



Image credits: Jamie Davies on Unsplash

11 Days Itinerary

London - Festive Family Itinerary

Day of Leisure - London - Best London Playgrounds

- Day 1** Flight from US to International Destination
- Day 2** Transfer · Airport to Hotel - Hyde Park Executive Cars
Cheval Gloucester Park - London, England (9 Nights)
- Day 3** Changing of the Guard, Westminster and Tower of London - Private Tour 10:00 AM
- Day 4** The Play - A Christmas Carol 1:00 PM (2hr 30min)
Hyde Winter Wonderland -Suggested Activity 4:00 PM
- Day 5** London's Natural History Museum 10:00 AM
London Eye Fast Track 11:00 AM (4hr)
Langan's Brasserie · Dinner for 2
- Day 6** Royal Albert Hall - Carols at the Hall
Christmas Afternoon Tea X Benjamin Pollock's Toy Shop, Strand Palace 3:00 PM
- Day 7** The Gloucester Arms · Lunch for 4
Christmas Lights Sightseeing - optional self guided activity 6:30 PM
- Day 8** Transfer · Private Transfer- Hyde Park Cars 1:30 PM
Chelsea Football Club
Transfer · Private Transfer- Hyde Park Cars 5:30 PM

Day 9	Fortnum & Mason Tea · Tea for 2 HIDE · Dinner for 2
Day 10	Hamleys Toy Shop - Suggested Shopping
Day 11	Transfer · Private Transfer- Hyde Park Cars 7:00 AM
Connect with Boutique Travel Advisors	



Day of Leisure - London - Best London Playgrounds

Diana Memorial Playground

One of the most famous and best playgrounds in London is the Diana Memorial Playground located in Kensington Gardens. Kensington Palace, home of the late Princess Diana, is just a short walk away. The playground opened in 2000 and is a brilliant place for kids.

Taking centre stage is the enormous wooden pirate ship where kids can reenact their favourite Peter Pan scenes (or just run around and have fun!). There's also a sensory trail, teepees and a beach area with water pumps around the ship where children can play. The space has been designed for less able-bodied children to enjoy as well.

Adults are only allowed in if supervising children up to the age of 12. If it's a hot, sunny day during school holidays then the queues can be long. Either get there early or be prepared to wait. [Take a look at the website](#) for opening times and more information.

Nearest tube: Bayswater, Queensway & Lancaster Gate

Marylebone Green Playground, Regent's Park

Located in the southern section of Regents Park is this excellent playground featuring climbing frames, seesaws and sand pits.

[Marylebone Green Playground](#) is divided into three different themed zones.

The Traditional Zone is a traditional playground with swings, a seesaw and a climbing frame. It's perfect for young kids. The Art Zone, inspired by the annual 'Frieze' art show in the park, is home to a spiralling concrete 'folly' with a slide. There's also a rock climbing wall. In the Natural Zone, kids can wander through a living willow tunnel, clamber over rocks and scramble over fallen trees.

Nearest tube: Regents Park

Highgate Woods Playground

The playground at [Highgate Woods](#) is one of the best places to go with kids in North London. This ancient woodland is home to a number of scenic trails, a large playing field (popular for football matches in winter and cricket tournaments in summer) and a cafe. There's also a large playground located near the playing field.

There's a separate play area for small kids and spaces for older children (kids over the age of 10-years-old might find it a little boring however!). There is a small zip wire, a climbing frame and plenty of spaces for mum and dad to sit and watch.

The woods close at dusk and the playground just before that. Closing times are marked on the gate.

Nearest tube: Highgate

Coram's Fields

Located in Central London is the excellent [Coram's Fields](#). This is a real community park and playground that is open year-round for children under the age of 16. There's a huge sandpit, lots of climbing frames, paddling pools in warmer months plus a sensory playground. There's even a city farm here as well as an adventure playground for older kids featuring a zip wire and a tunnel slide.

One of the things that I love most about Coram's Fields, however, is its history; the play area is located on the site of Thomas Coram's Foundling Hospital that was set up in 1747 as a home for 'deserted' and abandoned children. There's a large grassy lawn area, which is perfect for picnics when the sun shines.

Nearest tube: Russell Square, Kings Cross St Pancras & Holborn or Chancery Lane.

