

INSIGHT GUIDES

EXPLORE LONDON



THE BEST ROUTES AROUND THE CITY



INSIGHT GUIDES

EXPLORE LONDON



How To Use This E-Book

This **Explore Guide** has been produced by the editors of Insight Guides, whose books have set the standard for visual travel guides since 1970. With top-quality photography and authoritative recommendations, these guidebooks bring you the very best routes and itineraries in the world's most exciting destinations.

Best Routes

The routes in this book provide something to suit all budgets, tastes and trip lengths. As well as covering the destination's many classic attractions, the itineraries track lesser-known sights, and there are also excursions for those who want to extend their visit outside the city. The routes embrace a range of interests, so whether you are an art fan, a gourmet, a history buff or have kids to entertain, you will find an option to suit.

We recommend reading the whole of a route before setting out. This should help you to familiarise yourself with it and enable you to plan where to stop for refreshments – options are shown in the 'Food and Drink' box at the end of each tour.

Introduction

The routes are set in context by this introductory section, giving an overview of the destination to set the scene, plus background information on food and drink, shopping and more, while a succinct history timeline highlights the key events over the centuries.

Directory

Also supporting the routes is a Directory chapter, with a clearly organised A–Z of practical information, our pick of where to stay while you are there and select restaurant listings; these eateries complement the more low-key cafés and restaurants that feature within the routes and are intended to offer a wider choice for evening dining. Also included here are some nightlife listings, and our recommendations for books and films about the destination.

Getting around the e-book

In the Table of Contents and throughout this e-book you will see hyperlinked references. Just tap a hyperlink once to skip to the section you would like to read. Practical information and listings are also hyperlinked, so as long as you have an external connection to the internet, you can tap a link to go directly to the website for more information.

Maps

All key attractions and sights mentioned in the text are numbered and cross-referenced to high-quality maps. Wherever you see the reference [map] just tap this to go straight to the related map. You can also double-tap any map for a zoom view.

Images

You'll find hundreds of beautiful high-resolution images that capture the essence of the destination.

Simply double-tap on an image to see it full-screen.

© 2013 Apa Publications (UK) Ltd



A close-up photograph of a person's face, focusing on the eye and cheek area. The person has traditional body paint applied to their face. A prominent feature is a large, textured yellow patch on the cheek, bordered by black lines. Below this, there are several parallel lines in black, red, and black. The person's eye is dark and looking slightly to the right. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a white garment.



INSIGHT GUIDES

Inspiring your next adventure
www.insightguides.com

The new travel website from Insight

Legend

-  Start of tour
-  Tour and route direction

-  Recommended sight
-  Recommended restaurant or café

City Maps

-  Place of interest
-  Tourist information
-  Statue / monument
-  Main post office
-  Bus station
-  Theatre
-  Cathedral or church
-  Main library
-  Beach
-  Ferry route
-  City wall
-  Urban area
-  Notable building
-  Hotel
-  Pedestrian area
-  Shop / market
-  Park
-  Transport hub

Regional Maps

-  Place of interest
-  Chateau / Castle
-  Airport
-  Lighthouse
-  Monastery
-  Viewpoint
-  Ancient site
-  Peak
-  Crater
-  Cave
-  Cable car
-  Railway
-  Funicular railway
-  Urban area
-  Marsh
-  National park
-  International boundary
-  State / Province boundary

Table of Contents

How To Use This E-Book

Recommended Routes For...

