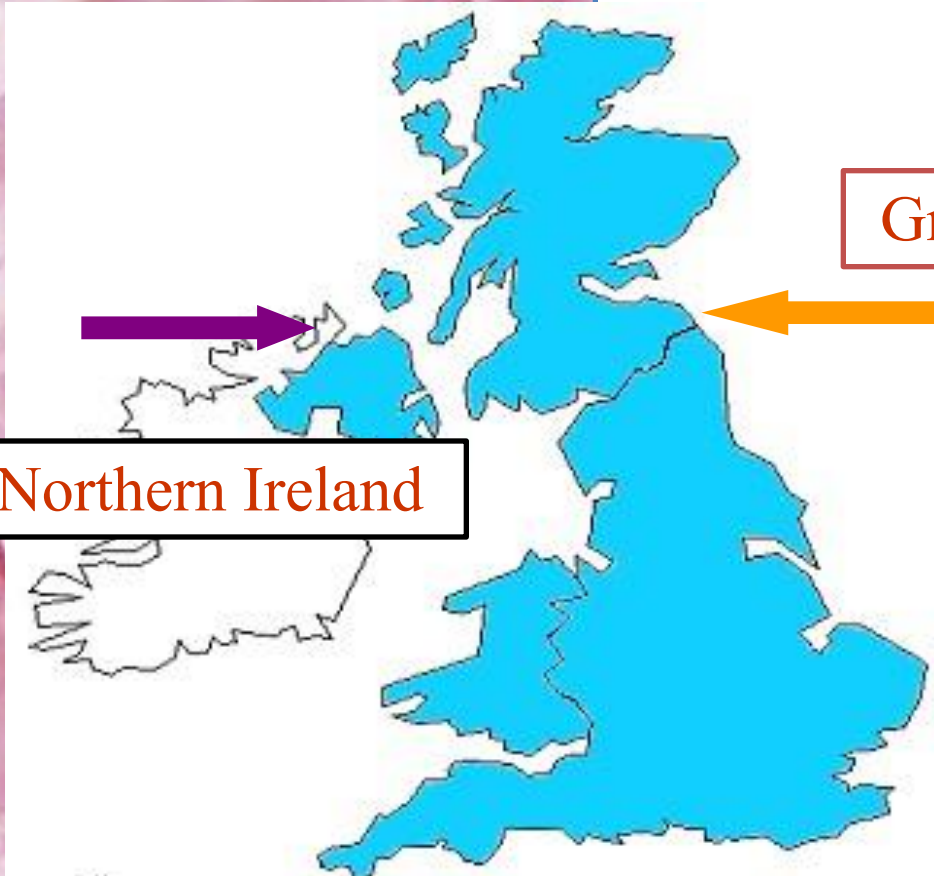


Great Britain



Where is the UK?

The UK is situated on the British Isles, north-west of the European continent between the Atlantic Ocean and the North sea.



Great Britain

Northern Ireland

The official name of the UK is the "United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland".