Battersea Park

The [playground at Battersea Park](#) was given a huge facelift just a few years ago. Today there's a brilliant adventure playground that's perfect for 5 to 16-year-olds and a children's playground next door that has been designed for kids aged 1 to 7-years-old. There's also a toddler's playground for little people under the age of 5.

Even better, Battersea Park is also home to a [Go Ape](#) treetop adventure challenge.

Nearest tube: Battersea Park is not brilliantly located for the London Underground, your best bet is to get the overland train to Queenstown Road Railway Station. From here it's a 10-minute walk to the park.

South Carriage Drive Playground

Located in Hyde Park, one of the Royal Parks, this [adventurous playground](#) is suitable for children up to the age of 12. It also boasts some pretty fabulous views with the Serpentine boating lake in the distance. There are climbing frames, a swing set and a slide. It's not a huge playground but the perfect place for a quick run around. There are also picnic tables here.

Nearest tube: Knightsbridge

Children's Garden at Kew

Kew Gardens is one of the best parks in London and not just for its beautiful gardens. Kew Gardens is also home to a magical children's garden, the [Children's Garden at Kew](#).

The children's garden has been designed for children aged from 2 to 12-years-old. The play spaces have been divided into the **four natural elements**: earth, sun, air and water. In other words, all the things that plants need to grow.

The various play areas match the themes; in the **Air Garden** kids can jump on trampolines for example and they can engage in water play in the **Water Garden**. It's a fun educational concept and really well done.

Pre-Covid the playground hosted **botany classes** for kids in tents on the lawn and reading time in the temperate glass house. These will come back at some point, so do check their website.

Tickets for the Children's Garden must be booked in advance. Remember to book a time slot to enter Kew Gardens and secure a separate time slot for The Children's Garden ahead of your visit. [You can book tickets here](#).

Nearest tube: Kew Gardens

The Magic Garden at Hampton Court Palace

Definitely one of the most whimsical playgrounds in London is the [Magic Garden at Hampton Court Palace](#). There are royal towers and an aerial walkway, a large sand and water area, and an enormous **fire-breathing dragon**. It does get very crowded during summer months and at weekends even with timed entries (you're given a coloured wristband which indicates when you're allowed to enter and when you must leave!).

This is one to combine with a day out at Hampton Court Palace, particularly if you don't live nearby.

Nearest rail station: The easiest way to get to Hampton Court if you are not driving is by train from Waterloo Station to Hampton Court. This takes approximately 35 minutes.

Paddington Recreation Ground

The Paddington Recreation Ground is a lovely playground. The imaginative play space took a year to create and now offers a brilliant area for kids of all ages.

For infants there's a **train and tunnel** as well as a slide, swings, climbing wall and a scramble net. There are also beautifully designed playhouses, the pastel-coloured **Beechcroft Gardens terrace**. For older kids there's a wooden streamliner to play on as well as a roundabout, a fireman's pole, a nest swing and more. The streamliner and the playhouses were all made at a workshop in York.

There's even a space for teens; a **huge wood forest play unit** built around the existing trees. The zip wire has been revamped and a four-seater see-saw introduced. You'll also find a sensory play space. It really is one of the best play parks in London.

Nearest tube: Maida Vale. Or Kilburn High Road overground railway station.

Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

The [Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park](#) is home to a number of different play areas. Located in East London, the park was built in 2012 for the Olympics. Today, it's an excellent place for families.

To the north of the park there's the **Tumbling Bay Playground**, home to rock pools, sand pits, wobbly bridges and tall treehouses. There's also a cafe here.

To the south of the park you'll find the **Pleasure Gardens Play Areas**. There's an enormous sand pit, oversized swings and giant red rocks that kids must climb up in order to reach the slides.

The park is also home to an excellent **Climbing Wall** and the **Waterworks Fountains**. The fountains are, not surprisingly, very popular with kids. The 195 individually controlled jets of water provide much merriment on sunny days.

