

# ENGLAND - London

London is a great city to explore history, see Royal attractions, eat like a king, and walk for hours while enjoying unique architecture and sites. It was a hit with our crew - even the teenagers!

## Hotel Reco

### Marriott County Hall

Perfectly located at the gateway to the heart of London. Right on the river, it's a stone's throw from the Underground and Westminster Bridge. The views are a postcard-perfect panorama of Big Ben and Parliament. The rooms are spacious, accommodating even families with teens. With an indoor pool, two restaurants, and a charming bar for evening Pims, the hotel is a haven of relaxation. And the best part? WiFi is free, ensuring you're always connected to the world outside.



## Things To Do

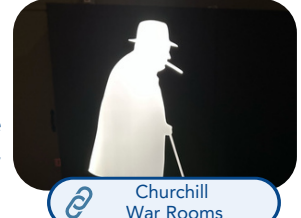
### Harry Potter Warner Bros. Studio

We loved the HP books when our kids were younger and didn't want to miss seeing where this iconic movie was made. You get to see the sets where the movie was filmed, learn about the special effects and props, see Hogwarts' full-scale models, and have interactive experiences.



### Churchill War Rooms

What an amazing experience learning about the history of WWII. We walked underground, amongst the areas of war planning and strategizing. You get a realistic feel for the life and work of the famous British prime minister, Winston Churchill.



### Tower of London & Crown Jewels

This was fabulous. We explored the tower and dungeon and saw the real jewels (under heavy security). The kids did all they could to distract the Beefeaters (with no success) as we learned about this amazing landmark.



### The London Eye - Skip Line

This is a must-see attraction. Bypass the line (which is long) and get priority access. The "capsules" are large, have views from every side and, the ride is very smooth. The views are spectacular. You will see all along the Thames River, Big Ben, Parliament, St. James Park, and more.



### Guard Change & Westminster Abbey - Skip Line

We couldn't visit London without this event. We were close to the action (even in the rain) and saw the guards up close. We could see from different vantage points and learn the history of this iconic daily tradition. Then, off to the Abbey with skip-the-line tickets!



### Emirates Stadium Tour

Our soccer (football) family loved this. You get behind-the-scenes access to the Emirates Stadium and Arsenal Museum, including the players' tunnel and the changing rooms. You also get to see the trophy rooms, the field, and the team boxes.



## Other Recos

### Eating

Don't let anyone tell you there aren't amazing places to eat in London. **Borough Market** is a food-lovers paradise with tons of vendors (get the strawberries and chocolate at Turnips). Another favorite was **Convent Garden** - not only amazing for walking and touring, but also with amazing food options. Hit the **Southbank** and find lots of options like Honest Burger and the Southbank Centre Food Market.

### Shopping

Known for vintage markets and small gems, London has many fabulous shopping "destinations." Hit the iconic retail halls of **Harrod's** or **Selfridges**. For a classic British store, stroll through **Fortnum & Mason** (and maybe have tea, too). For more entertainment, don't miss **Piccadilly Square** and hit up M&M World, or walk along **Carnaby Street** and swing by **Kingly Court**.

### Sites

The best part of London is that there are fabulous places to visit/see that are just part of the city. Grab tickets to a show (we saw *The Play That Went Wrong* - hilarious!). Take a ride on the carousel in **Jubilee Gardens**. Walk through the fabulous areas of **Notting Hill**, **Kensington Gardens**, or **Soho**. Take in more history at **St. Paul's Cathedral** (climb to the top) or learn theatrical history by touring **Shakespeare's Globe Theatre**.



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