares) of woodlands, open grass areas and healthland with a windmill, nature trails and ponds. Also the legendary home of the Wombles. Free. **W**
- **1 Wimbledon Society Museum of Local History**, 22 Ridgway, Wimbledon, ☎ +44 20 8296-9914. Sa Su 2:30PM-5PM, by appointment at other times. Showing local history in Wimbledon from the Stone Age to the present day. Free. **W**

- **1 Wimbledon Windmill Museum** (*On Wimbledon Common*). End Mar-end Oct Sa 2PM-5PM, Su 11AM-5PM. A museum which depicts the history of windmills. £1, children £0.50, concessions £0.50. **W**
- **1 Buddhapadipa Temple**, 14 Calonne Rd. Temple ground: M-F 9AM-6PM, main temple: weekends. The first Buddhist temple in the UK.
- **1 Cannizaro Park** (*West side of Wimbledon Common, next to the Cannizaro House Hotel*). 34 acres of parkland. **W**

34.5 Do

34.5.1 Wimbledon

Each June the All England Lawn Tennis Championships are organized, one of the four “Grand Slams” for professional tennis. Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Club was chosen to host the tennis matches for the **2012 Olympic Games** where 172 athletes competed for 4 gold medals in tennis.

- **1 New Wimbledon Theatre**, The Broadway, ☎ +44 870 060 6646. The theatre is a Grade II Listed Edwardian theatre showing West End plays and musicals.
- **1 Odeon Cinema**, Odeon Wimbledon, The Piazza, The Broadway, ☎ +44 871 22 44 007. A large modern multiplex in Central Wimbledon with 12 screens and IMAX screen.
- **1 Polka Theatre**, 240 The Broadway, ☎ +44 20 8543-4888. Telephone bookings: M 9:30AM-4:30PM, Tu-F 9:30AM-6PM, Sa 10AM-5PM; box office opening hours: Tu-F 9:30AM-4:30PM, Sa 11AM-5:30PM. Childrens theatre.
- **1 Ridgway Stables**, 93 Ridgway, ☎ +44 20 8946-7400. Tu-Su 9AM-5:30PM. Lessons and horse riding on Wimbledon Common.
- **1 Wimbledon Village Stables**, 24 a/b High St, ☎ +44 20 8946-8579. Lessons and horse riding on Wimbledon Common.
- It is possible to still see the dying-out pastimes of **speedway**, **banger racing** and **dog-racing** at **1 Wimbledon Stadium**, Plough Lane. one of the

few-remaining dog-track arenas of its kind in London (which once had 23), along with at Walthamstow and Crayford. The football team **AFC Wimbledon** plays further west nowadays in a ground-share at Kingstonians, in Berrylands (after the original 'Crazy gang' was forcibly relocated to Milton Keynes by the then-owner for commercial reasons).

34.6 Buy

Shops are to be found along the Broadway towards South Wimbledon and along Wimbledon Hill towards Wimbledon Village and in Wimbledon Village itself.

- **Centre Court Shopping** (*In Central Wimbledon next to the station*), ☎ +44 20 8944-8323. M-W F 9.30AM-7PM Sa 9AM-6PM, Th 9.30AM-8PM, Su 11AM-5PM. Shopping mall with two floors of shops. Includes shops such as Body Shop, Boots, Debenhams, Gap, H&M, Kew, La Senza, Monsoon, River Island, Sony and Warehouse. There are food outlets on the third floor and a cafe on the ground floor.
- **The Fish Peddler**, 40 Replingham Rd (*tube: Southfields*), ☎ +44 20 8871-4411, e-mail: info@fishpeddler.co.uk. M-F 10AM-5PM, Sa 10AM-4PM. Southfields' fishmonger. Stock can be a bit sparse early in the week, but from Thursday onwards there is usually a decent amount on offer. Orders can be placed in advance.
- **Supermarkets**. Include Morrisons (The Broadway), M&S (Centre Court), Sainsburys (Worple Rd and The Broadway towards South Wimbledon), Tesco Metro (Centre Court, South Wimbledon & Wimbledon Village) and Waitrose (near Wimbledon Bridge).
- Elys is a department store just off the High Street and a few minutes' walk from the Tube & Rail station.

34.7 Eat

At the tournament, **strawberries and cream** are a traditional, if expensive, snack, but Wimbledon proper is home to many eateries.

- **Ahmed**, 2 The Broadway, ☎ +44 20 8946-6214. Indian.
- **Alforno Restaurant**, 2a Kings Rd, ☎ +44 20 8540-5710. Italian.



The famous strawberries and cream!

- **Aya**, 195 – 197 Merton Road, ☎ +44 20 8417-0606. Lebanese Food, courtyard garden Medium.
- **Broadway Tandoori**, 250 The Broadway, ☎ +44 20 8542-7697. Indian.
- **Cafe Rouge**, 26 High St, ☎ +44 20 8944-5131. French.
- **Chutneys**, 31a Hartfield Road, ☎ +44 20 8540-9788. Indian.
- **Coal**, Piazza, 31-37 The Broadway, ☎ +44 20 8947-8225. Bar and grill serving international food. Seating outside.
- **Confucious**, 271-273 The Broadway, ☎ +44 20 8542-5272. Chinese.
- **Dolce Vita**, 44 The Broadway, ☎ +44 20 8543-7643. Italian.
- **Est Est Est**, 38 High Street, ☎ +44 20 8947-7700. Italian.
- **Gourmet Burger Kitchen**, 88 The Broadway, ☎ +44 20 8540-3300. Great Burger Restaurant.
- **Jo Shmos**, 33 High St, ☎ +44 20 8879-3845.
- **Lambourne Bar and Grill**, 263 The Broadway, ☎ +44 20 8545-8661. Part of the Antoinette Hotel. Sky sports, happy hour. Medium.
- **Lighthouse**, 75-77 Ridgway, ☎ +44 20 8944-6338.
- **Makiyaki**, 149 Merton Rd, ☎ +44 20 8540-3113. Good Japanese food.
- **Mai Thai**, 75 The Broadway, ☎ +44 20 8542-8834.
- **Nandos**, 1-1a Russell Rd, ☎ +44 20 8545-0909. Peri-Peri Chicken.
- **La Nonna**, 213-217 The Broadway, ☎ +44 20 8542-3060. Italian.
- **Paprika**, 1 Kingston Rd, ☎ +44 20 8540-9229. Indian Food
- **Slurp**, 138 Merton Road, ☎ +44 20 8540-7918. Good Chinese and Japanese noodle bar, great value. Try the bento box.
- **Thai Tho Restaurant**, 20 High St, ☎ +44 20 8946-1542. Thai.
- **Tapanco**, 20 Hartfield Rd, ☎ +44 20 8947-4737. Mexican, Italian and American.
- **The Common Room**, 18 High St, ☎ +44 20 8944-1909. Italian.
- **The Stage Door**, 90-92 The Broadway, ☎ +44 20 8543-8128.
- **Wagamama**, 46-48 Wimbledon Hill Road, ☎ +44 20 8879-7280. Japanese chain.
- **Wimbledon Palace**, 88 The Broadway, ☎ +44 20 8540-4505. Chinese.
- **Wembleypizza**. Find the nearest pizzeria to the Wembley stadium, Ideal after a football match or concert. (updated May 2016)

34.8 Drink

- **The Alexandra**, 33 Wimbledon Hill Rd, ☎ +44 20 8947-7691. Large pub with a wine bar next to the main pub called Smart Alex. Food served. Roof terrace with bar.
- **All Bar One**, 37 Wimbledon Hill Rd, ☎ +44 20 8971-9871. Food Served.
- **Bar Sia**, 105-109 The Broadway (*Next to the Wimbledon Theatre*), ☎ +44 20 8540-8339. A Small shady dirty bar, with rude service.
- **Bertie's Bar**, 2 Hartfield Way, ☎ +44 20 8879-7537. A wine bar below the Prince of Wales Pub. Seating outside. Food served.

- **Crooked Billet**, 14 Crooked Billet, ☎ +44 20 8946-4942. A Youngs pub, food served.
- **Dog & Fox**, 24 High St, ☎ +44 20 8946-6565. Large pub in the centre of the Wimbledon village. Food served, lots of seating outside.
- **Fox & Grapes**, Camp Rd, Wimbledon Common, ☎ +44 20 8946-5599. Food served.
- **The Grid Inn**, 22 Replingham Rd (*tube: Southfields*), ☎ +44 20 8874-8460. A slightly down-at-heel traditional pub.
- **Henry J Beans**, 153-163 The Broadway, ☎ +44 20 8543-5083. Food served. Great cocktails, some seating outside at the front.
- **Kilkenny Tavern**, 131 Merton High St, South Wimbledon (*next to South Wimbledon tube station*), ☎ +44 20 8543-7308.
- **O'Neills**, 66 The Broadway, ☎ +44 20 8545-9931. Food served.
- **The Old Garage**, 20 Replingham Road (*tube: Southfields*), ☎ +44 20 8874-9370. Larger, cleaner and more modern than The Grid.
- **Rose and Crown**, 55 High St, ☎ +44 20 8947-4713, fax: +44 20 8947-4994. Food served, seating outside.
- **Suburban Bar and Lounge**, 27 Hartfield Rd, ☎ +44 20 8543-9788. Cocktail bar for chavs, run by chavs!
- **Sultan**, 78 Norman Rd, ☎ +44 20 8542-4532. Decent local pub serving very good real ale. The only pub in London owned by the Hopback Brewery. Walled garden. Bar Food served. BBQ on sundays weather permitting. "No loud music/TV policy" for those who want a quiet pint.
- **SWnineteen Bar**, 4-5 High St, ☎ +44 20 8879-7020.
- **The Prince of Wales**, 2 Hartfield Rd, ☎ +44 20 8946-5369. Serves food, owned by Punch taverns.
- **The Slug**, Hartfield Rd, ☎ +44 20 8947-1791. Sports orientated bar. Food served with seating outside.
- **The Terrace**, Above Centre Court Shopping Centre, Queens Rd, ☎ +44 20 8944-9970. Terrace overlooking central Wimbledon. Serves food.

- **Watershed**, 267 Broadway, ☎ +44 20 8540-0080. Club with live music and comedy evenings on Saturdays.
- **White Hart**, 144 Kingston Rd (*Near the Merton Park tram stop*). Thai Food Served. Seating outside. Parking.
- **The Wibbas Down Inn** (*JD Wetherspoon pub*), 6-12 Gladstone Rd, ☎ +44 20 8540-6788. Food Served. Some seating outside - now nearly completely taken up by smokers. Always has a wide and well-kept selection of real ales.