Don't miss the 114.5m-tall ArcelorMittal Orbit slide while you're here. It's the world's longest and tallest tunnel slide and offers some of the [best views of London!](#)

Nearest tube: Stratford station and Stratford International station

Gloucester Gate Playground

Beautiful Regent's Park is home to no less than four playgrounds: Gloucester Gate Playground, Hanover Gate Playground, Marylebone Green Playground and Primrose Hill Playground. Of these, [Gloucester Gate](#) is the one you should make a beeline for first. This play space has been welcoming children since the 1930s but recent renovations mean that it's now shiny and modern.

The new space is nearly double the size of the former playground and comes with a 50m zip wire, water play and climbing equipment made for natural materials. Accessibility has also been considered and there's a wheelchair accessible roundabout, a wide slide and raised water and sand tables.

Nearest tube: Camden Town

Holland Park Adventure Playground

The [Holland Park Adventure Playground](#) is another play space that has benefited recently from investment and refurbishment. The result is an exciting adventure playground that boasts climbing frames, a climbing wall, a zip wire, nest swings, wooden walkways and more. For younger kids there are the perennial favourites of sand and water play. Don't miss the Kyoto Garden and the Koi Carp while you're in the park.

Nearest tube: Holland Park

Ruislip Lido

[Ruislip Lido](#) is more than just a playground, it's an entire day out. Located in the borough of Hillingdon, north-west London, this space offers visitors a 60-acre lake with sandy beaches and a play area just near by. This is where you'll find the popular wooden pirate ship for kids to clamber on. On the beach itself is the Splash Pad for lots of water fun.

Possibly the most exciting thing about Ruislip Lido perhaps particularly for little kids is the miniature stream train. Ruislip Lido is home to Britain's longest 12" gauge miniature railway, which travels around the lido from the carpark, through the woods and to the beach.

Nearest train station: Ruislip Station is the closest station; from here it's a 10 minute bus ride. If you have a car, you are probably better off driving.

Jubilee Gardens Playground

Located next door to the London Eye (where you can get [great views of London](#)) on the South Bank is [Jubilee Gardens](#). This excellent adventure playground sits smack bang in the middle of the city. The playground is divided into two sections; one for older children and the other for smaller kids.

The main structure is made up of a series of long logs that criss-cross one another forming a 100m-long structure that kids must walk, climb and scramble across. Rope nets link some of the logs together. It's a wonderful nature-inspired playwork that big kids will love.

For younger children there's a toddler version that they can manoeuvre across as well as a walk-the-plank swing log and a fort with a slide. You'll also find two rope swings and a menagerie of wooden animals near the front gate that are always a hit with younger visitors.

Nearest tube station: Waterloo is the closest. Embankment, Westminster, Lambeth North, Waterloo East and Southwark are all within walking distance.

Greenwich Park Playground

In south London [Greenwich Park](#) is a great option for families. There's been a playground here since the 1940s but you'll be pleased to hear that facilities have been upgraded since then!

Today **Greenwich Park Playground** enjoys a maritime theme, reflecting the nautical roots of the area (don't miss a visit to the [Cutty Sark](#) while you're in the neighbourhood and make sure you see [these views of London](#) too). There's a great mix of sandpits as well as water play to enjoy as well as wooden boats to balance on, lots of swings and roundabouts and great slide that's particularly fun during summer months when kids like to pour water along the surface before whizzing down!

There are children's public toilets including an accessible toilet and baby change facilities. There's a drinking water fountain, a kiosk for refreshments and picnic tables.

Nearest station: Maze Hill overground station

Victoria Park Playground

[Victoria Park](#), known to locals as Vicky Park, in East London is a great spot to spend an afternoon. There are four different play areas here, suitable for kids of different ages. The main playground has a huge variety of play equipment including a giant spiderweb climbing frame and a large sandpit area. The best thing about area, however, are the big slides. There are three slides of varying steepness (the middle one is the most challenging!), and all are great fun.

Next to the popular playground is the Victoria Park splash pool, one of the biggest [free](#) water play areas in London. For older kids there's the skatepark, home to the only skate cradle in London.

Victoria Park is also home to the V&A Playground where you'll find lots of wooden structures, sandpits and water pumps. This corner of the park is ideal for younger kids and toddlers.

Nearest station: Homerton or Hackney Central followed by a bus.