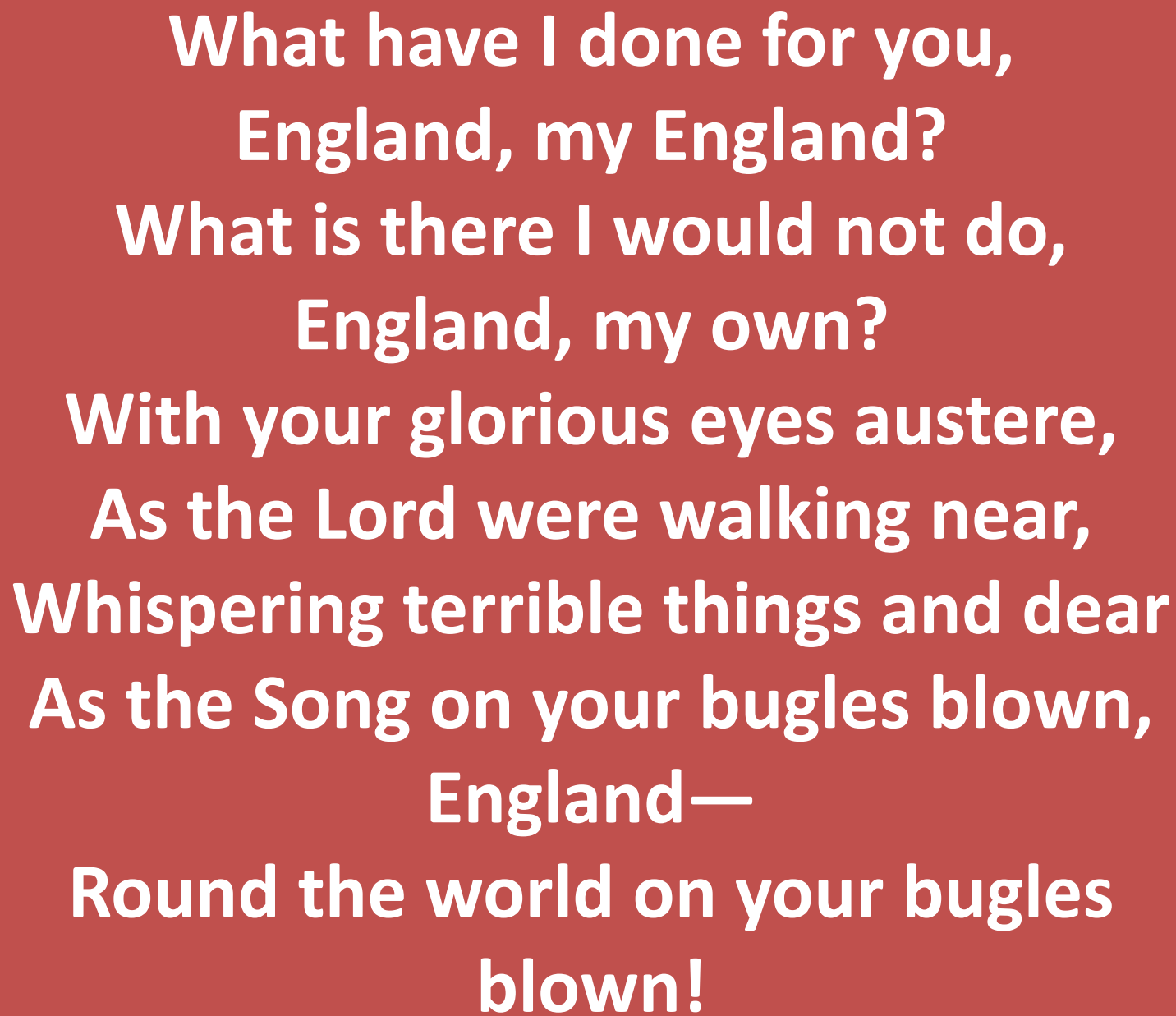


The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland



If you look at the full name of the UK, you will see that the UK includes Scotland, England, Northern Ireland and Wales

People in the UK are called British although they have different nationalities



**What have I done for you,
England, my England?
What is there I would not do,
England, my own?
With your glorious eyes austere,
As the Lord were walking near,
Whispering terrible things and dear
As the Song on your bugles blown,
England—
Round the world on your bugles
blown!**

Welcome to London...



Trafalgar Square





- There are always a lot of people and pigeons on the square.
- Every winter there is a big Christmas tree which is a gift from Norway in the middle of the square.
- On New Year's Eve people gather around the tree.
- In the middle of the square there is Admiral Nelson's Column.



Trafalgar Square is the popular place for political rallies and meetings. The Admiral Lord Nelson's statue surveys the memorial to his great naval victory in 1805. The Admiral's statue looks towards the House of Parliament. To the other side of the column are fountains.

The Buckingham Palace





- This is the Queen's home.
 - It was built in 1703.
- There is a great collection of paintings

Buckingham Palace is the best known royal palace in the world. It was built in 1703. When Her Majesty the Queen is in the residence, the Royal Standard flutters over the east front. The palace is open to public in August and September.









The London Eye





The Queen of Great Britain

- The Queen of Great Britain is Elizabeth II. Her husband is Duke of Edinburgh.
- They have got 4 grown-up children: Prince Charles, Princess Anne, Prince Andrew and Prince Edward.

