



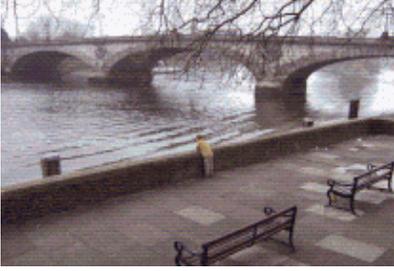
Walk London

London, 1 Day

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Guide Description



AUTHOR NOTE: Either book a guided walk around the city or use these maps and tips for your a self guided tour along the River Thames.

Itinerary Overview

things to do
restaurants
hotels
nightlife

Day 1 - London

DAY NOTE: For the finest way to learn the history, feel the vibe and see the sights - WALK! The walking trails along the River Thames offer an escape as well as a new perspective on the city. The Thames is a tidal river and provides gorgeous scenery full of wildlife and greenery, not to mention a sneaky peak into some of London's finest homes (Chiswick Mall). A runner' favorite is the river path from Kew Bridge to Chiswick Bridge, Barnes Bridge, or Hammersmith Bridge and back for a total distance of 3, 6, or 9 miles. From central London pick up the path at the London Eye and head West. For additional routes, maps and photos check out: [//www.thames-path.org.uk/](http://www.thames-path.org.uk/) For a guided walking tour head to London Walks who provide a variety of small, 2 hour tours that should satisfy everyone. A few sample walks: The Beatles, Jack the Ripper Haunts, the Inns of Court, Harry Potter, Pub Crawls, Westminster Abbey, Shakespeare's London, the list continues. There are day and evening tours and even Explorer Days for a look outside the city. For?6 (?5 if 65+) per tour this must be the best deal in town. For the full schedule see www.walks.com. No need to book, just turn up at the designated spot.



Original London Walks

Leg it round the city

Day 1 - London



QUICK NOTE

DAY NOTE: For the finest way to learn the history, feel the vibe and see the sights - WALK! The walking trails along the River Thames offer an escape as well as a new perspective on the city. The Thames is a tidal river and provides gorgeous scenery full of wildlife and greenery, not to mention a sneaky peak into some of London's finest homes (Chiswick Mall). A runner's favorite is the river path from Kew Bridge to Chiswick Bridge, Barnes Bridge, or Hammersmith Bridge and back for a total distance of 3, 6, or 9 miles. From central London pick up the path at the London Eye and head West. For additional routes, maps and photos check out: [//www.thames-path.org.uk/](http://www.thames-path.org.uk/) For a guided walking tour head to London Walks who provide a variety of small, 2 hour tours that should satisfy everyone. A few sample walks: The Beatles, Jack the Ripper Haunts, the Inns of Court, Harry Potter, Pub Crawls, Westminster Abbey, Shakespeare's London, the list continues. There are day and evening tours and even Explorer Days for a look outside the city. For?6 (?5 if 65+) per tour this must be the best deal in town. For the full schedule see www.walks.com. No need to book, just turn up at the designated spot.

contact:

tel: +44 20 7624 3978

fax: +44 20 7625 1932

<http://www.walks.com>

location:

1 Various locations

London London NW6 4LW

hours:

Hours vary

1 Original London Walks

DESCRIPTION: The oldest established walking tour company in London has great walks and great guides. Popular routes include both central London and Greater London sights (in which case you must pay rail fares yourself), but custom walks are also available. Shakespeare's London, the British Museum Walk, The Old Jewish Quarter Walk, London's Secret Village, Pub Crawls and Winnie the Pooh's England are just a few of the choices. Some of the walks are not pure pounding of the pavement. For example, the London Panorama tour includes a boat ride. Private and seasonal walks (like Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol Walk) are also offered. © wcities.com



© wcities.com

contact:

tel: +44 (0)20 8253 1009
(Tourist Information Center)
<http://www.friendsofbishopspa rk.com/>

location:

Off Fulham High Street
London London SW6

1 Bishops Park

DESCRIPTION: This picturesque little park stretches along the banks of the Thames from Putney Bridge to Fulham FC's Craven Cottage ground. As well as containing historic Fulham Palace in its grounds, the park has 15 tennis courts, six of which are floodlit, a bowling green, miniature lake and a popular children's play area. Although small in size, the park remains a favourite with west London residents. The park is the perfect vantage point to view the initial stage of The Boat Race, but only if you are lucky enough to be situated right up against the handrail. The park's only other claim to fame came when the film *The Omen*, starring Gregory Peck, had a scene shot in the park in which a priest meets a rather grisly end. © wcities.com



wcities

contact:

<http://www.richmond.gov.uk/>

location:

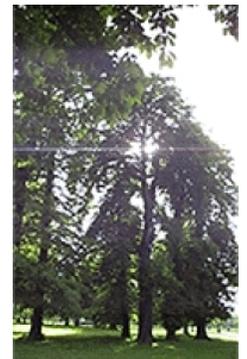
Richmond
London London

hours:

7:30a till dusk (Oct-Mar), 7a till dusk (Apr-Sep)