Day 1



Flight from US to International Destination

Image credits: Ross Parmly on Unsplash

Depart from the US on a overnight plan to your European destination

Day 2



Transfer · Airport to Hotel - Hyde Park Executive Cars

+44 20 7244 6555

<https://www.hydeparkcars.com/>

Departure Location

London Heathrow Airport

Arrival Location

Cheval Gloucester Park

Vehicle

Private SUV

Notes

Meet your driver outside of baggage and customs for a private transfer to London accommodation. Transfer is estimated £125 for each way and does not include gratuity



Cheval Gloucester Park - London, England

44 20-7373-1444

Ashburn Place Kensington, London, England SW7 4LL

3:00 PM

Check In

11:00 AM

Check Out

9 Nights

Duration

Room Selection

Room Category

Superior Two Bedroom Apartment

Cancellation Policy

21 days prior to arrival no cancellation charges

Day 3



Changing of the Guard, Westminster and Tower of London - Private Tour

+44 7872 935948

Image credits: Aswin Mahesh on Unsplash

10:00 AM

Start Time

Meeting Point

Hotel Lobby

Experience up to a 6 hours tour of London's spectacular landmarks with a private and knowledgeable guide, Danny. On your private tour, you will:

- Visit Parliament Square and see the famous Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey (from the outside only).
- Walk through St James's Park, see the massive marble memorial to Queen Victoria, see Buckingham Palace and the Changing of the Guard.
- See the famed Horse Guards Parade and Trafalgar Square.
- Stroll down to the River Thames for a river cruise. Along the route see St Paul's Cathedral and the Globe Theatre!
- Enjoy a respite over lunch at any number of eateries in St Katharine Docks, where your guide will happily give you recommendations to enjoy on your own.
- Finish your day in the Tower of London, where you'll not only learn about Henry VIII and the fate of his wives but also learn about the ravens, the Line of Kings.
- Your tour ends outside the Crown Jewels room that you are free to explore at your own leisure.
- Please note that the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace normally happens on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays, but this is subject to change and weather conditions. If you book your tour on a Thursday or Saturday, or are unable to see the guard change, your guide will adapt the itinerary to include other sites of interest.

Day 4



The Play - A Christmas Carol

0344 871 7628

*The Old Vic, The Cut,
London SE1 8NB*

<https://www.oldvictheatre.com/stage/event/a-christmas-carol-1>

1:00 PM

Start Time

3:30 PM

End Time

2hr 30min

Duration

See Documents tab for tickets which include a drink ticket and program.

Old Vic Artistic Director **Matthew Warchus'** big-hearted, smash hit production of Charles Dickens' immortal classic returns to The Old Vic, joyously adapted for the stage by **Jack Thorne**.

The Old Vic's *A Christmas Carol* fills the auditorium to the brim with mince pies, music and merriment. A unique staging immerses the audience in this uplifting story.



Hyde Winter Wonderland -Suggested Activity

<https://hydeparkwinterwonderland.com/things-to-do/>

Image credits: Devon Rogers on Unsplash

4:00 PM

Start Time

Located in the heart of London in Hyde Park, immerse yourself in all things festive. Offering a wide variety of attractions, activities, entertainment, food, drinks and so much more, we guarantee there's something for everyone!

Mornings are great for families, where you can enjoy Winter Wonderland at a leisurely pace. When the evening comes around, Hyde Park is transformed by thousands of sparkling lights so grab your mulled wine, hot chocolate or stein of Bavarian beer and get ready to join in the festive fun!

Day 5



London's Natural History Museum

Cromwell Rd, South Kensington, London SW7 5BD, United Kingdom

10:00 AM

Start Time

See tickets under your documents tab, entry is 10am. Includes kids booklet and access into Dippy the Dinosaur

Getting here

The nearest Tube station is South Kensington - about a five-minute walk from the Museum's Exhibition Road entrance. It services the Piccadilly, District and Circle lines. This station is not step-free. Gloucester Road station is about a seven-minute walk from the main entrance on Cromwell Road. It services the Piccadilly, District and Circle lines. This station has a lift but is not step-free.

We're delighted that you have booked to see the nation's favourite dinosaur. Dippy will be on display in the Waterhouse Gallery (not in the main Hintze Hall), where space is limited. You can visit Dippy from two hours of your slot start time and we recommend you head straight there when you arrive.



