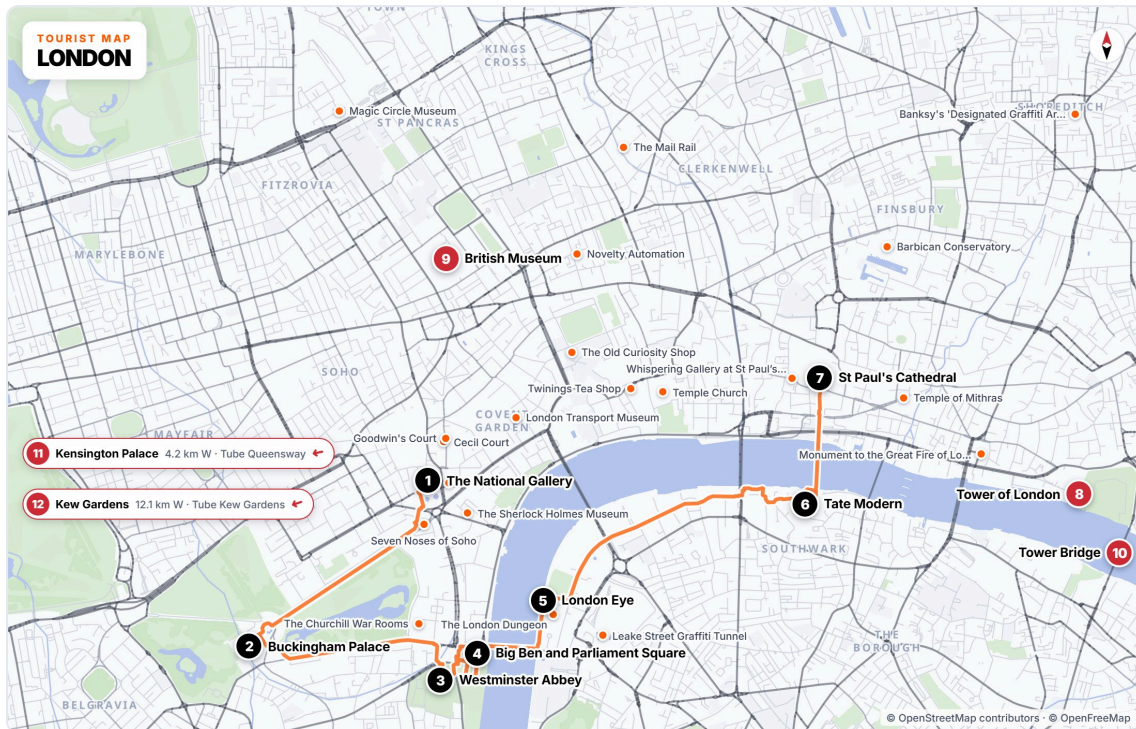


TOURIST MAP

London Tourist Map

12 top sights, hidden gems and a walking route through the centre. Numbers follow the walking order. Red numbers are worth a separate trip.



● Top sight on the route ● Worth the trip ● Hidden gem — Walking route 6.9 km · 1 h 30

1 The National Gallery	WC2N 5DN	7 St Paul's Cathedral	EC4M 8AD
2 Buckingham Palace	Westminster	8 Tower of London	Tube Tower Hill
3 Westminster Abbey	SW1P 3PA	9 British Museum	Tube Tottenham Ct Rd
4 Big Ben and Parliament Square	Westminster	10 Tower Bridge	Tube Tower Hill
5 London Eye	beside Westminster Bridge	11 Kensington Palace	Tube Queensway
6 Tate Modern	SE1 9TG	12 Kew Gardens	Tube Kew Gardens