34.9 Sleep

- **Antoinette Hotel**, The Broadway, ☎ +44 20 8543-4222. A 50 bedroom hotel, under new management and recently refurbished.
- **Hotel du Vin & Bistro Wimbledon** (*Cannizaro House*), West Side, Wimbledon Common, ☎ +44 330 024 0706. A beautiful hotel overlooking Cannizaro Park to the rear and Wimbledon Common to the front. Excellent dining.
- **Justin James Hotel**, 43 Worple Road, SW19 4JZ, ☎ +44 20 8947-4271, fax: +44 20 8296-6715.
- **The Phoenix**, 123-125 Merton Road, ☎ +44 20 8542-0826.
- **The Wimbledon Hotel**, 78 Worple Rd, ☎ +44 20 8946-9265, fax: +44 20 8946-1581. Small family run hotel.
- **Worcester House Hotel**, 38 Alwyne Road, ☎ +44 20 8946-1300, fax: +44 20 8946-9120. Small family run hotel.
- **Travel Joy Hostels Wimbledon**, 89 Hartfield Road, ☎ +44 20 8617-1585, e-mail: info@traveljoyhostels-wimbledon.com. Fun, cheap, backpackers hostel

34.10 Connect

34.11 Go next

34.12 Text and image sources, contributors, and licenses

34.12.1 Text

- England** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/England?oldid=3150014> *Contributors:* (WV-en) ImportBot, Cjensen-enwikivoyage, Wrh2, Gobbler, Sertmann, Jpatokal, Syced, Peterfitzgerald, Jc8136, Dguillaume, Sumone10154, LtPowers, AlasdairW, Vidimian, Inas, Tsandell, Globe-trotter, Yann, Jonboy, Cacahuete, Xltel, Nurg, SUFCboy, David Edgar, RegentsPark, ClausHansen, (WT-en) Huttite, (WT-en) Tatata, (WT-en) Morph, (WT-en) Tatatabot, (WT-en) TVerBeek, (WT-en) Maj, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Brendio, (WT-en) Episteme, (WT-en) Jnich99, (WT-en) JYolkowski, (WT-en) Cardboardbird, (WT-en) Jjtk, (WT-en) Nzpcmad, (WT-en) Valterti, (WT-en) WindHorse, (WT-en) PierreAbbat, (WT-en) DanielC, (WT-en) InterLangBot, (WT-en) ￼￼, (WT-en) Paul., (WT-en) Chris j wood, (WT-en) AlasdairW, (WT-en) Nrms, (WT-en) Siegiga, (WT-en) Jackofhearts, (WT-en) Davidx, (WT-en) ViMy, (WT-en) Sjc196, (WT-en) Travelbubble, (WT-en) Rmx, (WT-en) Repayne, (WT-en) Nils, (WT-en) Grawp, (WT-en) Chinz, (WT-en) Rodericoco, (WT-en) Jtesla16, (WT-en) Rspga49, (WT-en) Norvak, (WT-en) Orauer, (WT-en) AndrewMcDonald, (WT-en) Vs67 hEmJA, (WT-en) Travelpleb, (WT-en) Sachabrunel, (WT-en) Benjaminevans82, (WT-en) Haem85, (WT-en) Nickpest, (WT-en) Profjack, (WT-en) Beenthere, (WT-en) Enigmatic, (WT-en) Davidsons, (WT-en) Hkpatv, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) NorthernSole, (WT-en) Miknon, (WT-en) Eeyore, (WT-en) Ronnie Pander, (WT-en) Mattalves, (WT-en) The European, (WT-en) Oitoo, (WT-en) Rnt20, (WT-en) Exile, (WT-en) Steeev, (WT-en) Ted Ted, (WT-en) Adman, (WT-en) Pyromonkey, (WT-en) Hpc1989, (WT-en) Damo32, (WT-en) Daniel robinson, (WT-en) Anon user, (WT-en) HueJass84, (WT-en) Zingano, (WT-en) MrTAToad, (WT-en) Mrcool, (WT-en) Stan66, (WT-en) Frederific, (WT-en) Titan09, (WT-en) Westendcarservices, (WT-en) Stumuxlow, (WT-en) J0hn09, (WT-en) Happynoodleboycey, (WT-en) Zarcadia, (WT-en) Seopal, (WT-en) Ju z, Eco84, Vituzzu, Ikan Kek, The wub, Pigsontewing, Graham87, Matthewmayer, The Anomebot2, NJR ZA, LilHelpa, Marek69, Matticusmadness, Andrewssi2, Sumone's bot, Traveler100, EvanProdromou, Gorilla Jones, 64bitinformation, MarkJaroski, Yvww, Bill-on-the-Hill, Eu.stefan, Dave.Dunford, ThunderingTyphoons!, Texugo, Nicholasjf21, Sarepava, Chris1515, Andy Farrell, Jakec, Jjtkk, Curleyswirley, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, Danapit, Geopersona, SteveRBot, Ibanan, Wrh2Bot, Half past, Addbot, Inferno986return, Pjamescowie, Seagull123, Hobbitchuster, Miroslav Shubernetskiy, Ground Zero, Minhaz.de and Anonymous: 385
- London** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London?oldid=3151644> *Contributors:* (WV-en) ImportBot, Cjensen-enwikivoyage, Wrh2, Sertmann, Jpatokal, Syced, Stefan2, Peterfitzgerald, Jc8136, Dguillaume, Sumone10154, DenisYurkin, AndreCarrotflower, W. Frank, Ypsilon, LtPowers, Shaundd, AlasdairW, AHeneen, Vidimian, Inas, JamesA, Pashley, Tsandell, Globe-trotter, Yann, Jonboy, Ravikiran r, Cacahuete, Xltel, Elgaard, Saqib, Hennejohn, Nurg, PerryPlanet, K7L, Romaine, Snowolf, RegentsPark, ClausHansen, (WV-en) Kalakar, Stefan2bot, (WT-en) Huttite, (WT-en) Morph, (WT-en) Tatatabot, (WT-en) TVerBeek, (WT-en) Maj, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Episteme, (WT-en) Jnich99, (WT-en) Cardboardbird, (WT-en) Jjtk, (WT-en) Nzpcmad, (WT-en) Ilkirk, (WT-en) WindHorse, (WT-en) PierreAbbat, (WT-en) DanielC, (WT-en) Fastestdogever, (WT-en) Andy85719, (WT-en) Roundtheworld, (WT-en) Paul., (WT-en) Tarr3n, (WT-en) Chris j wood, (WT-en) AlasdairW, (WT-en) Nrms, (WT-en) Wikitravelmark, (WT-en) Demii, (WT-en) Siegiga, (WT-en) Jackofhearts, (WT-en) MarinaK, (WT-en) Jordanmills, (WT-en) Sjc196, (WT-en) Mnd, (WT-en) Carson-roen, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Meltwaterfalls, (WT-en) Woodstock, (WT-en) Travelbubble, (WT-en) Rmx, (WT-en) Ypsilon, (WT-en) Repayne, (WT-en) Fluglotse2000, (WT-en) Nils, (WT-en) Edmontonenthusiast, (WT-en) Sailsetter, (WT-en) Johnycanal, (WT-en) Bijee, (WT-en) Davidbstanley, (WT-en) HJ.Phillips94, (WT-en) JensANDMarian, (WT-en) Puffpff, (WT-en) WikiTravelMaster, (WT-en) Chinz, (WT-en) Blahma, (WT-en) Rodericoco, (WT-en) Jtesla16, (WT-en) Justfred, (WT-en) Rspga49, (WT-en) OliverBuchino, (WT-en) Metaur, (WT-en) Dale Arnett, (WT-en) Kevin James, (WT-en) Flowergirl, (WT-en) Solardrum, (WT-en) Kfridley, (WT-en) Acme, (WT-en) Penguinparty, (WT-en) Ilikescider, (WT-en) Mtaussig, (WT-en) AndonicO, (WT-en) P.K.Niyogi, (WT-en) SaschaT, (WT-en) Hopha, (WT-en) Dechigno, (WT-en) Silkroad, (WT-en) RonaldR, (WT-en) Travelempire, (WT-en) MikeRumex, (WT-en) LateRooms.com, (WT-en) Kaykay, (WT-en) Wikibob, (WT-en) CONOCER, (WT-en) Haem85, (WT-en) Rincewind, (WT-en) Findshirley, (WT-en) Bobkemp, (WT-en) Brixtonian, (WT-en) Nickpest, (WT-en) CandleWithHare, (WT-en) Profjack, (WT-en) Superflush, (WT-en) Sixzilly, (WT-en) Nivaria, (WT-en) Cnrb, (WT-en) BrianUNC1, (WT-en) Enigmatic, (WT-en) Bnhall, (WT-en) Darrelljon, (WT-en) Mreames, (WT-en) Jbart727, (WT-en) RJK, (WT-en) Hkpatv, (WT-en) Mici, (WT-en) Dirc, (WT-en) Discoverywalks, (WT-en) Freundesstern, (WT-en) Dpaajones, (WT-en) Dsellars, (WT-en) Angela, (WT-en) Dmol, (WT-en) Cruisejenny, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) Joeifish, (WT-en) Tc triangle, (WT-en) Paul in Saudi, (WT-en) Herngong, (WT-en) AnonyLog, (WT-en) Bubbleheadisme, (WT-en) Hrcolyer, (WT-en) Shizow, (WT-en) Chasit, (WT-en) Renatabracuhy, (WT-en) Jhyatt, (WT-en) Wikiwonka88, (WT-en) JossDude, (WT-en) Kameragrl, (WT-en) Wanderlist, (WT-en) Kaare, (WT-en) Kake Pugh, (WT-en) Koolkittenjo, (WT-en) LateRooms, (WT-en) Markhoney, (WT-en) J2890, (WT-en) LondonAussie, (WT-en) MykReeve, (WT-en) Tony, (WT-en) Sansonic, (WT-en) Pigeonshouse, (WT-en) ShitHead123, (WT-en) RayR, (WT-en) Richard Guy, (WT-en) Secretlondon, (WT-en) ACE789, (WT-en) Grimlock, (WT-en) Rbraterman, (WT-en) Toychicken, (WT-en) Steeev, (WT-en) STSC, (WT-en) Ted Ted, (WT-en) Unoriginalname38, (WT-en) Arpitt, (WT-en) Gxabier, (WT-en) Adman, (WT-en) Ashton.bridget, (WT-en) Zorn, (WT-en) Damo32, (WT-en) Alovell83, (WT-en) Naryathegreat, (WT-en) Dsifry, (WT-en) Ndwoods, (WT-en) Stan66, (WT-en) Westendcarservices, (WT-en) Talentswamp, (WT-en) Herman404, (WT-en) Joshuadrooney, (WT-en) Byenary, (WT-en) Rjk, (WT-en) DavidB601, (WT-en) Prabhupj, (WT-en) Philip, (WT-en) EAi, (WT-en) Campdavid, (WT-en) Spike, (WT-en) Srm1977, (WT-en) Betterwatchit, (WT-en) No more bongos, (WT-en) Shiply, (WT-en) BetaMaxx11, (WT-en) Mostcurious, (WT-en) Duaneg, (WT-en) Sc147, (WT-en) Fredsnet, (WT-en) Folk, (WT-en) Leavesles, (WT-en) LDHan, (WT-en) JesseHarris, (WT-en) MatthewB, (WT-en) Amontero, (WT-en) Invisiblehand, (WT-en) Jrv73, (WT-en) WikiWitch, (WT-en) Mouseboks, (WT-en) Wiki king, (WT-en) Neilsroberts, (WT-en) Pukkatukka, (WT-en) SiHo, (WT-en) Kernelmustard, (WT-en) Giselle, (WT-en) Mjci, (WT-en) Gabyreiss1972, (WT-en) Chrisfow, (WT-en) Clever Booy, (WT-en) Crazyknight, (WT-en) Cclayton, (WT-en) Smsm1, (WT-en) Callum hurst, (WT-en) Gcat, (WT-en) Scene-OUT, (WT-en) Open4D, (WT-en) JimDandy, (WT-en) Dgrundy, (WT-en) Pck76, (WT-en) Kidstolondon, (WT-en) LondonIgl, (WT-en) Rathbone, (WT-en) D-Notice, (WT-en) Clinicalobeast, (WT-en) TravelFresh, (WT-en) CorrectTheText, (WT-en) Malbud, (WT-en) Threads, (WT-en) Spokenmotion, (WT-en) CosmicJake, (WT-en) Trevorparsons, (WT-en) Mrvenice, (WT-en) Lizziestanton, (WT-en) SmallcarBIGCITY, (WT-en) ArcticVagabond, (WT-en) Alicerr, (WT-en) Joactman, (WT-en) Justgravy, (WT-en) Liselotte, (WT-en) Shefgab, (WT-en) EssexN4, Wiki13, Thehelpfulbot, Ymblanter, Eco84, The dog2, Tegel, The Land, Ikan Kek, Interfase, The wub, Another Believer, Sfan00 IMG, Geni, Whym, Simon Peter Hughes, Graham87, Jdlrobsn, Libby norman, Tom Morris, Raimundo Pastor, Trainfan01, NJR ZA, RaviC, LilHelpa, SBryan, Marek69, Rthorat, A P Monblat, Andrewssi2, Sumone's bot, Traveler100, EvanProdromou, Jon Davies (WMUK), Gorilla Jones, AdamBMorgan, JimKillock, Netol, CarsracBot, Mads.bahrt, Werdna, MarkJaroski, Yvww, Bill-on-the-Hill, Trek123, Sapphire, Hcallas, Jrothwell, Alex040599, Crookesmoor, Wpollard, ThunderingTyphoons!, Nricardo, Radix838, Andyrom75, Scalyltail, Poleydee-enwikivoyage, Texugo, Robinj-fisher, Iannsterdam, Nicholasjf21, Billycop32, WOSlinker, Dubmill, Queenfan1812, Pdiddyjr, Chris1515, H2g2bob, Biltyanghh, Masti, Druzhnik, דודנין, Harry Wood, Handrian, Jjtkk, Wakefieldgdm, Vinayakwrites, Cquoi, Inamesh, ShakespeareFan00, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, Jc86035, Коринь, PrinceGloria, CarstenR, SteveRBot, Ibanan, Wrh2Bot, Amsterdamhoteluk, Will-enwikivoyage, Alis-