Architecture

Art Fans

Cool Britannia

Families with Kids

Food and Drink

Literary London

Royal London

Shoppers

Explore London

Population

Population growth

Ethnicity

Wealth distribution

The climate

London geography

The political map

North–South, East–West

Heaven and hell

Food and Drink

British cuisine

Places to eat

High-end restaurants

Pubs

Ethnic restaurants

Greasy spoons, pie and mash, and fish and chips

Chains

Drinks

Beer

Wine

Cider

Whisky

Last orders

Shopping

Shopping areas

Designer districts

Around Piccadilly

Chains and department stores

Soho and Covent Garden

Markets

Entertainment

Theatre

Drama old and new

Music

Film

Nightlife

History: Key Dates

Early period

After the conquest

After the Fire

The age of Empire

20th century

21st century

1. The Big Sights

Trafalgar Square

Nelson's Column

Bordering the square

St Martin-in-the-Fields

Whitehall

Horse Guards

Banqueting House

Downing Street

Parliament Square

Westminster Abbey

St Margaret's

Churchill War Rooms

St James's Park

The Mall

Carlton House Terrace

ICA

St James's Palace

Buckingham Palace

The State Rooms

Queen's Gallery

2. National Galleries

The National Gallery

The move to Trafalgar Square

The Sainsbury Wing

Tour of the collection

Renaissance galleries

North Wing

East Wing

National Portrait Gallery

Background

The collection

3. Covent Garden and Soho

Covent Garden

Royal Opera House

Covent Garden Market

The Covered Market

London Transport Museum

St Paul's Church

Charing Cross Road

Soho

Soho Square and Greek Street

Frith Street

Around Old Compton Street

Chinatown

Leicester Square

4. Piccadilly and Mayfair

Piccadilly Circus

Eros

Piccadilly

St James Piccadilly

Shopping

Royal Academy of Arts

Mayfair

Commercial Art Galleries

Bond Street

Brook Street

Oxford Street

5. Marylebone

St Christopher's Place

Wallace Collection

The high street

Marylebone Road

Baker Street

6. Regent's Park

Nash's terraces

Queen Mary's Gardens

The Lake

London Zoo

7. Bloomsbury

British Museum

Egyptian Mummies: Rooms 62–3

Rosetta Stone: Room 4

Elgin Marbles: Room 18

Benin Bronzes: Room 25

Other highlights

Historic streets

Dickens Museum

Foundling Museum

University of London

8. Holborn and The Inns of Court

Fleet Street

Offices of national newspapers

Dr Johnson's House

Church of St Dunstan-in-the-West

The Inns of Court

Chancery Lane

Lincoln's Inn Fields

Sir John Soane's Museum

Somerset House

9. The City

Tower of London

Along the river

The Monument

Bank of England

The Guildhall

St Paul's Cathedral

Postman's Park

Museum of London

Barts Hospital

Smithfield Market

10. The South Bank

County Hall

London Eye

Southbank Centre

Music Venues

Hayward Gallery

BFI Southbank

National Theatre

OXO Tower

Tate Modern

Shakespeare's Globe

Bank End and Clink Street

The Clink

The Golden Hinde

Southwark Cathedral

Borough Market

Towards Tower Bridge

11. Tate to Tate

Tate Modern

The building

The collection

Tate Boat

Tate Britain

The collection

12. Hyde Park

Apsley House

Hyde Park

The Serpentine

Kensington Gardens

Serpentine Gallery

Albert Memorial

Kensington Palace

The palace gardens

13. South Kensington and Knightsbridge

V&A

The foyer

Lower ground and ground floors

Upper floors

Henry Cole Wing

Natural History Museum

Life Galleries

Earth Galleries

Science Museum

Ground floor

Third floor

Past and future

Knightsbridge

Department stores

14. Chelsea

Sloane Square

Duke of York Square

Royal Hospital

Chelsea Physic Garden

Carlyle's House

Cheyne Walk

Cremorne Gardens

Back to Sloane Square

15. Hampstead

Fenton House

Burgh House

Willow Road and Keats House

Hampstead Heath

16. Notting Hill

Portobello Road

Street market

Beyond the Westway

Towards Golborne Road

17. The East End

Whitechapel

Spitalfields

London's old markets

Eating and drinking

Christ Church Spitalfields

Brick Lane – 'The Curry Mile'

