

Capstone Project - The Battle of Neighborhoods

Best Neighborhoods in London Borough

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Moving when you have a family can be daunting, especially when you're moving to a city as diverse as London is. So, as part of a career change, when I was considering setting up my new home in London, even though it was exciting, it was certainly not an easy task. Currently settled in a peaceful locality in the suburbs of Michigan, the bustling life and current political scenario of London was daunting to say the least. Upon some research, I could find that the slump in London's housing market may be about to end. And this is the right time to invest in a property. However, before making an investment, I decided to do a little research on the best neighborhood.

1.2 Problem

Data that might contribute to determining the best neighborhood include how safe the neighborhood is, affordability, accessibility and facilities like parks, restaurants etc. This project aims to predict the best neighborhood based on the above factors.

1.3 Interest

Obviously, expats who are considering relocating to London as part of career change could utilize this report for finding a safe borough and district in London for buying/renting a house. People who are currently in London, but has not invested in a house yet due to the current political/economic scenario, could also use this report.

2 Data acquisition and cleaning

2.1 Data sources

- The first step in the analysis was to find all the boroughs in London. This data could be obtained from a wiki page, [List of London Boroughs](#).
- The latest crime data records could not be obtained for the boroughs. However, the data pertaining to year 2016, is there as a Kaggle dataset, [Kaggle dataset for London Crime data](#).
- Next, we can check the affordability of the houses using a dataset from Office for National Statistics. [ONS Dataset for House price](#).
- During the research, I also came across a survey by ITV, which records the happiness index of the people in UK. The link for the report is [Happiest Boroughs revealed by ITV](#). The data from this web page can be scrapped and the best boroughs can be found out.
- Finally, to find the districts in Sutton, which is the best borough for buying a house, we scarp the wiki page: Districts in [London Borough of Sutton](#).