

LONDON WALKS®

Winter 2016/17

November 1 – April 30

To go on a London Walk meet your London Walks guide on the pavement just outside the *designated* Tube ☉ Stop at the time stated. *The guides hold up copies of this leaflet.*

There's no need to book.

Just turn up and go. *But large groups should book a private walk – it's even cheaper!*

A London Walk costs £10. Or **£8** for Super Adults (65+), full-time students and people with the **London Walks Loyalty Card**.

Children under 15 accompanied by their parent(s) go free.

A London Walk takes about two hours.

They *always* take place, rain or shine. They end at or near a Tube ☉ Stop.

Our Day Trips from London to Oxford, The Cotswolds, Bath, Stonehenge, Cambridge, etc. cost **£18** (£14-£16 *concs.*) plus your train fares and any entrance fees. See the **Great Escapes!** column overleaf.

£10



London Walks – The Dictionary Definition

London Walks – “without a doubt the premier walking tour company in the entire world”

London Walks – London’s unrivalled, multi award-winning, *signature* walking tour company.

London Walks – the keys to the world’s most elusive city.

London Walks – the best bargain in London.

London Walks – the classic old walking tour company whose hallmarks are an astonishing variety of routes, utter reliability and – *most important of all* – **superb guides**.

London Walks – the finest walking tour guides in London. They include the distinguished crime historian who is “*internationally recognised as the leading authority on Jack the Ripper*”; an OBE; a barrister, a physician and a criminal defence lawyer; authors; *Guide of the Year Award* winners; archaeologists, museum curators, and university lecturers; two MBEs; renowned actors, journalists and *the crème de la crème* of professionally qualified Blue Badge Guides.

London Walks – It all comes down to the guiding. Which is why *London Walks is in a class by itself.*

Contact
London
Walks

Email: london@walks.com





☎ 020 7624 3978 www.walks.com


✉ PO Box 1708 London NW6 4LW

Great Escapes!

London is our main course but we also serve up wonderful side dishes in the shape of **DAY TRIPS** to The Cotswolds, Cambridge, Stonehenge, Oxford, Bath, Hampton Court, Leeds Castle, Canterbury, Winchester, Avebury & Lacock, St. Albans, etc. See below and the day columns for all the particulars. *Great Escapes* consist of **two different walks** separated by a lunch break. And there's time for shopping or a museum visit. *Here's England - Away We Go!*

We travel by comfortable, high-speed train. *It's fastly superior!* If you go by coach you'll see a great deal of London traffic jams and the motorway but very little of The Cotswolds, Stonehenge, Bath, Cambridge, Leeds Castle, Canterbury, Windsor Castle, Oxford, etc. Our train ride through the lovely old English countryside takes an hour or so. We'll be back in central London in time to catch a show.

The cost? The guide's fee is **£18** or £16 for Super Adults (over 65s) & full-time students. Or £14 with our Loyalty Card. **For the total cost just add the Tariff**  **to the guide's fee.** *The Tariff*  *covers your fares (train and coach, where applicable) plus any entrance charges.* Brit Rail Pass holders travel free. The adult **Tariffs**  – listed below – **are a big saving on the normal price.** And there are normally *further* reductions for seniors & students. For kids a reduced Tariff  is the *only* charge.



To go with us meet Hilary, Chris, Simon, Richard or Alison and your fellow *Escapées!* by the ticket office of the designated **London**  **Railway Station** at the time stated. Look for the group, your award-winning London Walks Blue Badge Guide and this, the famous white London Walks leaflet!

BATH



"A scoop of pure honey set in a green bowl!" Bath is the world's most perfect Georgian city. A graceful and airy miracle of Palladian grandeur; it's a world of arcades and crescents, of Assembly Rooms and Pump Rooms. In the 18th-century it was the focus of the *Age of Elegance*. Today it's our turn to savour the accreted delights of the slow centuries as we explore this exquisite place and its stunningly cosmopolitan Roman foundations, folded into a time-warped in the lovely Somerset hills. A trip to Bath is an *event*. European cities don't come any more provocative. Or profound. Or poetic.

Runs Saturday, April 22. *Meet at 8.45 am at Paddington*  *Railway Station. Meet by the main ticket office, which is near Platforms 1 & 2.*  **£43***



CAMBRIDGE

"Can such places be?" *Miraculum orbis.* Wonder of the world, annexe to heaven. Bridge of Sighs. Mediaeval courts. Velvet-soft emerald lawns. Unearthly beauty of Kings. Newton's room. Garden where he experimented. That apple tree. Think of him *"forever voyaging through strange seas of thought."* Calm of the tree-fringed Backs. The Cam's willow-shrouded banks. Darwin's college. American cemetery. Stephen Hawking and *The Theory of Everything*. Alan Turing – welcome to *The Imitation Game*. Leafy streets and twisty alleys. The pub where the structure of DNA was announced. People who talk like books. Pink Floyd – *Another Brick in the Wall!* And that's not to mention the *royal imprimatur*. That new title for William and Kate: the Duke of Cambridge and his Duchess. **We go to Cambridge on Saturday, November 5; Saturday, November 26; Thursday, December 29; Monday, April 17 and Monday, May 8.** *Meet Simon at 9 am by King's Cross*  *Railway Station main ticket office (near the Leon Café).* See the video of the Cambridge trip on www.walks.com  **£44***



CANTERBURY

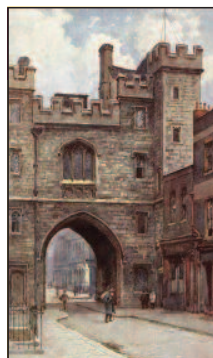
Across the Immense Span of Centuries... Like Chaucer's pilgrims to *Canterbury we wende*. And what tales Canterbury has to tell. Tales writ in the ancient cathedral towering moodily over nearby pubs and shops. Tales gleaned from half-timbered, white-washed little houses lining narrow streets. Tales borne by the river Stour swabbling past brilliant flower beds and under arching stone bridges. *In Canterbury we enter another world, we step into mediaeval history.* **We go there on Saturday, November 12 and Saturday April 15.** And look, the getting there itself – *faster than a speeding bullet!* – couldn't be more special. We take the Javelin High Speed Train, the only super high speed train line in the country. It's *whoosh!* and we're there. *Goes from St. Pancras*  *Railway Station – the finest historic old station in Europe! Meet Simon at 8.45 am outside the National Rail Ticket Office, opposite Starbucks*  **£36***

CHARLES DICKENS CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

What could be jollier? It's 1827 and the streets are thronged with hundreds of costumed characters. Everywhere you look there are top hats and frock coats and bonnets and hooped skirts. Yes, it's Christmas time in Charles Dickens' home town. Welcome to the best Dickens Christmas Festival in the world. And there's guaranteed snow! Let alone a parade and a candle-lit carol service. **We go to the Dickens Christmas Festival on Saturday, December 3.** *Goes from St. Pancras*  *Railway Station – the finest historic old station in Europe! Meet Simon at 9 am outside the National Rail Ticket Office, opposite Starbucks. He'll be in Victorian costume (top hat and frock coat)!  c. £16**

THE COTSWOLDS IN SPRING

The Cotswolds. **Achingly beautiful.** The fresh green lap of this fair isle. Cottages wreathed in honeysuckle and stone bridges and old mills and millponds and storybook villages and matchless flower gardens. **The Cotswolds.** Rural England at its best. See the video on www.walks.com **The Cotswolds in Spring Day Trip** takes place on **Saturday, May 13 and Saturday, May 20.** *Meet Richard at 8.45 am by the main ticket office (near Platforms 1 & 2) of Paddington*  *Railway Station.*  **£46***




Group Bookings

- London's best guides – accomplished professionals (lawyers, historians, archaeologists, geologists, museum curators, university lecturers, actors, journalists, doctors, star Blue Badges)
- 100s of London Walks to choose from
- Day Trips to The Cotswolds, Oxford, Bath, etc.
- *Mais oui, Buon Giorno, Schau'mal, Buenos Dios!* London Walks in French, Italian, German, Spanish etc.
- Fab walks for kids

Email london@walks.com Or phone 020 7624 3978 to talk it over.
The right walk and the right guide just for your group.



TRAVEL TIP

To calculate how long a Tube  journey in central London will take, simply allow an average of three minutes between stations.



THE COTSWOLDS & OXFORD

If you're thinking about going on this one you're on the edge of perfection. Don't turn your back on it. On chuckling streams, stone bridges, and thatched cottages; on ancient churches and manor houses; on old mills and millponds; on vast panoramas, rolling hills and deep green valleys; on villages out of a storybook. On mediaeval colleges, walls, bridges, libraries and gardens; on cloisters and quads, towers and dreaming spires, gnawed by time and echoing with centuries of youthful exuberance. *For a preview of the Oxford & Cotswolds trip see the video on www.walks.com*

We go there on Wednesday, December 28 and Wednesday, April 19.




Meet Simon at 9.15 am at Paddington  *Railway Station. He'll be standing by the main ticket office, which is near Platforms 1 & 2.*  **£40***

HAMPTON COURT PALACE



It casts its spell even before we get to it. From the bridge we'll catch our first thrilling glimpse of the Great Hall towering over Wolsey's courts and surrounded by a forest of twisted chimneys. With that glimpse the centuries begin to melt away. Welcome to Hampton Court. Welcome to the climax of the English mediaeval tradition. Welcome to the last fanfare of castle, keep, and great hall – the setting for the saga of Wolsey, Henry VIII and his six wives. **Timing is everything so we go to Hampton Court for the special Tudor Christmas Festivities on Saturday, December 31.** *Meet at 9.30 am by the main ticket office (it's directly opposite Platform 16) of Waterloo*  *Railway Station.*  **£16***

N.B. get a 6-Zone Travel Card: it'll cover your travel fares.



LEEDS CASTLE & CANTERBURY

As good as it gets! Leeds Castle ("standing on its twin islands in the river Len, [it] rises romantically above the reed-fringed waters of its moat-lake"). Fairy-tale setting; no wonder it's *"the loveliest castle in the world"*. And it's Christmas Market Day! For Canterbury see  above. **We go to Leeds Castle & Canterbury on Saturday, December 10.** *Meet Simon 8.45 am by Victoria*  *Railway Station ticket office.*  **£51***

LEEDS CASTLE & ROCHESTER



Timing is everything! Bliss. The ripe perfection of the Kentish countryside. Leeds Castle ("standing on its twin islands in the river Len, [it] rises romantically above the reed-fringed waters of its moat-lake." A fairy-tale setting – no wonder it's *"the loveliest castle in the world"*). And Rochester: castra, Cantiaci, cathedral, castle, close, cloisters, keep, cockpit (of English history). And that's not to mention Dickens and the **Chimney Sweeps Festival.** **Timing is everything.** **We go to Leeds Castle & Rochester on Festival Day: Monday, May 1.** *Goes from St. Pancras*  *Railway Station – the finest historic old station in Europe! Meet Simon at 8.45 am outside the National Rail Ticket Office, opposite Starbucks.*  **£46***

STONEHENGE & SALISBURY

"You'll never see anything like it again!" Here on Salisbury plain, under a sky like moving marble, we're face to face with primeval Britain. Yes, Stonehenge. Those *"storm-sculptured stones... that outlast the skies of history hurrying overhead"*. Stonehenge. Observatory? altar? temple? tomb?... to serve strange gods or watch familiar stars. And Salisbury. The river Avon, mediaeval streets, half-timbered houses, the most spectacularly beautiful cathedral in England, Magna Carta... **We go to Stonehenge & Salisbury on Tuesday, December 27; Tuesday, April 18; and come the vernal season we'll go there on Saturday, April 29.** *Meet Simon at 8.45 am by the main ticket office – directly opposite platform 16 – of Waterloo*  *Railway Station.*  **£61***



ST. ALBANS

"An England in miniature" The most fascinating small city in this sceptred isle is just 20 minutes from London. Its streets are *corridors in the vale of time*: Roman gate & wall; our oldest traditional street market – dates back to the Saxons; 600-year-old Moot hall; mediaeval & Tudor coaching inns; rare curfew clock tower; half-timbered Elizabethan houses; streets & buildings that are essays in Georgian England; Victorian prison. Enthralling history and tons of hidden, curious places and things. **We go to St. Albans on the following Saturdays: November 19,* December 17† and May 6.** *Meet Alison or Hilary at West Hampstead*  *Tube at 10.45 am.* *Street Market day! † Christmas market in the picturesque grounds of the Abbey orchard and the opportunity to hear Carols on the hour  **£15***

TOUJOURS PARIS

In the Ville Lumière, do try **PARIS WALKS** (in English).

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Monday's Walks



GREENWICH

Not Dec. 26

10.15 am Tower Hill Tube ☺ Meet by the "Tower Hill Tram" coffee stall

To Start the Week... the perfect London Walk! *(Yes, Perfect! Here's why.* 1) Greenwich is its own universe. Just a snap of a finger – 8 minutes – from central London! 2) We step into a *trompe-l'oeil* picture, a Canaletto scene of order and majesty. 3) The walk *decodes* Greenwich. 4) Feasts on its secrets – tiny particulars you'd otherwise miss. A horse's tail, a tell-tale furrow in the terrain, a crushed king, the world's most expensive apology, Saint Preposterous, clocks that saved thousands of lives, a *save-you-a-tenner* secret place to bestride both hemispheres, a flutter of fans, the 'X' factor which graces works of genius. 5) It's the overture to London's most sensational "day out". Riverside pub lunch. The beer Nelson's old salts drank. His Trafalgar uniform, *with the bullet-hole*. Observatory. Cream tea. The unique trifecta: *down Greenwich way people walk under the Thames, sail across it, fly* over it*. 6) Begins with London's best boat ride and we get a big discount! **Guided by Ann or Isobel.** **The gondola in the sky!* **Video on www.walks.com**

MAYFLOWER TO BRUNEL'S TUNNEL

10.40 am Bermondsey Tube ☺

Gulliver's Travels, Ancient Riverside Village, Sea to Shining Sea... Now the curtain rises on a different scene. Full description on Sunday's column overleaf. **Guided by Tim.** **Video on www.walks.com**

THE SECRETS OF WESTMINSTER ABBEY *

10.45 am St. James's Park Tube ☺ Westminster Abbey/Broadway exit (opp. 40 Broadway)

The Abbey is England in microcosm Royal weddings of course. But also a great religious centre, the place where kings and queens were crowned and often buried, the reason London is "the unique city", the seed-bed of democratic government, the driving force of English music, let alone a building of splendour, intricacy and consummate virtuosity. Its *particulars* are astonishing: the world's finest stone roof, the greatest work of mediaeval art in Britain; the most splendid Renaissance tomb north of the Alps; priceless 13th-century wall paintings; waxworks far superior to Madame Tussaud's; monumental sculpture and memorial tablets that are a tableau of national biography. *N.B. Because of the Abbey's strict limitation on the size of tour groups we have to charge £3 each for children. There's an admission charge to the Abbey but we get you a massive discount. And a huge bonus, we sail right in, no queuing ("standing in line").* **Guided by Chris, Mary, Gillian, Hilary or Tom.** ***No Abbey Tour on Nov. 7 or Mar. 13**

DARKEST VICTORIAN LONDON

10.45 am Monument Tube ☺ Fish Street Hill exit

Elsewhere is always surprising Especially when it's the Victorian underside of 21st-century London. Here's how we get there. We poke around in lost corners of *the real London* just over the river. Make some thrilling – and chilling – "finds". Everything from archeological fragments to the whole kit and caboodle. Stuff from the old, furtive, toil-worn, hard-scrabble, soon-to-be-passing, villainous past: a paupers' burying ground, a ragged school, "model dwellings", Little Dorrit's prison, Octavia Hill's cottages, etc. We see it. And hear the people. *Really hear them.* Because they speak through the guides: chimney sweeps, prostitutes, the soon-to-be-executed "Black Maria", pickpockets, street sellers, the Body Snatching Borough Gang, etc. It's history as a *seance*. **Guided by Kim, Karen, Richard III or Sue.** *And if you want, afterward we get you half price admission to The Old Operating Theatre!*

HIDDEN LONDON

11 am Monument Tube ☺ Fish Street Hill exit

A distillation of a brilliant guide's many years' experience probing the hidden places and forgotten nooks of the world's most elusive city. Exploring *secret London* – up creeping lanes, round out-of-the-way corners, past veiled islands of green – **Shaughan's** at his inimitable best. As *The New York Times* put it, the walk is "a highly entertaining... blend of historical commentary and bizarre anecdote laced with mildly scurrilous gossip about past and present celebrities and defunct royals". In such places and with such a guide, the past becomes our present.

