

London eye



«The Eye has done for London what the Eiffel Tower did for Paris, which is to give it a symbol and to let people climb above the city and look back down on it. Not just specialists or rich people, but everybody. That's the beauty of it: it is public and accessible, and it is in a great position at the heart of London»

Sir Richard Rogers, winner of the 2007 Pritzker Architecture Prize

The London Eye is a giant Ferris wheel on the South Bank of the River Thames in London.

It is also known as the Millennium Wheel

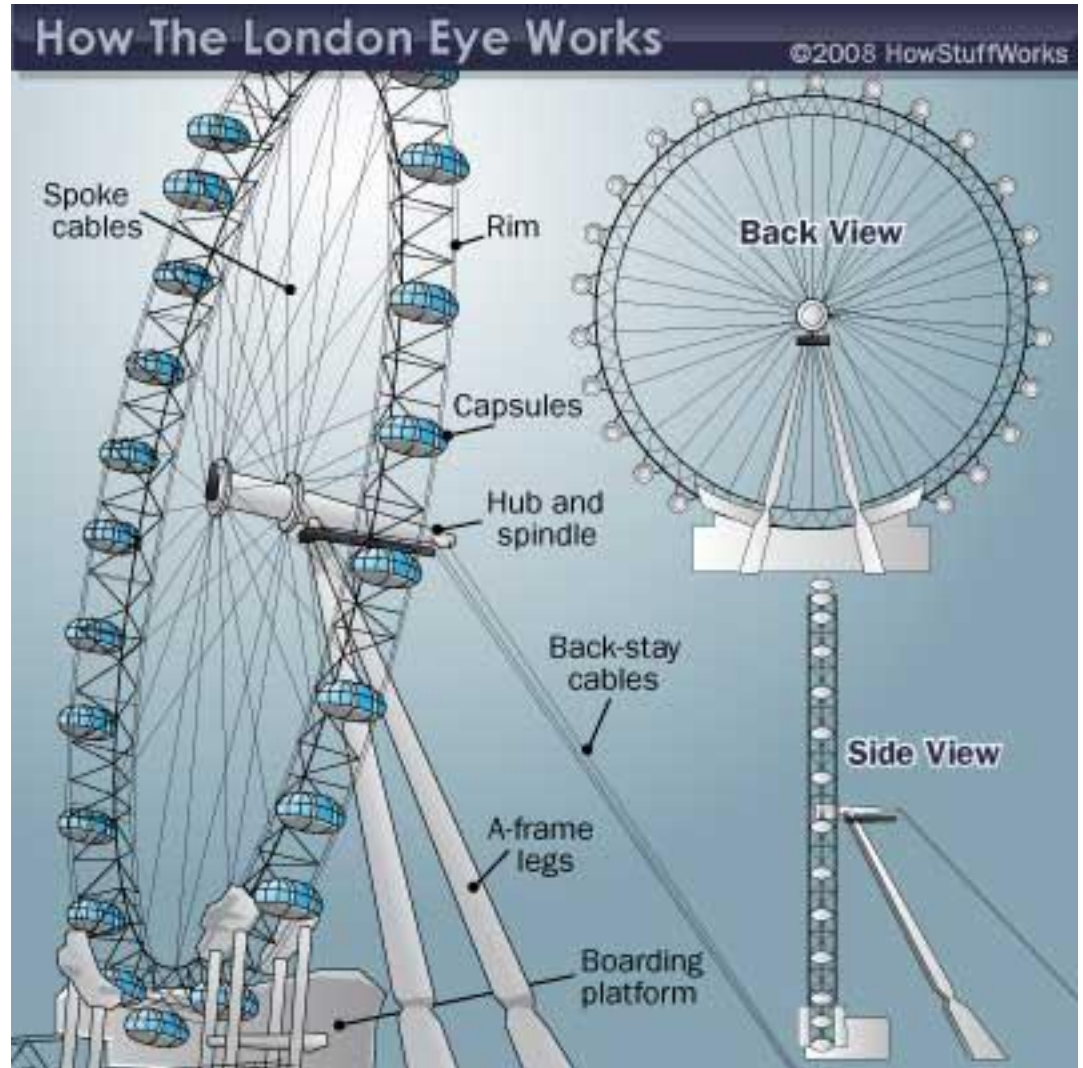


- London eye is the most popular paid tourist attraction in the United Kingdom with over 3.5 million visitors annually



Construction

- The entire structure is 135 metres (443 ft) tall and the wheel has a diameter of 120 metres
- When erected in 1999 it was the world's tallest Ferris wheel



Passenger capsules

- The wheel has 32 air-conditioned passenger capsules. Every capsule holds up to 25 people
- It does not usually stop to take on passengers; the rotation rate is slow enough to allow passengers to walk on and off the moving capsules at ground level
- Each of 32 capsules symbolizes a suburb of London



As a conclusion:

- L.E. is one of the most famous symbols of London
- Is in the very centre of London
- Visitors can enjoy a bird's-eye view of London
- The construction of L.E. is safe