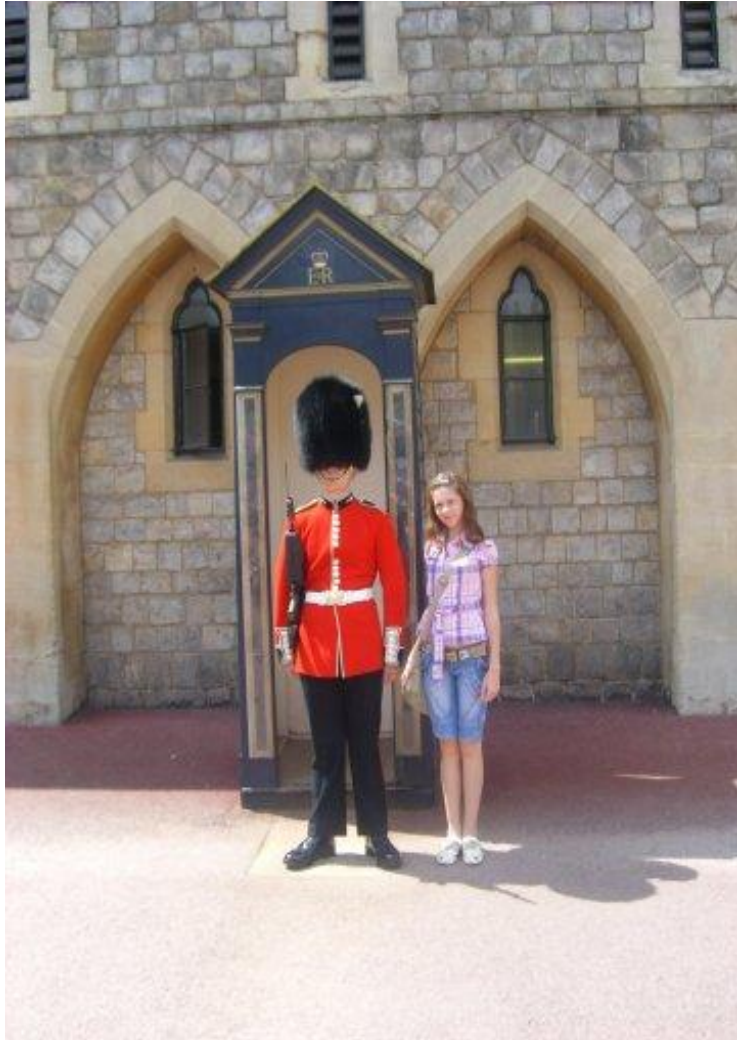




**The United Kingdom
of Great Britain**

London



**Hello, ladies and gentlemen.
We welcome you to London.
London is one of the largest
cities in the world. About seven
million people live here. London
is more than two thousand years
old. London's most famous
sights are Tower Bridge, Big Ben
and the Houses of Parliament,
Trafalgar Square and St. Paul's
Cathedral. You'll see all these
places and much more of London
from our red double-decker.**



The famous clock Big Ben stands near the Houses of Parliament. The country's leaders speak in the Houses of Parliament. The Houses of Parliament stand beside the river Thames. You can also see Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament from Westminster Bridge.