LEGAL & ILLEGAL LONDON

Not Dec. 26

2 pm Holborn Tube ☺

"My favourite walk of all. Quiet gardens, a truly eclectic architectural rattle-bag, and a glorious roll-call of British eccentrics: the Wits, the Windbags and Wayward Wigs. The cream of English Intellect as it battles over Wives, Writs, Wills, Widows and Wrecks. Find out what happened when Tony met Cherie! Meet Rumpole! And as these are private grounds – a privilege to be able to show you round m'lud. And hear the verdict at the end in the High Court." Thus spake **Guide Shaughan** about **the Inns of Court!** For the "conventional" description see Friday's ☞ column. **Video on www.walks.com**

THE BRITISH MUSEUM TOUR

Not Dec. 26

2.30 pm Russell Square Tube ☺

The British Museum is the big one the most important museum in the world. "And to see it with a great guide – you'll never be quite the same again." It's an incomparably rich treasure-chest, brimming with things of world historical importance. The Rosetta Stone, Egyptian mummies (*and "Ginger"*), the Assyrian Lion Hunts, the Parthenon Statues, the Sutton Hoo treasure, the Portland Vase. *Here is civilisation, manifest*; here the past pivots to face the 21st-century. The snag is that you can't see for looking, both because of the *embarrassment of riches* and the sheer size of the place (the building covers 14 acres; set off in the wrong direction and you have to walk three times too far). Indeed, *how you see it is almost as important as what you see.* "The best commentary on the revolution of Greek art and the quality of its achievement is... simply to come direct to the Elgin room from the Egyptian and Assyrian ones, as if into an explosion of life, even, as in the frieze, of gaiety." In short, the secret is to use your time at the British Museum well. **Guided by Tom MBE, Hilary OBE or Gillian.** **See video on www.walks.com**

A VILLAGE IN PICCADILLY

2.30 pm Piccadilly Circus Tube ☺ exit 4: Eros exit, near Criterion restaurant

"like a silver thread in heavy clay" The great West End walk. Beautiful places, beautiful things flow past like blossoms on slow water. Some village. Realm's more like it. The realm of riches, rank & those who rule. In its irresistible goody bag: elegant arcades, secret doorways & peekaboo views; Gentlemen's clubs, Burlington House & the Albany; London's best shopping street; tea & royal chocolates (*we sample them, gratis*); Admiral Nelson's perfumier (*more gratis sampling*); mad, bad & dangerous to know Byron; Brummel to Brando; Jermyn to Marilyn; exclusive, eccentric, best-dressed, old money London; magnet for artists, writers, royals, scientists, dreamers & dandies; Darwin to James Bond; Prince Regent to Prince Harry; venerable to voo-pular. It's Georgian. It's Regency. It's Victorian. It's Edwardian. It's Parisian. *It's parfait.* It's part Wonderland, part Arabian Nights. It's stories that tilt the light and print the stones. Plaited together by gifted guides **Karen, Adam, Richard Walker or Simon W.** **See video on www.walks.com**

LONDON'S SECRET VILLAGE

2.30 pm St. Paul's Tube ☺ exit 2

The ancient, hidden village of Clerkenwell clings to a hillside barely a stone's throw away from St. Paul's. Its very name – the clerks' or students' spring – is redolent of antiquity; and this tiny hamlet serves up brimming draughts from the deep well of its history. Mystery plays and plague pits; riots and rookeries; bodysnatching and bombing; jousting and jesters; bloodshed and burnings; monks, murder, and medicine: Clerkenwell has a tale or two to tell. Tracing its narrow alleyways and ancient squares, we take in here a Norman church; there a magnificent Tudor gateway; round that corner venerable Charterhouse, London's only surviving mediaeval monastic complex; let alone Hercule Poirot's London flat. **Guided by Kim, Steve, Andy R or Peter G.**



OLD WESTMINSTER BY GASLIGHT

7 pm Westminster Tube ☺ exit 4

Ok, try to top this! Here it is. *The great seminal London Walk.* Miss it and you've missed London. See Thursday's column ☞ for full description. And there's more, because we'll also visit a pub frequented by Members of Parliament, let alone gasp at *the most famous night-time view in Europe!* The view across the river to the Houses of Parliament. All towers and spikes and serried windows and bathed in golden light. And Big Ben like a sentinel, booming out the hour. And garlands of Victorian lamps along the Embankment. And dark patches that suggest the old and mighty consequence of the place. *And get this:* the House of Commons sits very late, so after the walk you'll normally be able to go *inside* Parliament and watch it in action! **Guided by Liam.**

THE WEST END GHOST WALK

Not Dec. 26

7.30 pm Embankment Tube ☺ river exit

"this part of London is like a haunted house" Gas-lit alleyways. Film set-perfect Georgian streets that nobody goes to. Gloomy old palace in the gloaming. Plague-pit with lit (to this day) *corpse candles* above it. Spectral walls and towers and domes across a fen. Faded grandeur. Old buildings frozen in another time. *London's parallel universe.* There have been some really eerie goings-on here. *The haunted house analogy is spot on.* The walk starts off jolly and fun and eccentric but as the shadows lengthen – when we get into the deepest recesses of the haunted house – it gets quite creepy. As does the lore: *"they" can touch you but you can't touch them*; and the trace evidence (*the "signs of a haunting"*); and the *just-in-case* exorcism paraphernalia the guides carry with them; and the world's most haunted theatre and the creepiest statue in London. **Guided by Captain Spooky aka Peter.** **See video on www.walks.com**

JACK THE RIPPER HAUNTS

7.30 pm Tower Hill Tube ☺ Meet by the "Tower Hill Tram" coffee stall

He came silently out of the midnight shadows of August 31, 1888. Watching. Stalking. Butchering raddled, drink-sodden East End prostitutes. Leaving a trail of blood that led... *nowhere* See Sunday's section overleaf for full description. **Guided by Molly & Delianne.** **See video on www.walks.com**

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL TOURS ON SELECTED MONDAYS

DATE	DAY TRIP	STATION	TIME
Dec. 26	Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol & Seasonal Traditions	Tower Hill ☺	2.30 pm
Apr. 17	Cambridge "Can such places be?" Video on www.walks.com	King's Cross ⇄	9 am
May 1	Rochester & Leeds Castle For the Chimney Sweeps Festival!	St. Pancras ⇄	8.45 am
May 8	Cambridge "Can such places be?" Video on www.walks.com	King's Cross ⇄	9 am

Tuesday's Walks

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

10.30 am Covent Garden Tube ➔

Not Dec. 27

This walk opens doors Let's hear it for the life-giving shock of new experience. For the tonic of delightful discovery. For a walk that shakes you gently, as in a sieve, and drops you into places of long ago. Places you probably wouldn't get into off your own bat. *Into's the mot juste.* We're going into these places. Into the Royal College of Surgeons to see an astonishing – and unique – collection bequeathed by a famous 18th-century surgeon. Into the venerable RAF church. Into the Royal Courts of Justice to watch a trial (when they're in session). And the kicker? **Guide Tom's** a barrister. And **Guide Brian** read Law at university.

SECRETS & SPLENDOURS OF ST. PAUL'S

10.30 am St. Paul's Tube ➔ exit 2

Not Jan. 17

"Afloat upon ethereal tides St Paul's above the city rides" "St. Paul's is much more than a place of worship. It is a specific against grossness, brutality and despair." And "to set foot into St. Paul's is to experience that cold shock straight from the past, beauty as a genius conceived it, grace that we had forgotten." Now as to practicals. **There's an admission charge to St. Paul's, but there is a Group Rate.** More to the point is your other "spend": *your time.* To refract it through a great guide will "buy" you inestimable riches in St. Paul's. Knowing *where* to look and *what* to look for – and seeing these things through the translucent integument of their "stories" – it's like going from blurry near-sighted to 20/20. **Guided by Judy, Mary or Margaret.**

BRUNEL'S LONDON

10.40 am Embankment Tube ➔ river exit

Boat Trip, River Walk, Tunnel Descent... See Thursday's column ☞ for description. **Guided by Keith.**

"London specialises in hiding the best of itself" **Pierre Maillaud**

SECRET LONDON

10.45 am Chancery Lane Tube ➔ exit 3

Not Dec. 27

"I love a little bit of secret history" said Dr. Johnson. He would have been well served on this walk through his old neighbourhood. Its concealed courts and alleys are keyholes into London's past, harbouring everything from traces of Roman London to a forgotten Norman crypt; and from the musty cells of an ancient prison to a stunning, hidden 300-year-old courtyard and hall. Let alone some fine old churches and a venerable inn or two. And betwixt and between **Hilary** or **Kim** *conjure up* – out of the bend of a road, the shape of a doorway, an old badge on a wall, a place-name, a custom or ritual, even out of a turn of phrase – *a millennium and more of London's history!*

THE LURE OF THE UNDERGROUND

10.45 am Baker Street Tube ➔ Baker Street North exit

Down the Tubes! 150 years of engineering and artistry from the inside. See things you've seen but not *seen.* Things you've not registered, not understood, not made sense of. We go places on this walk so get an Oyster Card or a Day Travel Card. Yes, some of the walk's outside but a lot of it's down inside stations and on trains. **Guided by Fiona, Harry or Anne-Marie.**



THE BEATLES "IN MY LIFE" WALK

11.20 am Marylebone Tube ➔

"There are places I'll remember all my life" sang the Beatles. Many of those places are in the "London Town" of this walk. So get back with **Richard** – *"the Pied Piper of Beatlemania"* – to the film locations for *A Hard Day's Night* and *Help*, the registry office where two of the Fabs got married and the apartment immortalised by Ringo, John and Yoko. We'll also see the house where Paul lived with his glamorous girlfriend, actress Jane Asher. *Those were the days...* for it was in that house that John and Paul wrote *I want to hold your hand.* And to cap it all: the legendary Abbey Road studios and crosswalk. As the *Toronto Globe and Mail* said of the walk, "A splendid time is guaranteed for all." We make a short Tube journey to Abbey Road so a Day Travel card or Oyster Card is recommended. Meet "the sixth Beatle" outside the main archway entrance of Marylebone ➔ Railway Station – straight into the world of *A Hard Day's Night* (it's where the Fabs arrive in London at the start of the film).

OLD WESTMINSTER

2 pm Westminster Tube ➔ exit 4

1,000 Years of History This is the cornerstone, the seminal London Walk. Miss it and you've missed London. For Old Westminster is London at its grandest: the place where kings and queens are crowned, where they lived, and often were buried. It's the forge of the national destiny, the place where the heart of the Empire beat, the Mecca of politicians throughout the ages. The past here is cast in stone and we take it all in: ancient Westminster Hall, the Houses of Parliament, the Jewel Tower, and Westminster Abbey. And to see it with a great guide is to have that past suddenly rise to the surface, like seeing a photographic print come up in a darkroom. Doesn't get any better than this. **Embarrass de richesse** we'll also explore the *private face* of Westminster – the London equivalent of Georgetown! Unlike the tourist hordes, *we'll* get to see the hidden and ever so picturesque Georgian back streets where all the political salons are! **Guided by Judy.** [Video on www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)

LITERARY LONDON

2 pm Holborn Tube ➔

Bloomsbury & Museum Quarter What larks! What plunges! Because this walk also explores the "other" Bloomsbury – the one tourists don't get to see. The problem – for them, not us – is the sheer gravitational "pull" of the British Museum and Virginia Woolf & Co. *"We take chairs and sit on our balcony after dinner...Gordon Square, with the lamps lit and the light on the green is a romantic place"* (V. Woolf). And, yes, we explore that quarter. But we also go centrifugal – do undiscovered Bloomsbury. Go where that marvellous old writ – *"London specialises in hiding the best of itself"* – applies in spades. A taste? We *flaneur* London's most literary street (no, it's not in Virginia Woolf's Gordon Square neighbourhood); take in a Sylvia Plath-Ted Hughes house; clock the "nodal point" *where the most important moment in the 20th-century occurred*; squeeze into London's tiniest street; see its most beautiful square, etc. – a capacious, cup-runneth-over "etc." **Guided by Tom or Brian or Andy R.**



"SOMEWHERE ELSE" LONDON

2 pm Embankment Tube ➔ river exit

"A thrilling discovery – the real deal" What a delightful goulash of a walk this is. It gets you into streets you'd just never find off your own bat: streets that look like an old movie shot through a vaselined lens. There's no better sense of place in London – and no finer architectural effect. Yellow brick, perfectly preserved, all unselfconscious self-respect, real Cockney – unaltered Dickensian London. And the miracle is that it's still there, embedded in central London – screwed in to the big city. That discovery alone makes this one of those bewitching "somewhere else" London Walks. And getting there is a bit of all right too – because there's a dramatic river crossing, a stroll along the Thames, the world's foremost arts complex, our best loved old theatre and a real street market (instead of a tourist trap). Let alone buckets of character and for good measure a stunning bird's eye view of London and its riverscape! **Guided by Steve or Stephanie.** [See video on www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)