- tair1978**, **Flip666**, **Matroc**, **Addbot**, **Folks at 137**, **Kristoffer hh**, **Enzomartinielli**, **Agustin Bartolome**, **Pjamescovie**, **Tititub**, **Alejandro.lys**, **Crazyer 666**—enwikivoyage, **Dale Arnett**, **WhatamIdoing**, **ButteBag**, **Duves**, **NoPolymath**, **Seagull123**, **Vadp**, **Hobbitschuster**, **TripFelt**, **Janeleonard**, **Dr. British12**, **Kwallmann**, **Ground Zero**, **Goldentoursoperator**, **Ainonana**, **Gingganggooly**, **Wetter88**, **Mikdl1**, **Blacklane**, **DakerTheFaker**, **Cameronlund**, **Attdt**, **Doubleplusjeff**, **Londonloverlover**, **Redbaronski**, **Princess Harry** and **Anonymous**: 1165

 - Gatwick Airport** *Source:* https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/Gatwick_Airport?oldid=3140944 *Contributors:* **Ypsilon**, **AlasdairW**, **Hennejohn**, **(WT-en) Tarr3n**, **Ikan Kekek**, **Andrewssi2**, **Crookesmoor**, **Texugo**, **Nicholasjf21**, **WOSlinker**, **Traveler100bot**, **PrinceGloria**, **Wrh2Bot**, **Archie02**, **GatwickGirl**, **Seagull123**, **Hobbitschuster** and **Anonymous**: 2
 - Heathrow Airport** *Source:* https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/Heathrow_Airport?oldid=3142596 *Contributors:* **(WV-en) ImportBot**, **Wrh2**, **Jpatokal**, **Peterfitzgerald**, **Jc8136**, **Dguillaume**, **DenisYurkin**, **Ypsilon**, **AlasdairW**, **Inas**, **Globe-trotter**, **Jonboy**, **Cacahuat**, **Saqib**, **Alice**, **Nurg**, **(WT-en) Morph**, **(WT-en) Tatatabot**, **(WT-en) TVerBeek**, **(WT-en) Maj**, **(WT-en) Burmesedays**, **(WT-en) Jnich99**, **(WT-en) WindHorse**, **(WT-en) Jackofhearts**, **(WT-en) Babbelas**, **(WT-en) Frequenttrekker**, **(WT-en) Nicolas1981**, **(WT-en) Edmontononthusiast**, **(WT-en) Cnrbh**, **(WT-en) Sourcefrog**, **(WT-en) Aphextwig**, **(WT-en) StevenSeagull**, **(WT-en) WadeWorld**, **(WT-en) Westendcarservices**, **(WT-en) Er Komandante**, **(WT-en) Phlip**, **(WT-en) EAI**, **(WT-en) Avenes**, **Eco84**, **The dog2**, **Ikan Kekek**, **Felix505**, **Graham87**, **LilHelpa**, **Andrewssi2**, **Traveler100**, **CarsracBot**, **Bill-on-the-Hill**, **ThunderingTyphoons!**, **Scalytail**, **Texugo**, **Nicholasjf21**, **WOSlinker**, **Hshook**, **יִיכָנָן יִיכָנָן**, **Inasbot**, **Traveler100bot**, **DaGizza**, **SteveRBot**, **Wrh2Bot**, **Alux**, **Addbot**, **Jianhui67**, **118.93nzp**, **Martinhathaway**, **Vadp**, **VerblInteractive**, **Ajof**, **EastboundNDown** and **Anonymous**: 74
 - London Stansted Airport** *Source:* https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Stansted_Airport?oldid=3100845 *Contributors:* **Ypsilon**, **AlasdairW**, **Eco84**, **Ikan Kekek**, **Traveler100**, **Scalytail**, **Texugo**, **Nicholasjf21**, **WOSlinker**, **Traveler100bot**, **Ordovician442**, **Wrh2Bot**, **Will**—enwikivoyage, **Martinhathaway**, **Hobbitschuster** and **Anonymous**: 4
 - London/Bloomsbury** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Bloomsbury?oldid=3133848> *Contributors:* **Peterfitzgerald**, **Sumone10154**, **Globe-trotter**, **Jonboy**, **Nurg**, **ClausHansen**, **Stefan2bot**, **(WT-en) Tatatabot**, **(WT-en) Maj**, **(WT-en) Burmesedays**, **(WT-en) Bill Ellett**, **(WT-en) Nzpcmad**, **(WT-en) MarinaK**, **(WT-en) Zepppep**, **(WT-en) Travelbubble**, **(WT-en) Plin**, **(WT-en) Jtesla16**, **(WT-en) Ted**, **(WT-en) Jaywalker**, **(WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil**, **(WT-en) Hrcolyer**, **(WT-en) SteveC**, **(WT-en) Markhoney**, **(WT-en) MykReeve**, **(WT-en) Greudin**, **(WT-en) BradC**, **(WT-en) Johnbeaver**, **Eco84**, **Koavf**, **Ikan Kekek**, **Another Believer**, **Phoebe**, **Tom Morris**, **The Anomebot2**, **Denniss**, **Traveler100**, **EvanProdromou**, **AdamBMorgan**, **MarkJaroski**, **Sapphire**, **ThunderingTyphoons!**, **Texugo**, **Nicholasjf21**, **WOSlinker**, **יִיכָנָן יִיכָנָן**, **Jtjkk**, **Inasbot**, **Traveler100bot**, **DaGizza**, **Ibaman**, **Wrh2Bot**, **Matroc**, **Addbot**, **Pjamescovie**, **Vadp**, **VerblInteractive** and **Anonymous**: 38
 - London/Camden** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Camden?oldid=3151650> *Contributors:* **Wrh2**, **Peterfitzgerald**, **Dguillaume**, **Sumone10154**, **LtPowers**, **Tsandell**, **Globe-trotter**, **Jonboy**, **Nurg**, **ClausHansen**, **(WT-en) Huttite**, **(WT-en) Tatatabot**, **(WT-en) Maj**, **(WT-en) Burmesedays**, **(WT-en) Bill Ellett**, **(WT-en) Zepppep**, **(WT-en) Sterio**, **(WT-en) Pipe**, **(WT-en) Hrcolyer**, **(WT-en) Steeev**, **(WT-en) WiseEagle**, **(WT-en) Claratatuille**, **Mey2008**, **Eco84**, **Koavf**, **Ikan Kekek**, **Tom Morris**, **The Anomebot2**, **LilHelpa**, **Denniss**, **Traveler100**, **EvanProdromou**, **AdamBMorgan**, **ThunderingTyphoons!**, **Texugo**, **Nicholasjf21**, **WOSlinker**, **Queenfan1812**, **יִיכָנָן יִיכָנָן**, **Jtjkk**, **ShakespeareFan00**, **Traveler100bot**, **PrinceGloria**, **Ibaman**, **Wrh2Bot**, **Andyrom bot**, **Addbot**, **Vadp** and **Anonymous**: 41
 - London/City of London** *Source:* https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/City_of_London?oldid=3148278 *Contributors:* **Wrh2**, **Sertmann**, **Jpatokal**, **Jc8136**, **Sumone10154**, **AndreCarrotflower**, **Ypsilon**, **LtPowers**, **AlasdairW**, **Vidimian**, **Inas**, **Pashley**, **Tsandell**, **Globe-trotter**, **Elgaard**, **Saqib**, **Nurg**, **Snowolf**, **ClausHansen**, **Stefan2bot**, **(WT-en) Huttite**, **(WT-en) Tatatabot**, **(WT-en) Maj**, **(WT-en) Burmesedays**, **(WT-en) Bill Ellett**, **(WT-en) DanielC**, **(WT-en) Tarr3n**, **(WT-en) MarinaK**, **(WT-en) Zepppep**, **(WT-en) Fluglotse2000**, **(WT-en) Ascott**, **(WT-en) Bulliver**, **(WT-en) Brixtonian**, **(WT-en) Jmabel**, **(WT-en) Riggwelter**, **(WT-en) Enigmatic**, **(WT-en) Dpaajones**, **(WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil**, **(WT-en) Hergong**, **(WT-en) MykReeve**, **(WT-en) Markbyrne**, **(WT-en) Steeev**, **(WT-en) Zorn**, **(WT-en) Dubhglais**, **(WT-en) Zigar**, **(WT-en) Momad**, **(WT-en) Tkbremnes**, **(WT-en) Doro08**, **(WT-en) Dragonnfly**, **(WT-en) Jess**, **(WT-en) Tallorder**, **Eco84**, **Koavf**, **Ikan Kekek**, **Whym**, **Querent**, **Tom Morris**, **The Anomebot2**, **Traveler100**, **EvanProdromou**, **AdamBMorgan**, **CarsracBot**, **Nev1**, **Crookesmoor**, **ThunderingTyphoons!**, **Radix838**, **Andyrom75**, **Visit the City**, **Texugo**, **Nicholasjf21**, **JohnPomeranz**, **WOSlinker**, **Torty3**, **Edi217**, **יִיכָנָן יִיכָנָן**, **Traveler100bot**, **DaGizza**, **Wrh2Bot**, **Flip666**, **Matroc**, **Addbot**, **AntonBryl**, **Pjamescovie**, **Johhart**, **Vadp**, **RuthHartnoll89**, **Dr. British12**, **Markobr**, **DanielRigal**, **Sueslatter**, **Owen-jr404**, **Urvisharma22**