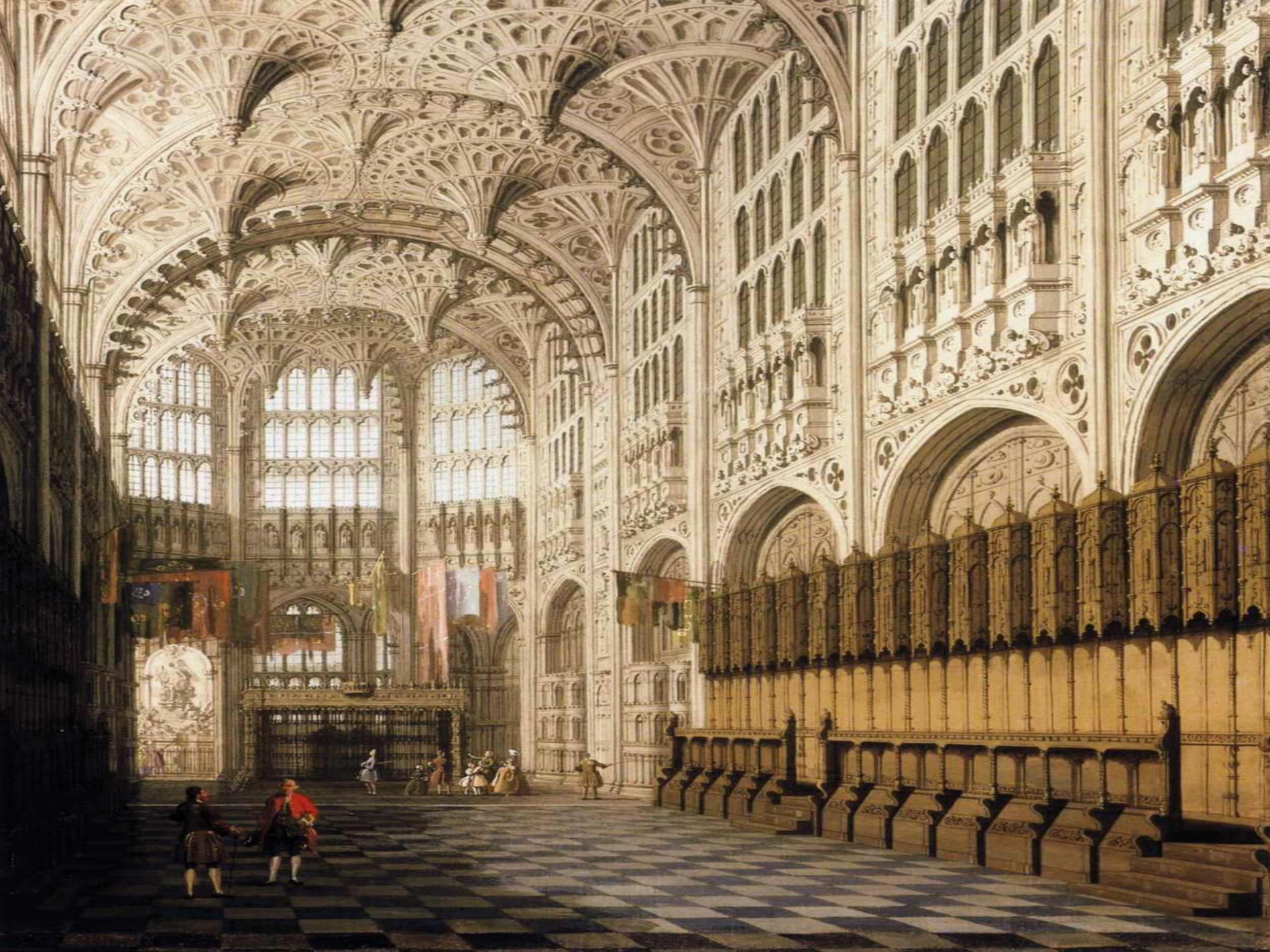


Westminster Abbey



- This is a holy place.
- All English kings have been crowned and buried in the church since 1308.







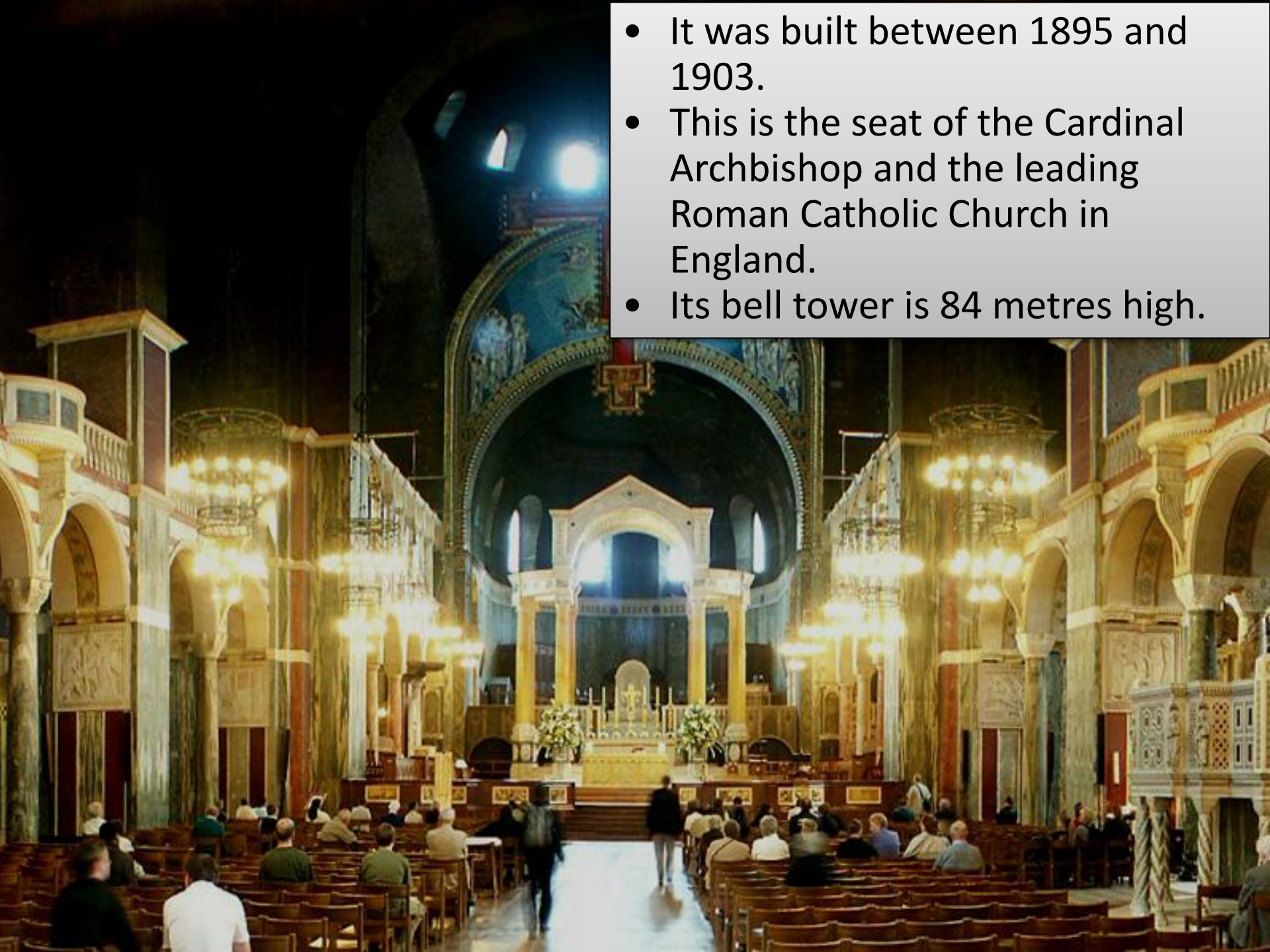




Westminster
Cathedral



- It was built between 1895 and 1903.
- This is the seat of the Cardinal Archbishop and the leading Roman Catholic Church in England.
- Its bell tower is 84 metres high.



