

## SIGHTSEEING IN LONDON

**Sights you cannot afford to miss in London!**

### The structure of London

London is a very modern, but also a very old town. The Romans founded the town Londinium near the river Thames. London became bigger and more important during the following centuries. Today London is not only a city but also has its own large region, Greater London, with about 7.5 million people living there. Surrounding Greater London is the so called green belt. The oldest part of the town is the City of London. More than half a million people work there but only about 5 000 actually live there.

The City of Westminster is the political centre of the UK. The most fashionable part of London is the Westend where you will find the most expensive stores and apartments. The old harbour used to be in the Eastend of London near the river but now there are modern apartments, office buildings and hotels.

### Hyde Park

is a large recreational area in the centre of London. There are several statues located there, such as one of Peter Pan. Speaker's corner is a very special place where anyone can speak his mind to interested listeners in the park.

### The Houses of Parliament and Big Ben

These two sights are situated in the political centre of the United Kingdom. Here you will also find the House of Lords and House of Commons. The famous Big Ben bell chimes every hour so you can't miss it!

### Trafalgar Square...

...is a very busy place. Many young people celebrate the New Year there. The monument of Lord Nelson, who defeated Napoleon at the beginning of the 19th century, stands tall keeping watch over the square.

### The Tower and Tower Bridge

The Tower is a castle. In the past it was used as a prison. Today there is a museum inside. You can have a look at the famous crown jewels. Next to the Tower there is the Tower Bridge.

### Buckingham Palace...

...is the residence of the Queen. You can witness „The Changing of the Guards" here every day.

### Westminster Abbey...

...is the church where the kings and queens were/are crowned. You can also find several graves of the dead kings and queens of England.

### PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- the underground system with about 400km of rails and 280 stations
- the famous red buses

### ECONOMY

London is Europe's biggest financial and trade centre. It is the seat of many banks and companies. The industrial areas around London are home to factories producing cars, electronic and chemical goods as well as food



Do you know any famous Londoner's? Think of 4 famous men or women dead or alive and write them down:

Sir Elton John, Jack the Ripper, Sir Isaac Newton, William Shakespeare