Getting around

- The centre is walkable: the route on the map links Trafalgar Square, Buckingham Palace, Westminster, the South Bank, Tate Modern and St Paul's on foot, crossing the Thames on Westminster Bridge and the Millennium Bridge.
- Tube: Charing Cross (Northern, Bakerloo) for the National Gallery; Green Park (Victoria, Piccadilly, Jubilee) for Buckingham Palace; Westminster (Jubilee, District, Circle) for Big Ben, the Abbey and the London Eye; Southwark (Jubilee) for Tate Modern; St Paul's (Central) for the cathedral.
- Off the route: the British Museum by Tube to Tottenham Court Road or Holborn; the Tower of London and Tower Bridge by Tube to Tower Hill (District, Circle); Kensington Palace by Tube to Queensway (Central) or High Street Kensington; Kew Gardens by Tube (District line) or London Overground to Kew Gardens.
- Paper maps and timetables: the official information points are listed on <https://touristoffice.org/london-tourist-office/>

About this map

The sights, photos and descriptions come from touristoffice.org/london/, where each sight has opening details, tickets and a longer guide. Addresses come from OpenStreetMap. The walking route was computed with the Valhalla pedestrian profile; its time excludes the visits. Hours and access change, check before you go. Edition: October 2026.

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The 12 top sights

In walking order, with the full address of each one. Red numbers are worth a separate trip: they sit outside the centre, so the line below each one gives the transport to use.



1 The National Gallery

The national collection of European painting fills the long neoclassical building along the north side of Trafalgar Square, and general admission has been free since it opened to the public in 1838. More than 2,300 works run from Giotto and Van Eyck's Arnolfini Portrait through Leonardo, Botticelli and Titian to Turner, Constable's The Hay Wain, Monet and Van Gogh's Sunflowers. The Sainsbury Wing holds the early Renaissance rooms and reopened in 2025 after a two year refit of its entrance and galleries. Late openings on Fridays are the quietest time in front of the famous pictures.

Address Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 5DN

Free; temporary exhibitions are ticketed



2 Buckingham Palace Westminster

The King's official London residence closes the view down The Mall from behind the Victoria Memorial. John Nash reshaped the old Buckingham House into a palace for George IV, and the east front that faces the crowds came later, bringing the balcony used for royal appearances. The State Rooms, hung with paintings from the Royal Collection, open to visitors for a few weeks each summer, in 2026 from 9 July to 27 September. The Changing of the King's Guard forms up in front of the palace at 10:45 and lasts about 45 minutes.

Address Buckingham Palace, London SW1A 1AA

Ticketed; State Rooms open in summer only



3 Westminster Abbey

Every coronation since 1066 has taken place in this Gothic abbey church beside the Houses of Parliament, and more than 3,000 people are buried or commemorated inside. Kings and queens lie around the Shrine of St Edward the Confessor, the Lady Chapel built for Henry VII carries a fan vaulted ceiling, and Poets' Corner gathers Chaucer, Dickens and Hardy under one transept. The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Galleries look down on the nave from the medieval triforium. As a working church it closes to sightseeing on Sundays.

Address 20 Dean's Yard, London SW1P 3PA

Ticketed · Tickets and tours london-tickets.com/westminster-abbey/



4 Big Ben and Parliament Square Westminster

Big Ben is the great bell inside the Elizabeth Tower, the clock tower at the north end of the Palace of Westminster, though the name long ago spread to the tower itself. The Gothic Revival palace that Charles Barry and Augustus Pugin rebuilt after the fire of 1834 stretches along the river beside it, and Parliament Square faces the whole front, with statues of Churchill, Gandhi and Mandela on its lawn. Westminster Bridge gives the wider view back across the water.

Address Parliament Square, London SW1A 0AA

Free to see; tours of Parliament are ticketed



5 London Eye beside Westminster Bridge

The wheel on the South Bank has turned over the Thames since 2000, when it went up as a millennium landmark and then stayed. At 135 metres it is the largest cantilevered observation wheel in the world, held on one side by an A frame anchored to the riverbank, and its glass capsules complete a slow rotation in about half an hour. The view runs across Westminster and the river towards the City towers, and evening slots catch the city lighting up.