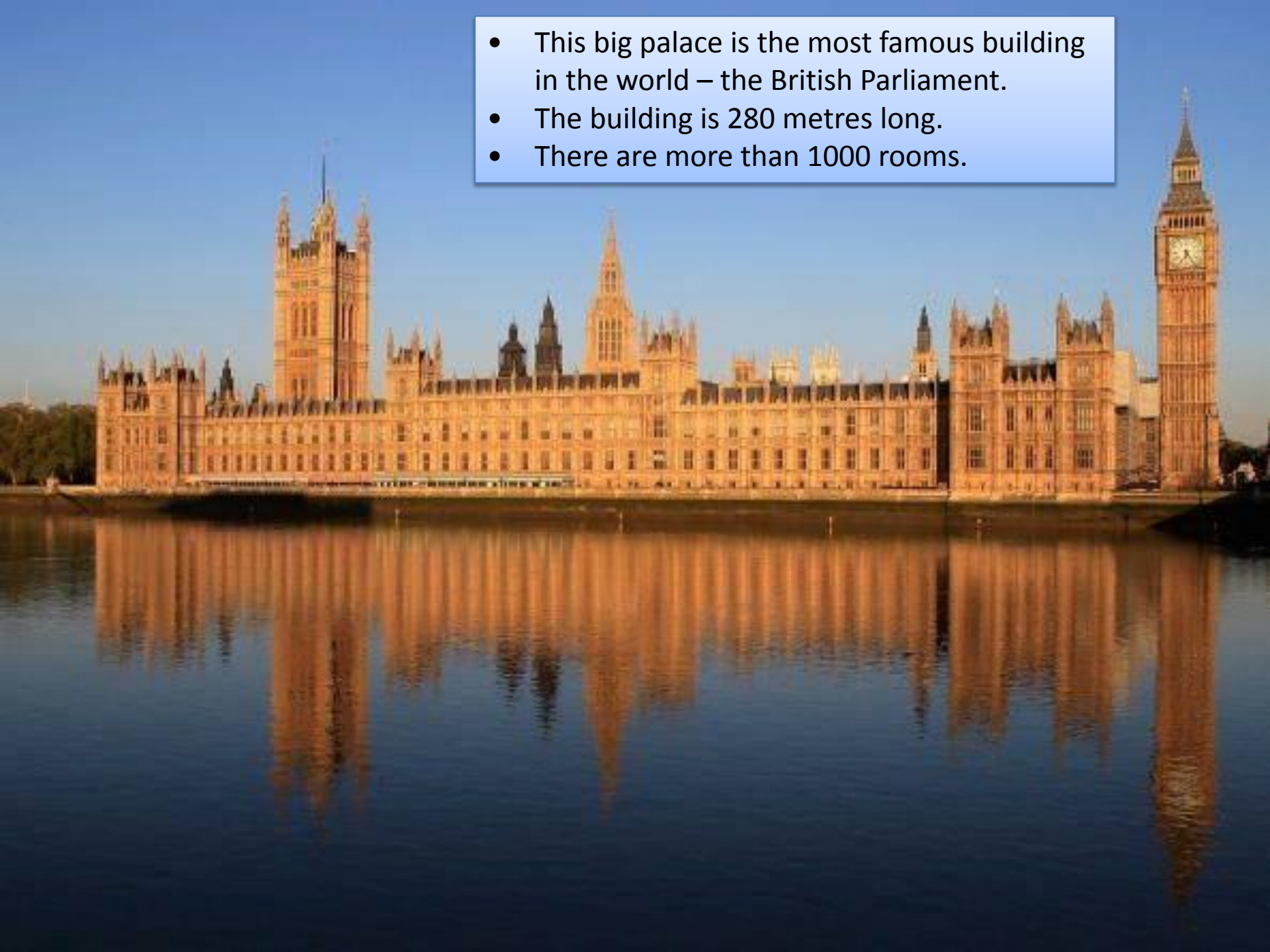
The Houses of Parliament





Houses of Parliament stands on the River Thames at Westminster. It began in 1840 after a Great Fire of London. It is officially known as the Palace of Westminster. The complex includes the House of Commons, the House of Lords, Westminster Hall, and the 320 foot high Clock Tower. It contains the world famous sight Big Ben.

- This big palace is the most famous building in the world – the British Parliament.
- The building is 280 metres long.
- There are more than 1000 rooms.



Big
Ben







Big Ben, the big
clock tower, is
the symbol of
London. It
strikes hours



The Tower of London



The Tower has been part of the capital's history for the past 900 years. The fortress first built by William the Conqueror as a citadel, royal palace, seat of the government. The Tower now protects the Crown Jewels.

- The Tower of London has been a fortress, a palace, an arsenal, a mint, a prison, an observatory, a zoo, the home of the Crown Jewels and a tourist attraction.



Imperial State
Crown





- The Tower's greatest treasure is the Imperial State Crown.
- There are 2 800 diamonds on it.

Beefaters





- The guards of the Tower are called Beefeaters.
- The legend says that if the ravens leave, the Tower and the country will fall.

Tower Bridge



- The most famous bridge in London is a Tower bridge.

