

101 Free Things To Do In London

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Give your credit card a rest with these 101 fabulous London freebies.



Free Museums

1. Come face-to-face with a roaring T-Rex at the [Natural History Museum](#).
2. Enjoy a candlelit tour of the atmospheric [Sir John Soane's Museum](#).
3. Explore the fascinating history of England's capital at the [Museum of London](#).
4. Hold some gold at the [Bank of England Musuem](#).
5. Be inspired by the beautiful objects on display at the [Victoria and Albert Museum](#).
6. Learn about the history of the River Thames at [Museum of London Docklands](#).
7. Discover the life and works of one of Britain's most inspiring designers at the newly-refurbished [William Morris Gallery](#).
8. Head to Greenwich to mosey round the [Queen's House](#) and the [National Maritime Museum](#).



Weird and Wonderful

9. Marvel at the Jar of Moles at the [Grant Museum of Zoology](#).
10. See the over-stuffed walrus at the [Horniman Museum](#).
11. Be wowed by the Rosetta Stone and Egyptian mummies at the [British Museum](#).
12. Be dazzled by the 400 exhibits - including a Spitfire and a Harrier Jet - on display at the [Imperial War Museum](#), which recently underwent a £40 million revamp.
13. See full-size dinosaurs at [Crystal Palace Park](#).
14. See what life was like for the poor and destitute of London's East End during the late 1800s in [The Ragged School Museum](#).
15. Take your pain away with a visit to [The Anaesthesia Museum](#), which charts the history of anaesthesia from 1846 to the present day.
16. Browse old sewing machines at the [London Sewing Machine Museum](#).
17. See pickled creatures in jars and fascinating deformed skeletons at the [Hunterian Museum](#).
18. Go to the [Wellcome Collection](#) to see a bunch of marvellously weird objects, including an ancient mummy, Napoleon's toothbrush and Darwin's walking stick.

Park Life

19. Relax on [Wimbledon Common](#) where you'll find ponds, a nature trail and a windmill.
20. Go deer-spotting in dreamy [Richmond Park](#).
21. See the Prime Meridian line for free at [Park Vista](#).
22. Bliss-out in [Bushy Park](#), home to 320 free-roaming deer.
23. Burn off some calories by jogging around [Hyde Park](#), which covers 350 acres (142 hectares).
24. See the Peter Pan statue at [Kensington Gardens](#).
25. Watch the pelicans being fed every day at 14:30pm at [St James's Park](#). Also look out for water birds, owls, woodpeckers and bats.



Great For Kids

26. Take the singing elevator (JCB Glass lift) in the [Royal Festival Hall](#).
27. Meet the alpaca at [Vauxhall City Farm](#).
28. See farm animals at [Mudchute Farm and Park](#).
29. Harry Potter fans can push a trolley through to a magical world at the wall marked [Platform 9 ¾ at King's Cross](#).
30. Watch the skateboarders performing death-defying tricks under the [Southbank Centre](#).
31. Go mudlarking - the city equivalent of beachcombing - outside Gabriel's Wharf or on the City of London side of the Millennium Bridge, where you can check the surface for old clay smoking pipes and bits of pottery. Check the [tide tables](#) in advance.
32. Watch the street entertainers in [Covent Garden](#).
33. Little ones can be pirates for the day on Captain Hook's huge wooden pirate ship at the [Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Playground](#).
34. Splash about in [Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park](#)'s fountains.
35. See amazing exhibits - like the Apollo 10 command capsule and Stephenson's Rocket - at the [Science Museum](#).
36. Explore the [V&A Museum of Childhood](#), which houses the UK's national collection of childhood objects that date back to the 1600s.

Must-do London

37. Watch the daily [Changing of the Guard](#) ceremony outside Buckingham Palace.
38. Follow in the footsteps of The Beatles by crossing the famous [Abbey Road](#) zebra crossing that's featured on the eponymous album cover.
39. Watch Tower Bridge open. See continuous images of the 19th-century landmark on our [live video feed](#).
40. Meet the stone lions at [Trafalgar Square](#).
41. Explore [Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park](#) with its gorgeous parklands, waterways and striking venues.

42. Take a selfie in front of the bright lights of [Piccadilly Circus](#).
43. Listen to the chiming of [Big Ben](#).
44. Watch the gate-closing ritual, the [Ceremony of the Keys](#), at the Tower of London.

Dramatic Vistas

45. Soak up sweeping views across the river Thames and Central London from [Greenwich Park](#).
46. Enjoy stunning views across London from [Alexandra Palace](#), set in 196 acres of parkland.
47. Celeb-spot while looking out across the capital from [Primrose Hill](#).
48. Get snapping with our guide to London's [top photo opportunities](#).
49. Stroll to the top of Hampstead Heath's [Parliament Hill](#) for marvellous views across London.