PAST THE PALACE*

2.30 pm Embankment Tube ➔ Villiers Street exit

Hidden Places & Hidden History This one isn't on the balcony – it's through the keyhole. It's hideaways, boltholes, nooks and crannies with a difference: *they're royal hideaways, boltholes, nooks and crannies.* It's where the goings on went down. It's kings who were queens. It's 16 coffin bearers, beheaded lovers and a questionable birthright. It's a square coffin, a fake lesbian wedding and "a bat instead of a woman". It's curses and betrayals, heartaches and hearth-aches and unhealthy habits. It's ugly sisters and poisonous makeup and war and head lice. It's between the kings' sheets and a *cabinet particulaire* and a royal brothel. It's £40 million of debt, swinging parties, debauchery and treachery. It's unofficial history, real history. Here's how a walker put it: *"This walk had my head spinning. Not just because of the dizzying array of funny and fascinating stories and often hilarious incidents but also because of the star power of the guide herself. What a wonderful way to spend an afternoon in London."* A royally royally good walk. **Guided by Karen, Delianne or Richard W.** **Not suitable for under 12s* [See video on www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)

THE HIDDEN PUBS OF OLD LONDON TOWN

7 pm Temple Tube ➔

Cheek-by-jowl, higgledy-piggledy, quintessential London. Gnarled, brooding back-alleys, secluded courtyards and tortuous zigzag passages. We set our course by the best old pubs in town – including the most famous London inn of all. Old pubs that are all the more special for being hidden away down this or that dark alley, like precious gems in rumpled velvet. Here, like no other place in town, we have 2,000 years of London and its inns in the palm of our hand. The echoes are of Roman tabernas and Shakespearean ale-houses and Dickensian coaching inns... of feasting and wine and song... of the souls of poets dead and gone... the very zeitgeist of London. And what better company to keep than the shades of Dr. Johnson, Oscar Wilde and Dickens himself. **Guided by Steve or Andy.**

GHOSTS OF THE OLD CITY

7.30 pm St. Paul's Tube ➔ exit 2

At night the ancient City is deserted. And eerie. Exploring its shadowy back streets and dimly lit alleys we might be in a mediaeval citadel, in overpowering stone. The very street names – Aldersgate, Cloth Fair, Charterhouse, Threadneedle – take us far back. We're alone. Or are we? *For this is the hour of the Undead.* The hour of visitations by the absolutely *Other.* The hour when the She Wolf of France glides through the churchyard. The hour when the dark figure on Newgate wall rattles his chains. The hour when the Black Nun keeps her lonely vigil and something inexpressibly evil lurks behind a tiny window. We're on their trail – or are they shadowing us? *"How easy it is to awaken the unwanted attention of things that should sleep quietly in their tombs or hiding places..."* **Guided by Karen or the Man in Black (Adam, the Shadow Walker)** [See video on www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)

JACK THE RIPPER HAUNTS

7.30 pm Tower Hill Tube ➔ Meet by the "Tower Hill Tram" coffee stall

He came silently out of the midnight shadows of August 31, 1888. Watching. Stalking. Butchering raddled, drink-sodden East End prostitutes. Leaving a trail of blood that led... *nowhere* See Sunday's section overleaf for full description. **Guided by Molly & Delianne.** [See video on www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL TOURS ON SELECTED TUESDAYS

DATE	WALK	STATION	TIME
Dec. 27	Salisbury & Stonehenge <i>You'll Never See Anything Like It Again!</i>	Waterloo ➔	8.45 am
Dec. 27	The Regent's Canal† <i>Little Venice to Camden Town</i>	Warwick Avenue ➔	2 pm
Dec. 27	Charles Dickens' <i>Christmas Carol</i> & Seasonal Traditions	Tower Hill ➔	2.30 pm
Apr. 18	Salisbury & Stonehenge <i>You'll Never See Anything Like It Again!</i>	Waterloo ➔	8.45 am

† Given in partnership with the Inland Waterways Association

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Wednesday's Walks

THIS IS LONDON

10.15 am Westminster Tube ☺ exit 4

Guard Change & Highlights Tour! Why go on a bus tour? ☹️ Ok, maybe ho-hum main roads are your thing. Big, straight, obvious, busy roads – they probably are the strokes for some folks. Then again, maybe not. You don't "see" the English countryside by taking the motorway through it. Maybe to it, but not through it. Same goes for London. And so we come to the *rem acu teligitur* moment: *Everything you want to see in the famous heart of London can be seen on foot in two hours!* Seen better. Seen up close. Seen round behind. Because we can go where the buses can't. *Seen better. Guided better. Fraction of the cost.* So, Hey ho and off we go – off to see all the classic sights in the heart of London. Tick em off the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace, St. James's Palace, the quintessential Royal Park, classy St. James's, the Mall, Trafalgar Square, Admiralty Arch, Birdcage Walk, Queen Anne's Gate, you name it. They're all here – all the London pearls. **Guided by Fiona, Simon W. or Russell.**

BRUNEL'S LONDON

10.40 am Embankment Tube ☺ river exit

Boat Trip, River Walk, Tunnel Descent... See Thursday's column for description. **Guided by Tim P.**

THE OLD JEWISH QUARTER

10.45 am Tower Hill Tube ☺ Meet by the "Tower Hill Tram" coffee stall

"A shtetl called Whitechapel" Set amid the alleys and back streets of colourful Spitalfields and Whitechapel, this walk's a tale and trail of synagogues and sweatshops, Sephardim and soup kitchens... See Sunday's column overleaf for full description. **Guided by Shaughan or Steve. [Video on walks.com](#)**

THE TOWER OF LONDON TOUR*

11 am Tower Hill Tube ☺ Meet by the "Tower Hill Tram" coffee stall

"the most important mediaeval fortress in Europe" In the beginning William – *the bastard* – created the Tower. Biblical echo's deliberate. That's how important the Tower is. Crown jewels, battlements, Traitor's Gate, executioner's block, armour, centuries-old ceremonies, the stage on which so much of our history climaxed. The question isn't whether you'll go to the Tower – it's whether you'll go First Class. *First Class* isn't tacky and touristy. It isn't wandering aimlessly. What it is, is seeing the Tower with a great guide. Because that thrilling, chilling past is still there – *sighs run in blood down Tower walls* – but you have to know *where* to look. And *how* to look. Go First Class – go in there with a world class guide (and these two are) – and you'll come out exclaiming *"that's the best upgrade* on the planet!"* **Guided by Tom or Brian.** **An upgrade because if you go with us – go First Class – you'll get a big discount on the Tower admission price. And we get you VIP admission: no queuing, no "standing in line". Go Economy Class you pay more, get less and could queue for half an hour. Some Economy! N.B. As this one's for all ages there's a £3 charge for kids for the tour plus the entry fee.*

LEGAL & ILLEGAL LONDON

11 am Holborn Tube ☺

The Inns of Court – *habitat of the wigged and gowned English barrister* – could pass for a collection of Oxford and Cambridge colleges right in the heart of London. They're a warren of passageways, cloisters and courtyards set amongst some of the best gardens in London. So: ancient rites and customs, high drama, colourful characters, and matters of life and death amid delightful surroundings. It's a rich confection, making this the prettiest and most historical of our central London walks. *Welcome to London's legal enclave!* **Guided by Molly. [See video on www.walks.com](#)**

SHAKESPEARE'S & DICKENS' LONDON

11 am St. Paul's Tube ☺ exit 2

London was to Shakespeare and Dickens what Paris was to Balzac. It held them in its thrall, was their canvas and their inspiration, their workshop and their raw material. See Sunday's section overleaf for full description. **Guided by Andy or Corinna. N.B. doesn't duplicate Friday's "Dickens' London" walk.**

LITTLE VENICE

Not in Dec. or Jan.

11 am Warwick Avenue Tube ☺

If you fancy something completely different this is the walk for you. See Sunday's section overleaf for full description. **Guided by Richard III or Peter. [See video on www.walks.com](#)**

CHELSEA

1.45 pm Sloane Square Tube ☺

London's Riverside Village Starts with one of the great set-pieces of London architecture. To set foot in there is to cross a threshold into another era. Because the *"pensioners"* – old soldiers – are wearing 17th-century uniforms. As old as the cannon that guard the place. That's just the overture. Because Chelsea is also Whistler's Thames – best seen in the afternoon with the sun like a blob of melted butter burnishing the luminous water. And it's Sir Laurence Olivier's house (and Oscar Wilde's and Carlyle's and Mick Jagger's). These gnarled old village lanes and byways are as clamorous with great names as rooks in a wood. The pageantry of the place continues to unfurl – because Chelsea is also artists' studios and the old Apothecary Garden (*Wednesday afternoons it's normally open to the public!*) and Sir Thomas More's church and Crosby Hall, built 20 years before Columbus discovered America. **Guided by Brian or Stephanie.**

OLD HAMPSTEAD VILLAGE

Not in January

2 pm Hampstead Tube ☺

London's Penthouse! Its most picturesque neighbourhood, its Georgian crown... See Sunday's section overleaf for full description. **Guided by Richard III or Peter. [See video on www.walks.com](#)**

THE BEATLES MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR

2 pm Tottenham Court Road Tube ☺ exit 1 **Not in Dec. or Jan.**

"Imagine" Beatlemania and the Swinging 60s... *It Rocks!* Full description on Thursday's column ☞

OLD LONDON

2.15 pm St. Paul's Tube ☺ exit 2

Secret Places & Hidden History Flash! Bang! Lightning! *City of London Highlights Tour.* What's not to like? Grand Tour. Stunning overview. St. Paul's to the Tower of London. Can't do better than that for a jumping off point and a final destination. But – *whisper it* – the getting there is the real fun, because along the way we explore little alleyways, twisty nooks & crannies and a secret stretch of shoreline. *Seeing this London is like hearing music you never would have known to listen for.* **Guided by Fiona, Simon W. or Russell.**



THE BRITISH MUSEUM TOUR

2.15 pm Russell Square Tube ☺

The British Museum is the big one the most important museum in the world. "And to see it with a great guide – you'll never be quite the same again." It's an incomparably rich treasure-chest, brimming with things of world historical importance. The Rosetta Stone, Egyptian mummies (*and "Ginger"*), the Assyrian Lion Hunts, the Parthenon Statues, the Sutton Hoo treasure, the Portland Vase. *Here is civilisation, manifest;* here the past pivots to face the 21st-century. The snag is that you can't see for looking, both because of *the embarrassment of riches* and the sheer size of the place (the building covers 14 acres; set off in the wrong direction and you have to walk three times too far). Indeed, *how* you see it is almost as important as *what* you see. *"The best commentary on the revolution of Greek art and the quality of its achievement is... simply to come direct to the Elgin room from the Egyptian and Assyrian ones, as if into an explosion of life, even, as in the frieze, of gaiety."* In short, the secret is to use your time at the British Museum well. **Guided by Molly or Margaret. [See video on www.walks.com](#)**

THE OLD PALACE QUARTER

2.30 pm Green Park Tube ☺ Green Park exit, by the fountain

Party Town! *If you're prim and prudish better give this one a miss.* Because it's, well, juicy. It's the historical 'Rock n' Roll' walk of the swinging 1660s and beyond. Real life 'Game of Thrones' stuff. Bedroom antics back then – and *hey presto* it's Jon Snow the bastard today. Not to mention Samantha Cameron. *Hello Party Town! Welcome to Love Nests out West!* The chapter headings are delicious and salacious – let alone dizzying, dazzling, sizzling. "The Return Of The King." Boots Washed in Champagne. Duels in Pickering. Legover London & Mistresses off the Mall. Bowler Hats. Betting on Raindrops. Virgins with Leprosy. Her Majesty's Secret Service. The Assassinated Racehorse. The American Bar. Laying Down Your Wife for Your Country. The Prime Minister & the Actress. "Well [Giggle] He Would, Wouldn't He?" And that's just for starters. Anything else? Just this. *"I'd put this one in the top four of the 57 different walks that I'm personally able to guide. It's got everything I want in a walk"* (David). **Guided by Karen, Jan or Peter. [Watch the video on www.walks.com](#)**

MAYFLOWER TO BRUNEL'S TUNNEL

6.15 pm Bermondsey Tube ☺

Gulliver's Travels, Ancient Riverside Village, Sea to Shining Sea... Now the curtain rises on a different scene. Full description in Sunday's section overleaf. **Guided by Tim. [Video on walks.com](#)**

ROCK 'N' ROLL LONDON



7 pm Tottenham Court Road ☺ exit 1 **Not in Jan. & Feb.**
Cmon, c'mon, c'mon, c'mon, c'mon... It's all abooooorrrrrd this night's train for *Rock 'n' Roll & Booze.* Headin' to their haunts and hangouts. Where they riffed and let rip, these men of wealth and taste. *Please allow me to introduce* The Rolling Stones, The Who, Jimi Hendrix, Pink Floyd, The Beatles, David Bowie, The Sex Pistols, The Clash, Blur, Oasis... It's a Who's Who of the music. A Who's Who of the music strung along a London trail cuz each act has a London tale to tell. *Very often a tale so decadent – so down and dirty – that Caligula himself would blush!* Cert 18/NC-17 **Guided by Adam or Rex.** *Yes, this is a pub walk. †With thanks to Morrissey!

