

Central London

FREE Museums

The British Museum

One of the most important attractions with an amazing collection of items from cultures around the world | [Great Russell Street, London WC1](#) | [Holborn Tube](#) | [www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk](#)

The Percival David Foundation of Chinese Art

Has possibly the finest collection of ceramics outside China – approximately 1,700 pieces from Song, Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties | [53 Gordon Street, London WC1](#) | [Russell Square Tube](#) | [www.pdfmuseum.org.uk](#)

The Science Museum

A very large museum devoted to modern science and technology and well worth a visit | [Exhibition Road, London SW7](#) | [South Kensington Tube](#) | [www.sciencemuseum.org.uk](#)

The Natural History Museum

The UK's national museum of natural history is sited in one of the most impressive buildings in London. Recommended | [Cromwell Road, London SW7](#) | [South Kensington Tube](#) | [www.naturalhistorymuseum.org.uk](#)

The Victoria & Albert Museum

The world's largest museum of decorative arts and design; not to be missed | [Cromwell Road, London SW7](#) | [South Kensington Tube](#) | [www.vam.co.uk](#)

The Bank of England Museum

The Museum is housed in The Bank of England and tells its history | [Bartholomew Lane, London EC2](#) | [Bank Tube](#) | [www.bankofengland.co.uk/museum](#)

The Imperial War Museum

Exhibitions of aircraft, artillery and weapons used during the two world wars | [Lambeth Road, London SE1](#) | [Waterloo Tube](#) | [www.iwm.org.uk/visits/iwm-london](#)

The National Army Museum

Tells the history of the British Army from the 15th century to the present day | [Royal Hospital Road, Chelsea, London SW3](#) | [Sloane Square Tube](#) | [www.national-army-museum.ac.uk](#)

The Royal Academy of Music Museum

A world class collection of musical instruments and memorabilia, as well as an on-site workshop | [Marylebone Road, London NW1](#) | [Regent's Park Tube](#) | [www.ram.ac.uk](#)

Sir John Soane's Museum

Over 20,000 architectural drawings, antiquities and works by famous painters like Hogarth, Turner, Canaletto and Piranesi | [13 Lincoln's Inn Field, London WC2](#) | [Holborn Tube](#) | [www.soane.org](#)

The Museum of London

Traces the growth of London from prehistoric times up to the present day using a combination of models, artefacts and reconstructions | [39 Wellington Street, London WC2](#) | [St. Paul's Tube](#) | [www.museumoflondon.org.uk](#)

FREE Galleries

The National Gallery

The home of one of the greatest collections of paintings in the world | [Trafalgar Square, London WC2](#) | [Charing Cross Tube](#) | [www.nationalgallery.org.uk](#)

The National Portrait Gallery

The most comprehensive collection of portrait art in the world | [St. Martin's Place, London WC2](#) | [Charing Cross Tube](#) | [www.npg.org.uk](#)

Tate Modern

A magnificent collection of modern paintings and sculptures. The building itself, formerly a power station, is well worth a look | [Bankside, London SE1](#) | [Southwark Tube](#) | [www.tate.org.uk/modern](#)

Tate Britain

The national gallery of British art from 1500 to the present day | [Millbank, London SW1](#) | [Pimlico Tube](#) | [www.tate.org.uk/britain](#)

The Saatchi Gallery

A gallery for contemporary art | [Duke Of York's HQ, King's Rd, London SW3](#) | [Sloane Square Tube](#) | [www.saatchigallery.com](#)

Somerset House

A major arts and cultural centre in the heart of London | [Strand, London WC2R](#) | [Temple Tube](#) | [www.somersetthouse.org.uk](#)

The Photographer's Gallery

Exhibits contemporary work by photographers | [5&8 Great Newport Street, London WC2](#) | [Leicester Square Tube](#) | [www.photonet.org.uk](#)

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Central London

FREE Galleries

The Wallace Collection

Has perhaps the finest collection of paintings, furniture and antiquities (check out the swords) ever donated by a private individual | [Hertford House](#), Manchester Square, London W1 | Bond Street Tube | [www.wallacecollection.org](#)

Camden Arts Centre

A community arts centre with contemporary exhibitions | [Arkwright Road](#), London NW3 | Finchley Road Tube | [www.camdenartscentre.org](#)

The Serpentine Gallery

One of London's most loved exhibition sites for modern and contemporary art | [Kensington Gardens](#), London W2 | Knightsbridge Tube | [www.serpentinegalleries.org](#)