Address Riverside Building, County Hall, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7PB

Ticketed, timed entry · Tickets and tours london-tickets.com/london-eye/



6 Tate Modern

Bankside Power Station stopped generating in 1981 and reopened in 2000 as the national gallery of modern and contemporary art, its brick chimney still facing St Paul's across the Millennium Bridge. The Turbine Hall, five storeys high, takes one large commission at a time, and the free collection displays above it hang Picasso, Rothko, Warhol and Louise Bourgeois by theme rather than date. The Blavatnik Building added twisted brick galleries and performance spaces in 2016. The riverside walk along Bankside links it to Shakespeare's Globe and Borough Market.

Address Bankside, London SE1 9TG

Free collection displays; major exhibitions are ticketed



7 St Paul's Cathedral

Christopher Wren rebuilt the cathedral after the Great Fire of 1666, and his dome has crowned the City skyline ever since. The climb inside rises through three levels: the Whispering Gallery around the inner dome at 257 steps, then the Stone Gallery and, at 528 steps, the Golden Gallery with its view over London. The crypt below holds the tombs of Nelson and Wellington alongside Wren himself. Services are free to attend, while sightseeing needs a ticket and runs from Monday to Saturday.

Address St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8AD

Ticketed · Tickets and tours london-tickets.com/st-pauls-cathedral/



8 Tower of London

William the Conqueror raised the White Tower beside the Thames after 1066, and the fortress grew into a ring of walls, gates and towers that served in turn as palace, armoury, mint and prison. The Crown Jewels are guarded here, Yeoman Warder tours are included with entry, and ravens are kept on the green by royal tradition. A royal menagerie of exotic animals also lived inside the walls for six centuries before it moved out to found London Zoo.

Address Tower Hill, London EC3N 4AB

Worth a separate trip · 3.4 km E of the centre · Tube Tower Hill · Ticketed · Tickets and tours london-tickets.com/tower-of-london/



9 British Museum

Two million years of human history sit behind Robert Smirke's Greek Revival colonnade on Great Russell Street, from the Rosetta Stone and the Parthenon sculptures to the Sutton Hoo ship burial and the Egyptian mummies. A glass and steel roof turned the old courtyard into the Great Court, the covered square that links the galleries around the former Reading Room. Entry costs nothing, though the museum asks visitors to book a free ticket ahead for priority entry, and some temporary exhibitions are ticketed.

Address Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG

Worth a separate trip · 1.4 km N of the centre · Tube Tottenham Ct Rd · Free, advance booking recommended



10 Tower Bridge entrance at the North Tower

Horace Jones dressed a steel bascule bridge in Gothic stone so that it would sit comfortably beside the Tower of London, and it opened in 1894 after eight years of work. Two high level walkways run 42 metres above the water, with glass floor panels that look straight down on the road and the river traffic. Under the southern approach the Victorian engine rooms keep the boilers and steam engines that once raised the bascules. The bridge still lifts for tall ships, and lift times are published ahead.

Address Tower Bridge Road, London SE1 2UP

Worth a separate trip · 3.6 km E of the centre · Tube Tower Hill · Ticketed · Tickets and tours london-tickets.com/tower-bridge/



11 Kensington Palace

Christopher Wren turned a Jacobean house at the edge of Kensington Gardens into a royal palace for William III and Mary II, and royal households have lived here ever since. Queen Victoria was born in the palace and spent her childhood in its rooms, and the visit still shows court dress from the Royal Ceremonial Dress Collection. The Sunken Garden outside is planted in tiers around a long pond. The Queen's State Apartments are closed for re-presentation until spring 2027, so the route runs through the rest of the palace.

Address Kensington Gardens, London W8 4PX

Worth a separate trip · 4.2 km W of the centre · Tube Queensway · Ticketed · Tickets and tours london-tickets.com/kensington-palace/



12 Kew Gardens

The Royal Botanic Gardens run along the Thames in southwest London, a World Heritage Site of glasshouses, arboretum and long formal vistas. The Palm House holds the tropical rainforest collection under curved iron and glass, and it stays open ahead of a planned renovation in 2027. The Temperate House, the Treetop Walkway up among the branches and Kew Palace, the small red brick house used by George III, fill the rest of a long day out here.