GHOSTS, GASLIGHT & GUINNESS

7.30 pm Holborn Tube ☺ **Not in Dec. or Jan.**

London is the most haunted city on earth. Unutterably old, built over a fen of undisclosed horrors, believed to contain occult lines of geometry. A city where the very mist is like a sigh from a graveyard. Now I don't want to weird you out, but where we're going tonight time past and time present can fuse... *especially when the daylight bleeds away.* If in a dark window you see an even darker silhouette staring back, or if the branches of a tree suddenly shiver like a spider's web that's caught something, or if you follow a stranger into a churchyard or a pub where everything isn't as it seems... *you could well be wayfaring to the rebecks of eternity.* Fancy a pint? **Guided by Richard III.**

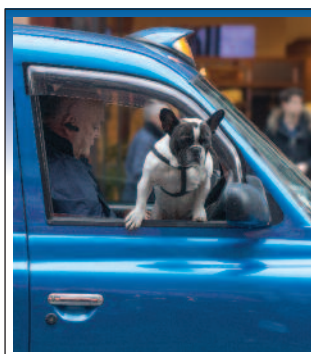
JACK THE RIPPER HAUNTS

7.30 pm Tower Hill Tube ☺ Meet by the "Tower Hill Tram" coffee stall

He came silently out of the midnight shadows of August 31, 1888. Watching. Stalking. Butchering raddled, drink-sodden East End prostitutes. Leaving a trail of blood that led... *nowhere* See Sunday's section overleaf for full description. **Guided by Steve & Andy. [See video on www.walks.com](#)**

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL TOURS ON SELECTED WEDNESDAYS

DATE	THE GREAT ESCAPE!	STATION	TIME
Nov. 23	Harry Potter Film Locations in the City	Bank ☺	2 pm
Dec. 28	The Cotswolds & Oxford Video on www.walks.com	Paddington ⇌	9.15 am
Dec. 28	Harry Potter Film Locations in the City	Bank ☺	2 pm
Feb. 15	Harry Potter Film Locations in the City	Bank ☺	2 pm
Apr. 5	Harry Potter Film Locations in the City	Bank ☺	2 pm
Apr. 12	Harry Potter Film Locations in the City	Bank ☺	2 pm
Apr. 19	The Cotswolds & Oxford Video on www.walks.com	Paddington ⇌	9.15 am



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Thursday's Walks

INSIDE COVENT GARDEN

10 am Covent Garden Tube ➡

Really inside!!

Let's hear it for privileged access! Was going to say Karen & Simon W. have emptied the pockets of several stunning London interiors and laid the contents out before us. *Empty schmempty*. It's better than that. They take us *into* those pockets. Some of them places you wouldn't be able to get into if you weren't on this walk. Special places, privileged places. Here's Betjeman on one: *"unique and irreplaceable and part of literary and theatrical London. It's historic – quite different from a museum because it's living and in use, not an exhibit."* And its setting, its street? *"It's unmitigated London – human in scale, irregular in height and width, the kind of street that's fast disappearing."* So: Downtown Abbey film location, lost rivers, faded menus, whipping post, ballet students, private dining rooms, portable flogging and beheading kit, Pearly king, silver-domed trolleys, night watchman's Tardis, famous actress' ashes in a tea caddy, horseshoes, personal letters and gifts, Grand Cigar Divan, *cabinet particulaire* where the prince and the actress dined privately, etc. here we come! Great walk. **See the video of the walk on www.walks.com**



Meet Joanne outside Temple ➡ Tube at 10 am

Magna Carta 1215

Guided by a criminal defence lawyer, this Inns of Court "special" focuses on the enduring legacy of **"the greatest Constitutional document of all time,"** the foundation stone of the Rule of Law, Liberty and Human Rights. From autocracy to democracy, from King John and the barons to the legal implications of Brexit. **Includes a visit inside the Royal Courts of Justice.**

Optional entry* at walk's end to our Magna Carta era building.

Welcome to the 12th century! *Subject to availability. £3 entry fee, a 40% discount.

Runs on the following Thursdays: Dec. 1, Dec. 15, Jan. 5, Jan. 19, Feb. 2, Feb. 16, Mar. 2, Mar. 23, Apr. 6, Apr. 20 & Apr. 27.

ROYAL LONDON

10.30 am St. James's Park Tube ➡ Broadway/Westminster Abbey exit†

Yes! **Eternal London. Landmark London.** All the Big Ticket stuff. Palaces. Changing of the Guard.* 10 Downing Street. The "Royal Peculiar." Places where *world history* was made. **What makes this one a game changer is the way we see it.** We nook and cranny it. Get around behind. See things Londoners – *let alone the tourist hordes* – never get to see. It's that "speciality" London Walks is famous for – *"the degree of granularity that you get"*. Everything from the import of a black circle by the 2 on a certain clock to what the Horse Guards are actually guarding. **Revealed by Anne-Marie, Jan or Isobel.** *The Changing of the Horse Guards ceremony takes place every day. *It's up close, right there, intimate. We'll be there.* The Buckingham Palace ceremony isn't held every day. On the Thursdays when it is on we'll of course see it! †**Meet on the corner, opposite 40 Broadway**

UNDISCOVERED LONDON

10.30 am Bermondsey Tube ➡

Same City, Different London... *"Hasn't yet been discovered."* Four words* that make my blood race. And look, if you just want *postcard London* old Bermondsey's probably not for you. But if the sightseeing equivalent of Granny Bonds isn't your thing, well, step this way. This way for converted factories and disused old warehouses and ghostly scents of baking, jam and leather tanning – the industrial cosetry of the London Bridge Quarter. Yes, the wrong side of the tracks. But it's the right side of the tracks because something's happening here. This is a London neighbourhood coming out of its chrysalis. It's got the buzz. *And I don't mean its apinary* More reasons? 1) you won't have seen this part of London; 2) it's very central; 3) there's a fab bit of riverscape; 4) cutting edge little galleries and museums; 5) Borough Market's just a short stroll away (and today's market day). **Guided by Ann, Fiona or Isobel.** *Right up there with *hidden places, hidden history.*

BRUNEL'S LONDON

10.40 am Embankment Tube ➡ river exit

Boat Trip, River Walk, Tunnel Descent... This isn't just Brunel, it's a voyage – and a walk – into the birthplace of *modern London*. So, yes, under three Brunel bridges and over two Brunels' tunnels to the best kept secret in London. And into the bargain a *sightseer's London checklist*, from Parliament to the Tower of London. Icons. And that secret. Several secrets, actually. A secret gateway for the Russian Czar. Six dead men on a haunted ship. Broken bones by the silent Harpy. Broken slipways on the Isle of Dogs. Shattered columns, shattered dancers, magic at the Tunnel Club. Mind-melting magic. *Outcroppings of the past that haven't been swallowed by the passage of time.* That tell of the monster ship. And of the world's most important tunnel. That more than tell. That take us down into the tunnel where men died and Brunel met with destiny. *N.B. Oyster or Day Travel Card recommended. Another saving: we get you a whopping great 50% discount off the price of the boat ride.* **Guided by Martin.**

THE FAMOUS SQUARE MILE

11 am Monument Tube ➡ Fish Street Hill exit

2,000 Years of History This is the *great classic London Walk*. It explores the most historic part of the capital. Threading their way through an intricate network of narrow alleys and cobble-stone lanes, **Tom, Judy and Fiona** chronicle the 2,000 years of London's rich and tumultuous history. And illustrate it by drawing upon everything from street names to ancient customs to the *frozen music* of London's great buildings, including the Bank of England, the Lord Mayor's Mansion House and ancient Guildhall. *(The walk includes, whenever possible, a visit inside Guildhall!)*

OLD MAYFAIR

11 am Green Park Tube ➡ north exit, on the corner

"the champagne and caviar of London Walks" Swank it on *"the champagne & caviar of London Walks."* A patrician and the parallelogram of purses where Old Masters and old money, Rollers and Rolexes are par for the course. *"The best address in London"* and a *bon vivant* of a guide. A *boulevardier* and a *bailliwick* of butlers, titles and glamour. It's *hob-nobbing with knobs on it* – because Mayfair's been home to Clive of India, Disraeli, Handel, Florence Nightingale, Jimi Hendrix, Dodi Fayed and the Earl Mountbatten, to name but a few. Last but certainly not least, it boasts London's best *village within a village* – Shepherd Market, a charming little nest of lanes and alleyways that hasn't lost a jot of its 18th-century scale and village atmosphere, let alone its raffishness. **Guided by Richard III or Peter.** **See the video of the walk on www.walks.com**

BEATLES MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR

11 am Tottenham Court Road Tube ➡ exit 1

It Rocks! Guided by *"the Pied Piper of Beatlemania"*, this is a chance to *"Imagine"* the Swinging 60s. It's a *Magical Mystery Tour* of the Beatles' London haunts. Highlights include their "Apple" offices, where they played the famous *rooftop session*; the world famous Abbey Road Studios; Paul McCartney's headquarters; the gallery where John Lennon met Yoko Ono; and, of course, the Abbey Road zebra crossing. **Richard P.** recaptures the era when London was the cultural capital of the world and the *Fab Four* were its rulers. *N.B. we make a short Tube journey to Abbey Road so getting a Day Travel Card or Oyster Card – "a ticket to ride" – is a good idea.*

OLD KENSINGTON

2 pm High Street Kensington Tube ➡

Meet by the ➡ Store – next to the pavement (sidewalk), just inside the arcade

London's Royal Village This one's special. It's rarely the first – or even the second or third – walk people go on, but when they do get round to taking it, they often say it's the one they liked the most. And no wonder, because *Royal Kensington is London at its best – picturesque, stimulating, and full of character.* See Saturday's section overleaf for full description. **Guided by David or Adam.** **Video on walks.com**



OLD WESTMINSTER

2 pm Westminster Tube ➡ exit 4

1,000 Years of History This is the cornerstone, the seminal London Walk. Miss it and you've missed London. Tuesday's column ➡ for full details. **Guided by Shaughan or David.** **Video on walks.com**

CRIME & PUNISHMENT*

2 pm St. Paul's Tube ➡ exit 2

Not Dec. 22

The City of the Gallows And the city of beheadings, whippings and brandings. Of hanging, drawing and quartering. Of bodies of the executed delivered to Surgeons Hall for dissection (or else hung in chains). Of hundreds of capital offences. Of pillories, pressing with heavy weights, suffocating dungeons and jail fever that killed countless prisoners (and four out of six judges on the bench). Of prisoners awaiting trial with no legal claim to food. *Of Londoners going on with their daily life not a stone's throw away from shocking scenes of slaughter.* Now brace yourself. There are, to this day, visible traces – *horrifying traces* – of that London. And since it all comes down to the guiding this one's guided by specialists. **Tom's** a barrister. **Brian** has a legal background (and a Law degree). **Richard III** has an illegal background (a charge sheet as long as your arm, a charge sheet to be proud of). **Jane's** thin blue line bred. **You couldn't enter London without passing the bodies of the hanged – or heads on stakes.*

THE BLITZ

2.30 pm St. Paul's Tube ➡ exit 2

"London turned crimson" The dome of St. Paul's seemed to ride the sea of fire like a great ship. Ludgate Hill was carpeted in hosepipes. 200 people died that night. On the north side of the cathedral 63 acres were a waste of smoking ash and rubble. Another 100 acres were completely devastated in other raids that autumn. At the finish, out of the City's tight-packed 461 acres, 164 were reduced to ruin. *And this was just 1940.* Now over to **Kim,*** who's going to take us through a great city in its most desperate hour. *Some of what you see and hear may be disturbing.* *Or Rex, Andy R. or Fiona.

THE ANCIENT CITY AT NIGHT*

Not Dec. 29

6.30 pm Bank Tube ➡ exit 3, meet by the Wellington statue

Take Another Look! If I were going to take Julius Caesar, Elizabeth I, George Washington and Nelson Mandela on a London Walk this would be the one. Because of where it goes and what we see. It's the oldest part of London; it's also the most aggressively modern part. *After hours* it's transfigured: crystalline, transparent as a dragonfly, submerged in its past. We can peer into its depths. And then rub our eyes and wonder at a church that *"transcends originality"*, at the only private house in the country with its own court and cells, at a lost river, at a jewel box of a market (*going there is a little touch of Harry Potter in the night*), at Dirty Dick's, at the architectural equivalent of a butterfly collection. And to see it at night – *washed in blue and green light* – it's like moving, stunned, through the crevasses of a mountain glacier. **Guided by Peter.** **Pubs included. Post-walk curry an optional extra.*

THE WEST END GHOST WALK

7.30 pm Embankment Tube ➡ river exit

Not in Jan. or Feb.

"This part of London is like a haunted house..." The walk starts off as fun and eccentric but as the shadows lengthen – as we get into the deepest recesses of the *haunted house* – it gets quite creepy... See Monday's column ➡ for full description. **Guided by Andy, Oliver or Simon W.** **Video on walks.com**

JACK THE RIPPER HAUNTS

7.30 pm Tower Hill Tube ➡ Meet by the "Tower Hill Tram" coffee stall

He came silently out of the midnight shadows of August 31, 1888. Watching. Stalking. Butchering raddled, drink-sodden East End prostitutes. Leaving a trail of blood that led... *nowhere.* See Sunday's section overleaf for full description. **Guided by Shaughan or Adam.** *A word of warning: never part with your money until you're certain it's Shaughan or Adam you're handing it to.* **Video on www.walks.com**

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL TOURS ON SELECTED THURSDAYS

DATE	WALK	STATION	TIME
Nov. 29	► The Secret Ceremony <i>Boar's Head, Furred Gowns & Gold Chains</i>	St. Paul's ➡ exit 2	2 pm
Dec. 22	Charles Dickens' <i>Christmas Carol</i> & Seasonal Traditions	Tower Hill ➡	2.15 pm
Dec. 29	Cambridge "Can such places be?"	King's Cross ➡	9 am

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Friday's Walks

A SOHO SAUNTER

Not in Dec. or Jan.

10.15 am Leicester Square Tube ☺ exit 1

What a delightful hotch-potch Graceful old square. Courtyards. Passages burrowing this way and that. Everything humming with life: shutters going up, flower boxes being watered, freshly baked bread carried into restaurants, waiters in white aprons serving Turkish coffee at pavement cafés, Chinatown bestirring itself, the colour and clamour of Berwick Street market (if it weren't for the Cockney accents you'd think you were in a Moroccan souk). *What a tonic!* Guided by Adam, Peter, Richard III or Claire.

BRUNEL'S LONDON

10.40 am Embankment Tube ☺ river exit

Boat Trip, River Walk, Tunnel Descent... See Thursday's column ☺ for full description Guided by Martin.

THE VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM TOUR

10.45 am South Kensington Tube ☺ meet just beyond the ticket barrier

"It's not what we see, but what we see in it" Well, yes and no. *What you see* – the route the guide takes and the selection she makes – is *important* in a museum that covers 11 acres, has 145 galleries and runs to 5 million objects. But logistics and savvy are just the basics. The real thrill is *what you see in the pieces* we show you. These are objects that *contain their history*. To see them – to *see into* them – the Great Bed of Ware, the Raphael Cartoons (*"one of the supreme sights of the world"*), the Ardabil carpet... *well, it's like sunrise on Mount Moses*. Guided by Margaret or Molly.

THE SECRETS OF WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Not Dec. 2

10.45 am St. James's Park Tube ☺ Westminster Abbey/Broadway exit (opp. 40 Broadway) **or Apr. 14**

England in microcosm See Monday's column ☺ for full description. Guided by Mary, Brian or Tom.