Dulwich Picture Gallery

The oldest public gallery in Britain, it has a magnificent collection of old masters by Rembrandt, Gainsborough and many more. You will need a student card to enter for free and there are free public tours on Saturday and Sunday | [Gallery Road](#), Dulwich Village, London SE21 | West Dulwich Overground Station | [www.dulwichpicturegallery.org.uk](#)

ICA Gallery

Where Picasso, Moore, Ernst among others had their first London exhibitions, and shows all kinds of contemporary art - not free, £1 entry | [The Mall](#), London SW1 | Charing Cross Tube | [www.ica.org.uk](#)

Kenwood House

A stunning neo-classical villa on the edge of Hampstead Heath. It includes a permanent exhibition of an outstanding collection of paintings and other art objects | [Hampstead Lane](#), London NW3 | Golders Green Tube | [www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/properties/kenwood](#)

FREE Churches & Cathedrals

St Paul's Cathedral

One of the world's great religious buildings with its instantly recognisable dome. Services are free. At other times, the admission price is £16.50 | [St. Paul's Churchyard](#), London EC4 | St. Paul's Tube | [www.stpauls.co.uk](#)

Westminster Abbey

A magnificent example of gothic architecture, a church dedicated to regular worship, the setting for every Coronation since 1066, and ultimately where the royal and famous finally come to rest. The nave is always free but there is a charge of £15 for students to enter the Abbey | [20 Deans Yd](#), London SW1 | Westminster Tube | [www.westminster-abbey.org](#)

Westminster Cathedral

Famous for its Byzantine brick structure and interior of marble and mosaics | [42 Francis St](#), London SW1 | Victoria Tube | [www.westminstercathedral.org.uk](#)

All Hallows by The Tower

An ancient Anglican church on Byward Street in the City of London, overlooking the Tower of London | [Byward St](#), London EC3 | Tower Hill Tube | [www.allhallowsbythetower.org.uk](#)

FREE Cemeteries

Brompton Cemetery

A tranquil and pleasantly laid out cemetery and the last resting place of the suffragette Emmeline Pankhurst | [Finborough Road](#), London SW10 | West Brompton Tube | [www.royalparks.org.uk/parks/brompton-cemetery](#)

Kensal Green Cemetery

Well worth a trip just to admire its splendid Victorian monuments. It is the resting place for many famous Londoners including Isambard Kingdom Brunel, William Makepeace Thackeray and Anthony Trollope | [Harrow Road](#), Kensal Green, London W10 | [www.kensalgreencemetery.com](#)

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Central London

FREE Music

The Royal Academy of Music

Britain's oldest music college welcomes visitors for its many free concerts and events on Fridays | [Marylebone Road, London NW1](#) | [Regent's Park Tube](#) | [www.ram.ac.uk](#)

Royal Festival Hall

Free lunchtime concerts on Fridays and Sundays | [Belvedere Road, London SE1](#) | [Waterloo Tube](#) | [www.southbankcentre.co.uk/venues/royal-festival-hall](#)

Notting Hill Arts Club

Every Saturday, from 4pm to 8pm, expect anything from indie-pop, alt country, avant folk, pop noise, electronica, new wave, post-punk, off-kilter hardcore and some of the stranger stuff in between | [21 Notting Hill Gate, London W11](#) | [Notting Hill Gate Tube](#) | [www.nottinghillartsclub.com](#)

Dover Street Wine Bar

Blues and jazz music. Free entrance before 10 pm | [Dover Street, Piccadilly, London W1](#) | [Green Park Tube](#) | [www.doverst.co.uk](#)

Ain't Nothing But The Blues Bar

Great blues music - very small and gets busy so get there early! Well worth a visit | [20 Kingly St, London W1](#) | [Oxford Circus Tube](#) | [www.aintnothinbut.co.uk](#)

St Martin-in-the-Fields

Free lunchtime classical concerts | [Trafalgar Square, London WC2](#) | [Charing Cross Tube](#) | [www.stmartin-in-the-fields.org](#)

St James' Piccadilly

Free lunchtime recitals. Classical | [197 Piccadilly, London W1](#) | [Piccadilly Circus Tube](#) | [www.sjp.org.uk](#)

St Giles-in-the-Fields

Free lunchtime recitals between February and July | [60 St Giles High St, London WC2](#) | [Tottenham Court Road Tube](#) | [www.stgilesonline.org](#)

FREE Markets

Portobello Road Market

An amalgamation of several different markets, specialising in antique jewellery, coins etc, fruit and vegetables, clothes and even records and books | [Portobello Road and Golborne Road, London W10/W11](#) | [Ladbroke Grove or Notting Hill Gate Tube](#) | [www.portobelloroad.co.uk](#)

