

Capstone Project

The Battle of Neighbourhoods

Presentation

By

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1. Introduction

- **Background:** Safety is a top concern when moving to a new area. If you don't feel safe in your own home, you're not going to be able to enjoy living there.
- **Problem:** This project aims to select the safest borough in London based on the total crimes, explore the neighborhoods of that borough to find the 10 most common venues in each neighborhood and finally cluster the neighborhoods using k-mean clustering.
- **Interest:** Expats who are considering to relocate to London will be interested to identify the safest borough in London and explore its neighborhoods and common venues around each neighborhood.

2. Data Acquisition and Cleaning

Data Acquisition: The data acquired for this project is a combination of data from three sources:

- The first data source of the project uses a London crime data that shows the crime per borough in London.
- The second source of data is scraped from a wikipedia page that contains the list of London boroughs. This page contains additional information about the boroughs.
- The third data source is the list of Neighborhoods in the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames as found on the wikipedia page.

Data Cleaning: The data cleaning process for each of the three sources of data are done separately.

- From the London crime data, the crimes during the most recent year (2016) are only selected. The major categories of crime are pivoted to get the total crimes per the boroughs for each major category.
- The second data is scraped from a wikipedia page using the BeautifulSoup library in python. Using this library we can extract the data in the tabular format as shown in the website.
- The two data sets are merged on the Borough names to form a new data set. The purpose of this data set is to visualize the crime rates in each borough and identify the borough with the least crimes recorded during the year 2016.
- After visualizing the crime in each borough we can find the borough with the lowest crime rate. The third data set is created, with the names of the neighborhoods and the name of the borough with the latitude and longitude obtained using Google Maps API geocoding.
- The new data set is used to generate the 10 most common venues for each neighborhood using the Foursquare API, finally using k means clustering algorithm to cluster similar neighborhoods together.

3. Methodology

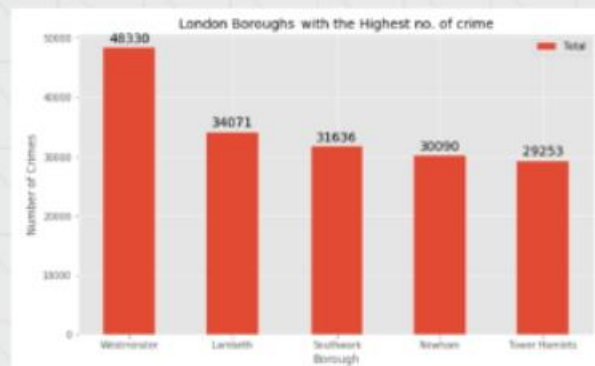
Exploratory Data Analysis

Statistical summary of crimes

	Burglary	Criminal Damage	Drugs	Other Notifiable Offences	Robbery	Theft and Handling	Violence Against the Person	Total
count	33.000000	33.000000	33.000000	33.000000	33.000000	33.000000	33.000000	33.000000
mean	2089.212424	1841.545455	1179.212121	475.000000	682.666667	8913.121212	7841.048485	23306.806670
std	737.448544	825.257070	596.406416	225.299999	441.425506	4520.505054	2513.001001	8826.228749
min	2.000000	3.000000	10.000000	0.000000	4.000000	139.000000	25.000000	178.000000
25%	1637.000000	1460.000000	743.000000	176.000000	377.000000	9919.000000	6495.000000	18920.000000
50%	2071.000000	1966.000000	1063.000000	490.000000	595.000000	8805.000000	7490.000000	22736.000000
75%	2637.000000	2354.000000	1417.000000	631.000000	696.000000	10789.000000	8630.000000	27174.000000
max	3402.000000	3219.000000	2738.000000	1395.000000	1622.000000	27525.000000	10634.000000	48336.000000