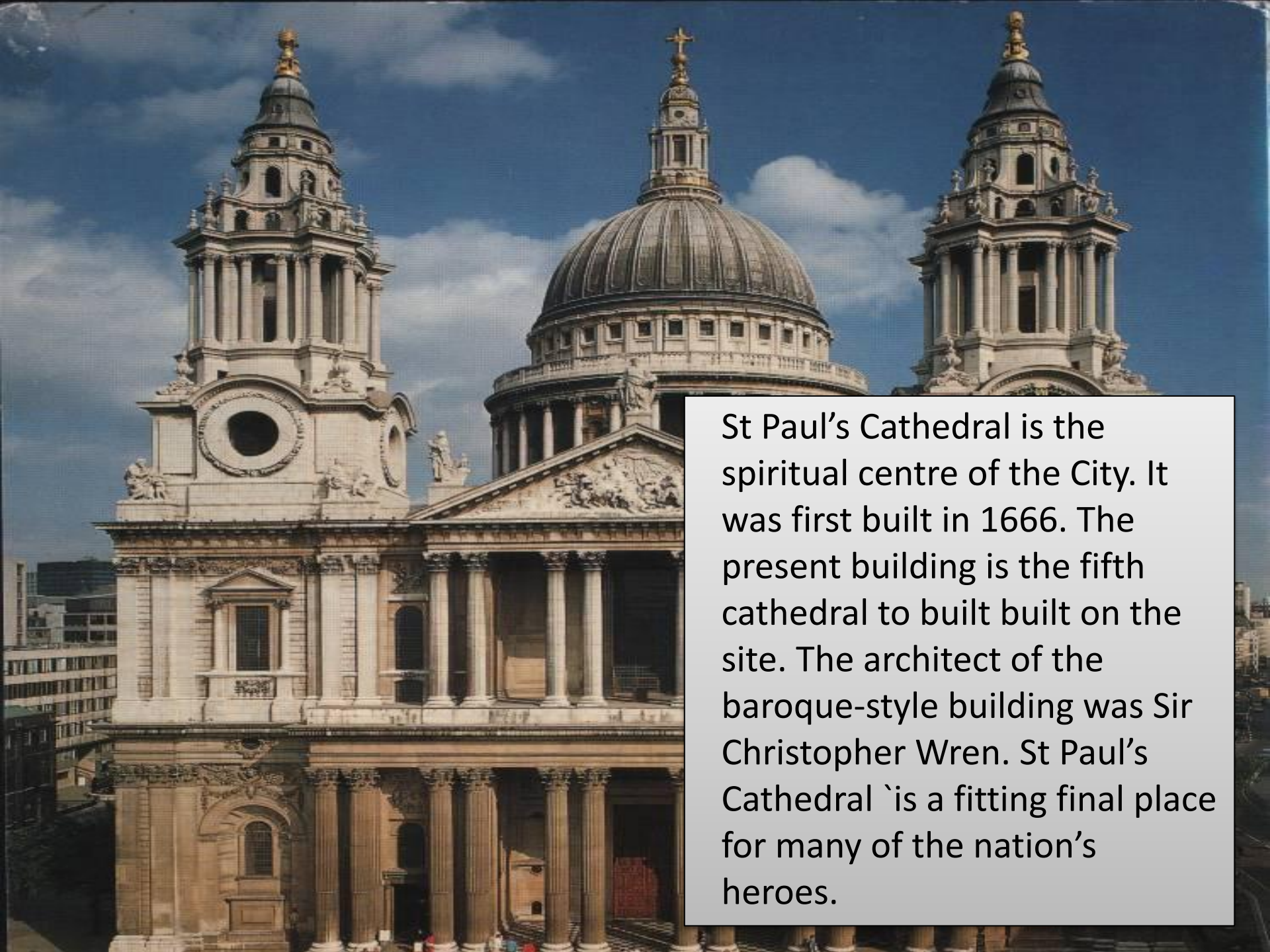


- Tower Bridge is a bascule-bridge.
- The bascules will open to let ships pass through.



St. Paul's Cathedral





St Paul's Cathedral is the spiritual centre of the City. It was first built in 1666. The present building is the fifth cathedral to be built on the site. The architect of the baroque-style building was Sir Christopher Wren. St Paul's Cathedral is a fitting final place for many of the nation's heroes.



- St. Paul's Cathedral is a famous building too.
- Prince Charles and Princess Diana married here in 1981.

Double-deckers



- There are big red buses called double-deckers in London.
- People sit upstairs and downstairs on these buses.
- Tourists like them very much.



Taxis



- Taxis in London are old-fashioned black cars.





