

# Travel 1

## London in 1 day

Portobello-Oxford Str-London city- Southwark-Westminster Cathedral

This route is recommended for stressed tourists who want to see the whole of London in a day.

Suppose one has only one day off in London and wants to see as much as possible, this is the right itinerary.

Logically must be a tourist accustomed to travel or a tourist who already know a bit the city, otherwise it could be a very big bite.

This is a good travel even for a Londoner. Being Londoner does not mean to know London.



Near Portobello

Start at Notting Hill Gate Station, early.

Go to Kensington Garden to the statue of Queen Victoria.  
Queen Victoria was born at Kensington Palace.



Queen Victoria's statue, in front of Kensington Palace.



Kensington Garden

Behind the statue there is a beautiful baroque garden, newly refurbished.  
It is a beauty; it makes you lose your breath.

Kensington Garden, Hyde Park, Holland Park are very close to each other, showing that only 200 years ago, this was an area with agricultural fields and farms. Hyde Park was a farm with the name Hyde farm.

The three gardens are very different and all beautiful.



The beautiful little baroque garden in Kensington

If you like, you can also visit the palace, but it is not so extraordinary. It is a palace built by the King of Holland, William of Orange, Nassau, (the father of Queen Ann, which nullified the parliament of Scotland) the super warrior of the Protestants, who in a few hours conquered the entire England and became king. William of Orange didn't like England and preferred to live in his old kingdom, the Netherland.

Among its many diseases, he suffered from asthma, this is the reason why, he built the palace far from the usual residence in White Hall. Kensington was with fresh air, White Hall smelled like an open sewer.

From Kensington Garden go to Portobello.  
It is at about 300 meters from Notting Hill gate Station.

Portobello Road is famous for its flea and antiques market on Saturday, with several thousand tourists.

Portobello was originally a harbour on the water channel in the proximity. The Road and the harbour (Porto-bello) were used to carry garbage from the Royal Palace of Kensington. Portobello was a place for the poors.

Portobello Road is 3 km.  
1.5 km goes downwards until the church of All Saints.  
About here is the library of the famous film Notting Hill Gate.

The first part has luxury shops.

The other 1.5 km goes up.

The second part has shops for poor people.



Mid way at Portobello Road, you will see the All Saint Church

From Portobello take the bus no 23 leading to Alwiche and then a bus to Liverpool Street.

With these 2 busses, we will see the heart of London.

It takes approximately 1-3 hours depending on the traffic. Maybe transportation by bus will be changed in the near future in the centre of London.

The bus goes to the most famous zones of London: Oxford Street, Regent Street, Piccadilly, Trafalgar Strand, St. Paul, the central Bank, which is the real centre of London.

London is traditionally said, that is composed of 2 towns/cities:

- The new or Westminster
- The old or often called the City

The boundary is at Alwiche.

The entrance of the City is marked with the Dragon.



The logo of London

After Alwich you find the beautiful building of the Royal Court of Justice, then Saint Paul Cathedral, the National Bank with the beautiful Royal Exchange.



Here the real centre of London: the National Bank with the statue of Wellington.

After the Bank, a lot of new skyscrapers starts to appear. Not on the horizon, but immediately, just where the ancient Roman city lay, among the ancient palaces.

The administration has decided to build new huge skyscrapers to satisfied the need of financial offices.

Canary Warf was not attractive enough for the top managers. Very probably this is the reason, why to build in the ancient city.

The bus stops at Liverpool railway station.

From Liverpool Street continue by foot until you arrive to Broad Way.

You shall walk trough a terrific modern mammoth building, that looks like " I was intended to be... but everyone escape from me...".

Devastating!

NO PHOTO OF THAT MONSTER. SEE YOUR SELF.

After you have passed this monster building, turn on the right, on Prime Rose Street, cross Bishop Gate, continue to Spital Square until you arrive to Commercial Road.

The area west of Bishop Gate (Bishop Gade is and was, at its origin, the historical Roman Road from the Thames to the west) is full of remnants of old factories of the times of 1830 industrialization.

Workers lived here in miserable conditions, often starving.

Of the houses, no remains today, but the quarter still denote some poverty.

Broadway market was a great market for working families, still existing.



Broadway market: still existing

Turn on the right in front of Christ Church Spitalfields.

This zone is the oldest part of London. It has been refurbished in the last decades, but still a zone plenty of small markets.

This small markets, restaurants, take away, and what so ever in the zone, has changed style in recent years.

In opposite direction.

They serve London's business men and ladies, now.

It has become a very fascinating part of London.

Spend some hours here.  
Lounge about in this zone.

Then, continue to walk, direction on to the right.  
Look to the sky until you find the Gherkin skyscraper.  
It was declared the most beautiful modern building in recent time.



The Gherkin

More skyscrapers appear as you move few hundred metres around.

Go towards the Tower Bridge and find Byward Street



All Hallows-by-the-Tower, a very important London church

Visit the All Hallows-by-the-Tower church.

It is a very important church to discover the history of London.

Admission is free.

The interior is very bright and beautiful, with so many historical things that go back in time to the Roman times.

See the floor of the basement.

There are remains of the mosaic floor of a Roman house. Then, the remains of the first church, the graph of London at the time of the Romans, Londinium..



The graph of London reproducing the Roman Londinium. Observe the 1.st London Bridge

From the church, walk to the Tower Bridge.

From the church go downwards to the Thames, passing in front of the Castle Tower of London.

The origins of the Tower of London dates back to the Romans, it was a fortress and the first defence of Londinium to the enemy ships coming to the est, sailing upstream from the Thames. From here began the Roman wall, which ended in a half circle to Blackfriars Bridge.

Romans choose this place, because it was naturally protected by the peninsula of Dogs, and on the North because of good rivers.

At the Catholic time, there were countless orders of monks. That why so many names as Blackfriars, Greyfriars, Whitefriars etc.

You can visit the Tower of London if you have time.

From the Thames walk go up to the Tower Bridge.

Do not confuse Tower Bridge with London Bridge.

The last bridge of London was falling and it was sold in 1968 to an American oil tycoon Robert P McCulloch for a cool \$2,460,000, taken down stone by stone, shipped America, who wanted to proud the New World with an important landmark from Europe. It was rebuilt, with its beautiful arches, at Lake Havasu City in the Arizonian desert.

(Evil tongues say, that this rich American was totally disappointed, when he received the shipment, because he was convinced that he had ordered the Tower Bridge, the one with the first floor)".

Cross the Thames and walk down to the South bound of the river.

Admire the modern building of the Mayor of London, the Zar. It is called the Bulls Balls building.



View of the mayor office, the zar, from Tower Bridge

The walk from Tower Bridge to Vauxhall Bridge in the west, is an extraordinary beautiful walk, it was awarded World Heritage by Unesco.



The Globe Theater, reconstructed at the same place as the original Globe.



View from Southwark

Continues along the Thames until you arrive to Vauxhall Bridge.

Go up to the bridge, cross the Thames to Victoria Station.

Take Victoria Street toward the Parliament and stop at the Catholic Cathedral Westminster.

Do not confuse the Westminster Cathedral, with the Abbey of Westminster.

The Westminster Abbey is the church of the kings of England, while Westminster Cathedral is the greatest the Catholic church and recent construction.



Westminster Cathedral.

Go inside the church, observe and admire the devotion of the believers. Touching.

And here it the dag finished.

Shall you go to a restaurant, we propose the Indian Pakistan restaurant Paradise at 5 Denbigh Street, Pimlico, London SW1V 2HF T. 020 78348746  
Cheap and good