

INSIGHT GUIDES

EXPLORE LONDON



THE BEST ROUTES AROUND THE CITY



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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.

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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. The overall lighting is natural and soft.



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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
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-  Shop / market
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-  Transport hub

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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](#)).

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