Covent Garden – Jubilee Market

British handmade arts and crafts for sale. Open every day | [1 Tavistock St, London WC2](#) | [Covent Garden Tube](#) | [www.jubileemarket.co.uk](#)

Bayswater Road Market

Original crafts, sculptures and art | [South side of Bayswater Road, from Clarendon Place to Queensway, London W2](#) | [Lancaster Gate or Queensway Tube](#) | [www.bayswater-road-artists.co.uk](#)

Camden Market

A number of different markets stretching from Camden Lock to the Stables Market | [Camden High Street, Camden Town, London NW1](#) | [Camden Town Tube](#) | [www.camden-market.org](#)

Brixton Market

Europe's biggest and best collection of Afro-Caribbean foods and produce, with a few craft shops and lots of delicious places to eat | [Electric Avenue, Brixton Station Road, Pope's Road, London SW9](#) | [Brixton Tube](#) | [www.brixtonmarket.net/brixton-village](#)

Borough Market

London's oldest food market | [8 Southwark Street, London, SE1](#) | [London Bridge Tube](#) | [boroughmarket.org.uk](#)

Harrods Food Hall

Worth a look and there are usually free samples of something delicious | [Knightsbridge, London SW7](#) | [Knightsbridge Tube](#) | [www.harrods.com](#)

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Central London

FREE Parks

Hyde Park

The most central open space in London and very close to Oxford Street. It's the kind of place where people go and picnic, horse ride, rollerblade or just walk | Hyde Park Road, London WC2 | Hyde Park Tube | www.royalparks.org.uk/parks/hyde-park

St James's Park

At the heart of the nation with royal palaces and government buildings all around | The Store Yard, Horse Guards Approach Street, London SW1 | St James's Park Tube | www.royalparks.org.uk/parks/st-jamess-park

Regent's Park

Busy, especially during the summer with boats, three playgrounds, bandstand music, tennis courts and an open air theatre | Chester Rd, London NW1 | Regent's Park Tube | www.royalparks.org.uk/parks/the-regents-park

Kensington Gardens

Now merged with Hyde Park. Visitors can admire the sunken garden, stop for a drink at the Orangery and appreciate the paintings at the Serpentine Galleries | Bayswater, High Street Kensington, London W8 | Lancaster Gate Tube | www.royalparks.org.uk/parks/kensington-gardens

Green Park

Was a royal hunting ground in origin. It is more rural in design than the other Royal Parks and has mature trees and grassland | The Storeyard, Green Park, London SW1 | Green Park Tube | www.royalparks.org.uk/parks/green-park

FREE Attractions

Southbank

An eclectic and creative part of London by the river. Shops, restaurants, markets, galleries, music and much more | Southbank, London SE1 | Waterloo Tube | www.southbanklondon.com

The Changing of the Guard

An impressive 40 minute spectacle every day from mid April to the end of July at 11:30am and then at 11:30am alternate days from August to April | Buckingham Palace, London SW1 | Victoria Tube | www.changing-the-guard.com

Speaker's Corner

Occurs every Sunday at the Marble Arch end of Hyde Park and involves people from all walks of life getting up on a 'soapbox' to air their views | Marble Arch, Hyde Park, London W2 | Marble Arch Tube | www.speakerscorner.net

Houses of Parliament

Tours available on Saturdays and during the summer months | Houses of Parliament, London SW1 | Westminster Tube | www.parliament.uk

Daily Unlocking of the Tower of London

Visit the Tower before it opens and witness the official unlocking of the heavy wooden doors by the duty Yeoman Warder | Tower of London, London EC3 | Tower Hill Tube | www.hrp.org.uk/TowerOfLondon

Street Theatre

Takes place regularly at Covent Garden and involves jugglers, fire-throwers, mime artists, clowns, singers and comedians all performing for nothing more than a tip | Covent Garden Plaza, The Market, London WC2 | Covent Garden Tube | www.coventgardenlondonuk.com/culture/street-performers

The Royal Courts of Justice

Visitors can take a seat in one of the courts and watch the British justice system in action. Open Monday to Friday 9:30am – 4:30pm | Strand, London WC2 | Temple Tube | www.justice.gov.uk

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North London

FREE Galleries

Kenwood House

A stunning neo-classical villa on the edge of Hampstead Heath. It includes a permanent exhibition of an outstanding collection of paintings and other art objects | Hampstead Ln, London NW3 | Golders Green or Archway Tube, then Bus 210 | www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/properties/kenwood