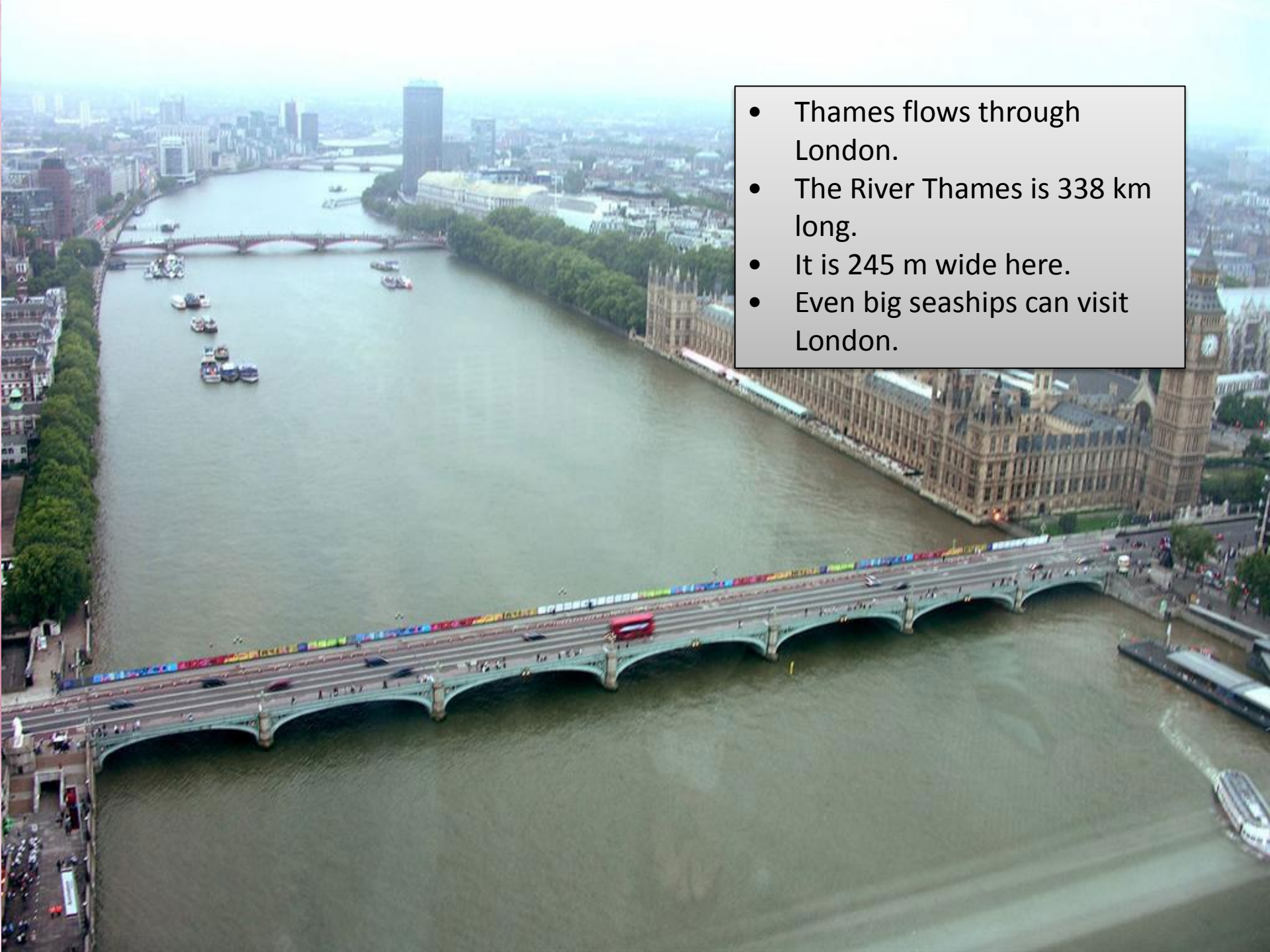
Telephone booths



From here you can call your friends.

River Thames





- Thames flows through London.
- The River Thames is 338 km long.
- It is 245 m wide here.
- Even big seaships can visit London.



Piccadilly



Piccadilly is the centre of entertainment. It is the meeting point of six streets. Here you can find the most expensive shops, restaurants and entertainment places. This centre was created in 1980s.



**Shops and shopping
in Britain**

Number one leisure activity

- The British, in the words of Napoleon, is 'a nation of shopkeepers'. They are also a country of compulsive shoppers. They love to shop! It is their number one leisure activity and accounts for around 37% of all money spent in England.

Number one leisure activity



© Mandy Barrow

- 
- The background of the slide is a close-up, soft-focus image of several pink roses. The petals are layered and detailed, with some showing a gradient from light pink to a deeper magenta. The overall lighting is bright and airy, with some lens flare effects visible, particularly on the right side of the image.
- The main shopping street in many towns is called the **High Street**, where you should head for if you want to go shopping.
 - A few small shops are owned by local people. Most are owned by national 'chains' of stores. This makes many town centres look the same.
 - Some towns also have street markets where fresh food and cheap goods can be bought
 - . Away from the town centre, small 'corner' shops provide groceries to local customers.

High Street – the main shopping street in every city and town



Time to go shopping

- Peak shopping days are **Saturdays and Sundays**.
- Shops are generally open on **Bank Holidays**.
- Bank Holidays are a great time to shop as there are many sales on especially around **Easter and Christmas**.

Shopping Hours

- In England, most retail shops are generally open 6 or 7 days a week.

Typical opening times are:

- Mondays - Saturdays 9 am to 5:30 pm
- Some shopping centres stay open until 8 pm or later.
- Sunday – 10 am to 4 pm (or 11 am to 5 pm)
- Sunday shopping has become popular in recent years and most large shops in towns are open for business. Shops are only allowed to trade for 6 hours on Sundays.
- Large supermarkets are open for 24 hours except for Sundays.
- Many supermarkets and superstores otherwise open from 8am until 10pm from Mondays to Saturdays and 10 am to 4 pm (or 11 am to 5pm) on Sundays.

Public Holidays / Bank Holidays

- On public holidays some shops open and some shops do not. As a general rule banks will be closed, most supermarkets and large stores will be open (although with reduced Sunday opening hours), and in larger towns many shops will open.
- Bank Holiday Shop opening times 10am to 4pm (or 11am to 5pm)
- Over the Christmas and New Year period, all shops are closed on Christmas Day (December 25) and a some shops are closed on New Year's Day (January 1). However, an increasing number of shops are now opening on Boxing Day (December 26), which is when many start their 'New Year' sales.
- It is likely that most shopping centres will be closed on Easter Sunday and there will be reduced shopping hours on Easter Monday (often from either 10 or 11 o'clock in the morning).

In Villages

- Some rural shops still follow the tradition of an early closing day (usually Wednesday) when the shops close at 1.00pm.

Banking Hours

- ◎ The major high street banks in England and Wales are Lloyds, Barclays, Midland and National Westminster (Nat West). In Scotland they are the Bank of Scotland, the Royal Bank of Scotland and the Clydesdale Bank.
- ◎ Generally Monday-Friday 9:30 am-3:30 pm. Some branches stay open until 5:30 pm, and a few are open Saturday morning.
- ◎ Most banks will have an ATM (Automated Teller Machine) outside the bank where you can draw out money with a credit or cash card. Many of these are available to use 24 hours a day, but some do still close for a few hours during the night.