Address Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond TW9 3AE

Worth a separate trip · 12.1 km W of the centre · Tube Kew Gardens · Ticketed · Tickets and tours london-tickets.com/kew-gardens/

29 hidden gems

Smaller places from the same guide, each with its address. Those outside the map frame show their distance from the centre.

Highgate Cemetery

Opened in 1839, Highgate is one of London's most infamous cemeteries, originally opened as one of the city's "Magnificent Seven"...

Swain's Lane, London N6 6PJ · 6.9 km N of the centre, outside the map

God's Own Junkyard

For years, Walthamstow was known as an unremarkable district of gray streets and drab flats on the northeast fringe of London.

Unit 12, Ravenswood Industrial Estate, Shernhall Street, London E17 9HQ · 11.9 km NE of the centre, outside the map

Cecil Court

This dreamy little 17th-century lane is a book lover's paradise.

Cecil Court, London WC2N 4EZ

The Churchill War Rooms

Hidden deep underneath the streets of Westminster lies what was once one of the most secretive and protected parts of London.

Clive Steps, King Charles Street, London SW1A 2AQ

Magic Circle Museum

Established back in 1905, Britain's Magic Circle is a secretive group of illusionists who have set out to keep the magic in magic.

12 Stephenson Way, London NW1 2HD

Twinings Tea Shop

Two Chinese figures sit above the golden lion over the doorway of 216 Strand, where Twinings has sold tea since 1706.

216 Strand, London WC2R 1AP

Platform 9 3/4

Harry Potter fans know: the best way to get to Hogwarts is aboard the Hogwarts Express, which dutifully awaits students of the...

King's Cross Station, Euston Road, London N1 9AP · 2.8 km N of the centre, outside the map

The Viktor Wynd Museum of Curiosities, Fine Art & Natural History

Viktor Wynd's Little Shop of Horrors, or the Last Tuesday Society shop as it's more generally known, is a 21st Century take on...

11 Mare Street, London E8 4RP · 5.7 km NE of the centre, outside the map

Goodwin's Court

London is famous as a city of side streets and alleyways and conjures up pictures of deerstalker-clad detectives appearing from...

Goodwin's Court, London WC2N 4LL

The Sherlock Holmes Museum

The Sherlock Holmes pub on Northumberland Avenue, near London's Charing Cross Station, is much like the countless other pubs in...

The Sherlock Holmes pub, 10-11 Northumberland Street, London WC2N 5DB

Novelty Automation

An offshoot of Cabaret Mechanical Theatre, Novelty Automation is a funhouse filled with homemade retro arcade games, most of them...

1a Princeton Street, London WC1R 4AX

Kensal Green Cemetery and Catacombs

Kensal Green is the one of the oldest public burial grounds and the first of the "Magnificent Seven" Victorian garden cemeteries...

Harrow Road, London W10 4RA · 6.6 km W of the centre, outside the map

Greenwich Foot Tunnel

Opened in 1902, the Greenwich Foot Tunnel cuts 50 feet deep below the surface to take pedestrians under the River Thames from...

Cutty Sark Gardens, Greenwich, London SE10 9HT · 8.5 km E of the centre, outside the map

Stables Market

Originally a local food market dating back to the early 1900s, the Camden Markets expanded rapidly in the 70s when artists and...

Chalk Farm Road, London NW1 8AH · 4.2 km N of the centre, outside the map

Temple Church

Whether or not you've read The Da Vinci Code and subsequent thrillers, you may have heard of the Knights Templar.

Temple, London EC4Y 7BB

The Mail Rail

The Post Office Railway, commonly known as "Mail Rail", was an automatic electric railway created to speed Royal Mail delivery in...