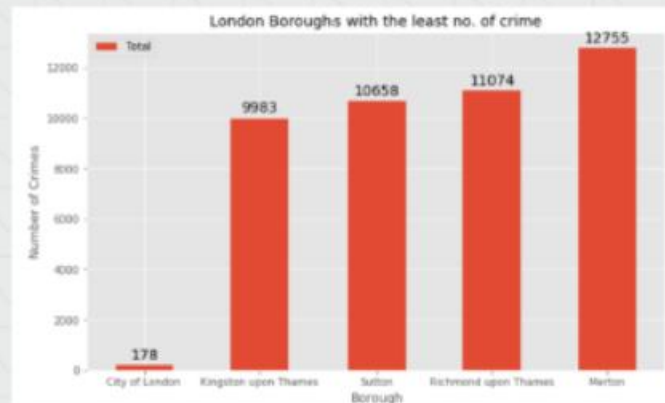
The count for each of the major categories of crime returns the value 33 which is the number of London boroughs. 'Theft and Handling' is the highest reported crime during the year 2016 followed by 'Violence against the person', 'Criminal damage'. The lowest recorded crimes are 'Drugs', 'Robbery' and 'Other Notifiable offenses'

Boroughs with the highest crime rates



Comparing five boroughs with the highest crime rate during the year 2016 it is evident that Westminster has the highest crimes recorded followed by Lambeth, Southwark, Newham and Tower Hamlets. Westminster has a significantly higher crime rate than the other 4 boroughs.

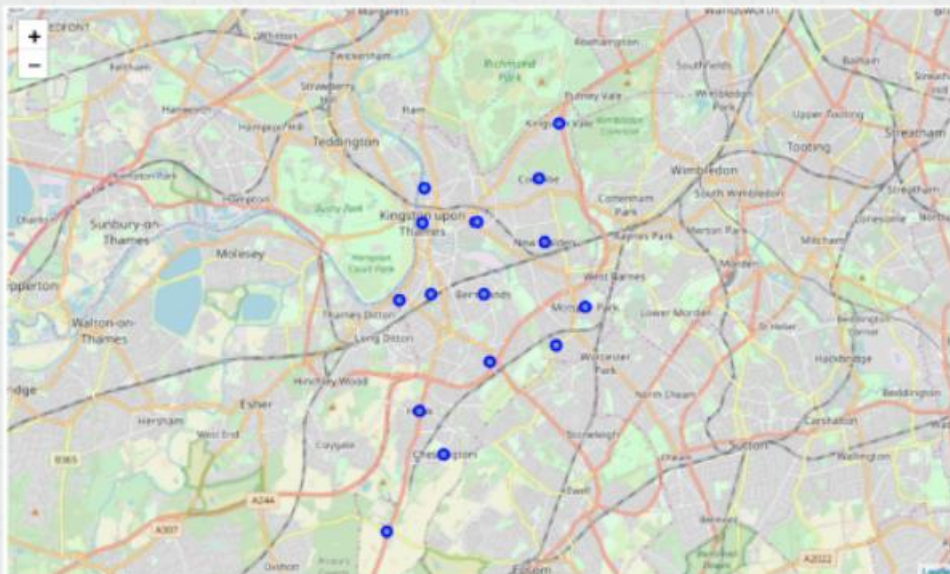
Boroughs with the lowest crime rates



Comparing five boroughs with the lowest crime rate during the year 2016, City of London has the lowest recorded crimes followed by Kingston upon Thames, Sutton, Richmond upon Thames and Merton.

- City of London has a significantly lower crime rate because it is the 33rd principal division of Greater London but it is not a London borough. It has an area of 1.12 square miles and a population of 7000 as of 2013 which suggests that it is a small area.
- We will consider the next borough with the lowest crime rate as the safest borough in London which is Kingston upon Thames.

Neighborhoods in Kingston upon Thames



There are 15 neighborhoods in the royal borough of Kingston upon Thames, they are visualised on a map using folium on python.

Modelling

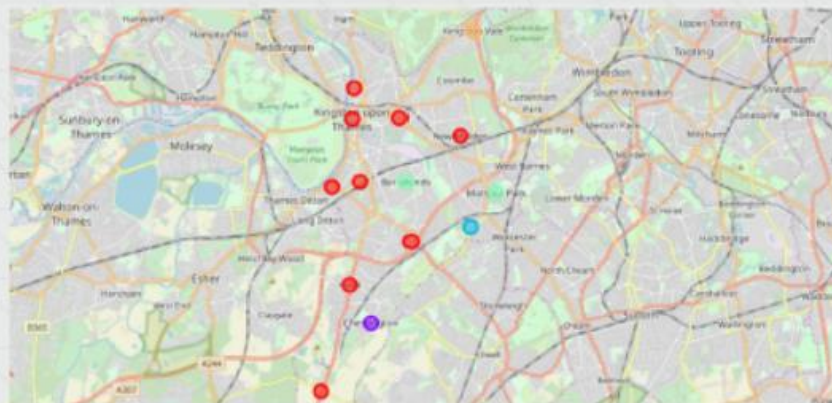
- Using the final data set containing the neighborhoods in Kingston upon Thames along with the latitude and longitude, we can find all the venues within a 500 meter radius of each neighborhood by connecting to the Foursquare API.

