

FOCUS ON LONDON



Day 1

Depart from home city.

Day 2: City Tour and Orientation

Upon arrival in London, get acquainted with the city on a **motorcoach overview tour** of the major sites, including **Buckingham Palace**, **Trafalgar Square**, **The Houses of Parliament** and **Clock Tower** (aka **Big Ben**), **Westminster Abbey**, **St. Paul's Cathedral**, and **The Tower of London**.

Your **Focus Director** will familiarize you with the area around your hotel and share practical information about London such as banking, mail services, phone, personal security, and health care. Check into your hotel and enjoy free time until dinner.

Feast on a **traditional dinner** of fish and chips or bangers and mash.

Day 3: City of London

Explore the history and architecture of the city's oldest section, the **City of London** – or more commonly, “the City.” Tour **St. Paul's Cathedral** and the **Tower of London**, a site nearly 1,000 years old that has served as a residential palace, fortress, royal mint, bank, arsenal, and most infamously, a prison.

Choose one of two **walking tours led by an Expert Guide**.

Option 1: Over the Thames

Head to one of the most recognizable bridges in the world, the **Tower Bridge**, to learn its history and enjoy views of London along its high-level walkway. Cross the bridge and continue along the southern banks of the Thames past **Southwark Cathedral** and **Shakespeare's Globe Theatre**.

Option 2: Sneak Peek Shakespeare

Embrace typical 16th-century theatre life at **Shakespeare's Globe Theatre**, a faithful reproduction of his original open-air playhouse. Following a backstage tour of the Globe, groups traveling during the theatre's season (May to September) may **choose to add a top-notch Shakespearean performance**.

Dine like a local with **dinner in an English pub** – a place where business is conducted, friends gather, and celebrations are unleashed.

Day 4: Royal London

Begin your exploration of Royal London with a visit to **Westminster Abbey** – the most ancient of London's great churches, the crowning place of British monarchs since 1066, and location of the tombs of Charles Darwin, Charles Dickens, and Isaac Newton, to name a few. Walk up Whitehall and down Pall Mall to **Buckingham Palace** to watch **Changing the Guard**.

This afternoon enjoy free time near **Trafalgar Square**. Visit the impressive **National Portrait Gallery** full of famous British faces or the **National Gallery**, housing important works of 13th to 19th-century art.

Delve into the city's creepiest corners on an **evening walking ghost tour of London's secret haunts**.

Day 5: Royal Pastime

Windsor Castle, Eton College

In Windsor, visit the largest inhabited castle in the world. It has been a working palace and fortress for over 900 years, dating back to the time of William the Conqueror. Afterward, cross the bridge onto the campus of **Eton College**. Originally founded in 1440 by Henry VI as a school for paupers, it is now England's finest private school. Your students may be surprised to see boys wearing a school uniform of a black tailcoat, waistcoat, and pinstriped trousers!

Feel like a true Londoner when you return to the city and have a **picnic lunch** in one of London's many beautiful parks.

In the afternoon, see a unique and entertaining side of London as you seek out the city's wild and artistic street performers. Join the crowd and applaud for performers at the West Piazza of the **Covent Garden Market**. Students may also have the opportunity to do some shopping here.

Day 6: Local Flavor

Nowhere are you more likely to see the “real” London than while **exploring one of its unique neighborhoods**. Take in all the sights and sounds of a typical London neighborhood, such as **Camden** or **Notting Hill**, by chatting with locals or browsing through an outdoor market.

Art or Scam?

While exploring the **Tate Modern**, discuss the spectrum of the word ‘art’ – from traditional to absurd. Students will pair up to scour the museum for the most unexpected and crazy pieces, while making notes and preparing to debate what they think is truly art!

See art come to life when you attend a world-renowned **West End theatre performance**.



Students gathering on the streets of London



A peaceful day in Kensington Gardens



Posing with a beefeater at the Tower of London



Students enjoying a traditional British meal

LONDON

PROGRAM INCLUSIONS

8, 9, OR 10 DAY PROGRAM

Landmarks

Buckingham Palace
 Trafalgar Square
 Houses of Parliament
 Big Ben
 Westminster Abbey
 St. Paul's Cathedral
 Tower of London
 Southwark Cathedral
 Shakespeare's Globe Theatre
 Hyde Park
 Christ Church College (*program extension*)
 Martyrs' Memorial (*program extension*)

Museums and Galleries

British Museum
 National Portrait Gallery
 National Gallery
 Tate Modern

Interactive Insights

Art or Scam?
 Royal Farewell

Eye-opening Excursions

Windsor Castle, Eton College
 Oxford (*program extension*)



Changing the Guard at Buckingham Palace

Day 7: London Adventure

Spend the afternoon exploring the world's greatest collection of antiquities in the **British Museum**. Spanning two million years of history, its collections of over 13 million pieces include the Rosetta Stone and the Elgin Marbles.

This afternoon you are on your own to explore London. Seek historic and artistic gold mines that are off the beaten path – and find that last souvenir!

Royal Farewell

Put on your best party clothes, and bid farewell to London with a **medieval dinner banquet**.

Day 8: Cheerio!

Free time in the early morning for last-minute photographs or shopping.

Coach transfer to airport for flight home.

Choose to extend your program with the following options:

E 9 Day Option:

A visit to the town of **Oxford** includes touring **Oxford University**, **Christ Church College**, and **Martyr's Memorial**. Many American students are surprised to discover that **Oxford University**, founded in 1214, is actually a collection of smaller, independently-founded and run colleges. Visit one of these colleges and have the opportunity to chat with students who attend this prestigious learning institution.

10 Day Option: (includes Oxford extension) An extra day in London with your expert Focus Director is the time to discover unique treasures in one of the city's markets, revisit a favorite museum, or simply take a walk in **Hyde Park**.

Note: *This itinerary may be modified depending on your travel dates, arrival and departure times, national holidays, and hours of operation in the host country. Prices vary depending on departure city and duration of program.*



Big Ben meets the London Underground



Students enjoy beautiful Hyde Park



Walk in the footsteps of Royals at Westminster Abbey