The Largest Shopping Centre



- 
- The background of the slide is a close-up photograph of several large, vibrant pink roses. The petals are layered and detailed, with some showing a gradient from light pink to a deeper magenta. The lighting is soft, creating a gentle glow around the flowers. There are some subtle lens flare effects scattered across the image, adding a dreamy or romantic feel to the overall aesthetic.
- **Blewater** is the largest out of town shopping development in Europe, located in a disused chalk pit at Dartford in Kent. With more than 300 shops and parking for 13,000 cars, it attracts around 30 million visitors each year.
 - Open: Monday to Friday: 10am – 9pm
 - Saturday: 9am – 8pm
 - Sunday: 11am – 5pm

Types of Shops in England



Shopping in London

- London has over 40,000 shops and 26 major street markets to choose from.
- Oxford Street (Nearest Tube: Oxford Circus)
Oxford Street, London's busiest shopping street, is in the heart of the city's West End. It is the place for buying souvenirs, clothes, and so on.

When you will be in London,
at night you will go in night clubs



Bubble



Baroque



Shadow Lounge



Holidays in Britain

New Year's Day

the beginning of
the new year.
People make
resolutions.



Saint Valentine's Day

- February 14
- Was started in the time of Roman Empire.
- Is dedicated to St. Valentine.
- People send a card to someone they love, like, fancy or admire.



The Boat Race

- In March
- A rowing race between the universities of Oxford and Cambridge.
- On the river Thames in London (7,2 km).



Pancake Day

- In March
- The last day before Lent.
- Pancake race-running while holding a pancake in a frying pan. Competitors have to throw it in the air and catch it again in the pan.



Good Friday

- The Friday before Easter.
- The church marks the death of Christ.
- British usually eat hot-cross buns, which are marked on top with cross.



Easter

- In April.
- The celebration of the Resurrection of Christ
- Schools are closed for two weeks.
- People give each other chocolate eggs that are wrapped in silver paper.



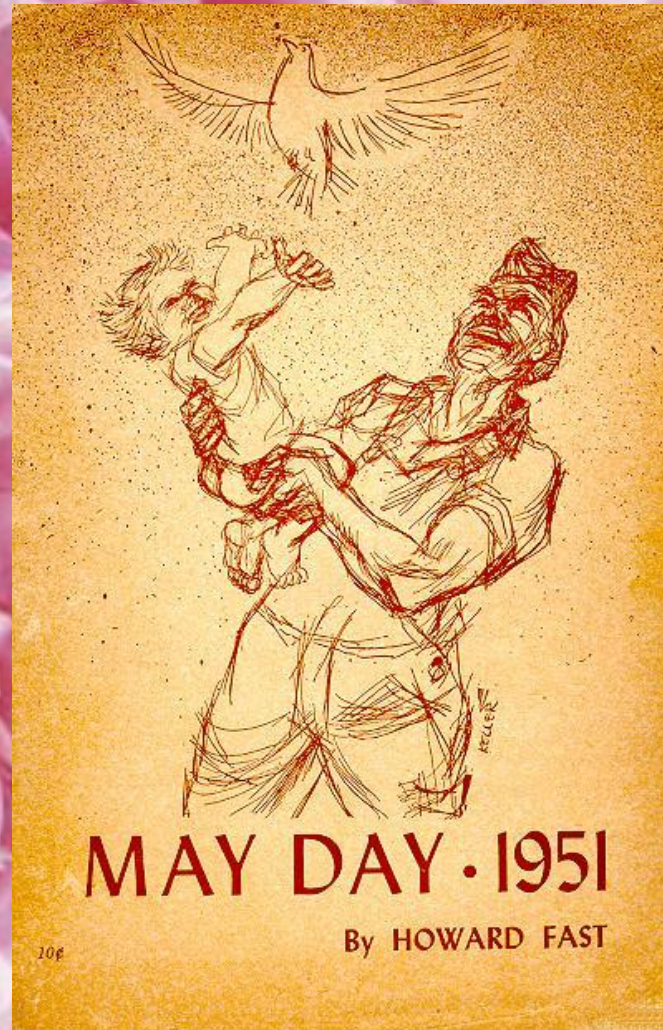
The London Marathon

- One of the biggest marathons in the world.
- Each year about 30,000 people start the race and about 25,000 finish.
- Raise money for charity.



May Day

- May 1
- A pagan festival to celebrate the end of winter and welcome summer.
- Children dance around the maypole and sing songs.



Chelsea Flower Show

- In May
- Britain's most important flower and garden show.
- Thousands of people come to see the prize flowers and specially built gardens.



Midsummer Day

- June 24
- Summer solstice.
- People stay up until midnight to welcome in midsummer day.
- When the fires die down, men run or jump through it to bring good luck.