	Neighborhood	Neighborhood Latitude	Neighborhood Longitude	Venue	Venue Latitude	Venue Longitude	Venue Category
0	Berrylands	51.393781	-0.264802	Burbrin Racket & Fitness Club	51.392676	-0.260224	Gym / Fitness Center
1	Berrylands	51.393781	-0.264802	Alexandra Park	51.394230	-0.261206	Park
2	Berrylands	51.393781	-0.264802	K2 Bus Stop	51.392302	-0.261534	Bus Stop
3	Berrylands	51.393781	-0.264802	Cafe Ross	51.390175	-0.260490	Cafe
4	Carbury	51.417499	-0.305553	The Boaler's Inn	51.418546	-0.305915	Pub

- One hot encoding is done on the venues data. The Venues data is then grouped by the Neighborhood and the mean of the venues are calculated, finally the 10 common venues are calculated for each of the neighborhoods.
- To help people find similar neighborhoods in the safest borough we will be clustering similar neighborhoods using K - means clustering which is a form of unsupervised machine learning algorithm that clusters data based on predefined cluster size.
- We will use a cluster size of 5 for this project that will cluster the 15 neighborhoods into 5 clusters. The reason to conduct a K- means clustering is to cluster neighborhoods with similar venues together so that people can shortlist the area of their interests based on the venues/amenities around each neighborhood.

4. Results

After running the K-means clustering we can access each cluster created to see which neighborhoods were assigned to each of the five clusters. Visualizing the clustered neighborhoods on a map using the folium library.



Each cluster is color coded for the ease of presentation, we can see that majority of the neighborhood falls in the red cluster which is the first cluster. Three neighborhoods have their own cluster (Blue, Purple and Yellow), these are clusters two three and five. The green cluster consists of two neighborhoods which is the 4th cluster.

Cluster 1: Looking into the neighborhoods in the first cluster

Neighborhood	Borough	Latitude	Longitude	Cluster Labels	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue	7th Most Common Venue	8th Most Common Venue
1	Carbury	Kingston upon Thames	51.417499	-0.305553	0	Pub	Cafe	Plaza	Fish & Chips Shop	Supermarket	Spa	Shop & Service
4	Hook	Kingston upon Thames	51.387998	-0.307145	0	Bakery	Convenience Store	Indian Restaurant	Fish & Chips Shop	Wine Shop	Food	Electronics Store
5	Kingston upon Thames	Kingston upon Thames	51.439027	-0.305002	0	Coffee Shop	Cafe	Burger Joint	Sushi Restaurant	Pub	Record Shop	Confectionery Shop
7	Malden Rushett	Kingston upon Thames	51.341052	-0.319079	0	Convenience Store	Pub	Garden Center	Restaurant	Fast Food Restaurant	Discount Store	Dry Cleaner
9	New Malden	Kingston upon Thames	51.425335	-0.263407	0	Gastropub	Gyft	Sushi Restaurant	Supermarket	Roman Restaurant	Indian Restaurant	Fish & Chips Shop
10	Norbiton	Kingston upon Thames	51.439099	-0.267396	0	Indian Restaurant	Pub	Food	Italian Restaurant	Platform	Grocery Store	Farmers Market
12	Seething Wells	Kingston upon Thames	51.380542	-0.314306	0	Indian Restaurant	Coffee Shop	Italian Restaurant	Pub	Cafe	Wine Shop	Fast Food Restaurant
13	Suburban	Kingston upon Thames	51.383756	-0.303210	0	Coffee Shop	Pub	Supermarket	Breakfast Spot	Grocery Store	Gastropub	French Restaurant
14	Talworth	Kingston upon Thames	51.378076	-0.300860	0	Grocery Store	Pharmacy	Furniture / Home Store	Train Station	Pizza Place	Discount Store	Coffee Shop

The cluster one is the biggest cluster with 9 of the 15 neighborhoods in the borough Kingston upon Thames. Upon closely examining these neighborhoods we can see that the most common venues in these neighborhoods are Restaurants, Pubs, Cafe, Supermarkets, and stores

Cluster 2: Looking into the neighborhoods in the second cluster.