THE OLD JEWISH QUARTER

10.45 am Tower Hill Tube ☺ Meet by the "Tower Hill Tram" coffee stall

"A shtetl called Whitechapel" See Sunday's section overleaf for full description. Guided by Steve or Rachel (Rachel's the author of *Jewish London*). **See the video of the walk on www.walks.com**

HIDDEN LONDON

11 am Monument Tube ☺ Fish Street Hill exit

Distillation of a brilliant guide's vast experience probing the hidden places and forgotten nooks of the world's most elusive city. Exploring *secret London* – up creeping lanes, round out-of-the-way corners, past veiled islands of green – **Shaughan's** at his inimitable best. In such places and with such a guide, *the past becomes our present*. Monday's column ☺ for full description and *New York Times* thumbs up.

UNEXPECTED LONDON

Not Dec. 23 or 30

11 am Temple Tube ☺

Secret places and hidden interiors... *"If you want to know London better, if you want to learn some things about the world's most cosmopolitan city that most people who spend their lives there never learn I can think of no better investment than London Walks"* *New York Times*. Could have been describing this walk. Teems with quirkiness, odd places and passing strange things and people. A taster? Try hidden palaces, *The King's Speech* Royal chapel, the hotel where George Orwell worked, the chair with a flying guinea pig and – *the jewel in the crown* – a gothic chapel hidden away from public view and not visited on any other London Walk. Well, you get the idea. What's not to like. Guided by Kim, Hilary or Alison.

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES

2 pm Embankment Tube ☺ Villiers Street exit

"The game's afoot!" Grab your deerstalker & magnifying glass, we're going sleuthing. Exploring the London whose *"ever-changing kaleidoscope of life"* intrigued Holmes & Watson. Following their adventures in Charing Cross, the Strand's gas-lit alleys and Covent Garden. Ending in a place *"where a dream becomes reality"*: the superb re-creation of Holmes' study in the building immortalised in *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. Guided by Corinna or Richard IV.

LEGAL & ILLEGAL LONDON

2 pm Holborn Tube ☺

The Inns of Court Talk about *olde worlde*. The Inns of Court – *habitat of the bewigged and gowned English barrister* – could pass for a clutch of ancient Oxford and Cambridge colleges right in the heart of London. A warren of courtyards, cloisters and passageways set amongst superb gardens. So: ancient rites and customs, high drama, colourful characters and matters of life and death amid delightful surroundings. *It doesn't get any better than this*. Guided by Angela. **Video on www.walks.com**

ROCK 'N' ROLL LONDON

2 pm Tottenham Court Road Tube ☺ exit 1

Keep on walking, keep on rocking! All roads once lead to Rome... now they lead to London. In terms of rock'n'roll this is an inarguable fact. Big bucks may be made in Hollywood but rock'n'roll reputations are made here in The Big Smoke. Our cast list's a *Who's Who* of the music: The Beatles, The Stones, The Who, Pink Floyd, Jimi Hendrix, David Bowie, The Sex Pistols, The Clash, Blur and Oasis. Each act has a London tale to tell, *often a tale so decadent that Caligula himself would blush!*† London Calling. Lend an ear. † With thanks to Morrissey Guided by Adam, Richard P. or Rex. **Video on www.walks.com**

THE NATIONAL GALLERY

2.15 pm Embankment Tube ☺ Villiers Street exit

Best Art Tour Ever! "Great art has dreadful manners. The hushed reverence of the gallery can fool you into believing masterpieces are polite things, visions that soothe, charm and beguile, but actually they are thugs. Merciless and wily, the greatest paintings grab you in a headlock, rough up your composure and then proceed in short order to rearrange your sense of reality" (Simon Schama). And on that note (warning?) you're cordially invited to a National Gallery *levée* with Rembrandt, Rubens, Leonardo da Vinci, Van Dyck, Goya, Constable, Turner, Monet, Renoir and Van Gogh. Guided by Margaret or Molly.

CHARLES DICKENS' LONDON

2.15 pm Temple Tube ☺

A sojourn into a lost city – an Atlantis. Dickens and London? "He knew it all," recalled a friend, and here are remarkable survivals from his life and works: Pip's lodgings in *Great Expectations* ("who enters here leaves noise behind") and the bank which employed "resurrection man" Jerry Cruncher in *A Tale of Two Cities*. Tulkinghorn's chambers ("where lawyers lie like maggots in nuts") from *Bleak House*, even the original Old Curiosity Shop (or is it?). Dickens' immortal Sam Weller had "extensive and peculiar" knowledge of London, and this walk continues the tradition. Tradition and peculiar being the watchwords. Because we're heading into a London of nooks and crannies and alleyways and gas lamps and 18th- and 19th-century houses. Guided by Richard III or IV.

"London is the most difficult city in the world to fathom, Paris is an explanation; London is a riddle." G. K. Chesterton

THE OLD PALACE QUARTER

Not Dec. 23

2.30 pm Green Park Tube ☺ Green Park exit, by the fountain

They don't make them like this anymore "I'd put this one in the top four of the 57 different walks I'm personally able to guide. It's got everything I want in a walk" (David). That's the opinion. Here's what it's based on. 1) It's *olde* vintage London. The 18th-century's par for the course but there are secret passageways that take you into the 16th-century. It's so well preserved it's a miracle the whole neighbourhood hasn't been sold off to a museum. 2) It's *storied* – full of character, full of characters, and marinated in history. 3) It's nooked and crannied. That important? "Well maybe it's just me but I like to see things other people don't get to see" (David again). 4) It's got superb guides. Their names are Hilary, Alison or Kim. **Party Town?** See Wednesday's column ☺ for the racy bits. **Video on www.walks.com**

ALONG THE THAMES PUB WALK

7 pm Blackfriars Tube ☺

"The most exciting walk in London..." *does more to interpret the city than anything else, a real skeleton key.* If you only have time for one walking tour, this is the one to go on – it's the classic London pub walk. It takes in London's last remaining galleried coaching inn, its best riverside walkway, its oldest market, *the most sensational art gallery in the world* (we walk through it when the art's mind-melting or the weather's foul), the church where Harvard University's founder was baptised, a *non pareil* free house – plus lashings of Shakespeare, a jot of Dickens, lots of pub lore, and its most stunning skyline panorama. It gets better. Because there's also the remains of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre... and the thrilling, thatch-roofed reproduction that's risen Phoenix-like only a stone's throw away. Let alone the astonishing replica of Sir Francis Drake's *Golden Hind*, the ship that the great Elizabethan mariner sailed around the world over 400 years ago. Anchored there in the murky Thames, its timbers creaking eerily in the misty London night and The Globe just yards away... it's a ghost ship lost in time. (Food is available.) Guided by Katy or David. **See the video of the walk on www.walks.com**



THE OLD KNIGHTSBRIDGE VILLAGE PUB WALK

7 pm South Kensington Tube ☺ **Not Dec. Jan. or Feb.**

A collector's corner of mews, alleys, and cosiness. Welcome to the other Knightsbridge. The *old lanes* are a London original – one of the capital's hidden delights, one of its *special* places. And yes they are hard to find... our higgledy-piggledy route takes us up a cobbled pathway, past a hidden churchyard, along a little mews, through a gate in a wall and down some steps and then... hey presto, we're *through the looking glass* and into the *old lanes*. Into unchanging London. We could be a million miles from Harrods and seething Brompton Road. The contrast is as dramatic and unexpected as anything in London... you'd think you were in the back streets of a Cornish fishing village. And that's just for openers. Stir in pots of history, add a dash of intrigue and gossip and garnish with pubs that are real *trouvailles* and you've got a spiffing walk. Guided by Fiona, Nick or Richard III.

HAUNTED LONDON

7.30 pm Monument Tube ☺ Fish Street Hill exit

From fear to eternity! Time to pierce the veil that hides the future after death. When rooftop cats look down – *eyes green as ringstones* – and see things that maybe we shouldn't see. Down here in the creepiest part of London... See Sunday's section overleaf for full description. Guided by Steve or Corinna.

JACK THE RIPPER HAUNTS

7.30 pm Tower Hill Tube ☺ Meet by the "Tower Hill Tram" coffee stall

He came silently out of the midnight shadows of August 31, 1888. Watching. Stalking. Butchering raddled, drink-sodden East End prostitutes. Leaving a trail of blood that led... *nowhere*. See Sunday's column overleaf for full description. Guided by Donald Rumbelow, Andy or Richard. N.B. going on this walk is as close as you're going to get to nailing the Ripper. *"Internationally recognised as the leading authority on Jack the Ripper,"* crime historian Donald Rumbelow is the author of the definitive book on the Ripper. In *Frommer's* lapidary phrase: **"London Walks has many copycats but it's the best".**

Warning: make sure it's Don, Andy or Richard you're handing your money to. **Video on www.walks.com**

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL TOURS ON SELECTED FRIDAYS

DATE	WALK	TUBE ☺	TIME
Dec. 23	Charles Dickens' <i>Christmas Carol</i> & Seasonal Traditions	Tower Hill	11 am
Dec. 30	The City Sculpture Safari <i>London's Hidden Masterpieces</i>	Tower Hill	10.45 am

Jacques l'Eventreur



Toutes Les Semaines, Le Vendredi à 19h

au Métro Tower Hill ☺

Adultes £12/Étudiants et Retraités £10.

La promenade dure environ 1 heure 45 minutes.

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GREAT ESCAPES! The Saturday Day Trips

DATE	For full details see the Great Escapes! column	RAILWAY STN ⇌	TIME
Nov. 5	Cambridge "Can such places be?" Video on www.walks.com	King's Cross	9 am
Nov. 12	Canterbury Across the Immense Span of Centuries	St. Pancras	8.45 am
Nov. 19	St. Albans An England in Miniature!	West Hampstead	10.45 am
Nov. 26	Cambridge "Can such places be?" Video on www.walks.com	King's Cross	9 am
Dec. 3	Charles Dickens Christmas Festival Guaranteed Snow!	St. Pancras	9 am
Dec. 10	Leeds Castle and Canterbury (on Christmas Market Day)	Victoria	8.45 am
Dec. 17	St. Albans & England's Oldest Christmas Street Market	West Hampstead	10.45 am
Dec. 31	Hampton Court for Tudor Christmas Festivities!	Waterloo	9.30 am
Apr. 15	Canterbury Across the Immense Span of Centuries	St. Pancras	8.45 am
Apr. 22	Bath England at its best! Video on www.walks.com	Paddington	8.45 am
Apr. 29	Stonehenge & Salisbury You'll never see anything like it again	Waterloo	8.45 am
May. 6	St. Albans in Miniature!	West Hampstead	10.45 am
May 13	The Cotswolds in Spring Video on www.walks.com	Paddington	8.45 am
May 20	The Cotswolds in Spring Video on www.walks.com	Paddington	8.45 am

DOCKLANDS

10.30 am Canary Wharf Tube ⇌ main exit*

N.B. This walk only takes place on the first Saturday of every month!

Cobblestone Quaysides & Cloud-capped Towers And so we come to the most extraordinary letter in the London alphabet. Docklands. A pungent past of centuries-old sugar warehouses and ships' workshops and the Dockmaster's House. Like the river, time bends here. And flows. *Flows backward*. For a time. Only to ricochet into the fireworks of futuristic London. Because this is Wall Street on Water – a place where cutting-edge, 21st-century power and energy are made visible and tangible. A place where this time-honoured city is reinventing itself. *Spectacularly*. In short, if you like walks that have *Surprise Me* written all over them – well, you just turned up trumps. And a bonus: we'll end at the new, not-to-be-missed River Thames & Docklands Museum. **Guided by Chris or Judy or Stephanie.** An Oyster or Day Travel Card is a good idea for this one. *N.B. The main Jubilee Line exit – not the East exit.

BRUNEL'S LONDON

Not Dec. 24 or Dec. 31

10.40 am Embankment Tube ⇌ river exit

Boat Trip, River Walk, Tunnel Descent... This isn't just Brunel, it's a voyage – and a walk – into the birthplace of modern London. So, yes, under three Brunel bridges and over two Brunels' tunnels to the best kept secret in London. And into the bargain a *sightseer's* London checklist, from the Houses of Parliament to the Tower of London. Icons. And that secret. See Thursday's column overleaf for full description. **N.B.** Oyster or Day Travel Card recommended. Another saving: we get you a whopping great 50% discount off the price of the boat ride. And our seats are reserved, we don't have to queue for them. **Guided by Robert.**

NOTTING HILL & PORTOBELLO MARKET

10.45 am Holland Park Tube ⇌

Not Dec. 24

This is reconnaissance on the razzle – the search-party that synopses. Because Notting Hill on a Saturday morning – *market morning!* – is curious and colourful, offbeat and yeasty. Here you walk with a ticket of freedom – a pass to scintillating escarpments. Just consider what's squeezed out onto the palette of this hillside: swells and scruffs; market stalls and scandal; Jimi Hendrix and Carnival; Cut Throat Alley and Victorian Gothic; Annie Lennox and Hugh Grant (let alone Julia Roberts and that bookshop); cottages, potteries and piggeries; colour washed mews and cab shelters and a race course and the gout route to Bath and butchers in straw hats and an invisible boundary between the present and the past... *Magic!* **Guided by Tom, Brian or Richard III.**

FROM THE REPERTORY The 10.45 am Tour du Jour!

The walk in this 10.45 am Saturday time slot changes weekly. For details see the following list.