London Eye Fast Track

Riverside Building, County Hall, London SE1 7PB, United Kingdom

<https://www.londoneye.com/>

Image credits: Robson Denian Mateus on Unsplash

Start Time	End Time	Duration
11:00 AM	3:00 PM	4hr

Meeting Point

Meet us at The Coca-Cola London Eye, London SE17PB.

See document tab for your ticket.

INSTRUCTIONS

ARRIVING AT THE LONDON EYE

- Arrive at anytime on the day of your choice and get straight in, beating the queues
- Please head directly to the London Eye at this time you will be permitted to join the queue. To note, the time of your visit IS NOT your boarding time for the London Eye.



Langan's Brasserie · Dinner for 2

+44 20 7491 8822

Stratton St, London W1J 8LB, UK

<http://langansbrasserie.com/>

Image credits: Luc RF Recruiter on <https://maps.google.com/maps/contrib/100082624515341412365>

Day 6



Royal Albert Hall - Carols at the Hall

+44 20 7589 8212

Kensington Gore, South Kensington, London SW7 2AP, UK

<https://www.royalalberthall.com/>

Image credits: Leo Sirco on <https://maps.google.com/maps/contrib/103804810139221617630>

Auditorium opens at 10:15AM

Please see your tickets under the document tab as well as planning your visit



Christmas Afternoon Tea X Benjamin Pollock's Toy Shop, Strand Palace

+44(0)2073794737

*Afternoon Tea at Haxells - Strand Palace
372 Strand WC2R 0JF London*

3:00 PM

Start Time

Meeting Point Strand Palace

Inspired by the 100-year heritage of Benjamin Pollock's Toyshop, a treasure trove of traditional toys and pop-up paper theatres in the heart of Covent Garden, adults and children alike will delight in a wonderfully festive Afternoon Tea that draws on the whimsical world of all things Benjamin Pollock's, available in our elegant afternoon tearoom from 7th November – 31st December.

Time for Tea

Served in the delicate tearoom in Haxells, indulge in our wonderfully British Afternoon Tea with traditional menu options as well as an exceptional Vegan and Gluten Free Menu. Enjoy seasonal sandwiches, scrumptious scones, festive themed treats and a selection of assorted special loose leaf tea's.

The wonderful world of toys...

For an extra sweet treat children will receive our exclusive Benjamin Pollock's Christmas Toyshop Tea goody bag, which includes;

- A themed colouring sheet with pencils
- A Pollock's Victorian inspired paper cut-out pantomime
- A Pollock's voucher which can be redeemed for an in-store lucky dip prize or a 20% discount.
- A surprise toy (think...traditional wooden afternoon tea biscuits or play theatre tickets)
- A competition entry to win the ultimate Pollock's treasure box of games and goodies, plus a night's stay at the hotel in a family/ studio room!

About Benjamin Pollock's Toyshop

Forming back in the 1800's, Benjamin Pollock's Toyshop originated in a dusky dark shop in Hoxton, London. Supplying toy theatres and theatrical sheets costing just a 'penny plain and twopence coloured', their customers varied from children aspiring to stage, city gents nostalgic for their childhood and well-known actors such as Charlie Chaplin.

As the shop continued to thrive, Pollock's moved into heart of Covent Garden in the early 1960's. Today Benjamin Pollock's Toyshop of Covent Garden is one of the few remaining toy shops in the West End of London. The independent store is now best known for its miniature paper theatres, music boxes and traditional toys, Pollock's also stock reproductions and original toy theatres from around the world which delight and amuse not only children, but the warm memories of childhood.