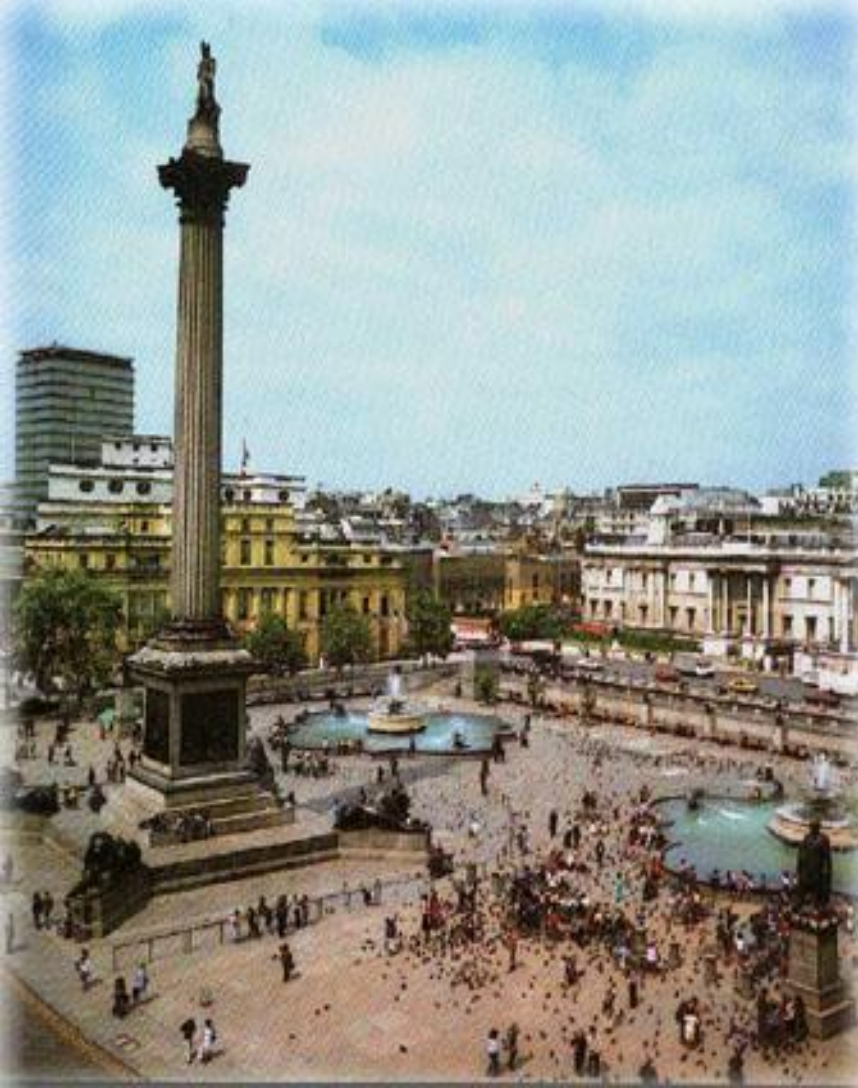
Parliament, as a political institution, has developed over hundreds of years. During that period the two distinct Houses – Commons and Lords – emerged and the balance of power between Parliament and the monarchy changed dramatically.

Where Parliament now stands has been a centre of authority for over a thousand years. Once the home of the royal family, and still officially a royal palace, the buildings that now make up the modern Houses of Parliament have developed through design, accident and attack.



Trafalgar Square, London.

Trafalgar Square is a square in central London Trafalgar Square is a square in central London, England Trafalgar Square is a square in central London, England. With its position in the heart of London, it is a tourist attraction; its trademark is Nelson's Column Trafalgar Square is a square in central London, England. With its position in the heart of London, it is a tourist attraction; its trademark is Nelson's Column which stands in the centre and the four lion statues that guard the column. Statues and sculptures are on display in the square, including a fourth plinth displaying changing pieces of contemporary art, and it is a site of political demonstrations.



On the column in the centre there is a statue of Admiral Nelson who defeated the French at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805. To the left of us you can see the National Gallery. It has a fine collection of European paintings.

- Tourists in London always want to visit Westminster and see Big Ben. They want to see the clock in its tower and to hear the bells. Big Ben is one of the most famous clocks in the world. Big Ben is really a bell. You hear it every hour. It is a big bell. It weighs 13,720 kilograms.
- It has a deep tone and you can hear it on the radio: “This is the BBC. The time is six o’clock.” And then you hear the deep boom of Big Ben six times.





The palace was commissioned by **Henry VIII** on the site of a former **leper hospital** dedicated to **Saint James the Less** (from whom the Palace and its nearby Park take their names); the hospital was disbanded in 1532. The new palace, secondary in interest to Henry's **Whitehall Palace**, was constructed in the red-brick **Tudor style** around four courtyards: its gatehouse survives on the north side,

WELCOME TO
WESTMINSTER ABBEY



Westminster Abbey is a symbol of England. It's a royal church. The legend says that Westminster Abbey was founded by St Peter himself. We know that Westminster Abbey was built by King Edward in 1065. The coronation of all British Kings and Queen takes place in Westminster Abbey. Some famous English people are also buried here. The funeral service for Diana, Princess of Wales took place in Westminster Abbey in September 1997. Here you can see the tombs of many British kings and queens and other famous people and the beautiful Henry VII Chapel.