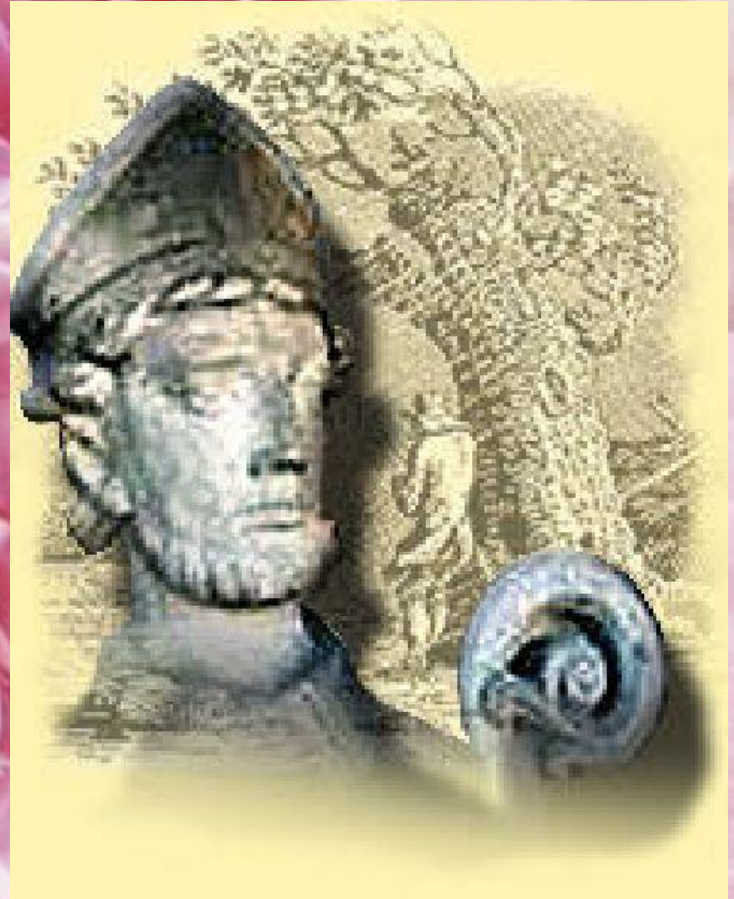
Trooping The Colour

- The second Saturday in June.
- Celebrates the Queen's official birthday.
- Lots of marching, military music and the soldiers are dressed in colourful uniforms.



Saint Swithin's Day

- July 15
- Saint Swithin was England's Bishop of Winchester.
- 40 days of bad weather will follow if it rains on this day.



Wimbledon

- The last week of July and the first week of June.
- At Wimbledon in South-West London.
- One of the four great world tennis championships and the only one which is played on grass.



Notting Hill Carnival

- The last weekend in August.
- Takes place in Notting Hill.
- People dress up in fabulous costumes.
- Steel bands play African and Caribbean music.



Harvest Festivals

- In September.
- A Christian festival.
- It was held to say thank you to God for a good harvest.
- Churches are decorated with fruit, vegetables and flowers.



Halloween

- October 31
- A pagan festival celebrates the return of the souls that visit their former houses.
- People dress up as witches, ghosts etc.
- Houses are decorated with pumpkins.



Guy Fawke's Night

- November 5
- He was a terrorist.
- The day marks the discovery of a plot to blow up Parliament in 1605.
- People make models of him and burn them on big bonfires.



Christmas Day

- December 25
- Religious ceremony commemorating the birth of Christ.
- Children wake up early to find presents in their stockings.
- Traditional Christmas tree and dinner.



New Year's Eve

- December 31
- Traditionally Scottish celebration.
- At midnight everybody joins hands and sings Auld Lang Syne.





**So what is so great
about Britain, that
people want to
live here?**



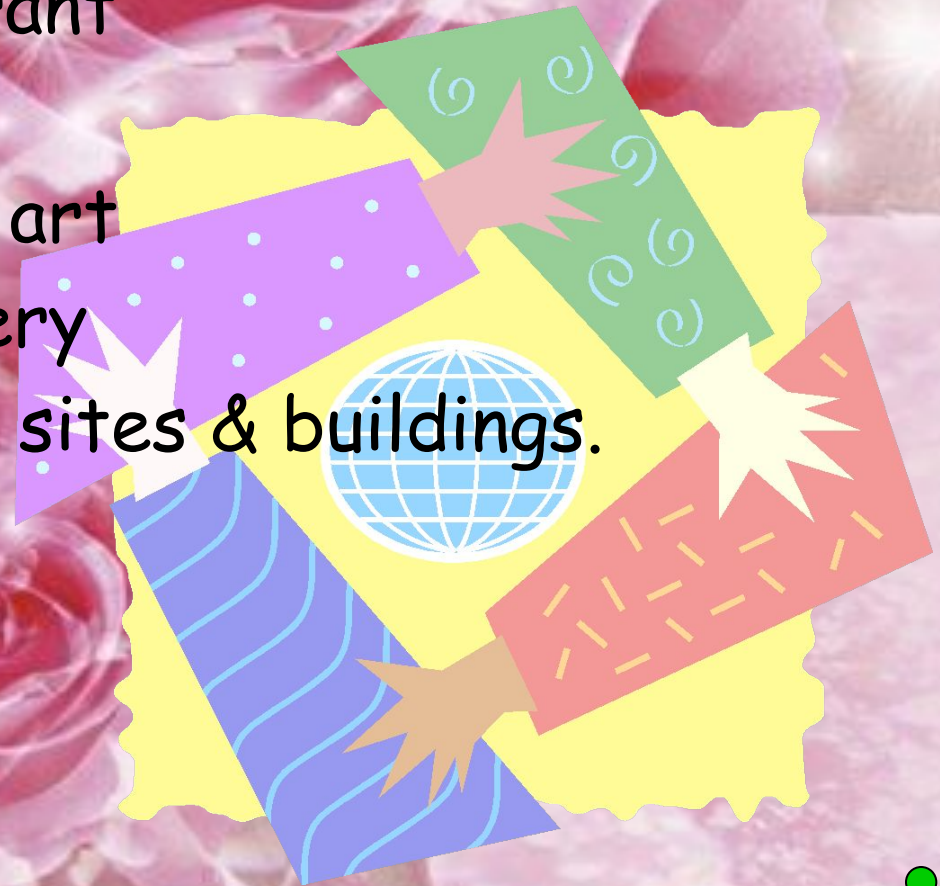
Good for Work

- low unemployment rate (under 5%)
- a typical work week of 35 hours
- generous leave, maternity and paternity benefits
- 12 public holidays
- good salaries
- reasonable taxes.



Social and Cultural

- it is a multi-cultural society
- most people are tolerant
- the crime rate is low
- lively theatre, music, art
- it has beautiful scenery
- fascinating historical sites & buildings.



Education

- Britain is a world leader in education
- world famous universities
- education is free