Great Walks

50. Take a stroll along the picture-pretty [South Bank](#)
51. Follow the towpath through tranquil [Little Venice](#) to discover a slew of waterfront cafes and pubs.
52. Walk across [Millennium Bridge](#) from St Paul's Cathedral to Tate Modern and Shakespeare's Globe.
53. Stroll through the lush riverside village of [Richmond](#); start at the White Cross pub and continue past the rural idyll of Petersham Meadows, until you reach Ham House.
54. Take a shady walk amongst the 35,000 monuments of [Brompton Cemetery](#), including one of suffragette Emmeline Pankhurst.
55. Escape the city in the ancient woodland of [Highgate Wood](#).
56. Spot rare plants and insects in [Epping Forest](#).

Flowers and Gardens

57. Chill out in the [Barbican Conservatory](#) which homes tropical plants, trees and fish.
58. Achieve Zen in Kyoto Japanese Garden in [Holland Park](#).
59. Take a look at the Watts Victorian memorial in [Postman's Park](#), which features in the movie Closer.
60. Be dazzled by the wildflowers at the [Phoenix Garden](#) in London's West End.
61. Flower fans can soak up the floral colours and aromas of [Columbia Road Flower Market](#).
62. Under 16s can enjoy free entry to [Kew Gardens](#), the world's most famous garden.

For Culture Vultures

63. Be in the audience for [BBC TV show recordings](#).
64. See a film, play or band for free at More London Free Festival at [The Scoop](#).
65. Visit neon wonderland [God's Own Junkyard](#), which is chock-full of vintage neon signs and old movie props.
66. Take a peek at [London's public and street art](#), including works by guerrilla artist Banksy.
67. Feast your eyes on literary treasures like the Magna Carta and original Beatles lyrics at the [British Library](#).



Art Attack

- 68. See contemporary art at [White Cube Gallery](#), Bermondsey.
- 69. See a Rosetti at the [Guildhall](#).
- 70. Notice how The Laughing Cavalier's eyes appear to follow you around the room in the famous Frans Hals painting at the [Wallace Collection](#).
- 71. Get an eyeful of kings and queens, musicians and film stars at the [National Portrait Gallery](#).
- 72. Discover art by Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci, Rembrandt, Gainsborough, Turner, Renoir and Van Gogh at the [National Gallery](#).
- 73. Admire masterpieces by Cézanne, Bonnard, Matisse, Picasso, Rothko, Dalí, Pollock, Warhol and Bourgeois at [Tate Modern](#).
- 74. See modern art at Chelsea's palatial [Saatchi Gallery](#).

Laughter Costs Nothing

- 75. Enjoy a giggle at [Angel Comedy Club](#), which offers free comedy every night of the week.
- 76. Beat the Monday blues at [Stratford East](#)'s free weekly comedy night.

For Music Fans

- 77. Hear musicians studying at the [Royal College of Music](#) performing free lunchtime and rush-hour concerts across London.
- 78. Dance along to ska, roots, reggae and folk rhythms at [Hootananny Brixton](#), which offers loads of free gigs.
- 79. Enjoy a night of comedy and jazz on Monday nights at [Charlie Wright's](#).
- 80. Music nuts can enjoy free concerts in [National Theatre](#)'s foyer at lunchtimes.
- 81. The [Southbank Centre](#), a community arts hub, holds regular free musical performances in the Royal Festival Hall and Queen Elizabeth Hall.

- 82. Enjoy free entry to blues bar [Ain't Nothing But...](#) from Sunday to Thursday nights.
- 83. Discover free lunchtime concerts at [St Martin-in-the-Fields](#) church.
- 84. Camden's [The Forge](#) holds free jazz concerts every Monday night.

Free Speech

- 85. Hear London's most vocal orators share their opinions with the world at [Speaker's Corner](#) in [Hyde Park](#).

See London's Riches For Free

- 86. Admire luxury yachts in [St Katharine Docks](#).
- 87. Look up at the architecture in [Regent Street](#).
- 88. Marvel at everything from silver armchairs to champagne swizzle sticks at [London Silver Vaults](#).

Historical London

- 89. Check out the mysterious [London Stone](#) at 111 Cannon Street. Legend says the stone was part of an altar in a temple built by Brutus of Troy.
- 90. See the remains of London's Roman amphitheatre in the basement of the [Guildhall Art Gallery](#).
- 91. Visit [Southwark Cathedral](#), the oldest cathedral church building in London.
- 92. Marvel at how living rooms in England have changed since 1600 at the [Geffrye Museum](#).
- 93. View the [London Wall](#), the remnant of the Roman wall which was built in AD 200 and once formed part of the eastern defences of Roman Londinium.
- 94. See what London's streets looked like in days gone by with Museum of London's app [Streetmuseum](#).

Free Festivals

- 95. Celebrate [Chinese New Year](#) in London's Chinatown, the biggest celebrations outside Asia.
- 96. Join revellers at London's biggest street party, the [Notting Hill Carnival](#).
- 97. Cheer on the rowers taking part in the [Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race](#) as it passes along the River Thames between Mortlake and Putney.
- 98. Expect events galore at the month-long Totally Thames Festival in September.

Summer Fun

- 99. Glide around London on rollerskates on a two-hour tour with [London Skate](#).
- 100. Cool off under the fountains by [The Scoop](#).
- 101. Bring a picnic to feast on in [Somerset House](#)'s gorgeous 18th-century courtyard.