Whitehall is a road in [Westminster](#) is a road in Westminster in [London](#) is a road in Westminster in London, [England](#) is a road in Westminster in London, England. It is the main artery running north from [Parliament Square](#) is a road in Westminster in London, England. It is the main artery running north from Parliament Square, towards traditional [Charing Cross](#) is a road in Westminster in London, England. It is the main artery running north from Parliament Square, towards traditional Charing Cross, now at the southern end of [Trafalgar Square](#) is a road in Westminster in London, England. It is the main artery running north from Parliament Square, towards traditional Charing Cross, now at the southern end of Trafalgar Square and marked by the statue of [Charles I](#) is a road in Westminster in London, England. It is the main artery running north from Parliament Square, towards traditional Charing Cross, now at the southern end of Trafalgar Square and marked by the statue of Charles I, which is often regarded as the heart of London. Recognised as centre of HM Government, the road is lined with government departments/ministries; "Whitehall" is therefore also frequently used as a [metonym](#) for governmental administration as well as being a



You can see the Tower of London from the river Thames. The Tower is very old. It has a long and cruel history. It's not just one building. The tall building is the White Tower, the oldest part of the Tower of London . The Bloody Tower is near the river. You do not see blood there today. But the Bloody Tower has a history of blood – the blood of men, women and even children.

Now the King and the Queen of Britain do not live in the Tower. When the Queen is in London, she stays in Buckingham Palace.



This is Buckingham Palace – the place where British kings and queens live when they are in London.

Important visitors often go to the palace. They meet Queen Elizabeth and the royal family inside the palace.

A lot of tourists go to Buckingham Palace.

They stand outside and see the Changing of the Guard. It happens every day at 11.30 a.m.



Madame Tussauds is a famous wax museum Madame Tussauds is a famous wax museum in London Madame Tussauds is a famous wax museum in London with branches in a number of major cities. It was set up by wax Madame Tussauds is a famous wax museum in London with branches in a number of major cities. It

