

England: London



Quick summary



London is the capital city of the United Kingdom. It has many famous landmarks such as the Tower of London; the Houses of Parliament, where the government is based; the London Eye and Buckingham Palace, where the Queen lives. London stands on the River Thames and has many bridges that cross from one side of the river to the other. London is actually made up of two cities: the City of London, which is very small, and the City of Westminster, which is much larger. People travel to London for business, shopping, cultural activities and to visit historic sites.



Location

London is in the south east of England. England is one of the countries that make up the United Kingdom, which is in the continent of Europe.



Physical features

London lies on the River Thames, which runs from west to east. The Thames is England's longest river and the second longest in the UK (the longest being the River Severn). London is generally flat but has some small hills: Tower Hill, Hampstead Heath, Highgate Hill and Parliament Hill. The river was important when London was first built because it allowed ships from other countries to deliver goods to the city.



Diversity

London has some of the richest people in the world living next to some very poor people. For example, some of the banks in Canary Wharf, where millions of pounds are made every day, are next to small houses where people have low incomes.



Human features

As well as its buildings, London is also known for its underground railway, which is called the Tube because the trains travel in underground tunnels that look like tubes. Because London is the capital city it has lots of monuments that commemorate significant people from the past, such as Nelson's Column in Trafalgar Square. The bridges that cross the river are also well known sights, especially Tower Bridge. This is near to the Tower of London which is where enemies of the king or queen used to be sent. London is an extremely busy place with a large population of over 8 million people.



Vocabulary

capital city: a large city, usually where the government operates from
government: the group of people who make the laws in a country
business: making, buying and selling
cultural: to do with the arts and history
population: all the people who live in a place



Location



Physical features



Human features



Diversity



Physical processes



Human processes



Techniques