2 Richmond Park

DESCRIPTION: The Park was enclosed as a hunting park by Charles I in 1637 and still retains many ingredients of a medieval deer park. Essential to its character is the rich landscape of semi-natural acidic grassland, areas of bog and bracken, wetland, woodland and ancient parkland trees, and the herds of fallow and red deer that still roam the park. The resplendent Isabella plantation is especially noteworthy, particularly in early summer when the rhododendrons are in full bloom, but the park is lovely any time of year. Bring along a football, a picnic, go for a bike ride, inline skating or take the dogs out for some fun and fresh air. There are designated cycle paths so you don't have to grapple with the cars that can also drive through the park. Open until dusk, it is the perfect park to choose for a few hours of fresh air or even for a day trip. © wcities.com



wcities

contact:

tel: +44 (0)20 8858 2608
fax: +44 (0)20 8293 3782
<http://www.royalparks.gov.uk/parks/>

location:

Maze Hill
London London SE10 8QY

hours:

Daily 6a-dusk

3 Greenwich Park

DESCRIPTION: Formerly a Tudor hunting park, Greenwich Park was redesigned by the Versailles landscaper, Andre Le Note, in the 1660's. Enjoy one of the best views in London from the Royal Observatory hilltop. Brass bands play in the park on summer afternoons and August brings puppet shows to the playground. Roman and Saxon archaeological finds have been made here. A superb day trip, particularly if you take the riverboat from Westminster. © wcities.com



wcities

London Snapshot

Local Info

Often quoted yet eloquently perfect, Dr. Samuel Johnson once said, "When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life; for there is in London all that life can afford". Whether in town for a weekend or a few months, London and its diversity is sure to amuse, entertain and enlighten. London is a city of numerous neighborhoods or villages, each with its own flavor and attractions. London has defied fires, plagues, wars and more to become a truly modern metropolis.

Beyond the streets of Westminster where iconic Big Ben shines over the Houses of Parliament and the River Thames lies a city begging to be explored. Most of the major tourist attractions can be accessed by foot although traveling via Tube, red double decker bus or black cab equally adds to the atmosphere.

Royal enthusiasts will bee-line for Buckingham Palace and catch a glimpse of the Changing of the Guard or walk the aisle Princess Diana did on her wedding day at St. Paul's Cathedral. Exploring Kensington Palace and the Tower of London provide an experience into the life of former English monarchs.

London boasts over 300 museums with many offering free admission. From the must see Egyptian mummies and Rosetta Stone at the British Museum to the Rembrandt's and Monet's in the National Gallery, famous works and artifacts come alive from our history lessons. Marvel at masterpieces at the quiet British Library then navigate the Tate Modern's Turbine Hall. And even if dinosaurs and Darwin are not of interest, at least skip by the Natural History Museum and check out one of the most impressive buildings in London.

No matter the weather, Londoners adore and fill their green spaces such as centrally located Hyde Park and Regent's Park. Just outside of the city limits, yet easily reached, lies the Royal Botanical Gardens of Kew, one of the world's most captivating gardens. When it is damp or the grey skies become too much, then stop for a pint in a pub or a cup of tea in... well, anywhere!

And let us not forget that London is also a shopper's paradise. Roaming the food halls of Harrod's or bartering for bargains in many of the city's markets is part of London's charm. Quintessentially British and perfect for snatching up luxurious fashion and unique souvenirs are found in shops along the streets of Regent & Oxford such as Liberty and Selfridges or in Covent Garden area.

So, put on those walking shoes, grab an umbrella and prepare to be dazzled by the city of London.

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Fun Facts

1. Interesting Fact: Big Ben is actually the nickname of the Great Bell located inside the St. Stephen's Clock Tower not the tower or clock itself as commonly thought.

2. Curious Fact: The world's smallest police station is located in the southwest corner of Trafalgar Square, carved out of the base of a lamp post circa 1930. Today the station has sadly been converted into a cleaning storage cupboard.

3. Fun Fact: London was originally named Londinium and began as a small colony just about where London Bridge sits around 43AD.

4. Cool Fact: London's Tube stations sheltered Londoners from the Blitz during

WWII, one night a record 177,500 were counted sleeping in the underground transport system.

5. Odd Fact: The Monument was erected to commemorate The Great Fire of 1666 and is 202 feet tall, the same distance to the start of the fire on Pudding Lane.

6. Random Fact: Tower Bridge is often mistakenly called London Bridge and it the only draw bridge over the River Thames.

7. Bizarre Fact: From the 15th to the 19th centuries when the Thames River was much wider and slower, it often froze over in winter and Frost Fairs were held on the ice.

8. Freaky Fact: A sign on the traffic island marks the Tyburn Tree at the intersection of Marble Arch and Edgeware Road where between 40,000 and 60,000 people were executed from 1196 to 1783.

Weird Fact: Covent Garden should be called Convent Garden named after the Westminster Convent garden, it was misspelled.

10. Quirky Fact: Only two of the 260 Tube stations use all five vowels in their name: Mansion House and South Ealing.

11. Funky Fact: Legendary guitarist Jimi Hendrix and composer George Fredric Handel were neighbors, only 200 years apart. They lived in adjacent houses at 23 and 25 Brook Street now a combined unit which houses the Handel House Museum

12. Wacky Fact: Her Majesty the Queen is forbidden from enter the House of Commons in Parliament as she is not a member.

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