

## The advantages of our programme

<b>For your budget</b>	<p>1- Reserve your tickets for Hampton Court and The Tower of London online. This will cost £79 instead of £93.50. If you are planning to visit within a year the Banqueting House or Kensington Palace, we advise you to buy a the annual Historic Royal Palaces membership. It costs £80 and allows you to visit the Tower of London, Hampton Court, Kensington Palace and the Banqueting House as many times as you like. You can buy it when you first visit any of these places.</p> <p>2- We advise you not to buy the much publicised London pass.</p> <p>3- Based on this programme, including the above advice, total entry fees to attractions will cost £144.50</p> <p>4- Our advice saves you £14.50, not counting savings in time.</p>
<b>Transport</b>	<p>1- On the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of September, planned maintenance work will mean the closure of many London tube lines, including the Circle and Hammersmith lines. This was taken into account in the development of your plan.</p> <p>2- For transport tickets, your best option is to buy a Pay as You Go Oyster card for the adults. Your children will travel free on the tube and buses but you will need to buy a zone 1-6 offpeak travelcard (£2 each) for them for the train trip on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>. These tickets can be purchased in advance. It will cost £20 per adult to make the trips contained in our plan (including the tube from and to airport). <a href="http://visitorshop.tfl.gov.uk/english/introduction.htm">http://visitorshop.tfl.gov.uk/english/introduction.htm</a></p>
<b>Managing your time</b>	<p>In addition to carefully planning the order of your visits and minimising wasted travel time, our plan optimises your holiday time by making use of the evening opening of the National Gallery on Friday evening and the early morning opening of St Paul's.</p>



## Your Personal Itinerary in London

**24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

**Accommodation:** Hotel Ibis Euston  
**Arrival time:** around 11:30 at Heathrow  
**Departure time:** 16:00 from Heathrow

**Number of people:** 2 adults and 2 children  
 (7 and 10 years old)

**Style of Holidays:** free time before 9:00  
 busy day  
 average walk

**Preferences:** Museum (before 1900)  
 Royal connection  
 State house  
 Parks and gardens

**List of the selected attractions:** Tower of London, Westminster Abbey, St Paul's Cathedral, St James's Park, British Museum, Hampton Court, Trafalgar Square, National Gallery.

**-Print on both sides of the paper  
and fold the pages in two-**

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## At your arrival at Heathrow:

Licensed taxi is probably the quickest way to get from the airport to your hotel but it will cost you +/- £70 each way. You will find on our website information on how to find and book a taxi.

Other options:

- Heathrow express to Paddington then tube (Circle line). Train runs every 15 minutes (every 21 minutes from terminal 5) and it will take you 15 minutes to go to Paddington; Cost for the family: £49.40 each way. This solution is not valid for your return due to the closure of the Circle line.
- Heathrow connect to Paddington then tube (Circle line). Train runs every 30 minutes and it will take you 25/28 minutes to go to Paddington; Cost for the family: £23.60.
- Tube (Piccadilly line) to King Cross St Pancras then walk. Cost +/- £4 for an adult. If you have ordered and received your Oystercard before arriving in London, you can use it. Your children travel free with you.

## SUMMARY OF YOUR PERSONAL ITINERARY

*Each personal itinerary contains a summary and a detailed description of each day. In this example, you will find a summary of a personal itinerary and a detailed description of one of the days.*

### Day 1: Friday 24<sup>th</sup> of September

- 13:00 Check-in at your hotel
- 13:30 Leave your hotel and take the Tube (Underground): Northern line – direction Kennington/southbound; change at Embankment for the District line – westbound. Stop at St James's Park. Take Tothill Street.
- 14:00 **Westminster Abbey**: visit on your own with audio guide (recommended); Estimated time: 1:30.  
You can also visit the next door St Margaret Chapel.
- 15:30 **Westminster Houses of Parliament and Big Ben**: only from the outside; go half way on Westminster bridge to admire the view over the Thames and also the perspective over Westminster;
- 16:00 **St James's Park** and view over **Buckingham Palace**: estimated

time 40 minutes. Go to the Mall.

17:00 **Trafalgar Square**

17:30 **National Gallery** late night (open until 21:00). Audio guide recommended. Also for children, the museum proposes some family/children trails.

Option:

- visit Banqueting House located between Westminster and Trafalgar Square (short visit)
- Dine in Chinatown or Covent Garden

End of the day, return to the hotel by tube Northern line from Leicester Square station direction North/Euston.