Day 7



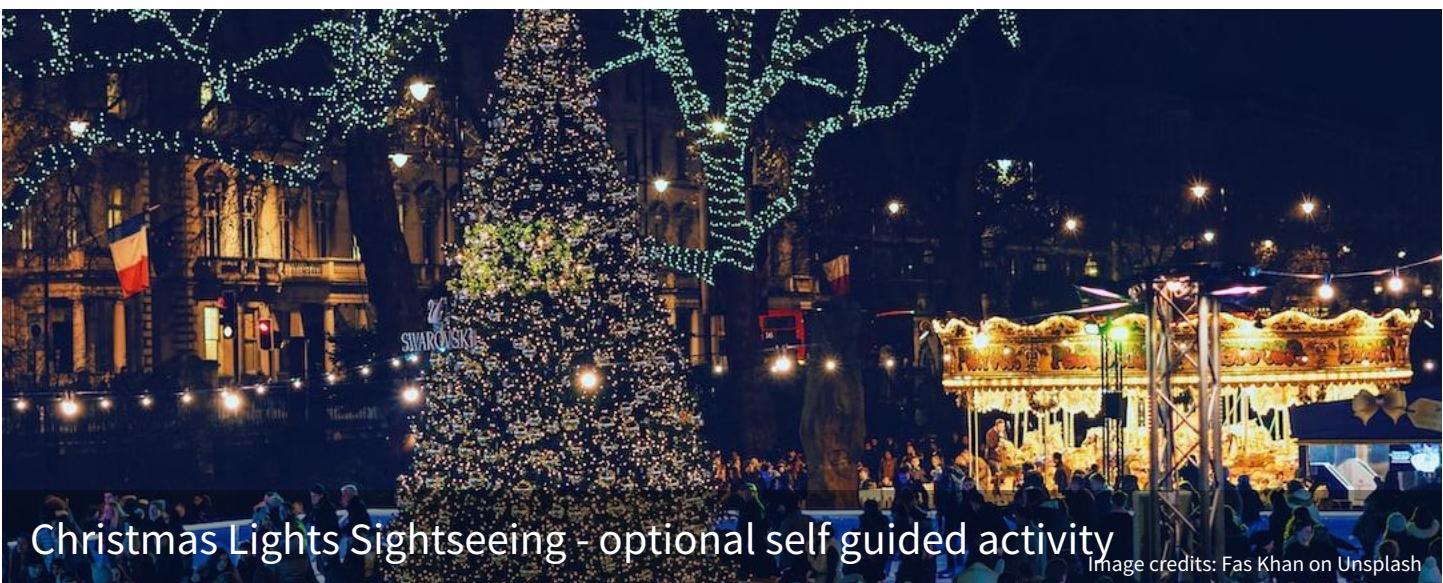
The Gloucester Arms · Lunch for 4

+44 20 7584 0020

34 Gloucester Rd, South Kensington, London SW7 4RB, UK

https://www.greenoking-pubs.co.uk/pubs/greater-london/gloucester-arms/?utm_source=g_places&utm_medium=locations&utm_campaign=UC_pubpage

Image credits: The Gloucester Arms on https://maps.google.com/maps/contrib/104485708709054902779



Christmas Lights Sightseeing - optional self guided activity

Image credits: Fas Khan on Unsplash

6:30 PM

Start Time

Explore the city on your own to view some of the multiple Christmas Lights in London including the Christmas Tree in Trafalgar Square, a gift from the Norwegian nation every year for the support the UK gave them during the Second World War. The best areas to self explore are Regents Street and Carnaby Street.