DATE	WALK	Indicates a New Walk	TUBE STOP ⇌
Nov. 5	Royal Medicine [†] Making the Rounds in SW1		St. James's Park Abbey/Broadway exit
Nov. 12	Alfred Hitchcock's London More than 39 Steps!		Holborn
Nov. 19	Pie Crust to Upper Crust Foodies' London, Culinary Destinations!		Embankment Villiers Street exit
Nov. 26	The Greatest Multicultural City Invaders & Immigrants, Exiles & Escapees		Whitechapel
Dec. 3	Walworth Old & New Open Studios Day! in the "seriously hip" artists' quarter The Times		Kennington
Dec. 10	Bethnal Green The "Lost Village" in London's Backyard		Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood exit
Dec. 10	Foodies' London The West End		Green Park Green Park exit by the fountain
Dec. 17	Mediaeval London		Tower Hill
Dec. 24	The Sherlock Holmes Christmas Walk On the trail of the Blue Carbuncle		Goode Street
Dec. 31	The Olympic Park See the London 2012 legacy		West Ham
Dec. 31	Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol & Seasonal Traditions		Tower Hill
Jan. 7	Literary Bloomsbury The London of Virginia Woolf, W.B. Yeats, T.S. Eliot, etc.		Holborn
Jan. 14	Wonderful Waterloo A Behind the Termini Walk [‡]		Waterloo ⇌
Jan. 14	Fun Photography Walk Lambert Locations in Lambeth for Amateur Photographers		Temple
Jan. 21	Princes & Paupers Down Kennington Way Long Live Local London!		Kennington
Jan. 28	The Huguenot Silk Weavers of Spitalfields Riches to Rags		Liverpool Street Bishopsgate exit
Jan. 28	Eccentric London London is Stranger than Fiction		Embankment river exit
Feb. 4	The Great Melting Pot Immigrants' London		Liverpool Street Bishopsgate exit
Feb. 4	The Monopoly Walk Advance to Mayfair		Embankment
Feb. 11	Alfred Hitchcock's London More than 39 Steps!		Holborn
Feb. 18	The World of Belgravia London's Grandest Houses, their Secrets & Scandals		Sloane Square
Feb. 25	The Knifeman A Medical Tour with Surgeon John Hunter [‡]		Piccadilly Circus subway 3 Eros exit
Mar. 4	Wapping Tales – Ships, Pirates & Murders		Tower Hill
Mar. 11	The Lost World of the River Fleet		Blackfriars
Mar. 11	A Slice of India in Holi Festival Season "It's like walking through a Punjabi village"		Southall ⇌
Mar. 18	Literary Bloomsbury The London of Virginia Woolf, W.B. Yeats, T.S. Eliot, etc.		Holborn
Mar. 25	The Arthur Conan Doyle Walk The London of Sherlock's Creator		Piccadilly Circus Eros statue
Apr. 1	Merrie Islington A river swabbles through it...		Angel
Apr. 1	London's Literary Golden Mile ends with a tour of the British Library		Warren Street
Apr. 8	Leighton House Palace, Studio, East Meets West Treasure Cave (£5 fee)		High Street Kensington
Apr. 8	Strand on the Green "London's last remaining true village"		Gunnersbury Grange Rd exit
Apr. 15	The Olympic Park See the London 2012 legacy		West Ham
Apr. 22	Eccentric London London is Stranger than Fiction		Embankment river exit
Apr. 29	The Artists' Colony Arts & Crafts in Chelsea		Sloane Square
Apr. 29	Blooming Regency The Pleasures of the Park in Spring!		Great Portland Street

[†]Guided by a retired Anti-Terrorist Branch Detective. [‡]A Physician-guided survey of Monarchs, Matrons & Maladies

[‡]Meet Rachel beneath the big clock right in the centre of the main concourse of Waterloo ⇌ Railway Station.



TRAVEL TIP

To calculate how long a Tube ⇌ journey in central London will take, simply allow an average of three minutes between stations.

Foodies



Walks

Foodies' London The West End

takes place on Saturdays: December 10 & February 18
Meet Ann outside the Green Park exit of Green Park Tube at 10.45 am

Epicurean, Gourmets' Foodies' London

takes place on Saturdays: January 7 & April 8
Meet Ann outside the Fish Street Hill exit of Monument Tube at 10 am

Biscuits & Banquets The City Foodies Foray

takes place on Saturdays: December 31 & March 11
Meet Ann outside exit 1 of Mansion House Tube at 10.45 am

Pie Crust to Upper Crust Culinary Destinations

takes place on Saturdays: November 19, January 28 & April 29
Meet Ann outside the Villiers Street exit of Embankment Tube at 10.45 am
See our Foodies' London film on www.walks.com for a taster!

OLD WESTMINSTER

11 am Westminster Tube ⇌ exit 4

1,000 Years of History This is the cornerstone, the seminal London Walk. Miss it and you've missed London. For Old Westminster is London at its grandest: the place where kings and queens are crowned, where they lived, and often were buried. It's the forge of the national destiny, the place where the heart of the Empire beat, the Mecca of politicians throughout the ages. The past here is cast in stone and we take it all in... And to see it with a great guide* is to have that past suddenly rise to the surface, like seeing a photographic print come up in a darkroom. See Thursday's column overleaf for full description. **Guided by Karen.** *Great guide indeed, Karen won the big one – the London Tourist Board's Guide of the Year award! [See video on www.walks.com](#)

THE LONDON OF OSCAR WILDE

Not Dec. 24

11 am Green Park Tube ⇌ north exit, on the corner

1890s London. Gaslit streets. The rattle of hansom cabs. The silvery laughter of stage-door Johnnies and chorus girls. Whistler, Beardsley, Shaw, Lillie Langtry, and Gilbert & Sullivan. Above all, the London of Oscar Wilde, refulgent, majestic, amusing and outraging Victorian Society by turns. We follow in his footsteps. **Guided by Peter, Richard Walker or Ruth.**

OLD CAMDEN TOWN

Not Dec. 24

11 am Camden Town Tube ⇌

"Alternative London" The London smörgåsbord par excellence. A place where the past melts imperceptibly into the post-modern. A place of canals, cafés, cobblestones, craftsmen's studios, street cred, NW1 literati, Punks, Goths, Industrial Age iron and brick, antiques, artists, actors, and art deco. Let alone Camden Lock and The Stables, London's busiest and brightest market – which "at its best combines the bonhomie, excitement and buzz of Rio's Carnival!" Local artist **Judith** explores the sights behind the sights, unrolling the shifting scene like one of those Victorian panoramas.

THE BEATLES "IN MY LIFE" WALK

Not Dec. 24

11.20 am Marylebone Tube ⇌

"Get Back! with Richard P. to Beatlemania!" See Tuesday's column overleaf for full description.
Meet outside the main archway entrance of Marylebone ⇌ Railway Station – straight into the world of A Hard Day's Night

THE OLD CITY

Not Nov. 12 or Dec. 24

2 pm Tower Hill Tube ⇌ Meet by the "Tower Hill Tram" coffee stall

Nitty gritty first, mood music second. Iconic City buildings – the Gherkin, the Cheese Grater, Lloyds. London a world centre for business, finance, insurance, shipping – now, and across the centuries. Where to insure your voice, your hands, your next Space Mission. Secrets of the nation's gold – and yours too? Churches where Londoners have worshipped for centuries. A1 walk. (Yes, we'll explain what that means. Lots of takeaway nuggets on this walk, one of which is getting you *au fait* with City of London lingo.) Ok, mood music time: London. 2,000 years old. Higgledy piggledy. History haunted. Secretive in the extreme. A labyrinth where the past lurks in the present. Aggressively modern when you look up. A tear in space-time when you peer round this corner or go down that alley. A city that preserves features – like so many geological strata – of its earlier selves. A city that's not easy to figure out – you don't reap London in one traverse. Why bother? you ask. Here's why: 1) London's of world historical importance and 2) depths, intricacies and secrets are always interesting. Bottom line: this is a great walk. It's the London labyrinth and London highlights and the shaping past. You'll see both the hoary old City and today's London. Best of all, you'll see into them. **Guided by Chris, Judy or Ann.**

OLD KENSINGTON

Not Dec. 24

2 pm High Street Kensington Tube ⇌

Meet by the Store – next to the pavement (sidewalk), just inside the arcade

London's Royal Village This one's special. It's rarely the first – or even the second or third walk people go on, but when they do get round to taking it, they often say it's the one they liked the most. And no wonder, because **Royal Kensington is London at its best – picturesque, stimulating, and full of character.** Its parts are as delightful as London can provide: warmly handsome old Kensington Palace, home to the late Diana, Princess of Wales; Kensington Gardens (all meadows, shaded walks, bowers, and flower gardens, it might be the grounds of a stately home in some rural shire); cobbled little *soigné* lanes and mews, girt with pretty cottages and charming old shops; *millionaires' row*, regal avenues, beautifully kept squares and a clutch of the world's greatest museums; let alone Europe's largest (and most astonishing) roof garden, the secluded town house of the greatest Londoner of the 20th century and more history and colourful characters than you can shake a stick at. And afterwards you can take tea at the Orangery at Kensington Palace. **Guided by David or Angela.**

[Video on www.walks.com](#)



OLD MARYLEBONE **Psst! Read on ... Not Dec. 24**

2 pm Bond Street Tube ➔ by Forever 21 shop in Stratford Place opposite the station
"London specialises in hiding the best of itself." Old Marylebone's a case in point. Here you'll lose your way and find your heart... get gratifyingly lost and get London back the way it was. The way it was at the time of the American Revolution! The way it was just after the Napoleonic Wars – for this is *Regency London at its best!* The way it was for Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett – we'll see the old church where they were married! What else? Well, this one's fascinating because it's so unexpected – a quirky old village in the heart of the West End; delightful because it's our greenest walk; revealing because it takes us into one of the private worlds London excels in; stimulating because it's like a series of flashbacks to every bit of old London you've ever seen; brilliant because of the *olde mansion* we'll go into for a quick look at a couple of world famous paintings; and, finally, satisfying because everything locks into place like the lines of a sonnet. Guided by Sue, Peter, Margaret or Brian.

HARRY POTTER ON LOCATION IN LONDONTOWN

2 pm Embankment Tube ➔ river exit **Not Dec. 24**
The Westminster locations that figured in *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, *The Prisoner of Azkaban*, *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* and *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*. A walk for fans of all ages. Also works for anybody who's along to keep a fan company. Works for them because of the sights behind the sites. All led by the Prince of Potter guides – he of the spookily perfect name – actor Richard Walker. N.B. £3 charge for kids as this one is truly for all ages. It's the normal £10 for adults or £8 for concs.

LITTLE VENICE **Not Dec. 24**

2 pm Warwick Avenue Tube ➔
If you fancy something completely different... Little Venice is the prettiest and most romantic spot in town. See Sunday's section ➔ for full description. Guided by Shaughan. Video on www.walks.com

THE BRITISH MUSEUM TOUR **Not Dec. 24**

2.15 pm Russell Square Tube ➔
"To see it with a great guide* – you'll never be quite the same again." The British Museum is the big one... the most important museum in the world. An incomparably rich treasure-chest, it brims with things of world historical importance. Rosetta Stone, Egyptian mummies (and "Ginger"), Assyrian Lion Hunts, Royal Game of Ur, Parthenon Statues, Sutton Hoo treasure, Portland Vase... here the past pivots to face the 21st-century. Here is civilisation, manifest... See Monday's column overleaf for full description. Guided by Karen *Great guide indeed: one of the 15 best in the world according to the recent Travel & Leisure article, "The World's Greatest Guides!" Video on www.walks.com

FROM THE REPERTORY The 2.30 pm Tour du Jour!

The walk in this 2.30 pm Saturday time slot changes weekly. For details see the following list.

DATE	WALK	Indicates a New Walk	TUBE STOP ➔
Nov. 5	Gunpowder, Treason & Plot On the Trail of Guy Fawkes		Westminster exit 4
Nov. 12	▶ Hampstead Garden Suburb Arts & Crafts Utopia		Golders Green
Nov. 19	▶ Harley Street King's Speech, Brass Plates, Botox – Medical London at its Grandest†		Regent's Park
Nov. 26	Target London Guided by a Retired Anti-Terrorist Branch Detective		Bond Street Gilbert Street exit
Dec. 3	▶ The Isle of Dogs		Canary Wharf main exit
Dec. 10	Samuel Pepys' London Bloody, Flaming, Pox London		Tower Hill
Dec. 17	William Morris & Friends Arts & Crafts in Hammersmith		Stamford Brook
Dec. 17	Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol & Seasonal Traditions		Tower Hill
Dec. 24	▶ Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol & Seasonal Traditions		Tower Hill
Dec. 31	▶ Archway A Walk on the Dark Side		Archway
Dec. 31	▶ 1666 Fireworks Fire & Plague, Pyres & Pubs, Hanging & Heresy		Barbican
Jan. 7	▶ Theatreland An Award-Winning Look at the World's Most Beautiful Theatres		Piccadilly by the Statue of Eros
Jan. 14	"Bond, James Bond" The London of 007 & Ian Fleming		Marble Arch exit 2, Park Lane exit
Jan. 14	World Capital of Rock & Pop (See Friday's Walks for description)		Tottenham Court Road exit 1
Jan. 21	▶ The Embankment the In Focus Walk		Blackfriars
Jan. 28	Inside the Knowledge Quarter Visits little known specialist museums		Russell Square
Jan. 28	▶ Eastcheap & The Tower* A History of London's Building Stones		Monument Fish Street Hill exit
Feb. 4	▶ The Squares of Chelsea Guided by the author of Square London		Sloane Square
Feb. 11	▶ Chester Square the In Focus Walk		Sloane Square
Feb. 18	▶ Down, Dirty, Disastrous London Plague, Fire, Rebellion, Executions... And Pubs		Barbican
Feb. 25	London in Poetry		St. James's Park Broadway/Westminster Abbey exit
Mar. 4	William Morris & Friends Arts & Crafts in Hammersmith		Stamford Brook
Mar. 4	Slavery & the City Forging, Breaking & Burying the Chains		Monument Fish Street Hill exit
Mar. 11	Cholera & Casanova Making the Medical Rounds in Soho†		Piccadilly Circus by Eros statue
Mar. 18	The World of Belgravia London's Grandest Houses, their Secrets & Scandals		Sloane Square
Mar. 25	Target London Guided by a Retired Anti-Terrorist Branch Detective		Bond Street Gilbert Street exit
Mar. 25	▶ Building the Victoria Embankment A Story in Stone*		Embankment Villiers Street exit
Apr. 1	Boat Race Sneak Peek Blues Boys, Buys, Boats, Bridges & Troubled Waters		Ravenscourt Park
Apr. 1	Inside the Knowledge Quarter Visits little known specialist museums		Russell Square
Apr. 8	▶ The Men Who Made Menswear Tailoring in Mayfair & St James's		Piccadilly Circus exit 4
Apr. 8	▶ Stokeley A Misty Village		Manor House exit 3
Apr. 15	Uniquely Euston & Somers Town A Roundabout the Terminus Ramble		Mornington Crescent
Apr. 22	Classic London Mews & Hidden Passageways		Earl's Court Earl's Court Road exit
Apr. 29	▶ Urban Geology in Trafalgar Square & St. Martin's Lane*		Leicester Square exit 1‡
May 6	▶ South Hampstead Keats-cadenced, Wisteria-ureathed, sunny Cinderella village		Belsize Park

† Guided by a Public Health Physician * Guided by University College London Geologist Ruth ‡ by Wyndham's Theatre

TOP SECRET SPIES' & SPYCATCHERS' LONDON **Not Dec. 24**

2.30 pm Piccadilly Circus Tube ➔ subway 3 exit by the Clydesdale Bank
"Espionage was the hot end of the Cold War" Spies' London is Ian Fleming's James Bond and John Le Carré's George Smiley. But it's also the London of the genuine article, where for over 40 years Burgess, Maclean, Philby, Blunt and the fifth man infiltrated the British and U.S. security services and spied for the Soviets. We explore the secret places of that murky nether world. The covert London of MI5, MI6 and the American O.S.S. The London of the "Cambridge Ring" (we home in on it), the "dead letter box" (we pinpoint it), the fifth man (we unmask him). Here, fact really is stranger than fiction. Guided by Sue or Richard IV.