- **London/Hackney** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Hackney?oldid=3151656> *Contributors:* Wrh2, Peterfitzgerald, Dguillaume, Inas, Globe-trotter, ClausHansen, Stefan2bot, (WT-en) Morph, (WT-en) TVerBeek, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) Adman, (WT-en) Dubmill, (WT-en) JesseHarris, Eco84, Koavf, Ikan Kekek, The Anomebot2, Denniss, Traveler100, AdamBMorgan, CarsracBot, Crookesmoor, Texugo, WOSlinker, Queenfan1812, יִיקִינֶאֱסֶה, Jjtkk, Traveler100bot, Ibanan, Wrh2Bot, Andyrom bot, Matroc, Addbot and Anonymous: 31
- **London/Hammersmith and Fulham** *Source:* https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Hammersmith_and_Fulham?oldid=3130568 *Contributors:* Wrh2, Sertmann, Peterfitzgerald, Jc8136, AlasdairW, Globe-trotter, ClausHansen, Stefan2bot, (WT-en) Huttite, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) ManOnABus, (WT-en) Vance.m, Eco84, Koavf, The Anomebot2, Denniss, Traveler100, AdamBMorgan, CarsracBot, Texugo, Edwardx, Nicholasjf21, WOSlinker, Taralli, יִיקִינֶאֱסֶה, Traveler100bot, Wrh2Bot, Andyrom bot, Matroc, Taketa, Addbot, Pjamescovie and Anonymous: 26
- **London/Hampstead** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Hampstead?oldid=3143616> *Contributors:* Wrh2, Peterfitzgerald, Pbsouthwood, AndreCarrotflower, Ypsilon, LtPowers, AlasdairW, Inas, Globe-trotter, Ravikiran r, Nurg, PerryPlanet, ClausHansen, Stefan2bot, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Ilkirk, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Sailsetter, (WT-en) Tristram Shandy, (WT-en) Tay, (WT-en) Jhyatt, (WT-en) Cheeni Kum, (WT-en) Fredsnet, (WT-en) Nimi74, Eco84, Koavf, Tom Morris, The Anomebot2, LilHelpa, Marek69, Denniss, AdamBMorgan, Bill-on-the-Hill, Dave.Dunford, ThunderingTyphoons!, Moorgate~enwikivoyage, Texugo, WOSlinker, Queenfan1812, יִיקִינֶאֱסֶה, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, Wrh2Bot, MRSC, Matroc and Anonymous: 17
- **London/Holborn-Clerkenwell** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Holborn-Clerkenwell?oldid=3151856> *Contributors:* Sertmann, Sumone10154, Globe-trotter, Jnich99, ClausHansen, Stefan2bot, (WT-en) Tatatabot, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Jnich99, (WT-en) MarinaK, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) Markbyrne, (WT-en) Dragonnfly, (WT-en) Ruudboy, Eco84, Koavf, Ikan Kekek, Tom Morris, The Anomebot2, Traveler100, AdamBMorgan, CarsracBot, ThunderingTyphoons!, Texugo, Robinjfisher, Nicholasjf21, WOSlinker, יִיקִינֶאֱסֶה, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, Wrh2Bot, Andyrom bot, Matroc, Addbot, Vadv and Anonymous: 12
- **London/Hornchurch** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Hornchurch?oldid=3127462> *Contributors:* LtPowers, AlasdairW, Pashley, Saqib, (WT-en) Dan mat, (WT-en) DevonshireHotelHornchurch, Ikan Kekek, Traveler100, Texugo, WOSlinker, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, Wrh2Bot, MRSC, Andyrom bot, Hobbitchuster and Anonymous: 10
- **London/Islington** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Islington?oldid=3145162> *Contributors:* Sertmann, Sumone10154, DenisYurkin, Globe-trotter, Jonboy, Nurg, ClausHansen, Stefan2bot, (WT-en) Huttite, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Cardboardbird, (WT-en) Fastestdogever, (WT-en) Akubra, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Caffeine, (WT-en) Brixtonian, (WT-en) RJK, (WT-en) Markbyrne, (WT-en) Steeev, (WT-en) Dubmill, (WT-en) Rjk, Eco84, Koavf, Ikan Kekek, The Anomebot2, Denniss, Traveler100, EvanProdromou, AdamBMorgan, Texugo, WOSlinker, יִיקִינֶאֱסֶה, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, Wrh2Bot, Andyrom bot, BrendanJohnWilliams200 and Anonymous: 25
- **London/Lambeth** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Lambeth?oldid=3130720> *Contributors:* Wrh2, Sumone10154, Globe-trotter, ClausHansen, Stefan2bot, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Jnich99, (WT-en) Cardboardbird, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) Ma0sm, (WT-en) Dubmill, (WT-en) Roadboyuk, (WT-en) Hisame, (WT-en) Mindthegap-tours, Eco84, The Land, Tom Morris, The Anomebot2, Denniss, Traveler100, AdamBMorgan, Texugo, WOSlinker, Dubmill, יִיקִינֶאֱסֶה, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, Wrh2Bot, Andyrom bot, Matroc and Anonymous: 15
- **London/Leicester Square** *Source:* https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Leicester_Square?oldid=3151859 *Contributors:* Wrh2, Peterfitzgerald, Jc8136, Dguillaume, Sumone10154, Inas, Globe-trotter, PerryPlanet, ClausHansen, Stefan2bot, (WT-en) Huttite, (WT-en) Tatatabot, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Nzpcmad, (WT-en) Fastestdogever, (WT-en) Roundtheworld, (WT-en) MarinaK, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Ascott, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) Wazeem, (WT-en) Sheridan, (WT-en) Sav552, Eco84, Ikan Kekek, The Anomebot2, Traveler100, AdamBMorgan, Sapphire, ThunderingTyphoons!, Scalytail, Nicholasjf21, WOSlinker, יִיקִינֶאֱסֶה, Jjtkk, Vinayakwrites, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, Wrh2Bot, Alistair1978, Addbot, Pjamescovie, Vadv and Anonymous: 36
- **London/Mayfair-Marylebone** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Mayfair-Marylebone?oldid=3129400> *Contributors:* Wrh2, Sertmann, Peterfitzgerald, Sumone10154, Ypsilon, Globe-trotter, PerryPlanet, ClausHansen, Stefan2bot, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Roundtheworld, (WT-en) Nrms, (WT-en) Tara12 tmq, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Ascott, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) TravelStoreMaker.com, (WT-en) Malfbud, (WT-en) Hisame, (WT-en) Petrisoft, Eco84, Koavf, Ikan Kekek, The Anomebot2, Traveler100, AdamBMorgan, CarsracBot, Crookesmoor, ThunderingTyphoons!, Texugo, Edwardx, Robinjfisher, WOSlinker, Queenfan1812, יִיקִינֶאֱסֶה, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, SteveRBot, Ibanan, Wrh2Bot, Matroc, Addbot, Pjamescovie, Ap10093, Vadv, Jason65 and Anonymous: 26
- **London/North** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/North?oldid=3077597> *Contributors:* Sertmann, Peterfitzgerald, Sumone10154, AlasdairW, Globe-trotter, Nurg, ClausHansen, Stefan2bot, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Chris j wood, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) Hrcolyer, (WT-en) StevenSeagull, (WT-en) Dubmill, (WT-en) Hjuk, Eco84, Koavf, Ikan Kekek, Felix505, The Anomebot2, Smerus, Denniss, Traveler100, ThunderingTyphoons!, Scalytail, C i d, Texugo, Robinjfisher, Nicholasjf21, WOSlinker, Dubmill, Queenfan1812, Chris1515, יִיקִינֶאֱסֶה, Jjtkk, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, Tcgriffin, Wrh2Bot, Travel4thesakeofit, Vacationer, Matroc, Hobbitchuster, Dr. British12, Owen-jr404 and Anonymous: 20
- **London/Notting Hill-North Kensington** *Source:* https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Notting_Hill-North_Kensington?oldid=3133860 *Contributors:* Wrh2, Sertmann, Peterfitzgerald, Jc8136, Dguillaume, Sumone10154, Inas, Globe-trotter, Jonboy, PerryPlanet, ClausHansen, (WT-en) Huttite, (WT-en) Tatatabot, (WT-en) Maj, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Nzpcmad, (WT-en) Fastestdogever, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Redbug, (WT-en) Sleepyhead, (WT-en) Open321, (WT-en) Brixtonian, (WT-en) Enigmatic, (WT-en) Digr, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) Tsting1004, (WT-en) E-business, (WT-en) Spiv, (WT-en) Steeev, (WT-en) STSC, (WT-en) MatthewB, (WT-en) AmandaB123, (WT-en) Easyhotelec, (WT-en) Kensingtonwest, Eco84, Koavf, The Anomebot2, LilHelpa, Traveler100, AdamBMorgan, CarsracBot, MarkJaroski, ThunderingTyphoons!, Texugo, WOSlinker, יִיקִינֶאֱסֶה, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, Ibanan, Wrh2Bot, Andyrom bot, Addbot, Notjameswood and Anonymous: 31
- **London/Paddington-Maida Vale** *Source:* https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Paddington-Maida_Vale?oldid=3133862 *Contributors:* Cjensen~enwikivoyage, Wrh2, Sertmann, Jpatokal, Peterfitzgerald, Sumone10154, Inas, Globe-trotter, Jonboy, Ravikiran r, Xltel, PerryPlanet, ClausHansen, Stefan2bot, (WT-en) Tatatabot, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Owain, (WT-en) Tara12 tmq, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Travelbubble, (WT-en) Rmx, (WT-en) Wikitravel is Communism, (WT-en) Haem85, (WT-en) Kake Pugh, (WT-en) MatthewB, (WT-en) Travelbrit, Eco84, Koavf, Ikan Kekek, Querent, The Anomebot2, Traveler100, EvanProdromou, AdamBMorgan, CarsracBot, MarkJaroski, Sapphire, Texugo, WOSlinker, יִיקִינֶאֱסֶה, Jjtkk, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, Wrh2Bot, Andyrom bot, Matroc, Addbot, Pjamescovie and Anonymous: 32