FREE Cemeteries

Highgate Cemetery

London's most famous and exotic burial ground. The magnificent graves and tombs perfectly reflect high Victorian taste. The East Cemetery is notable as the final resting place of Karl Marx. There is an admission charge but it is only £4 and worth it | Swain's Ln, London N6 | Archway Tube | www.highgatecemetery.org

FREE Parks

Hampstead Heath

A large, ancient London park with great views | Gordon House Rd, London NW5 | Hampstead Heath Overground Tube | www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/green-spaces/hampstead-heath

East London

FREE Museums

The National Maritime Museum

The largest maritime museum in the world which shows the history of Britain at sea | Romney Road, Greenwich, London SE10 | Cutty Sark DLR | www.rmg.co.uk

The Geffrye Museum

Specialises in the history of the English domestic household interior; founded in 1914 | 136 Kingsland Road, Shoreditch, London E2 | Hoxton Tube | www.geffrye-museum.org.uk

V&A Museum of Childhood

Showcasing a collection of childhood related objects including lots of toys, some as old as 1600! | Cambridge Heath Rd, London E2 | Whitechapel Tube | www.museumofchildhood.org.uk

FREE Galleries

Whitechapel Gallery

One of Europe's premier public art galleries, presenting an international programme of contemporary and 20th century art | 77-82 Whitechapel High St, London E1 | Aldgate East Tube | www.whitechapelgallery.org

FREE Cemeteries

Abney Park Cemetery

An eerie, tranquil Victorian Gothic graveyard. General Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, is buried here | Stoke Newington High Street, London N16 | Stoke Newington Overground | www.abneypark.org

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East London

FREE Markets

Greenwich Market

Junk shop paraphernalia, second-hand clothing and crafts. Different markets open different days | [Greenwich Market, London SE10](#) | [Cutty Sark DLR](#) | [www.greenwichmarketlondon.com](#)

Spitalfields Market

An eclectic range of markets, shops and restaurants. 'Style Market' on Saturdays exhibits London's most creative young designers | [Brushfield Street, Spitalfields, London E1](#) | [Liverpool Street Tube](#) | [www.spitalfields.co.uk](#)

Columbia Road Flower Market

Visually stunning, selling various types of fresh flowers and herbs, amongst independent galleries and pottery shops. Open on Sundays | [Columbia Road, London E2](#) | [Hoxton Overground Tube](#) | [www.columbiaroad.info](#)

Brick Lane Market

A very fashionable and vibrant market where you can find leather goods and cheap jewellery. Fruit and veg are also sold, as are household goods, discount books, collectibles and much, much more. Open Sundays | [Brick Lane, Shoreditch, E1](#) | [Aldgate East Tube](#) | [www.visitbricklane.org](#)

South London

FREE Temples

Buddhapadipa Temple

A beautiful Buddhist monastery with large grounds including a lake, flower garden and orchard. The grounds are open on weekdays but the main temple is only open to the public on weekends | [14 Calonne Road, Wimbledon, London SW19](#) | [Wimbledon Tube](#) | [www.buddhapadipa.org](#)

FREE Markets

Merton Abbey Mills

A lively riverside market where you can buy antiques (on Thursdays) and crafts. Open Saturdays and Sundays | [Merantun Way, London SW19](#) | [South Wimbledon or Colliers Wood Tube](#) | [www.mertonabbeymills.org.uk](#)

FREE Parks

Battersea Park

An inner city park with lots of variety and wildlife next to the River Thames | [Battersea Park London SW11](#) | [Battersea Park Overground](#) | [www.batterseapark.org](#)

Wimbledon Common

A large common with ponds, a nature trail and a beautiful old windmill | [Windmill Road, London SW19](#) | [Wimbledon Tube](#), then catch a 93 bus up the hill | [www.wpcc.org.uk](#)

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West London

FREE Galleries

Hogarth House

The only remaining building actually associated with William Hogarth (1697 – 1764), the father of British painting and satirical humorist. The attractive gardens are also worth a visit | [Hogarth Lane, Great West Road, London W4](#) | [Turnham Green Tube](#) or [Chiswick Overground](#) | www.hounslow.info/arts-culture/historic-houses-museums/hogarth-house

FREE Parks

Richmond Park

Used to be a royal hunting ground. It is home to much wildlife, including red and fallow deer, and there are outdoor theatre performances | [Richmond Tube](#), then catch the 371 or 65 buses to the pedestrian gate at Petersham | www.royalparks.org.uk/parks/richmond-park