JACK THE RIPPER HAUNTS **Not Dec. 24**

3 pm Tower Hill Tube ➔ Meet by the "Tower Hill Tram" coffee stall
London's waking nightmare of murder. He came silently out of the midnight shadows of August 31, 1888... Sunday's section ➔ for full description. Guided by Fiona or Peter. Video on www.walks.com

HAMPSTEAD VILLAGE PUB WALK

7 pm Hampstead Tube ➔ **Not Dec., Jan. or Feb.**
This is a great walk. They just don't come any better than this.* Hampstead is London's most picturesque neighbourhood. It's a perfectly preserved Georgian village crowning the top of a handsome hill. It's a medley of cobble-stone lanes, pretty cottages, surprising turnings and unsurpassed views. It's famous people galore. See Sunday's section ➔ for full description. Guided by Peter or Richard III.
*This is my (David's) favourite of the 57 different London Walks I can guide. Video on www.walks.com

THE 7.15 PM SATURDAY NIGHT PUB WALK

The walk in this 7.15 pm Saturday time slot changes weekly. For details see the following list.

DATE	WALK	Indicates a New Walk	TUBE STOP ➔
Nov. 5	The London by Gaslight Pub Walk		Embankment Villiers Street exit
Nov. 12	The Old Mayfair Pub Walk "The best address in London"		Green Park north exit, on the corner
Nov. 19	"Bond, James Bond" 007 & Ian Fleming's London The "shaken not stirred" Pub Walk		Marble Arch exit 2
Nov. 26	The Secret Village Pub Walk		St. Paul's exit 2
Dec. 3	The Hitchcock & Holmes Pub Walk Movies, Mystery & the Master of Suspense		Holborn
Dec. 10	"Bond, James Bond" 007 & Ian Fleming's London The "shaken not stirred" Pub Walk		Marble Arch exit 2
Dec. 17	The Christmas Lights & Seasonal Cheer Pub Walk		Embankment Villiers Street exit
Dec. 31	Auld Lang Syne in Old Hampstead Watch the fireworks from the roof of London		Hampstead
Jan. 7	In the Shadows of the Past The Lost Lanes & Old Pubs off Regent Street		Piccadilly Circus exit 2
Jan. 14	▶ The Seven Dials Pub Walk		Tottenham Court Road exit 1
Jan. 21	Smugglers & Sailors, Pirates & Pubs London's Old Waterfront		Tower Hill
Jan. 28	Old West End Pub Walk Conspiracy, Scandal & Skulduggery in Celebrities' London		Marble Arch exit 1
Feb. 4	Secret St. James's The Old Palace Quarter Pubby Perambulation		Green Park Green Park exit
Feb. 11	The London by Gaslight Pub Walk		Embankment Villiers Street exit
Feb. 18	▶ The Belsize Park Village Pub Walk Brew Beards Over the White Cliffs of NW3		Belsize Park
Feb. 25	▶ Undiscovered London Glass "plum" to Jacob's Island		Monument Fish Street Hill exit
Mar. 4	The Theatreland Pub Walk Thesp Guided!		Leicester Square exit 4, Cranbourn Street
Mar. 11	Bohemian Fitzrovia A Pub Walk in London's Old Latin Quarter		Goodge Street
Mar. 18	"Bond, James Bond" 007 & Ian Fleming's London The "shaken not stirred" Pub Walk		Marble Arch exit 2
Mar. 25	The Old Mayfair Pub Walk "The best address in London"		Green Park north exit, on the corner
Apr. 1	▶ Down, Dirty, Disastrous London Plague, Fire, Rebellion, Executions... And Pubs		Barbican
Apr. 8	Backstairs Belgravia Byways, Hidden Haunts & Classic Pubs		Hyde Park Corner exit 3
Apr. 15	The London by Gaslight Pub Walk		Embankment Villiers Street exit
Apr. 22	"Bond, James Bond" 007 & Ian Fleming's London The "shaken not stirred" Pub Walk		Marble Arch exit 2
Apr. 29	▶ Undiscovered London Glass "plum" to Jacob's Island		Monument Fish Street Hill exit



GHOSTS OF THE OLD CITY

7.30 pm St. Paul's Tube ➔ exit 2 **Not Dec. 24**

At night the ancient City is deserted. And eerie. Exploring its shadowy back streets and dimly lit alleys we might be in a mediaeval citadel, in overpowering stone. The very street names – Aldersgate, Cloth Fair, Charterhouse, Threadneedle – take us far back. We're alone. Or are we? For this is the hour when the *She Wolf of France* glides through the churchyard, the hour when the dark figure on Newgate wall rattles his chains, the hour when the *Black Nun* keeps her lonely vigil and something inexpressibly evil lurks behind a tiny window. We're on their trail – or are they shadowing us? Guided by The Man in Black, Adam or The Duke of Darkness, Shaughan (with his deathly pallor, swirling black cape and silver-plated-on-a-coffin grin, he is, as The San Francisco Chronicle put it, "deliciously spooky!")

See the video of the walk on www.walks.com

JACK THE RIPPER HAUNTS

7.30 pm Tower Hill Tube ➔ Meet by the "Tower Hill Tram" coffee stall **Not Dec. 24**
He came silently out of the midnight shadows of August 31, 1888. Watching. Stalking. Butchering... See Sunday's section ➔ for full description. Guided by Steve Video on www.walks.com

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL TOURS ON SELECTED SATURDAYS

DATE	WALK	TUBE ➔	TIME
Dec. 24	The Christmas Lights & Seasonal Cheer Pub Walk	Embankment Villiers Street exit	6 pm
Jan. 14	Victorian London A Chapter from the London History Course	Holborn	10.45 am
Apr. 1	▶ Disastrous London Plague, Fire, Rebellion, Executions, Pubs	Barbican	2 pm

Thames Beachcombing

10,000 years of history beneath your feet!

Archaeologist-guided Beachcombing! Mansion House ➔ Tube exit 1

Dec. 17 at 9.45 am	Dec. 18 at 10.15 am	Jan. 2 at 9.45 am	Jan. 3 at 10.15 am
Jan. 14 at 9 am	Jan. 15 at 9.30 am	Feb. 4 at 12 noon	Feb. 5 at 1 pm
Mar. 4 at 11 am	Mar. 5 at 11.30 am	Mar. 18 at 10.15 am	Mar. 19 at 10.45 am
Apr. 1 at 11.15 am	Apr. 2 at 11.45 am	Apr. 14 at 10 am	Apr. 17 at 11.15 am
Apr. 29 at 10.15 am	Apr. 30 at 10.45 am		

More info on www.walks.com £3 charge for kids/not recommended for Under 8s.



TRAVEL TIP

To calculate how long a Tube journey in central London will take, simply allow an average of three minutes between stations.



N.B., on Sunday, December 25th the only walks that will take place are the two "Christmas Day Specials". For particulars, see below



THE CHRISTMAS DAY SPECIAL WALKS

DATE	WALK	TIME	MEETING POINT
Dec. 25	Christmas Morning, 1660 Samuel Pepys' London	11 am	Trafalgar Square*
Dec. 25	The Christmas Day Charles Dickens' London Walk	2 pm	Trafalgar Square*

*Merry Christmas! The meeting point for the two Christmas Day walks is by the big Christmas tree in Trafalgar Square

OLD HAMPSTEAD VILLAGE

10 am Hampstead Tube ☺

This is a great walk. They just don't come any better than this.* Hampstead is London's most picturesque neighbourhood. It's a perfectly preserved Georgian village crowning the top of a handsome hill. It's a medley of cobble-stone lanes, pretty cottages, surprising turnings and unsurpassed views. It's the capital's most elegant promenade – an unrivalled *olde worlde* ensemble. It's a cast of characters ranging from Keats and Constable to Freud, Rowan Atkinson, Judi Dench and Emma Thompson. For good measure, there's London's most *villagey* atmosphere, white swans on a lake and Hampstead Heath's rambling waves of green. **Guided by David.** *Personal note. This is my (David's) favourite of the 57 different London Walks I can guide – must be some sort of recommendation! **Video on walks.com**

THE OLD JEWISH QUARTER Not Jan 1 or April 23

10.15 am Tower Hill Tube ☺ Meet by the "Tower Hill Tram" coffee stall

A shtetl called Whitechapel, splinter-sharp guides, gripping history Traces the history of London's Jewish community in the East End. A tale that embraces the poverty of the pogrom refugees and the glittering success of the Rothschilds; the eloquence of Prime Minister Disraeli and the spiel of the Petticoat Lane* stallholder; the poetry of Isaac Rosenberg and the poetry-in-motion of Abe Saperstein's Harlem Globetrotters. A trail amid the alleys and back streets of colourful Spitalfields and Whitechapel. *On this day of all days the past isn't dead; it isn't even past... because the famous old Petticoat Lane street market is going full tilt and we'll show you the best of it. After we've visited the historic Bevis Marks synagogue (for which there's a small entrance fee). **Guided by Harry or Shaughan.** **Video of the walk on walks.com**



THIS IS LONDON

10.15 am Westminster Tube ☺ exit 4

Not Nov. 13 or April 23

Guard Change & Highlights Tour! Why go on a bus tour? ☺ Ok, maybe ho-hum main roads are your thing. Big, straight, obvious, busy roads – they probably are the strokes for some folks. Then again, maybe not. You don't "see" the English countryside by taking the motorway through it. Maybe to it, but not through it. Same goes for London. And so we come to the *rem acu tetigit* moment: *Everything you want to see in the famous heart of London can be seen on foot in two hours!* Seen better. Seen up close. Seen round behind. Because we can go where the buses can't. *Seen better. Guided better. Fraction of the cost.* So, Hey ho and off we go – off to see all the classic sights in the heart of London. Tick em off: the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace, St. James's Palace, the quintessential Royal Park, classy St. James's, the Mall, Trafalgar Square, Admiralty Arch, Birdcage Walk, Queen Anne's Gate, you name it. They're all here – all the London pearls. **Guided by Joanne, Andy R. or Steven.**

THE HAMPSTEAD SPIES

10.30 am Belsize Park Tube ☺

N.B. This walk only takes place on the third* Sunday of every month!

The KGB in NW3 Toniest Hampstead was the unlikely hunting-ground for British and American spy-catchers trying to track down residents who'd signed up with the Soviet secret service the KGB. Stewart Purvis, former Editor and CEO of Independent Television News and now spy biographer, has been through top secret MI5 and FBI files to find out who was watching whom before and during the Cold War. You'll see some of those files. And the houses the files pinpoint. Houses that are only just now yielding up their Cold War secrets. We'll walk a "Street of Spies" where the KGB ran three separate operations. Stewart's arranged access to one of their London hubs – we'll go inside. One Cold War name will keep coming up – Hampstead boy turned Soviet Super-spy Kim Philby. **The real thing is better than any spy thriller!** **Guided by Stewart Purvis,** author of *Guy Burgess, The Spy Who Knew Everyone*. Stewart will have copies of his book with him. *Nov. 20, Dec. 18, Jan. 15, Feb. 19, Mar. 19 & Apr. 16.

THE FAMOUS SQUARE MILE

Not April 23

10.30 am Monument Tube ☺ Fish Street Hill exit

2,000 Years of History This is the great classic London Walk. It explores the most historic part of the capital. Threading their way through an intricate network of narrow alleys and cobble-stone lanes, **Simon** chronicles the 2,000 years of London's rich and tumultuous history. And illustrate it by drawing upon everything from street names to ancient customs to the *frozen music* of London's great buildings, including the Bank of England, the Lord Mayor's Mansion House and ancient Guildhall.

MAYFLOWER TO BRUNEL'S TUNNEL

10.40 am Bermondsey Tube ☺

Not April 23

Gulliver's Travels, Ancient Riverside Village, Sea to Shining Sea, Mayflower... Now the curtain rises on a different scene. **1st Miracle:** we're only a 7-minute tube ride from the Houses of Parliament. **2nd Miracle:** we're 500 years away. **3rd Miracle:** this place still looks like – feels like – what it once was. **4th Miracle:** the Mayflower – the Pilgrim Fathers' pub – is here (let alone a Dickensian mortuary, a king's palace, a villain's gibbet, a prince's tomb, a pirate's pub and an East India Court). **5th Miracle:** the **8th Wonder of the World** is here – "the underground cathedral" (as the BBC called it) – the Grand Entrance Hall to Brunel's tunnel under the Thames. **6th Miracle:** We've got privileged access to the *Royal Box* – the eyrie, the viewing platform – that looks down into "the underground cathedral." Coda anyone? River-lulled in ancient Rotherhithe, we'll hear the cool lapse of hours pass, until the centuries blend and blur. In Rotherhithe, in Rotherhithe... **Guided by Tim.** **Video on www.walks.com**

FROM THE REPERTORY The 10.45 am Tour du Jour!

The walk in this 10.45 am Sunday time slot changes weekly. For details see the following list.