Day 8



Transfer · Private Transfer- Hyde Park Cars

+44 20 7244 6555

<https://www.hydeparkcars.com/>

1:30 PM

Departure

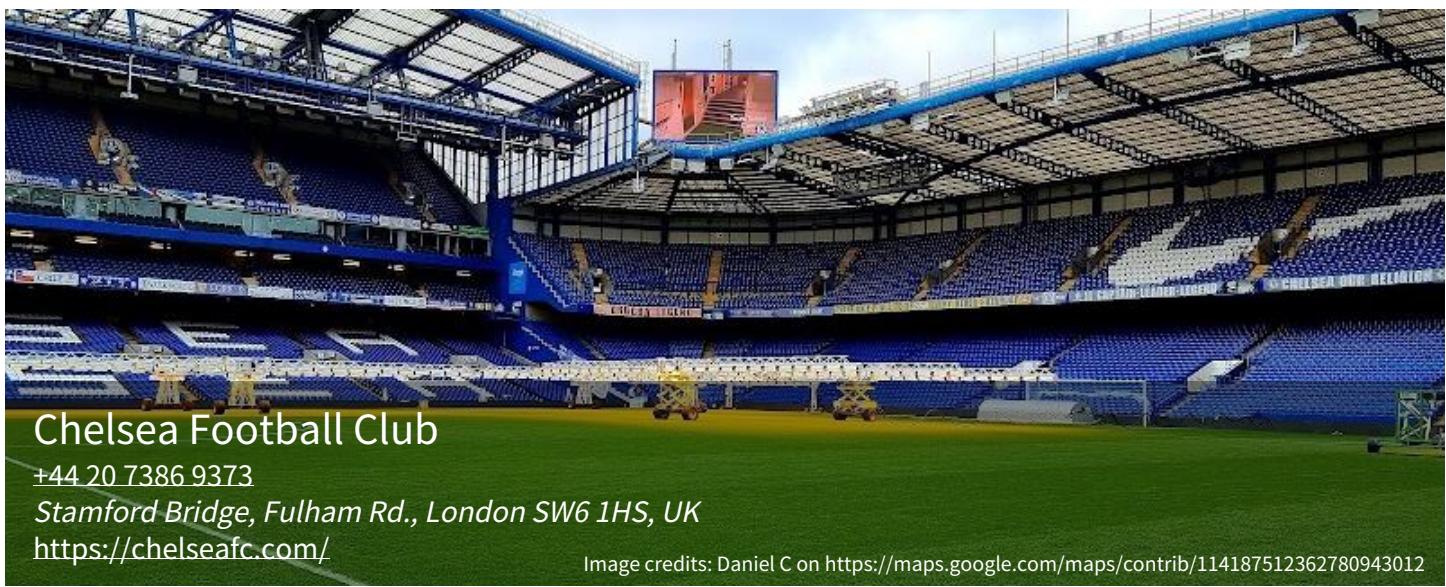
Departure Location
Cheval Gloucester Park

Arrival Location
Selkers Park

Vehicle
Private Transfer - SUV

Notes

Estimated 175 pounds, does not include gratuity



Chelsea Football Club

+44 20 7386 9373

Stamford Bridge, Fulham Rd., London SW6 1HS, UK

<https://chelseafc.com/>

Image credits: Daniel C on <https://maps.google.com/maps/contrib/114187512362780943012>

Experience the thrill of attending a football match at Stamford Bridge, the renowned home stadium of Chelsea FC. Immerse yourself in the electrifying atmosphere as you join passionate fans in cheering for the team. After the match, take the opportunity to explore the vibrant Chelsea neighborhood, soaking in its unique charm including visiting the Chelsea FC Megastore, where you can find a wide array of official merchandise to commemorate your unforgettable experience.



