

TOP 10 LESS KNOWN TOURIST SITES IN LONDON



London remains, without doubt, one of the most visited cities on the planet. This vibrant city is replete with a plethora of inspirational, nostalgia-inducing destinations attracting millions of international tourists each year. These include but are not restricted to: The Houses of Parliament, the Tower of London, The British Museum among others.

However, many visitors do not realize that there are many [things to do in London](#). For example, a number of lesser-known yet equally stunning attractions nestled within London, which often is camouflaged by the overpowering charms of urbane high-rising buildings, malls, restaurants and nightlife. Here are ten such not-so-famous but must-visit attractions handpicked by Tourism-Review.com that are sure to make you revisit your notions about this incredible city.

St. Bride's Church

While the city's famous Fleet Street is better known for housing some of London's most popular newspapers, a casual stroll down the side street will take you straight to the glorious St. Bride's Church. Be prepared to marvel the sheer beauty and breathtaking view of the Church's interiors and exteriors.

St. Bride's Church has been designed by celebrated architect Sir Christopher Wren; his credentials include making massive contributions to London's skyline (some other reputed churches like St. Paul's Cathedral and St. Lawrence Jewry are also his masterpieces). The peace and tranquility inside the Church is something to be treasured and revered at all times.

St. Thomas' Church Operating Theater

St. Thomas' Church in London left no stone unturned by setting a wonderful example of constructing its own operating room within the confines of its rooftop. A visit to this magnificent room is reminiscent of the very era which will surprise you with some of the most gorgeous Victorian style furniture, medical equipment/instruments, an old operating table, surgical instruments, and a gamut of pathological specimens.

One of the other notable places is a well stocked gift shop which has a treasured collection of books on curing Black Death and the many benefits of chloroform used in the earlier era.

Temple Church

Nestled amidst towering high-rise buildings, this pristine church is often missed by many of the tourists visiting London. That notwithstanding, the Temple Church encapsulates the essence of Christian architecture like no other monument.

A true embodiment of medieval architecture grandeur, the Church was constructed in the 12th century as the English headquarters of the Knights Templar. Thanks to the cinematic adaption of the world famous novel- The Da Vinci Code- millions of people all over the world now recognize the Temple Church for the embellishment of its marble effigy tombs.

World's Smallest Police Station, Trafalgar Square

One of the many must-visit attractions in London, Trafalgar Square is an absolute delight for tourists even as they explore National Gallery inside out. Ironically, it is routinely overlooked by the crowd due to several other distractions in the vicinity.

Visitors who get a glimpse of the prominently displayed stone structure cannot help but marvel at the fact that it once used to be the world's smallest police station. Equipped with a telephone (that is connected to a main police station) and big enough to swing a truncheon, it is believed that the Square accommodated a room for an officer to maintain a strict vigil over marches, demonstrations and possible riots being held in the locality.

Horniman Museum

Graced by picturesque gardens surrounded by a bucolic ambience, this Victorian-styled Museum is nothing short of a modern marvel. With attractions like a pretty aquarium, an assortment of musical instruments and a wide array of insects (primarily, honey bees), it is hardly surprising that it attracts adults and kids in equal measure.

Probably the most noticeable item on display is the 19th-century Apostle Clock which shows the Jesus's disciples filing past him. Relive the deception as Judas turns away at the last minute; feel a part of the long lost fable of Jesus and his disciples as everything comes alive in the Horniman Museum.

Hunterian Museum

Set up beautifully within the Royal College of Surgeons of England, the incredibly impressive museum displays thousands of old-style medical instruments and specimens. After a thorough refurbishment, it now houses an eclectic collection of rare items that include Churchill's dentures and some grotesque looking internal organs. It's best not to visit the Museum if you have a weak heart. The Museum is located at the The Royal College of Surgeons of England.

Women's Library

As part of the London Metropolitan University, the Women's Library showcases a fantastic ensemble of books, costumes and articles relating to women. You may also not want to miss out a special reading room specially made accessible to the general public. Since April, they've been holding special exhibitions on women's magazines.

Dulwich Picture Gallery

The birthplace of popular author, Enid Blyton, the lane weaves through the leafy village of Dulwich which houses the oldest public art space in the entire country.

Established back in 1817, following relentless insistence from art dealer/collector Sir Francis Bourgeois, the Dulwich Picture Gallery flaunts a world-class array of paintings by local and other European stalwarts like Rembrandt, Rubens and Gainsborough.

Museum of Brands, Packaging and Advertising

A two-minute walk from the hustle-bustle of Notting Hill's Portobello Road, the Museum of Brands,

Packaging and Advertising displays well over 12,000 items of the forgone era. The various displays include an assortment of vintage Kellogg's cereal boxes, Heinz bean cans, Star War toys, and countless posters outlining the thrills of a Mediterranean holiday.

Orchestrated like a time tunnel in a chronological order, this trip down memory lane is the brainchild of Robert Opie, who began collecting at the tender age of 16. The Museum is a delight for all those people who like to commemorate the passion and the confidence of people who live to carry out their dreams.

Museum of London Docklands

A vibrant port under the Romans, London demonstrated its resurgence as an active maritime hub when the British Empire began its mission of aggressive colonization.

Set in a row of former sugar warehouses on the Isle of Dogs, this stunning museum charts the history of London's docks through enticing antiques, engaging multimedia presentations and period model sets. One particular section on the much talked about campaign against slave trade is particularly thought provoking. Also, the inspirational take on the regeneration of the Isle of Dogs transformed from a post-industrial wasteland into a thriving financial zone is sure to make you respond with a rapturous applaud.

Date: 2013-10-09

Article link: <http://www.tourism-review.com/top-10-hidden-tourist-attractions-in-london-news3879>