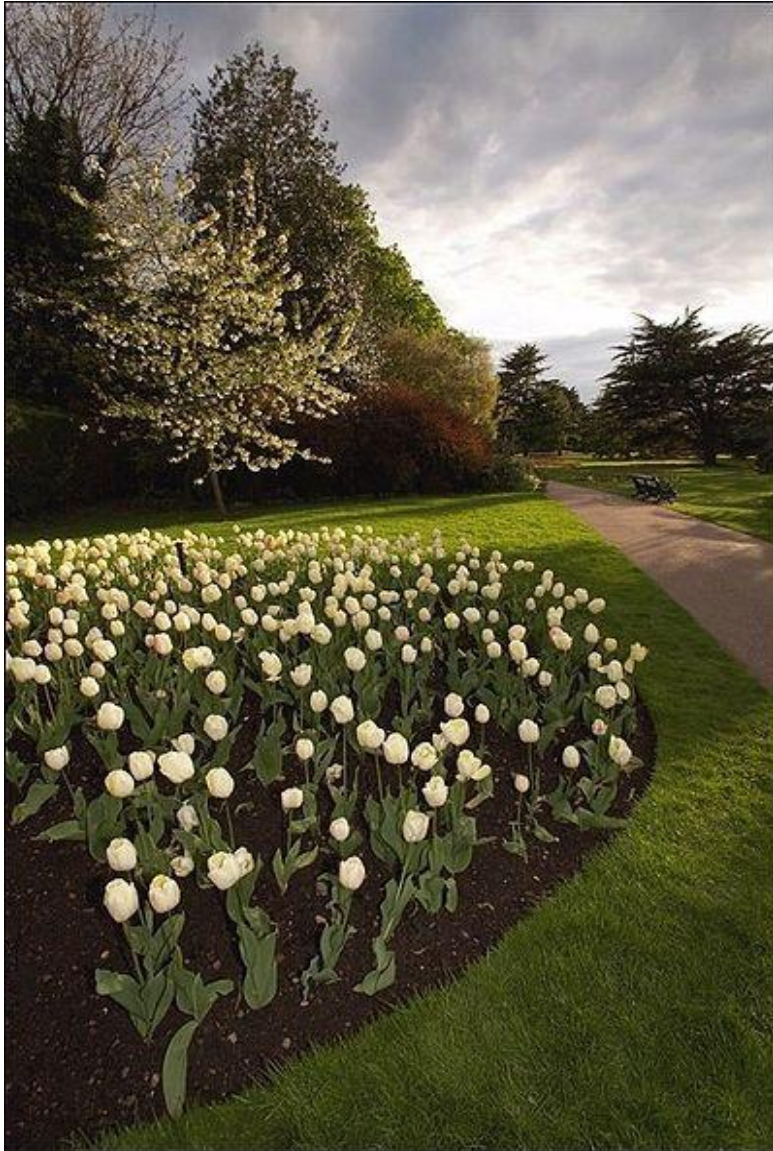


With its royal, political and literary associations, St James's Park is at the very heart of London and covers 23 hectares (58 acres). With a lake harbouring ducks, geese and pelicans. St James's is also home to the Mall, the setting for many ceremonial parades and events of national celebration.

Covent Garden is a district in **London** is a district in London, **England** is a district in London, England, located on the easternmost parts of the **City of Westminster** is a district in London, England, located on the easternmost parts of the City of Westminster and the southwest corner of the **London Borough of Camden** is a district in London, England, located on the easternmost parts of the City of Westminster and the southwest corner of the London Borough of Camden. The area is dominated by shopping, street performers and entertainment facilities and contains an entrance to the **Royal Opera House** is a district in London, England, located on the easternmost parts of the City of Westminster and the southwest corner of the London Borough of Camden. The area is dominated by shopping, street performers and entertainment facilities and contains an entrance to the Royal Opera House Covent Garden, which is also widely known simply as "Covent Garden", and the bustling **Seven Dials** area.

The area is bounded by **High Holborn**





The Royal Parks of [London](#) The Royal Parks of London are lands originally owned by the monarchy of [England](#) The Royal Parks of London are lands originally owned by the monarchy of England or the [United Kingdom](#) for the recreation (mostly hunting) of the royal family. They are part of the hereditary possessions of the Crown.

The public does not have any legal right to use the Parks, as public access depends on the grace and favour of the Crown, although there may be public rights of way across the land. The Royal Parks Agency manages the Royal Parks under powers derived from s22 Crown Lands Act 1851. As part of its statutory management function the Agency permits the public to use the Parks for recreational purposes, subject to regulations issued under the Parks Regulation Acts 1872–1926 which are considered necessary to secure proper management, preserve order and prevent abuse within the Parks. The current regulations are the Royal Parks and Other Open Spaces Regulations 1997

With increasing urbanisation of London, some of these were preserved as freely accessible open space and became public [parks](#) With increasing urbanisation of London, some of these were preserved as freely accessible open space and became public parks. There are today eight parks formally described by this name and they cover around 5,500 [acres](#) With increasing urbanisation of London, some of these were preserved as freely accessible open space and



Piccadilly Circus is the meeting point of six streets.

We've just passed Piccadilly Circus and now we are making our way to Buckingham Palace. Look right. We are passing Hyde Park. In the park anyone can stand up and say what they want.

It's a very democratic park.

«Лондон — чудесное место, если вы можете уехать из него»
(Артур Бальфур)

«Лондонские туманы не существовали, пока их не открыло искусство» (Оскар Уайльд)

«London is the capital of Great Britain»
(русск. *Лондон — столица Великобритании*) — традиционная фраза из учебников английского языка.

«Если вы устали от Лондона – вы устали от жизни» (Джонсон, Сэмьюэль)