### Day 2: Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> of September

- 9:00 Leave your hotel. Take the tube: Northern line direction Elephant and Castle up to Bank station then change for the Central line . Stop at St Paul's
- 9:30 **St Paul's Cathedral**: visit with audio guide recommended.  
Estimated time 2:00.  
From St Paul's take bus 76 (stop SJ direction Lower Marsh) for Waterloo; take the South West train direction Basingstoke (trains depart at xx:12 and xx:42 on Saturday)
- 12:30 **Hampton Court**: estimated time 2:30  
Return to London- Waterloo by train (trains depart at xx:24 and xx:54 on Saturday)
- 16:00 **South Bank** with view over Westminster and St Paul's Cathedral. Walk along the Thames path.

Option:

- **British Museum** instead of the South Bank walk. Museum closes at 17:30. From Waterloo, take the Northern line direction Northbound and stop at Tottenham Court Road and walk to the museum.

End of the day, return to the hotel by tube from Waterloo, take the Northern line Northbound and stop at Euston. From the British museum, you can walk back to your hotel.

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> of September**

**Tower Of London**



- 9:30 Check-out. Leave your luggages in the clockroom of the hotel. Take the tube: Northern line – direction southbound Elephant and Castle up to Bank station and change for the District line at Monument direction eastbound. Stop at Tower hill.
- 10:00 **Tower of London:** visit first the Crown Jewels before it is too crowded. Estimated time 2:30. View over Tower Bridge.
- 13:00 Return to your hotel by tube. From Tower Hill take the District line direction westbound. Change at Monument for the Northern line direction Northbound. Stop at Euston.
- 13:30 Departure for Heathrow airport. Timing should depend on the mean of transport chosen.

- All our itinerary contains additional information for each day.

**Additional information for Sunday itinerary**

**Tower of London:** open from 10:00 to 17:30 on Sunday  
 Tower hill – EC3N 4AB  
 Tel: +44 (0) 870 756 6060  
 Estimated time: 2 hours

London's must see list despite the very expensive entrance price. Parts of this historical monument date back to the Norman conquest 1066, and it has a long and bloody history as a prison and execution site for people who fell out with past Kings and Queens (including Mary Queen of Scots and two of Henry VIII's wives). The Tower also houses the Crown Jewels, the Queen's collection of jewels and crowns, (which will impress even people not interested in jewellery). Probably the best way to see the Tower is with a free guided tour by one of the "Beefeaters" (Tower guards in traditional costume). For children, there are also many costumed events recreating historical episodes such as the Gunpowder Plot or the beheading of Mary Queen of Scots.

### What else to see around Tower of London:

- When you exit the tube station, you will see parts of the **Roman wall** which delimited the City of London during the Roman time.
- **Trinity Square:** a peaceful garden which contains a large memorial to the 24,000 members of the merchant navy and fishing fleet who died during the World War 1. Behind stands an impressive building, the former Headquarters of the Port of London Authority which before was the European Headquarters of the insurance company Willis. They plan to convert it into a top range hotel. During the week, benches are occupied by employees of the city during their lunch break.
- **All Hallows by the Tower:** Located at the corner of a busy junction, it is the oldest church in the city (dating back to 675) and has a very interesting past. Founded by the Saxons, the church survived the Great Fire - Samuel Pepys watched London burning from the top of the tower. The church prides itself of having celebrated the marriage of John Quincy Adams, the sixth president of the United States and was where William Penn, founder of Pennsylvania, was baptised. As many other buildings in the city, it was partially destroyed during WW2. The church has links with the Livery companies in London; in particular The Company of Watermen & Lightermen, Company of World Traders and the company of Carmen (in charge of the transport of goods within the City and long distance).
- **Tower Bridge:** One of the most well-known constructions in the world, Tower Bridge was built in 1894 to respond to the growing traffic from the city to the other side of the river. For a very long time, London Bridge (further upstream) was the only crossing point in eastern London. The bridge was built to allow the passage of boats, and still functions today, being raised about 900 times per year. To know when the bridge will be lifted, check their website. The upper walkway across the

river between the two towers holds an exhibition about the building and operation of the bridge; it might interest engineering buffs.

### What you can see on the other side of the river:

- **City Hall:** A striking rounded glass building on the south bank of the Thames near Tower Bridge, completed in 2002, and which houses the office of the Mayor of London (not the Lord Mayor).
- **HMS Belfast:** Launched in 1938, HMS Belfast is the only surviving battleship to have seen active service during WW2. It has served from Norway to Korea. When the ship came to the end of its active life, the Imperial War Museum launched a trust for the preservation of the cruiser and in 1971, the ship was docked in the Thames and opened to visitors. Inside, there are some very good reconstructions of life onboard with access to the shell rooms, kitchen and canteen, telecommunication room, dental surgery and the ship's operating theatre amongst others.