- **London/Richmond-Kew** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Richmond-Kew?oldid=3143619> *Contributors:* Wrh2, Sumone10154, AndreCarrotflower, Ypsilon, LtPowers, AlasdairW, Vidimian, Globe-trotter, Nurg, ClausHansen, Stefan2bot, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Cardboardbird, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Dale Arnett, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) Mindthegaptours, (WT-en) ArtieleBlanc, Eco84, Koavf, Ikan Kekek, The Anomebot2, Denniss, Traveler100, AdamBMorgan, ThunderingTyphoons!, Texugo, Akirkul1, Thruston, Daniel Case, WOSlinker, יִיקִינֶאֱס, Jjtkk, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, Wrh2Bot, Matroc, Headhitter, Pjamescowie, Hobbitchuster and Anonymous: 12
- **London/Soho** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Soho?oldid=3131538> *Contributors:* Wrh2, Peterfitzgerald, Jc8136, Sumone10154, DenisYurkin, Jjtk-enwikivoyage, LtPowers, Globe-trotter, Jonboy, Nurg, ClausHansen, Stefan2bot, (WT-en) Huttite, (WT-en) Tatatabot, (WT-en) Maj, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Roundtheworld, (WT-en) MarinaK, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Repayne, (WT-en) Enzomartinelli, (WT-en) Nils, (WT-en) Abstraktn, (WT-en) Themonobrow, (WT-en) P.K.Niyogi, (WT-en) Bulliver, (WT-en) RJK, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) Herngong, (WT-en) Jhyatt, (WT-en) Kake Pugh, (WT-en) MykReeve, (WT-en) Steev, (WT-en) Jamesgo, (WT-en) Mattlazycat, Eco84, Ikan Kekek, Tom Morris, The Anomebot2, NJR ZA, LilHelpa, Keithon-earth, Traveler100, EvanProdromou, AdamBMorgan, CarsracBot, MarkJaroski, Crookesmoor, ThunderingTyphoons!, Texugo, Nbarth, WOSlinker, יִיקִינֶאֱס, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, Wrh2Bot, Flip666, Matroc, Addbot, Pjamescowie, EmmaGClarke, Vadv and Anonymous: 60
- **London/South** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/South?oldid=3143637> *Contributors:* Wrh2, Sertmann, Peterfitzgerald, Sumone10154, Jjtk-enwikivoyage, Ypsilon, LtPowers, AlasdairW, Vidimian, Globe-trotter, PerryPlanet, K7L, ClausHansen, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Nzpcmad, (WT-en) DanielC, (WT-en) Chris j wood, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Dale Arnett, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) Donotpanic, (WT-en) Secretlondon, (WT-en) Lobster, (WT-en) Ricechrisb, (WT-en) Voyager105, (WT-en) Justgravy, (WT-en) Parsloe, (WT-en) Jackbiles, Eco84, Ikan Kekek, Phantomsteve, The Anomebot2, Marek69, A P Monblat, Denniss, Traveler100, ThunderingTyphoons!, Texugo, Nicholasjf21, WOSlinker, Chris1515, יִיקִינֶאֱס, Jjtkk, Traveler100bot, Ibaman, Wrh2Bot, Matroc, Fazzo29, Pjamescowie, VerblInteractive and Anonymous: 31
- **London/South Bank** *Source:* https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/South_Bank?oldid=3133866 *Contributors:* (WV-en) ImportBot, Wrh2, Peterfitzgerald, Sumone10154, Jjtk-enwikivoyage, Inas, JamesA, Tsandell, Globe-trotter, Nurg, PerryPlanet, ClausHansen, (WT-en) Huttite, (WT-en) Morph, (WT-en) Tatatabot, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Jnich99, (WT-en) MarinaK, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Themanwhowouldbeking, (WT-en) Eric Bauman, (WT-en) H3O, (WT-en) P.K.Niyogi, (WT-en) Brixtonian, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) MykReeve, (WT-en) Secretlondon, (WT-en) Steev, (WT-en) D-Notice, (WT-en) TravelFresh, (WT-en) Annieduffs, Eco84, Koavf, Jonte--, The Anomebot2, Traveler100, EvanProdromou, AdamBMorgan, MarkJaroski, Sapphire, ThunderingTyphoons!, Nbarth, Nicholasjf21, WOSlinker, יִיקִינֶאֱס, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, Abeona, Wrh2Bot, Travelempire, Andyrom bot, Addbot, 118.93nzp, Enzomartinelli, Pjamescowie, Myersjustinc, DanielRigal, Lxylxy123456 and Anonymous: 41
- **London/South Kensington-Chelsea** *Source:* https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/South_Kensington-Chelsea?oldid=3133052 *Contributors:* Wrh2, Sertmann, Peterfitzgerald, Sumone10154, AlasdairW, Globe-trotter, Nurg, PerryPlanet, ClausHansen, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Roundtheworld, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Ascott, (WT-en) Open321, (WT-en) Riggwelter, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) Wazeem, (WT-en) Lturner, (WT-en) TravelStoreMaker.com, (WT-en) Voyager105, Eco84, Koavf, The Land, Ikan Kekek, Nick-D, The Anome, The Anomebot2, Denniss, Traveler100, AdamBMorgan, CarsracBot, ThunderingTyphoons!, Texugo, Edwardx, WOSlinker, יִיקִינֶאֱס, Jjtkk, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, Ibaman, Wrh2Bot, Andyrom bot, Matroc, Addbot, Lxylxy123456 and Anonymous: 32
- **London/Southwark and Lewisham** *Source:* https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Southwark_and_Lewisham?oldid=3133451 *Contributors:* Wrh2, Sertmann, Peterfitzgerald, Jc8136, Sumone10154, LtPowers, AlasdairW, Globe-trotter, Jonboy, PerryPlanet, ClausHansen, Stefan2bot, (WT-en) Tatatabot, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Jnich99, (WT-en) JYolkowski, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Mreames, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) Markbyrne, Mey2008, Eco84, Koavf, Ikan Kekek, The Anomebot2, LilHelpa, Filceolaire, Denniss, Traveler100, AdamBMorgan, CarsracBot, Crookesmoor, ThunderingTyphoons!, Texugo, Nicholasjf21, WOSlinker, יִיקִינֶאֱס, Traveler100bot, Ibaman, Wrh2Bot, SheffGruff, Matroc, Addbot, 118.93nzp, Pjamescowie, DanielRigal, Hanoied and Anonymous: 22
- **London/Wandsworth** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Wandsworth?oldid=3133874> *Contributors:* Sumone10154, Globe-trotter, ClausHansen, Stefan2bot, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Enigmatic, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) Roadboyuk, Eco84, Koavf, Querent, The Anomebot2, Denniss, Traveler100, AdamBMorgan, Texugo, Edwardx, WOSlinker, Chris1515, יִיקִינֶאֱס, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, Wrh2Bot, Matroc, Ww2censor, Surfing-enwikivoyage and Anonymous: 11
- **London/West** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/West?oldid=3148733> *Contributors:* Wrh2, Sertmann, Peterfitzgerald, Ypsilon, LtPowers, AlasdairW, Globe-trotter, Nurg, PerryPlanet, ClausHansen, Stefan2bot, (WT-en) Huttite, (WT-en) Maj, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Nzpcmad, (WT-en) Fastestdogever, (WT-en) Chris j wood, (WT-en) MarinaK, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Themanwhowouldbeking, (WT-en) Eric Bauman, (WT-en) Travelbubble, (WT-en) Rodericoco, (WT-en) Cylemay, (WT-en) Angela, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) STSC, (WT-en) Clever Booy, (WT-en) S.khaled, Eco84, Koavf, Ikan Kekek, Fattonyni, The Anomebot2, Denniss, Traveler100, Wpollard, Texugo, WOSlinker, Chris1515, יִיקִינֶאֱס, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, Wrh2Bot, Matroc, Addbot, Pjamescowie, Owen-jr404 and Anonymous: 30
- **London/Westminster** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Westminster?oldid=3133883> *Contributors:* Wrh2, Sertmann, Peterfitzgerald, Sumone10154, DenisYurkin, LtPowers, AlasdairW, Tsandell, Globe-trotter, Jonboy, Elgaard, Saqib, PerryPlanet, ClausHansen, Stefan2bot, (WT-en) Huttite, (WT-en) Tatatabot, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) Episteme, (WT-en) Zepppep, (WT-en) Nils, (WT-en) Jtesla16, (WT-en) Aude, (WT-en) Riggwelter, (WT-en) Owl, (WT-en) Steev, (WT-en) Momad, (WT-en) Roadboyuk, (WT-en) Vance.m, (WT-en) JTraveler, Eco84, The dog2, Ikan Kekek, Jdforrester, Graham87, Tom Morris, The Anomebot2, LilHelpa, Marek69, AdamBMorgan, CarsracBot, Wpollard, ThunderingTyphoons!, Texugo, Nicholasjf21, WOSlinker, יִיקִינֶאֱס, Traveler100bot, SteveRBot, Wrh2Bot, Andyrom bot, Addbot, Enzomartinelli, Pjamescowie, Vadv, SamSmithe and Anonymous: 32
- **London/Wimbledon** *Source:* <https://en.wikivoyage.org/wiki/London/Wimbledon?oldid=3133889> *Contributors:* Wrh2, Dguillaume, Sumone10154, DenisYurkin, Ypsilon, LtPowers, Vidimian, Globe-trotter, Jnich99, ClausHansen, Stefan2bot, (WT-en) Morph, (WT-en) TVerBeek, (WT-en) Burmesedays, (WT-en) Bill Ellett, (WT-en) DanielC, (WT-en) Fastestdogever, (WT-en) Enigmatic, (WT-en) Deepfriedgerbil, (WT-en) Shplendid, (WT-en) Mjci, (WT-en) 99womble, Eco84, Ikan Kekek, The Anomebot2, LilHelpa, Traveler100, Cyberprune, Texugo, Edwardx, Nicholasjf21, WOSlinker, יִיקִינֶאֱס, Inasbot, Traveler100bot, Wrh2Bot, Pjamescowie and Anonymous: 32

34.12.2 Images

- **File:"The_London"_-_geograph.org.uk_-_36866.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/06/%22The_London%22_-_geograph.org.uk_-_36866.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk *Original artist:* Glyn Baker
- **File:A591_road,_Lake_District_-_June_2009.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/fb/A591_road%2C_Lake_District_-_June_2009.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Diliff
- **File:A_TX4_Taxi_at_Heathrow_Airport_Terminal_5.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/ca/A_TX4_Taxi_at_Heathrow_Airport_Terminal_5.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work (Original text: *self-made*) *Original artist:* Unisouth (talk)
- **File:AdmiralDuncan.jpg** *Source:* <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/99/AdmiralDuncan.jpg> *License:* CC-BY-SA-3.0 *Contributors:* taken by C Ford *Original artist:* User Secretlondon on en.wikipedia
- **File:Aerial_view_of_Hyde_Park.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/87/Aerial_view_of_Hyde_Park.jpg *License:* CC BY 2.0 *Contributors:*
- **Hyde_Park_from_the_air.jpg** *Original artist:* Hyde_Park_from_the_air.jpg; Ben Leto
- **File:Airport_House_at_the_old_Croydon_Aerodrome_-_geograph.org.uk_-_1571720.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/bd/Airport_House_at_the_old_Croydon_Aerodrome_-_geograph.org.uk_-_1571720.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk *Original artist:* tristan forward
- **File:All_Saints_Church_Carshalton_Interior_2,_Surrey,_UK_-_Diliff.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/44/All_Saints_Church_Carshalton_Interior_2%2C_Surrey%2C_UK_-_Diliff.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Diliff
- **File:BBC-One-Show-151207-DSC07002c.JPG** *Source:* <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/de/BBC-One-Show-151207-DSC07002c.JPG> *License:* CC BY-SA 4.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Vadim Shlyakhov
- **File:BBC_Television_Centre_-_geograph.org.uk_-_7407.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/75/BBC_Television_Centre_-_geograph.org.uk_-_7407.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk *Original artist:* Geoff Marshall
- **File:Bakerloo_line_flag_box.svg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/62/Bakerloo_line_flag_box.svg *License:* Public domain *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Michael F. Mehnert
- **File:Battersea_Power_Station_-_geograph.org.uk_-_27531.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/97/Battersea_Power_Station_-_geograph.org.uk_-_27531.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk *Original artist:* John Smitten
- **File:Beau_Brummell_-_geograph.org.uk_-_783855.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/65/Beau_Brummell_-_geograph.org.uk_-_783855.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk *Original artist:* Colin Smith
- **File:Bedford_Square,_Bloomsbury_-_geograph.org.uk_-_169262.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/36/Bedford_Square%2C_Bloomsbury_-_geograph.org.uk_-_169262.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk *Original artist:* John Winfield
- **File:Blue_plaque_Charles_de_Gaulle.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/fd/Blue_plaque_Charles_de_Gaulle.jpg *License:* Public domain *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* ChrisO
- **File:Brick_Lane_-_London.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6f/Brick_Lane_-_London.jpg *License:* GFDL *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Ricardo (User: (WT-shared) Rmx at wts wikivoyage)
- **File:Bridge_to_Pier_6,_Gatwick_North_Terminal_-_geograph.org.uk_-_74055.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/68/Bridge_to_Pier_6%2C_Gatwick_North_Terminal_-_geograph.org.uk_-_74055.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk *Original artist:* Pete Chapman
- **File:British_Library_and_St_Pancras_station.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c8/British_Library_and_St_Pancras_station.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 4.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Photograph by Mike Peel (www.mikepeel.net).
- **File:British_Museum_Great_Court.JPG** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c7/British_Museum_Great_Court.JPG *License:* CC BY-SA 4.0-3.0-2.5-2.0-1.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* J. Miers - User: (WT-shared) Jtesla16 at wts wikivoyage
- **File:Brixton_Town_Hall,_London_-_geograph.org.uk_-_18294.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/3c/Brixton_Town_Hall%2C_London_-_geograph.org.uk_-_18294.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk *Original artist:* Stuart Taylor
- **File:Brixton_market_(2947753114).jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d0/Brixton_market_%282947753114%29.jpg *License:* CC BY 2.0 *Contributors:* Brixton market *Original artist:* Cristian Bortes from Cluj-Napoca, Romania
- **File:Broadcasting_House_by_Stephen_Craven.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/27/Broadcasting_House_by_Stephen_Craven.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk *Original artist:* Stephen Craven
- **File:Bruce_Castle_01.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6d/Bruce_Castle_01.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk *Original artist:* Julian Osley
- **File:Brunel_Museum_Rotherhithe.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e0/Brunel_Museum_Rotherhithe.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/rjw1/442410742/> *Original artist:* Flickr user: RJW1 <http://www.flickr.com/photos/rjw1/>
- **File:BuckinghamPalace.JPG** *Source:* <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/84/BuckinghamPalace.JPG> *License:* Public domain *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* User: (WT-shared) Shoestring at wts wikivoyage