Hoxton and Shoreditch

Rivington Place

Hoxton Square

Geffrye Museum

18. Routemaster Bus Trip

Eastcheap and Old Bailey

Fleet Street and Strand

19. Greenwich

Along the river

The Cutty Sark

Greenwich Foot Tunnel

River path

Maritime Museum

The Queen's House

Naval College

Covered Market

Greenwich Park

Observatory and Planetarium

20. Kew

Palm House and Lake

Princess of Wales Conservatory

Kew Palace

Accommodation

Hotel areas

Budget Chains

Covent Garden and Soho

Mayfair and Piccadilly

Westminster and Victoria

Kensington and Chelsea

Bloomsbury and Holborn

The City and East London

South Bank and Bankside

Restaurants

Covent Garden and Soho

Mayfair and Piccadilly

Westminster and Victoria

Kensington and Chelsea

Bloomsbury and Holborn

The City and East London

The South Bank

West London

Nightlife

Theatre

Music

Dance

Film

Bars and Clubs

A-Z

A

Airports and arrival

Airports

Arrival by train

B

Blue plaques

C

Children

Clothing

Crime

Customs regulations

Cycling

D

Disabled access

Driving

E

Electricity

Embassies

Emergencies

Entry requirements

G

Gay and lesbian

H

Health and medical care

I

Internet

L

Left luggage

Lost property

M

Media

Money

O

Opening hours

P

Postal services

Public holidays

Public transport

Underground (tube)

Docklands Light Railway

Rail

Bus

Boat

Tickets and fares

S

Smoking

Student travellers

T

Tax

Taxis

Telephones

Useful numbers

Time

Tour operators

Tourist offices

W

Websites

Weights and Measures

Books and Film

Books

Good companions

History

Memoirs

Art and Architecture

Film

RECOMMENDED ROUTES FOR...



ARCHITECTURE

The Big Sights ([route 1](#)) covers architecture of royalty and government, the City ([route 9](#)) has Wren churches and steel-and-glass showpieces, and Greenwich ([route 19](#)) offers Georgian elegance.

Lydia Evans/Apa Publications



ART FANS

There's something for everyone, from the National Gallery ([route 2](#)) and Tate Modern ([route 11](#)) to elite Mayfair galleries ([route 4](#)). Find the best of British at the National Portrait Gallery ([route 2](#)) and Tate Britain ([route 11](#)).

Lydia Evans/Apa Publications



COOL BRITANNIA

Find the cutting edge in Soho's bars and clubs ([route 3](#)), the boho markets of Portobello Road ([route 16](#)) and the fashionable East End ([route 17](#)). For Brit Art, visit Tate Britain ([route 11](#)).

Lydia Evans/Apa Publications



FAMILIES WITH KIDS

There is plenty for young ones to see: London Zoo ([route 6](#)), dinosaurs at the Natural History Museum ([route 13](#)), hands-on fun at the Science Museum ([route 13](#)) and old buses at the Transport Museum ([route 3](#)).

Lydia Evans/Apa Publications



FOOD AND DRINK

The biggest choice is in the West End, from Chinatown to pre-theatre suppers ([route 3](#)). For fresh produce visit Borough Market ([route 10](#)) and for ethnic cuisine head to the East End ([route 17](#)).

Ming Tang-Evans/Apa Publications



LITERARY LONDON

Head to Holborn ([route 8](#)) and Bloomsbury ([route 7](#)) to follow in the footsteps of Dr Johnson, Charles Dickens and Virginia Woolf; those with poetic sensibilities should visit Hampstead ([route 15](#)), home of Keats.

Lydia Evans/Apa Publications



ROYAL LONDON

Have a royal time seeing Buckingham Palace, Changing the Guard and Clarence House ([route 1](#)). Kensington Palace and the Albert and Princess Diana memorials are found in Hyde Park ([route 12](#)).

Ming Tang-Evans/Apa Publications

- [download online **Slashback \(Cal and Niko Leandros, Book 8\) pdf, azw \(kindle\), epub, doc, mobi**](#)
- [The New Cultural History \(Studies on the History of Society and Culture\) pdf, azw \(kindle\), epub, doc, mobi](#)
- [To Light a Thousand Lamps: A Theosophic Vision \(Sunrise Library Book\) pdf](#)
- [read The Unleashed for free](#)

- <http://reseauplatoparis.com/library/Slashback--Cal-and-Niko-Leandros--Book-8-.pdf>
- <http://qolorea.com/library/The-New-Cultural-History--Studies-on-the-History-of-Society-and-Culture-.pdf>
- <http://hasanetmekci.com/ebooks/Forty-Rooms.pdf>
- <http://nautickim.es/books/The-Shadows--The-Books-of-Elsewhere--Book-1-.pdf>