The Postal Museum, 15-20 Phoenix Place, London WC1X 0DA

Seven Noses of Soho

There's a perfectly good explanation for why several plaster noses appear randomly around London's Soho neighborhood.

Admiralty Arch, The Mall, London SW1A 2WH

Leake Street Graffiti Tunnel

In May, 2008, renowned street artist Banksy held the first Cans Festival in the Leake Street Tunnel.

Leake Street, London SE1 7NN

Barbican Conservatory

Atop the Barbican's main theater, wrapped around the fly tower, sits a secret two-story conservatory filled with lush greenery...

Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2Y 8DS

London Transport Museum

The London Transport Museum at first seems innocuous and small from the outside, and perhaps you might think it's aimed only at...

Covent Garden Piazza, London WC2E 7BB

Neighbourhoods

Westminster

Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament (4) face Westminster Abbey (3) across Parliament Square; English monarchs have been crowned in the abbey since 1066. St James's Park leads west to Buckingham Palace (2) and the Changing of the Guard.

Bloomsbury

The British Museum (9) anchors Bloomsbury, a quarter of Georgian squares, publishers and university buildings. Russell Square and Bedford Square are the quiet places to rest between galleries.

The City and the Tower

St Paul's Cathedral (7) crowns Ludgate Hill in the City, the old walled town that is now the financial district. At its eastern edge, the Tower of London (8) keeps the Crown Jewels beside Tower Bridge (10).

Kew and the river west

Kew Gardens (12), on the Thames in south-west London, holds Victorian glasshouses, a treetop walkway and one of the largest plant collections in the world. Richmond and its riverside pubs are a short ride further on.

Word on the Water

A most unusual barge floats on Regents Canal, which flows amid the office-littered landscape of King's Cross.

Regent's Canal towpath, Granary Square, London N1C 4AA · 3.1 km N of the centre, outside the map

The London Dungeon

When you bring history into the equation, gory haunted attractions aren't just for Halloween, thus the London Dungeon is always...

County Hall, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7PB

Banksy's 'Designated Graffiti Area'

Illegal graffiti is usually seen as something that should be removed but in the case of the anonymous street artist Banksy, it is...

Rivington Street, London EC2A 3AY

Kyoto Garden

Among the many lovely features of west London 's Holland Park is a beautiful Japanese garden gifted to the British capital by the...

Holland Park, Ilchester Place, London W8 6LU · 5.3 km W of the centre, outside the map

Café in the Crypt

The easiest way to identify St. Martin's-in-the-Field Church is by its signature spire.

St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 4JJ

The Old Curiosity Shop

Tucked away among the buildings of London's School for Economics is a small, wood-beamed shop.

13-14 Portsmouth Street, London WC2A 2ES

Whispering Gallery at St Paul's Cathedral

In the walkway that circles the inside of Christopher Wren's great dome whispered words can be heard clearly directly across 137...

St Paul's Cathedral, St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8AD

Temple of Mithras

Conspiracy theorists the world over look at major financial centers for signs of secret societies.

London Mithraeum, 12 Walbrook, London EC4N 8AA

Monument to the Great Fire of London

Known simply as "the Monument," this distinctive London landmark was built to commemorate one of the most prominent events in the...

Fish Street Hill, London EC3R 8AH

Trafalgar Square, Covent Garden and Soho

The National Gallery (1) fills the north side of Trafalgar Square, under Nelson's Column. North and east lie the market hall and street performers of Covent Garden, the West End theatres and the late-night bars of Soho.

South Bank and Bankside

The London Eye (5) turns above the river opposite Parliament, at the start of a riverside walk past the Southbank Centre and Shakespeare's Globe. Tate Modern (6) fills the old Bankside power station, and the Millennium Bridge crosses from it to St Paul's.

Kensington

Kensington Palace (11) stands at the western end of Kensington Gardens, which run into Hyde Park. South Kensington, a short walk away, has the Natural History Museum, the Science Museum and the V&A, all free.