- **File:Buckingham_Palace,_London,_England,_24Jan04.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/65/Buckingham_Palace%2C_London%2C_England%2C_24Jan04.jpg License: CC-BY-SA-3.0 Contributors: ? Original artist: ?
- **File:Buckingham_Palace_(Guard).006_-_London.JPG** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/bf/Buckingham_Palace_%28Guard%29.006_-_London.JPG License: CC BY-SA 4.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: Drow male
- **File:Burdett_Coutts_Fountain,_Victoria_Park,_London_E9_-_geograph.org.uk_-_91191.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/52/Burdett_Coutts_Fountain%2C_Victoria_Park%2C_London_E9_-_geograph.org.uk_-_91191.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: John Davies
- **File:Bus_stop_-_london.JPG** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/30/Bus_stop_-_london.JPG License: Public domain Contributors: Own work Original artist: Energy at English Wikipedia
- **File:Bush_Hall_-_geograph.org.uk_-_710764.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/0f/Bush_Hall_-_geograph.org.uk_-_710764.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: Phillip Perry
- **File:Camden_Passage_in_2009.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/ed/Camden_Passage_in_2009.jpg License: Public domain Contributors: Own work Original artist: Edward
- **File:Camden_Town_Horse_Hospital.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/16/Camden_Town_Horse_Hospital.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: Flickr: <http://flickr.com/photos/bgarciaigil/3347389640/> Original artist: Flickr user: bgarciaigil <http://www.flickr.com/photos/bgarciaigil/>
- **File:Camden_Town_stn_building2.JPG** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/77/Camden_Town_stn_building2.JPG License: CC BY-SA 3.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: Sunil060902
- **File:Camden_town_1.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6b/Camden_town_1.jpg License: CC BY 3.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: Misterzee
- **File:Carnaby_Street.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/75/Carnaby_Street.jpg License: CC BY 2.0 Contributors: Flickr: <http://flickr.com/photos/12449076@N05/2038262773> Original artist: Flickr user: James Trosh <http://www.flickr.com/photos/troshy/>
- **File:Central_London_districts_map.png** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/20/Central_London_districts_map.png License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: London districts map.svg Original artist: Peter Fitzgerald, OpenStreetMap
- **File:Central_London_tube_map.png** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a4/Central_London_tube_map.png License: GFDL Contributors: London districts map.svg, London Underground full map.svg Original artist: Peter Fitzgerald, OpenStreetMap, :wmc>User:DavidCane, :wmc>User:Ed g2s
- **File:Central_line_flag_box.svg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/77/Central_line_flag_box.svg License: Public domain Contributors: Own work Original artist: Michael F. Mehnert
- **File:Chinatown_london.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b2/Chinatown_london.jpg License: CC BY 2.0 Contributors: ? Original artist: ?
- **File:Chiswick_House_311.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/5f/Chiswick_House_311.jpg License: CC BY-SA 3.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: Patche99z
- **File:Christ'{}s_Chapel_of_God'{}s_Gift,_Dulwich.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/23/Christ%27s_Chapel_of_God%27s_Gift%2C_Dulwich.jpg License: CC BY-SA 4.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: DeFacto
- **File:Circle_line_flag_box.svg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/86/Circle_line_flag_box.svg License: Public domain Contributors: Own work Original artist: Michael F. Mehnert
- **File:Clapham_Common_2.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/af/Clapham_Common_2.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: Clapham Common, London Borough of Lambeth/Wandsworth, SW4 Original artist: Ewan Munro from London, UK
- **File:Clock_Tower_(Big_Ben).jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/ca/Clock_Tower_%28Big_Ben%29.jpg License: CC BY-SA 4.0-3.0-2.5-2.0-1.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: J. Miers - User: (WT-shared) Jtesla16 at wts wikivoyage
- **File:Clock_Tower_-_Palace_of_Westminster,_London_-_September_2006-2.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b2/Clock_Tower_-_Palace_of_Westminster%2C_London_-_September_2006-2.jpg License: CC BY 3.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: Diliff
- **File:Columbia_Road_market_in_London,_June_2013_(9).jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/29/Columbia_Road_market_in_London%2C_June_2013_%289%29.jpg License: CC BY-SA 3.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: Chmee2
- **File:Courtfield,_Earls_Court,_SW5_(3903254018).jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/ce/Courtfield%2C_Earls_Court%2C_SW5_%283903254018%29.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: Courtfield, Earls Court, SW5 Original artist: Ewan Munro from London, UK
- **File:Covent_Garden,_London_-_geograph.org.uk_-_1090566.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/7c/Covent_Garden%2C_London_-_geograph.org.uk_-_1090566.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: Iain Crump
- **File:Covent_Garden_OSM_map.png** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/16/Covent_Garden_OSM_map.png License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: :Image:Covent Garden OSM map.svg Original artist: Peter Fitzgerald, OpenStreetMap
- **File:CroydonTownHall.jpg** Source: <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/00/CroydonTownHall.jpg> License: CC-BY-SA-3.0 Contributors: ? Original artist: ?
- **File:Croydon_tram.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c6/Croydon_tram.jpg License: Public domain Contributors: Own work Originally uploaded to en.wikipedia.org Original artist: Photo by G-Man

- **File:Crystal_Palace_Park_2.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6b/Crystal_Palace_Park_2.jpg License: CC BY 2.0 Contributors: This image was originally posted to Flickr as *DSC06638*. Original artist: Ben Sutherland
- **File:Cscr-featured.svg** Source: <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e7/Cscr-featured.svg> License: LGPL Contributors: Wikipedia until June, 2006 Original artist: Wikimedia users ClockworkSoul, CyberSkull, Optimager, White Cat, Erina, AzaToth, Pbroks13.
- **File:Dennis_Severs_House_façade,_2010,_photographed_from_Folgate_Street.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/38/Dennis_Severs_House_fa%C3%A7ade%2C_2010%2C_photographed_from_Folgate_Street.jpg License: CC BY-SA 3.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: Alanwill
- **File:Deptford_Market.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f5/Deptford_Market.jpg License: CC BY-SA 3.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: SilkTork
- **File:District_line_flag_box.svg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/60/District_line_flag_box.svg License: Public domain Contributors: Own work Original artist: Michael F. Mehnert
- **File:Docklands_Light_Railway_banner.svg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/3e/Docklands_Light_Railway_banner.svg License: CC0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: edmedmoped
- **File:EalingBroadway1.jpg** Source: <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/8d/EalingBroadway1.jpg> License: Public domain Contributors: ? Original artist: ?
- **File:Ealing_Broadway_Christmas.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a0/Ealing_Broadway_Christmas.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: <http://flickr.com/photos/fuse/2116674660/> Original artist: Flickr user: Adrian Purser <http://flickr.com/photos/fuse/2116674660/>
- **File:Earls_Court_Police_Box.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/bb/Earls_Court_Police_Box.jpg License: Public domain Contributors: Photographer: User:Canley Original artist: User:Canley
- **File:England_Regions_map.png** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/84/England_Regions_map.png License: CC BY-SA 3.0 Contributors: :image:England Regions map.svg Original artist: User:(WT-shared) Burmesedays, SVG of the UK at Commons, Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection UK Maps, OpenStreetMap, User:(WT-shared) Paul.
- **File:Fale_London_93.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/99/Fale_London_93.jpg License: CC BY-SA 3.0 Contributors: My self Original artist: Fabio Alessandro Locati
- **File:Flickr_-_Carine06_-_Tea_time.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/87/Flickr_-_Carine06_-_Tea_time.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: Tea time Original artist: Carine06 from UK
- **File:Fountain_in_Manor_Park,_Sutton_-_geograph.org.uk_-_33425.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/88/Fountain_in_Manor_Park%2C_Sutton_-_geograph.org.uk_-_33425.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: Noel Foster
- **File:FoylesCharingCrossRd.jpg** Source: <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/1e/FoylesCharingCrossRd.jpg> License: CC-BY-SA-3.0 Contributors: Transferred from en.wikipedia to Commons. Original artist: The original uploader was Secretlondon at English Wikipedia
- **File:Fulham_Palace_Gatehouse.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/bb/Fulham_Palace_Gatehouse.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/bellatrix6/3793439033/> Original artist: Flickr user: nikoretro <http://www.flickr.com/photos/bellatrix6/>
- **File:Full_English_Breakfast.JPG** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/20/Full_English_Breakfast.JPG License: Public domain Contributors: No machine-readable source provided. Own work assumed (based on copyright claims). Original artist: No machine-readable author provided. Theorb assumed (based on copyright claims).
- **File:GB_London_Greenwich_Zero_meridian.JPG** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a8/GB_London_Greenwich_Zero_meridian.JPG License: CC BY-SA 3.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: :ru>User:(WT-ru) Digr
- **File:GB_London_Royal_Albert_Hall.JPG** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/22/GB_London_Royal_Albert_Hall.JPG License: CC BY-SA 3.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: :ru>User:(WT-ru) Digr
- **File:Gateway_to_Lincoln's_Inn_off_Lincoln's_Inn.jpeg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e6/Gateway_to_Lincoln%27s_Inn%2C_off_Lincoln%27s_Inn.jpeg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: Mike Quinn
- **File:Gatwick_Airport,_North_Terminal.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/13/Gatwick_Airport%2C_North_Terminal.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: Gatwick Airport, North Terminal Original artist: Martin Roell from Berlin, Germany
- **File:Gatwick_Airport_Shuttle_(geograph_2358048).jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/76/Gatwick_Airport_Shuttle_%28geograph_2358048%29.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: Graham Hogg
- **File:Gatwick_Airport_Station_02.JPG** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/63/Gatwick_Airport_Station_02.JPG License: Public domain Contributors: ? Original artist: ?
- **File:Gatwick_time_to_walk.JPG** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f1/Gatwick_time_to_walk.JPG License: CC BY-SA 3.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: Benreis
- **File:Globe_theatre.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/87/Globe_theatre.jpg License: CC-BY-SA-3.0 Contributors: No machine-readable source provided. Own work assumed (based on copyright claims). Original artist: No machine-readable author provided. Secretlondon assumed (based on copyright claims).
- **File:Graffiti_in_Shoreditch,_London_-_CEPT_(13804882184).jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/26/Graffiti_in_Shoreditch%2C_London_-_CEPT_%2813804882184%29.jpg License: CC BY 2.0 Contributors: IMG_9304 Original artist: KylaBorg

- **File:Hackney_Marshes.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6e/Hackney_Marshes.jpg License: CC BY 2.0 Contributors: Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plentyofants/1613042043/> Original artist: Flickr user: plentyofants <http://www.flickr.com/photos/plentyofants/>
- **File:Hammersmith_&_City_line_flag_box.svg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/7b/Hammersmith_%26_City_line_flag_box.svg License: Public domain Contributors: Own work Original artist: Michael F. Mehnert
- **File:Hampstead_Heath_-_geograph.org.uk_-_97869.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/bc/Hampstead_Heath_-_geograph.org.uk_-_97869.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: Richard Slessor
- **File:Hampstead_Heath_The_Pergola.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a5/Hampstead_Heath_The_Pergola.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: Flickr: <http://flickr.com/photos/99245765@N00/32692798> Original artist: Flickr user: Loz Flowers <http://www.flickr.com/photos/blahflowers/>
- **File:Hampstead_High_Street,_NW3_-_geograph.org.uk_-_849004.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a8/Hampstead_High_Street%2C_NW3_-_geograph.org.uk_-_849004.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: Mike Quinn
- **File:Hampstead_High_Street_-_geograph.org.uk_-_521677.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a7/Hampstead_High_Street_-_geograph.org.uk_-_521677.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: Stephen McKay
- **File:Hampton_Court_Gardens_-_geograph.org.uk_-_25510.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/67/Hampton_Court_Gardens_-_geograph.org.uk_-_25510.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: Chris Wright
- **File:Harrods_(6461666197).jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/00/Harrods_%286461666197%29.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: Harrods Original artist: NMOS332
- **File:Harrods_(London).jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/1c/Harrods_%28London%29.jpg License: Public domain Contributors: Own work Original artist: user: Sokkk y
- **File:Harrods_Heathrow.JPG** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/ed/Harrods_Heathrow.JPG License: CC BY-SA 3.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: MaryG90
- **File:Heathrow_rail_links.png** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/77/Heathrow_rail_links.png License: CC BY-SA 3.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: Cnrb
- **File:High-contrast-camera-photo-2-green.svg** Source: <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/01/High-contrast-camera-photo-2-green.svg> License: LGPL Contributors: This file was derived from: High-contrast-camera-photo-2.svg Original artist:
- Original: Talk:GNOME High contrast icons
- **File:High-contrast-camera-photo-2-red.svg** Source: <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/27/High-contrast-camera-photo-2-red.svg> License: LGPL Contributors: This file was derived from: High-contrast-camera-photo-2.svg Original artist:
- Original: Talk:GNOME High contrast icons
- **File:Highgate_Cemetery_-_Karl_Marx's_grave,_Highgate,_London.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/94/Highgate_Cemetery_-_Karl_Marx's_grave%2C_Highgate%2C_London.jpg License: CC BY 2.0 Contributors: Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/nakedcharlton/494557297/> Original artist: Flickr user: Jon's Pics <http://www.flickr.com/photos/nakedcharlton/>
- **File:Holland_Park.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d1/Holland_Park.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: Richard Thomas
- **File:Holly_Bush,_Hampstead,_NW3_(2911898706).jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/cc/Holly_Bush%2C_Hampstead%2C_NW3_%282911898706%29.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: Holly Bush, Hampstead, NW3 Original artist: Ewan Munro from London, UK
- **File:Holy_Trinity_Sloane_Street_Church_Window_-_Diliff.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/8b/Holy_Trinity_Sloane_Street_Church_Window_-_Diliff.jpg License: CC BY-SA 3.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: Diliff
- **File:Horseshoe,_Hampstead,_NW3_(2505751493).jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c9/Horseshoe%2C_Hampstead%2C_NW3_%282505751493%29.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: Horseshoe, Hampstead, NW3 Original artist: Ewan Munro from London, UK
- **File:Humber_bridge,_UK.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/1c/Humber_bridge%2C_UK.jpg License: CC BY 2.0 Contributors: originally posted to Flickr as Humber Bridge Original artist: Dom Hine
- **File:Inner_London_districts_map.png** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a8/Inner_London_districts_map.png License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: :Image:London districts map.svg Original artist: Peter Fitzgerald, OpenStreetMap
- **File:Inside_Shakespeare's_Globe_Theatre,_London.JPG** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/5c/Inside_Shakespeare's_Globe_Theatre%2C_London.JPG License: Public domain Contributors: Own work Original artist: User: (WT-shared) P.K.Niyogi at wts wikivoyage
- **File:Interior_of_Princess_of_Wales_Conservatory,_Kew_Gardens.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b8/Interior_of_Princess_of_Wales_Conservatory%2C_Kew_Gardens.jpg License: CC BY-SA 3.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: Daniel Case
- **File:Islington,_Richmond_Crescent,_N1_-_geograph.org.uk_-_211015.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/dc/Islington%2C_Richmond_Crescent%2C_N1_-_geograph.org.uk_-_211015.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: Nigel Cox