Transfer · Private Transfer- Hyde Park Cars

+44 20 7244 6555

<https://www.hydeparkcars.com/>

5:30 PM

Departure

Departure Location
Selkers Park

Arrival Location
Cheval Gloucester Park

Vehicle
Private Transfer - SUV

Notes

Estimated 175 pounds, does not include gratuity

Day 9



Fortnum & Mason Tea · Tea for 2

+44 20 7734 8040

181 Piccadilly, St. James's, London W1A 1ER, UK

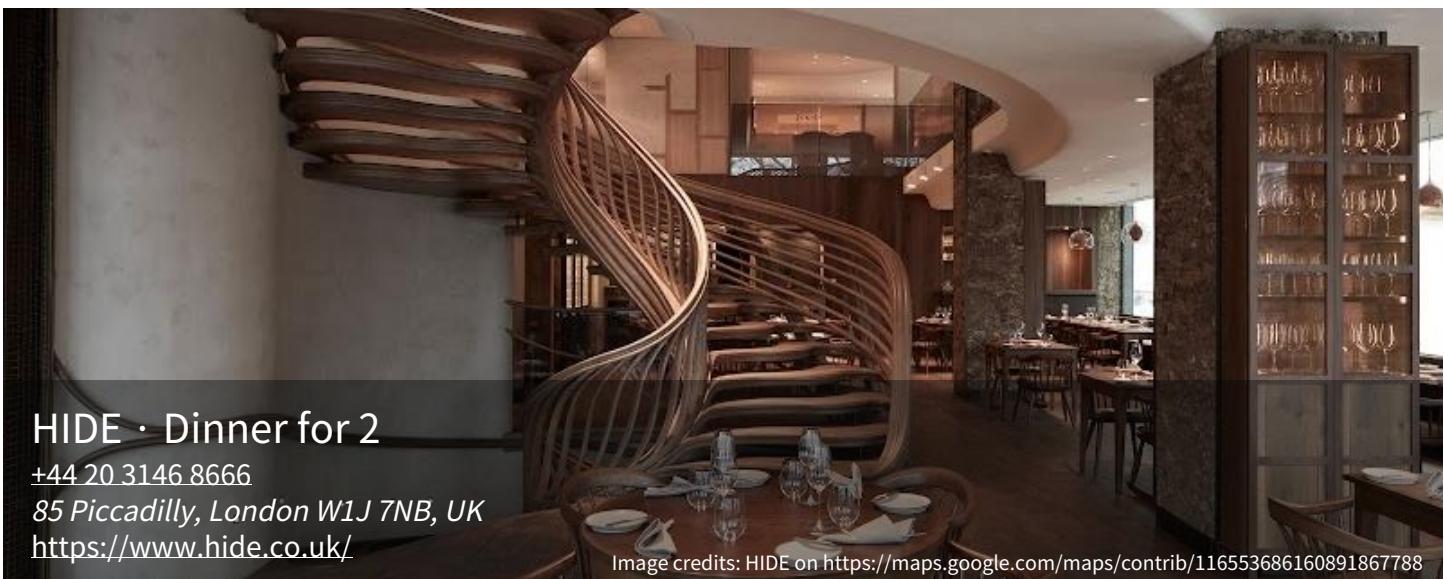
<http://www.fortnumandmason.com/>

Image credits: Fortnum & Mason on https://maps.google.com/maps/contrib/108078240132418363513

The Diamond Jubilee Tea Salon

Our Tea Salon has been a great many things for over 314 years. It began as an apartment for the Fortnum family, then became an interior decorating department in the 1920s and 1930s, and later an antiques department and a restaurant known as St. James's. Since 2012 it has paid homage to the timeless tradition of Afternoon Tea.

Epitomising the sophistication of Afternoon and High Tea in all its splendour, our Diamond Jubilee Tea Salon was named in honour of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth's visit in 2012, when she formally opened the room, in the company of their Royal Highnesses the then Duchess of Cornwall and the Duchess of Cambridge.



HIDE · Dinner for 2

+44 20 3146 8666

85 Piccadilly, London W1J 7NB, UK

<https://www.hide.co.uk/>

Image credits: HIDE on <https://maps.google.com/maps/contrib/116553686160891867788>

Day 10



Hamleys Toy Shop - Suggested Shopping

+44 20 7479 7398

188-196 Regent St., London W1B 5BT, UK

<http://www.hamleys.com/>

Image credits: john seedhouse on <https://maps.google.com/maps/contrib/101758662463921294151>

Day 11



Transfer · Private Transfer- Hyde Park Cars

+44 20 7244 6555

<https://www.hydeparkcars.com/>

7:00 AM

Departure

Departure Location
Cheval Gloucester Park

Arrival Location
London Heathrow Airport

Vehicle
Private Transfer - SUV

Notes

Transfer from Hotel to Airport for departure, exact timing will be arranged and confirmed through the hotel concierge ~24 hours before departure. Estimated 125 pounds

BOUTIQUE TRAVEL ADVISORS

A picture is worth a thousand words...

Share your journey with us on Facebook & Instagram!

@TravelBTA

Connect with Boutique Travel Advisors

<https://www.instagram.com/travelbta/>

"Travel becomes a strategy for accumulating photographs." // Susan Sontag

The collage features a circular logo for "BOUTIQUE TRAVEL ADVISORS" with the letters "BTA" inside. Below the logo is a scenic aerial view of a colorful coastal town built on a hillside overlooking a harbor filled with boats. The town has traditional European architecture with red roofs and pastel-colored buildings. The water is a vibrant blue.

As your dedicated travel curators, nothing fills our hearts quite like seeing beautifully captured moments of your unique experiences and exciting adventures. If you do choose to share and post photos of your journey, please tag us at @travelbta on **Instagram** and **Facebook**!

From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for the thrill & honor of choosing BTA to be a part of your journey. We hope your travels lead you to beautiful destinations and left you with even more beautiful memories.