Neighborhood	Borough	Latitude	Longitude	Cluster Labels	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue	7th Most Common Venue	8th Most Common Venue	9th Most Common Venue
2	Cheesington	Kingston upon Thames	51.356536	-0.299522	1	Fast Food Restaurant	Wine Shop	Golf Course	German Restaurant	Gastropub	Garden Center	Furniture / Home Store	Fried Chicken Joint

The second cluster has one neighborhood which consists of Venues such as Restaurants, Golf courses, and wine shops.

Cluster 3: Looking into the neighborhoods in the third cluster.

Neighborhood	Borough	Latitude	Longitude	Cluster Labels	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue	7th Most Common Venue	8th Most Common Venue	9th Most Common Venue
11	Old Malden	Kingston upon Thames	51.382484	-0.25800	2	Train Station	Pub	Food	Gastropub	Garden Center	Furniture / Home Store	Fried Chicken Joint	French Restaurant

The third cluster has one neighborhood which consists of Venues such as Train stations, Restaurants, and Furniture shops.

Cluster 4: Looking into the neighborhoods in the fourth cluster.

Neighborhood	Borough	Latitude	Longitude	Cluster Labels	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue	7th Most Common Venue	8th Most Common Venue	9th Most Common Venue
0	Brentford	Kingston upon Thames	51.383781	-0.284800	5	Gym / Fitness Center	Park	Cafe	Bus Stop	Wine Shop	Fish & Chips Shop	Electronics Store	Farmers Market
8	Motspur Park	Kingston upon Thames	51.380985	-0.248886	3	Park	Gym	Restaurant	Soccer Field	Bus Stop	Wine Shop	Fast Food Restaurant	Dry Cleaner

The fourth cluster has two neighborhoods in it, these neighborhoods have common venues such as Parks, Gym/Fitness centers, Bus Stops, Restaurants, Electronics Stores and Soccer fields etc.

Cluster 5: Looking into the neighborhoods in the fourth cluster.

Neighborhood	Borough	Latitude	Longitude	Cluster Labels	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue	7th Most Common Venue	8th Most Common Venue	9th Most Common Venue
6	Kingdon Vale	Kingston upon Thames	51.43185	-0.258138	4	Grocery Store	Bar	Italian Restaurant	Soccer Field	Garden Center	Furniture / Home Store	Fried Chicken Joint	French Restaurant

The fifth cluster has one neighborhood which consists of Venues such as Grocery shops, Bars, Restaurants, Furniture shops, and Department stores.

5. Discussion

- The aim of this project is to help people who want to relocate to the safest borough in London, expats can chose the neighborhoods to which they want to relocate based on the most common venues in it.
- For example if a person is looking for a neighborhood with good connectivity and public transportation we can see that Clusters 3 and 4 have Train stations and Bus stops as the most common venues.
- If a person is looking for a neighborhood with stores and restaurants in a close proximity then the neighborhoods in the first cluster is suitable.
- For a family I feel that the neighborhoods in Cluster 4 are more suitable dues to the common venues in that cluster, these neighborhoods have common venues such as Parks, Gym/Fitness centers, Bus Stops, Restaurants, Electronics Stores and Soccer fields which is ideal for a family.
- The preference of venues may vary from person to person, they can select a neighborhood based on ones priorities.

6.Conclusion

- This project helps a person get a better understanding of the neighborhoods with respect to the most common venues in that neighborhood. It is always helpful to make use of technology to stay one step ahead i.e. finding out more about places before moving into a neighborhood.
- We have just taken safety as a primary concern to shortlist the safest borough of London. The future of this project includes taking other factors such as cost of living in the areas into consideration to shortlist the borough, such as filtering areas based on a predefined budget.