- **File:Ivy_Restaurant.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c1/Ivy_Restaurant.jpg *License:* CC-BY-SA-3.0 *Contributors:* No machine-readable source provided. Own work assumed (based on copyright claims). *Original artist:* No machine-readable author provided. Lonicman~commonswiki assumed (based on copyright claims).
- **File:Jubilee_line_flag_box.svg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e5/Jubilee_line_flag_box.svg *License:* Public domain *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Michael F. Mehnert
- **File:Kappacasein_Grilled_Cheese.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a5/Kappacasein_Grilled_Cheese.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Hcallas
- **File:Keats'{}_House,_Hampstead_-_geograph.org.uk_-_221032.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b8/Keats%27_House%2C_Hampstead_-_geograph.org.uk_-_221032.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk *Original artist:* ceridwen
- **File:Kensington_Museums_aerial_2011_b.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6b/Kensington_Museums_aerial_2011_b.jpg *License:* Public domain *Contributors:* Own work (own photograph) *Original artist:* Photo: Andreas Praefcke
- **File:Kenwood_House,_London_-_geograph.org.uk_-_3318.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4d/Kenwood_House%2C_London_-_geograph.org.uk_-_3318.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk *Original artist:* Fan Yang
- **File:Kew_Gardens_Temperate_House_from_the_Pagoda_-_geograph.org.uk_-_227173.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/8c/Kew_Gardens_Temperate_House_from_the_Pagoda_-_geograph.org.uk_-_227173.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk *Original artist:* David Hawgood
- **File:LGW_Destinations.svg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/7f/LGW_Destinations.svg *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Mazta2012
- **File:LHR_Destinations.svg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/55/LHR_Destinations.svg *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Mazta2012
- **File:Lambeth_Bridge_2.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c7/Lambeth_Bridge_2.jpg *License:* CC BY 2.0 *Contributors:* Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/sheilaellen/130419343/> *Original artist:* Flickr user: sheilaellen <http://www.flickr.com/photos/sheilaellen/>
- **File:Leicester_Square_map.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/7c/Leicester_Square_map.png *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* :Image:Leicester Square OSM map.svg *Original artist:* Peter Fitzgerald, OpenStreetMap
- **File:Limehouse_reach_1.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/0e/Limehouse_reach_1.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.5 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Tarquin Binary
- **File:Lincoln'{}_s_Inn_law_chambers_Holborn.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/75/Lincoln%27s_Inn_law_chambers_Holborn.jpg *License:* CC BY 2.0 *Contributors:* originally posted to **Flickr** as Lincoln's Inn law chambers Holborn *Original artist:* Mark Kobayashi-Hillary
- **File:Lloyds.building.london.arp.jpg** *Source:* <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/45/Lloyds.building.london.arp.jpg> *License:* Public domain *Contributors:* ? *Original artist:* ?
- **File:London.bankofengland.arp.jpg** *Source:* <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a8/London.bankofengland.arp.jpg> *License:* Public domain *Contributors:* Taken by Adrian Pingstone in November 2004 and released to the public domain. *Original artist:* Adrian Pingstone
- **File:London_-_Natural_History_Museum_interior.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/5f/London_-_Natural_History_Museum_interior.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Transferred from pl.wikipedia to Commons by Żbiczek using CommonsHelper. *Original artist:* Cezary p at Polish Wikipedia
- **File:London_104.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/5f/London_104.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.5 *Contributors:* Own work (Own picture) *Original artist:* Urban
- **File:London_Bloomsbury_district.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/56/London_Bloomsbury_district.png *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* :image:London Bloomsbury district.svg *Original artist:* User:(WT-shared) Burmesedays, User:(WT-shared) Peterfitzgerald, OpenStreetMap
- **File:London_City_Airport_Zwart.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e0/London_City_Airport_Zwart.jpg *License:* GFDL 1.2 *Contributors:* <http://www.airliners.net/photo/1776564/L/> *Original artist:* Frans Zwart
- **File:London_Eye.JPG** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/bf/London_Eye.JPG *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *de Contributors:* Self-photographed *Original artist:* Gt-man
- **File:London_Eye_Twilight_April_2006.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b4/London_Eye_Twilight_April_2006.jpg *License:* CC BY 2.5 *Contributors:* Taken by user *Original artist:* User:Diliff
- **File:London_Hampstead_district_map.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/77/London_Hampstead_district_map.png *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* :Image:London Hampstead district.svg *Original artist:* User:(WT-shared) Burmesedays, User:(WT-shared) Peterfitzgerald, Open Street Map
- **File:London_MMB_«31_City_Canal.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/25/London_MMB_%C2%AB31_City_Canal.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work by mattbuck. *Original artist:* mattbuck (category)
- **File:London_Overground_flag_box.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/9f/London_Overground_flag_box.jpg *License:* Public domain *Contributors:* ? *Original artist:* ?
- **File:London_Soho_district_map.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/92/London_Soho_district_map.png *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* :Image:London Soho district map.svg *Original artist:* Peter Fitzgerald, OpenStreetMap [1]
- **File:London_Stansted_Airport.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/87/London_Stansted_Airport.jpg *License:* CC BY 2.5 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Oxyman

- **File:London_Thames_Sunset_panorama_-_Feb_2008.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6e/London_Thames_Sunset_panorama_-_Feb_2008.jpg *License:* CC BY 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Diliff
- **File:London_Tower01.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c1/London_Tower01.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work (Original text: *self-made*) *Original artist:* Africaspotter
- **File:London_Tower_Bridge01.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d9/London_Tower_Bridge01.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work (Original text: *self-made*) *Original artist:* Africaspotter
- **File:London_Underground_Hornchurch_Station.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d5/London_Underground_Hornchurch_Station.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* London Underground Hornchurch Station *Original artist:* Steven Duhig from Bowie, Maryland, USA
- **File:London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_Bloomsbury.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/5f/London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_Bloomsbury.png *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* This file was derived from Greater London UK location map.svg: `` *Original artist:* Greater London UK location map.svg Nilfanion, created using Ordnance Survey data
- **File:London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_Camden.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e5/London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_Camden.png *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* This file was derived from Greater London UK location map.svg: `` *Original artist:* Greater London UK location map.svg Nilfanion, created using Ordnance Survey data
- **File:London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_City_of_London.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/fa/London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_City_of_London.png *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* This file was derived from Greater London UK location map.svg: `` *Original artist:* Greater London UK location map.svg Nilfanion, created using Ordnance Survey data
- **File:London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_Covent_Garden.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/da/London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_Covent_Garden.png *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* This file was derived from Greater London UK location map.svg: `` *Original artist:* Greater London UK location map.svg Nilfanion, created using Ordnance Survey data
- **File:London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_East_End.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/1d/London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_East_End.png *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* This file was derived from Greater London UK location map.svg: `` *Original artist:* Greater London UK location map.svg Nilfanion, created using Ordnance Survey data
- **File:London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_East_London.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/72/London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_East_London.png *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* This file was derived from Greater London UK location map.svg: `` *Original artist:* Greater London UK location map.svg Nilfanion, created using Ordnance Survey data
- **File:London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_Greenwich.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/3c/London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_Greenwich.png *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* This file was derived from Greater London UK location map.svg: `

Original artist: Greater London UK location map.svg Nilfanion, created using Ordnance Survey data

- **File:London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_South_London.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/8d/London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_South_London.png *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* This file was derived from Greater London UK location map.svg:
Original artist: Greater London UK location map.svg Nilfanion, created using Ordnance Survey data
- **File:London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_Southwark-Lewisham.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b0/London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_Southwark-Lewisham.png *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* This file was derived from Greater London UK location map.svg:
Original artist: Greater London UK location map.svg Nilfanion, created using Ordnance Survey data
- **File:London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_Wandsworth.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/93/London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_Wandsworth.png *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* This file was derived from Greater London UK location map.svg:
Original artist: Greater London UK location map.svg Nilfanion, created using Ordnance Survey data
- **File:London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_West_London.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/92/London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_West_London.png *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* This file was derived from Greater London UK location map.svg:
Original artist: Greater London UK location map.svg Nilfanion, created using Ordnance Survey data
- **File:London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_Westminster.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c4/London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_Westminster.png *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* This file was derived from Greater London UK location map.svg:
Original artist: Greater London UK location map.svg Nilfanion, created using Ordnance Survey data
- **File:London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_Wimbledon.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/53/London_Wikivoyage_city_regions_maps_-_Wimbledon.png *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* This file was derived from Greater London UK location map.svg:
Original artist: Greater London UK location map.svg Nilfanion, created using Ordnance Survey data
- **File:London_airport_links_map.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f7/London_airport_links_map.png *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Cnrb
- **File:London_airports_rail.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/fc/London_airports_rail.png *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Cnrb
- **File:Look_Right1.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/ea/Look_Right1.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* SBryan
- **File:Lord_Mayor_of_London_-_John_Stuttard_-_Nov_2006.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/1b/Lord_Mayor_of_London_-_John_Stuttard_-_Nov_2006.jpg *License:* CC BY 2.5 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Diliff
- **File:Lords_match_in_progress.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/00/Lords_match_in_progress.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* http://www.flickr.com/photos/hobbs_images/244373014/ *Original artist:* Flickr user, hobbs luton
- **File:Luton_airport.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6d/Luton_airport.jpg *License:* CC-BY-SA-3.0 *Contributors:* Personal picture *Original artist:* fr:Utilisateur:Steff

- **File:MM_Canary_Wharf_view_from_Greenwich_Observatory.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/0d/MM_Canary_Wharf_view_from_Greenwich_Observatory.jpg *License:* GFDL *Contributors:* Own work (Canon 350D) *Original artist:* Marek Matulka
- **File:Maiden_Lane_-_Rules.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/db/Maiden_Lane_-_Rules.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Tom Morris
- **File:Mayfair-Marylebone_OSM_map.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b3/Mayfair-Marylebone_OSM_map.png *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* :Image:Mayfair-Marylebone OSM map.svg *Original artist:* Peter Fitzgerald, OpenStreetMap
- **File:Met_Police_Blue_Lamp.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/1f/Met_Police_Blue_Lamp.jpg *License:* Public domain *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* User:Canley
- **File:Metropolitan_line_flag_box.svg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/ba/Metropolitan_line_flag_box.svg *License:* Public domain *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Michael F. Mehnert
- **File:Mile_End_Road_geograph-3787776-by-Ben-Brooksbank.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/cf/Mile_End_Road_geograph-3787776-by-Ben-Brooksbank.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk *Original artist:* Ben Brooksbank
- **File:National_Gallery_London.JPG** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/30/National_Gallery_London.JPG *License:* CC BY-SA 4.0-3.0-2.5-2.0-1.0 *Contributors:* ? *Original artist:* User: (WT-shared) Jonboy at wts wikivoyage
- **File:North_Yorkshire_Moors_-_geograph.org.uk_-_191970.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/68/North_Yorkshire_Moors_-_geograph.org.uk_-_191970.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk *Original artist:* Scott Rimmer
- **File:Northern_line_flag_box.svg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/76/Northern_line_flag_box.svg *License:* Public domain *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Michael F. Mehnert
- **File:Notting_Hill_Carnival_2006_008.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/ad/Notting_Hill_Carnival_2006_008.jpg *License:* CC BY 2.0 *Contributors:* originally posted to **Flickr** as black gold brown white *Original artist:* John Wright
- **File:Notting_Hill_Carnival_2007_003.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/ae/Notting_Hill_Carnival_2007_003.jpg *License:* CC BY 2.0 *Contributors:* originally posted to **Flickr** as Black Cat at the Notting Hill Carnival 2007 *Original artist:* Dominic Alves
- **File:O2_Arena_-_geograph.org.uk_-_834054.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/3f/O2_Arena_-_geograph.org.uk_-_834054.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk; transferred by User:Baldboris99 using geograph_org2commons. *Original artist:* Ian Paterson
- **File:One_New_Change.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/ad/One_New_Change.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Tom Morris
- **File:Outer_London_districts.png** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/89/Outer_London_districts.png *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* OSM, :Image:London districts map.svg *Original artist:* Peter Fitzgerald, OpenStreetMap
- **File:Oxford_Circus.JPG** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d8/Oxford_Circus.JPG *License:* Public domain *Contributors:* ? *Original artist:* User: (WT-shared) P.K.Niyogi at wts wikivoyage
- **File:Paddington_Bear_Statue.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a8/Paddington_Bear_Statue.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 4.0-3.0-2.5-2.0-1.0 *Contributors:* ? *Original artist:* Original uploader was User: (WT-shared) Jonboy at wts wikivoyage
- **File:Piccadilly_line_flag_box.svg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6f/Piccadilly_line_flag_box.svg *License:* Public domain *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Michael F. Mehnert
- **File:Prince_edward_theatre_london_2008.JPG** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/76/Prince_edward_theatre_london_2008.JPG *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Fallschirmjäger
- **File:Puerto_de_la_Torre,_Londres,_Inglaterra,_2014-08-11,_DD_092.JPG** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/46/Puerto_de_la_Torre%2C_Londres%2C_Inglaterre%2C_2014-08-11%2C_DD_092.JPG *License:* CC BY-SA 4.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Diego Delso
- **File:Putney_Bridge,_London.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/5d/Putney_Bridge%2C_London.jpg *License:* CC BY 2.0 *Contributors:* originally posted to **Flickr** as Putney Bridge *Original artist:* Metro Centric
- **File:Regent's_Park_001.JPG** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c8/Regent%27s_Park_001.JPG *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Umezo KAMATA
- **File:Routemaster_RM871.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/1d/Routemaster_RM871.jpg *License:* CC BY 2.5 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Oxyman
- **File:Royal_Albert_Hall,_London_-_Nov_2012.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/93/Royal_Albert_Hall%2C_London_-_Nov_2012.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Diliff
- **File:Royal_Opera_House_and_ballerina.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/bb/Royal_Opera_House_and_ballerina.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 3.0 *Contributors:* Own work (Original text: *self-made*) *Original artist:* Russ London (talk)
- **File:Royal_Vauxhall_Tavern_-_geograph.org.uk_-_1012972.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/3d/Royal_Vauxhall_Tavern_-_geograph.org.uk_-_1012972.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk *Original artist:* Oxyman
- **File:Sheraton_Park_Tower_hotel.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/9a/Sheraton_Park_Tower_hotel.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk *Original artist:* Nigel Cox
- **File:Sherlock_Holmes_museum.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d9/Sherlock_Holmes_museum.jpg *License:* Public domain *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* User: (WT-shared) Ypsilonatshared at wts wikivoyage

- **File:Soho_Square,_an_oasis_of_calm_-_geograph.org.uk_-_763847.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/65/Soho_Square%2C_an_oasis_of_calm_-_geograph.org.uk_-_763847.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: Row17
- **File:Southbank (5822220882).jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/75/Southbank_%285822220882%29.jpg License: CC BY 2.0 Contributors: Southbank Original artist: Tony Hisgett from Birmingham, UK
- **File:St_Augustine's_Church,_Kilburn_Interior_4,_London,_UK_-_Diliff.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/9c/St_Augustine%27s_Church%2C_Kilburn_Interior_4%2C_London%2C_UK_-_Diliff.jpg License: CC BY-SA 3.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: Diliff
- **File:St_James's_Park_Lake_-_East_from_the_Blue_Bridge_-_2012-10-06.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e4/St_James%27s_Park_Lake_%E2%80%93_East_from_the_Blue_Bridge_-_2012-10-06.jpg License: CC BY-SA 3.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: Colin
- **File:St_Paul's_Cathedral_-_geograph.org.uk_-_455405.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/74/St_Paul%27s_Cathedral_-_geograph.org.uk_-_455405.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: Stephen Henley
- **File:Strážnik_przed_Palacem_Buckingham; Buckingham_guard.JPG** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f0/Stra%C5%BCnik_przed_Pa%C5%82acem_Buckingham%3B_Buckingham_guard.JPG License: CC BY-SA 3.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: Fagata
- **File:Sutton,_Surrey_London_Sutton_High_Street_-_Brasserie_Vacherin_(2).JPG** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a6/Sutton%2C_Surrey_London_Sutton_High_Street_-_Brasserie_Vacherin_%282%29.JPG License: CC BY-SA 3.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: A P Monblat
- **File:T.S._Eliot_(8386703881).jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6f/T.S._Eliot_%288386703881%29.jpg License: CC BY 2.0 Contributors: T.S. Eliot Original artist: Simon Harriyott from Uckfield, England
- **File:Tate_Modern.JPG** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b7/Tate_Modern.JPG License: Public domain Contributors: ? Original artist: User: (WT-shared) P.K.Niyogi at wts wikivoyage
- **File:Tate_Modern_turbine_hall_2.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/0c/Tate_Modern_turbine_hall_2.jpg License: CC BY 2.0 Contributors: Flickr: Tate Modern Original artist: Heather Kennedy
- **File:TattyDevineBrickLane.JPG** Source: <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/1a/TattyDevineBrickLane.JPG> License: CC0 Contributors: A photograph taken by Harriet Vine Original artist: Harriet Vine
- **File:Temple-bar-griffin.jpg** Source: <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e5/Temple-bar-griffin.jpg> License: CC-BY-SA-3.0 Contributors: English Wikipedia Original artist: MykReeve
- **File:TfL_Oyster_Card.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d1/TfL_Oyster_Card.jpg License: CC BY 2.5 Contributors: Own work Original artist: Oxyman
- **File:The_Cask_Pub_and_Kitchen_Tachbrook_Street_Pimlico_-_geograph.org.uk_-_1387115.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c7/The_Cask_Pub_and_Kitchen_Tachbrook_Street_Pimlico_-_geograph.org.uk_-_1387115.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: PAUL FARMER
- **File:The_Star_Tavern_-_geograph.org.uk_-_1296504.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b3/The_Star_Tavern_-_geograph.org.uk_-_1296504.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: PAUL FARMER
- **File:The_Thames_on_Christmas_Day_-_geograph.org.uk_-_95764.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/58/The_Thames_on_Christmas_Day_-_geograph.org.uk_-_95764.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: Ben Gamble
- **File:Tower_Millennium_Pier_2.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/bf/Tower_Millennium_Pier_2.jpg License: Public domain Contributors: Own work Original artist: Cnrb
- **File:Trafalgar_Square_at_night_2.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/0d/Trafalgar_Square_at_night_2.jpg License: CC BY 2.0 Contributors: Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/vibin/93523599/> Original artist: Flickr user: Vibin <http://www.flickr.com/photos/vibin/>
- **File:UK-London-Heathrow_T5A.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e4/UK-London-Heathrow_T5A.jpg License: CC BY-SA 4.0-3.0-2.5-2.0-1.0 Contributors: Own work Original artist: Mart Bouter
- **File:Victoria_line_flag_box.svg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/26/Victoria_line_flag_box.svg License: Public domain Contributors: Own work Original artist: Michael F. Mehnert
- **File:View_looking_east-northeast_down_Wentworth_Street_-_geograph.org.uk_-_1703445.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/23/View_looking_east-northeast_down_Wentworth_Street_-_geograph.org.uk_-_1703445.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: Robert Lamb
- **File:Wardour_Street,_Soho_-_geograph.org.uk_-_235090.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/ea/Wardour_Street%2C_Soho_-_geograph.org.uk_-_235090.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: Stephen McKay
- **File:Waterloo_&_City_line_flag_box.svg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/fd/Waterloo_%26_City_line_flag_box.svg License: Public domain Contributors: Own work Original artist: Michael F. Mehnert
- **File:Wembley_Stadium_-_Panorama-England_Vs_Italy_U21s.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/12/Wembley_Stadium_-_Panorama-England_Vs_Italy_U21s.jpg License: CC BY 2.0 Contributors: Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/jackspics/432859783/> Original artist: Flickr user: Cushdy <http://www.flickr.com/photos/jackspics/>
- **File:Westfield_Shopping_Centre_-_geograph.org.uk_-_1073123.jpg** Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/47/Westfield_Shopping_Centre_-_geograph.org.uk_-_1073123.jpg License: CC BY-SA 2.0 Contributors: From geograph.org.uk Original artist: Peter Holmes

- **File:Westminster_Abbey_West_Door.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/37/Westminster_Abbey_West_Door.jpg *License:* CC BY 1.0 *Contributors:* ? *Original artist:* ?
- **File:Westminster_Bridge_River_Thames_London_England.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/49/Westminster_Bridge%2C_River_Thames%2C_London%2C_England.jpg *License:* Public domain *Contributors:* ? *Original artist:* ?
- **File:Westportico-stpauls.jpg** *Source:* <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/78/Westportico-stpauls.jpg> *License:* CC-BY-SA-3.0 *Contributors:* Panorama assembled from three photographs taken by Michael Reeve, 8 June 2002.) *Original artist:* Michael Reeve (MykReeve)
- **File:Wetherspoons_Victoria_Station_SW1.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/93/Wetherspoons%2C_Victoria_Station%2C_SW1.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* Wetherspoons, Victoria Station, SW1 *Original artist:* Ewan Munro from London, UK
- **File:White_Cliffs_of_Dover_2_(Piotr_Kuczynski).jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/39/White_Cliffs_of_Dover_2_%28Piotr_Kuczynski%29.jpg *License:* GFDL *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* Pkuczynski
- **File:Wikidata-logo.svg** *Source:* <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/ff/ff/Wikidata-logo.svg> *License:* Public domain *Contributors:* Own work *Original artist:* User:Planemad
- **File:Wikipedia-icon.png** *Source:* <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/20/Wikipedia-icon.png> *License:* CC BY 3.0 *Contributors:* Iconarchive *Original artist:* Sykonist
- **File:Wimbledon_High_Street_crop2.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d7/Wimbledon_High_Street_crop2.jpg *License:* CC BY 2.0 *Contributors:*
- **Wimbledon_High_Street.jpg** *Original artist:* Wimbledon_High_Street.jpg: David Howard
- **File:Wimbledon_Windmill.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/2f/Wimbledon_Windmill.jpg *License:* Public domain *Contributors:* Transferred from en.wikipedia to Commons by Small-town hero. *Original artist:* Adrian Robson at English Wikipedia
- **File:Ye_Olde_Mitre_Tavern_-_geograph.org.uk_-_763877.jpg** *Source:* https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/47/Ye_Olde_Mitre_Tavern_-_geograph.org.uk_-_763877.jpg *License:* CC BY-SA 2.0 *Contributors:* From geograph.org.uk *Original artist:* Row17

34.12.3 Content license

- Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0