DATE	WALK	► Indicates a New Walk	TUBE STOP ☺
Nov. 6	In Winston Churchill's Footsteps London's Finest Hour		Embankment
Nov. 6	Scandalous St. John's Wood Mistresses & Mansions, Courtesans & Cricket, Villas & Villains		St. John's Wood
Nov. 13	Piccadilly the In Focus Walk		Green Park north exit
Nov. 20	Face the Music Baroque to Rock, Handel's House to Hendrix's Pad		Leicester Square exit 1
Nov. 27	The Old West End Scandal, Skullduggery & Conspiracy in Celebrities' London		Marble Arch exit 1
Nov. 27	Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol & Seasonal Traditions		Tower Hill
Dec. 4	Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol & Seasonal Traditions		Tower Hill
Dec. 11	Rollicking, Frolicking Fitzrovia The West End's Untamed Quarter		Warren Street
Dec. 11	Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol & Seasonal Traditions		Tower Hill
Dec. 18	Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol & Seasonal Traditions		Tower Hill
Jan. 1	C the City I Spy in the City: C is for Cathedral, Cordwainers, Controversy...		St. Paul's exit 2
Jan. 8	► Lincoln's Inn Fields the In Focus Walk		Holborn
Jan. 15	Roaming Down by the River The Thames is liquid history...		Monument Fish Street Hill exit
Jan. 22	Sherlock Holmes Saves the Nation! The Great Detective's Westminster		Green Park Green Park exit
Jan. 29	Fair Maids, Feminists & Philanthropists Southwark's Unsung Women		Southwark
Feb. 5	► St. James's Street the In Focus Walk		Green Park Green Park exit by the fountain
Feb. 12	The Naughty Valentine Season Walk Passion & Perversion in High Places		Westminster exit 5
Feb. 19	"Bond, James Bond" The London of 007 & Ian Fleming		Marble Arch exit 2, Park Lane exit
Feb. 26	► Islamic Art in the British Museum		Russell Square
Mar. 5	Denmark Hill & Camberwell The Belgravia of South London		Denmark Hill ☺
Mar. 12	► The Art of India in the V&A		South Kensington
Mar. 19	► St. James's Square the In Focus Walk		Green Park Green Park exit by the fountain
Mar. 26	Borough High Street the In Focus Walk		Borough
Apr. 2	► Belgrave Square the In Focus Walk		Hyde Park Corner exit 3
Apr. 9	► The Isle of Dogs		Canary Wharf main exit
Apr. 16	Viva Vauxhall! Thames & Tea, Potteries & Pleasure Gardens		Vauxhall exit 2
Apr. 23	Chiswick House & Gardens Classical London's 'pure serene'		Turnham Green
Apr. 30	Alfred Hitchcock's London More than 39 Steps!		Holborn

THE TOWER OF LONDON TOUR* Not Jan. 1

11 am Tower Hill Tube ☺ Meet by the "Tower Hill Tram" coffee stall or April 23

The most important mediaeval fortress in Europe In the beginning William – the bastard – created the Tower. Yes, the biblical echo is deliberate. That's how important the Tower is. Crown Jewels, battlements, Traitor's Gate, the executioner's block, armour, centuries-old ceremonies, the stage on which so much of our history climaxed: question isn't whether you'll go to the Tower – the question is whether you'll go First Class. And let's tell it like it is. First Class isn't tacky and touristy. It isn't wandering aimlessly. What it is, is seeing the Tower with a great guide. Because that thrilling, chilling past is still there – *sighs run in blood down Tower walls* – but you have to know where to look. And how to look. **Guided by Tom or Brian or Judy.** *We get you a big discount on the Tower's admission charge! N.B. Tour charge for kids £3 plus entry fee.

THE BEATLES MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR

11 am Tottenham Court Road Tube ☺ exit 1

It Rocks! "Imagine" Beatlemania and the Swinging 60s on Richard P.'s "Magical Mystery Tour" of the Beatles' London haunts... See Thursday's column overleaf for full description.

THE STREET ART WALK

1.45 pm Liverpool Street Tube ☺ Bishopsgate West Exit top of the escalator next to Wasabi kiosk

Bombing with Banksy & Co. "People say graffiti is ugly, irresponsible and childish... but that's only if it's done properly" – Banksy. There's no other London Walk like this one. It's intense on the senses. It's a corkscrew of a route that pops cork after cork of east London's vibrant, heady, dynamic street art scene. It gets up close and personal with Banksy and Ben Eine and Shepherd Fairey and Invader and Co. It decodes them. Like a great jazz musician it improves (because this outdoor gallery – aka Shoreditch and Spitalfields – gets "rehung" every few months). It's guided by a street art collector. A savvy local, **Pepe's** got great connections – knows the scene as well as the artists themselves. It ends at a street artist's studio and gallery. "Six months is the average life span of street art in east London. So the walk – true to the scene – changes all the time. Okay, Banksy, here we come! See the video of the walk on www.walks.com



Thames Mudlarking

Details and all the dates on Saturday's page!

**TOUJOURS
PARIS**

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OLD HIGHGATE VILLAGE

1.45 pm Highgate Tube ➔ Meet in the booking hall.

"a place apart" What kind of sorcery is this? We're just a few stops up the Northern Line, but we're in a country village nestling round what was once an old pond. Yes, we've taken a brief tube journey into timeless England. Here are lanes, cottages, Georgian houses and spectacular views across London. Here are Coleridge, Dickens, Betjeman, Nell Gwyn, Dick Whittington, Yehudi Menuhin, Jude Law and Kate Moss. Let alone Highgate Cemetery ("one of the most astonishing places in London... architecture's answer to Hieronymus Bosch") or, on its wooded slope on the Heath, Kenwood House. In short, this is the perfect London Walk for a fine Sunday afternoon. But keep it under your hat, because if the word got out Highgate would be a major tourist attraction! Guided by Tom, Brian, Richard III or Corinna.

SHAKESPEARE'S & DICKENS' LONDON

2 pm St. Paul's Tube ➔ exit 2

London was to Shakespeare and Dickens what Paris was to Balzac. It held them in its thrall, was both their canvas and their inspiration, their workshop and their raw material. They in turn made it their own, imaginatively colonising it. And, like "special correspondents for posterity", bequeathed it to us. Today, despite the ravages of time, riot, bombing, and especially of fire, traces of their London – shipwrecks from the past – still abound in the City. Everything from superb half-timbered Elizabethan dwellings to the magnificent early 16th-century gatehouse where Shakespeare went with his plays to the offices of the Elizabethan Master of the Revels. And from London's grandest Tudor manor house to crooked little alleys which fed the fires of Dickens' "hallucinating genius." Guided by David.

WESTMINSTER AT WAR

2 pm Embankment Tube ➔ riverside exit

Not Nov. 13

or April 23

Let's start with a few salient facts. 1) Where we meet – if you know where to look – you can see the dagger that was plunged into the heart of Nazi Germany. 2) Until the middle of 1944 there were more British civilian deaths than military. 3) Europe, like a prison door, had clanged shut – this country stood alone and at bay in guarding the future of the civilised world. **And Westminster? The nerve-centre of the entire war,** it was a city transformed: sandbagged tombs in the Abbey (ditto Eros in Piccadilly Circus); a pillbox and barbed wire in Parliament Square; a machine-gun nest on the Members' Terrace; bombers caught in the scissors of searchlights; barrage balloons and air-raid shelters; nights out of the Revelation of St. John – fires that turned the moon blood red and canopied the Thames with smoke. Any of that left? Well, more than you'd think. And it's not just "trace evidence". That history is writ here in stone. We end at the Cabinet War Rooms, the fortified bunker that housed Winston Churchill's centre of operations during the war. Guided by Joanne, Andy R or Steven.

ANCIENT LONDON

2 pm Tower Hill Tube ➔ Meet by the "Tower Hill Tram" coffee stall

Not April 23

Knights, Nuns & Notoriety A jolt of the pure stuff – the best sort of London Walks alchemy. The alchemy that results when you mix alleyways that tourists never find with London history that would do the Sorcerer's Apprentice proud. Here we're in an urban enchanted forest, a place where 13 knights performed three deeds of bravery – one above ground, one below ground, and one in the water. A place where there's a centuries-old peep hole – still there – to keep nuns safe from prying eyes. A place of a maypole and 11,000 beheaded virgins and the most spectacular statue in London. Let alone Bedlam, an outrageous prioress, Bluebell Girls, black magic, Geoffrey Chaucer and traitors' heads. Guided by Sue

LITTLE VENICE

2 pm Warwick Avenue Tube ➔

If you fancy something completely different this is the walk for you. Little Venice is the prettiest and most romantic spot in town. A unique combination of white stucco, greenery, and water, it boasts the finest early Victorian domestic architecture in London; a Who's Who of famous residents (Freud, Browning, Edward Fox, David Ben-Gurion, Ruth Rendell, Marc Bolan, etc.); and a jewel of a "village" street. And that's not to mention its canals. One of them – Regent's Canal – is "the loveliest inland waterway in England". Part of the walk is along the canal towpath – which is studded with fragments of evidence that bring the Age of Canals to life. Guided by Shaughan. See video on www.walks.com

HARRY POTTER FILM LOCATIONS IN THE CITY

2 pm Bank Tube ➔ exit 3, by the war memorial in front of the Royal Exchange Not Jan. 1

Harry Potter. "Can we find all this in London?" Hagrid aka Guide Richard: "If yeh know where to go." Where to go on this wicked walking tour that burns with the hard, gem-like flame of film locations from Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, The Prisoner of Azkaban, The Order of the Phoenix and Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince. And that hits the sweet spots betwixt and between – the very best of mysterious, quirky, peculiar, curious, lost old London. It's all very Harry Potter and Co. Guided by actor, adventurer and Prince of Potter Guides – he of the spookily perfect name – Richard Walker. N.B. there's a £3 charge for kids as this one's for all ages. £10 adults, £8 for concs. Video on www.walks.com

THE UNKNOWN EAST END

2 pm Whitechapel Tube ➔

Frontline London – the only neighbourhood the government feared. **Down and out London, it was the worst slum in Europe.** Paradoxically, it was also London at its richest! Richest in terms of its artistic expression and social ferment and human mix. It's the London of revolution (we'll see the building where Lenin, Trotsky, Gorky and Stalin touched down); of sieges and battles; of Isaac Rosenberg and Marc Gertler; of the greatest Indian poet of them all; of the Liberty Bell (and Bi-Centenary Bell) foundry; of the Krays and the Elephant Man; of the best ethnic restaurants in London; of the 13th-century White Chapel and synagogues and mosques. And astonishingly – despite the attentions of the Luftwaffe – much of the "fabric" is still there. Best of all, it's "real people's London" – and they're still there, too. Guided by Harry.

OLD WESTMINSTER

2.30 pm Westminster Tube ➔ exit 4

1,000 Years of History This is the cornerstone, the seminal London Walk. Miss it and you've missed London. For Old Westminster is London at its grandest: the place where kings and queens are crowned, where they lived, and often were buried. It's the forge of the national destiny, the place where the heart of the Empire beat, the Mecca of politicians throughout the ages. The past here is cast in stone and we take it all in: ancient Westminster Hall, the Houses of Parliament, the Jewel Tower, and Westminster Abbey. And to see it with a great guide is to have that past suddenly rise to the surface, like seeing a photographic print come up in a darkroom. Doesn't get any better than this. Embarrass de richesse we'll also explore the private face of Westminster – the London equivalent of Georgetown! Unlike the tourist hordes, we'll get to see the hidden and ever so picturesque Georgian back streets where all the political salons are! Guided by Simon. Video of the walk on www.walks.com

FROM THE REPERTORY The 2.30 pm Tour du Jour!

The walk in this 2.30 pm Sunday time slot changes weekly. For details see the following list.

DATE	WALK	Indicates a New Walk	TUBE STOP ➔
Nov. 6	▶ Limehouse – Thames – Docklands†		Westferry ➔ DLR by Cycle Hire Point
Nov. 13	A River of Memory A Special Walk for Remembrance Sunday		Embankment river exit
Nov. 13	▶ Charlie Chaplin in Lambeth 100 Years of the Little Tramp		Oval
Nov. 20	▶ Grand Union & Regent's Canals Little Venice & Paddington Green		Paddington ➔ Toupash exit#
Nov. 27	The Krays' East End London's answer to Al Capone		Bethnal Green West exit
Dec. 4	The Regent's Canal† Islington to Hoxton		Angel
Dec. 11	Korean & Japanese Art in the British Museum		Russell Square
Dec. 18	The Regent's Canal† King's Cross – Granary Square – St. Pancras		King's Cross meet by taxi rank
Jan. 1	The Regent's Canal† Islington to Hoxton		Angel
Jan. 8	Auntie's London Roundabout the BBC		Oxford Circus exit 8
Jan. 8	▶ Bank Junction the In Focus Walk		Bank exit 3
Jan. 15	The Regent's Canal† King's Cross – Granary Square – St. Pancras		King's Cross meet by taxi rank
Jan. 15	The London Wall Walk Londinium to Lundenwic to Lundenburgh		Tower Hill
Jan. 22	What Ho, Jeeves! The London of P. G. Wodehouse		Marble Arch exit 2 (the Park Lane exit)
Jan. 29	Classic London Mews & Hidden Passageways		Earl's Court Earl's Court Road exit
Feb. 5	The Regent's Canal† Little Venice to Camden Town		Warwick Avenue
Feb. 12	Scandalous St. John's Wood Mistresses & Mansions, Courtesans & Cricket, Villas & Villains		St. John's Wood
Feb. 19	The Olympics, Three Mills & Bow Back Rivers†		Bromley-by-Bow
Feb. 26	▶ Homage to Our Heroes		Tower Hill
Feb. 26	The Cut the In Focus Walk		Southwark
Mar. 5	Limehouse – Thames – Docklands†		Westferry ➔ DLR by Cycle Hire Point
Mar. 12	Walking the Elephant The Regeneration Game		Elephant & Castle South Bank Univ. exit
Mar. 19	The Regent's Canal† King's Cross – Granary Square – Camden		King's Cross meet by taxi rank
Mar. 26	Doctors' London Pax & Plague, Leeches & Quacks*		Blackfriars
Apr. 2	The Regent's Canal† Little Venice to Camden Town		Warwick Avenue
Apr. 9	▶ Cholera & Casanova In the Footsteps of John Snow*		Piccadilly Circus by Eros statue
Apr. 16	The Regent's Canal† King's Cross to Hitchcock's Hackney		King's Cross (meet by taxi rank)
Apr. 23	Belsize Park Village Exploring the White Cliffs of NW3		Belsize Park
Apr. 30	Regent's Canal† River Tyburn – Little Venice		Baker Street Baker Street North exit
Apr. 30	What Ho, Jeeves! The London of P. G. Wodehouse		Marble Arch exit 2 (the Park Lane exit)

† Given in partnership with the Inland Waterways Association * By Platform 16 * Guided by a Public Health Physician

SECRET SOHO & ITS PUBS

7 pm Leicester Square Tube ➔ exit 1

Phwoar! Secret Soho. Okay, it's not as risqué as it sounds. Though there's certainly some very tasty **historical naughtiness.** Casanova cruised these parts, for example. And it is London's, er, hoary old red light district. But that's by the way. What's really to the point is that colourful and cosmopolitan Soho is London's hottest – and coolest – social melting pot. It's Chinatown & Theatreland; a paradise for gourmards; the haunt of artists, con-artists, *artistes* & artisans. Today it's a by-word for style; in the 60s it was the cradle of British pop music; a century ago it was the worst slum in town; earlier still, the hub of aristocratic life. Past and present, it's abuzz.* There's no place like it. Anything else? Yes, this is a pub walk! Guided by Peter or Richard III. *Hey, there's even free live jazz!

HAUNTED LONDON

7.30 pm Monument Tube ➔ Fish Street Hill exit

From fear to eternity! It's blue dusk. Feeding time. Time to pierce the veil which hides the future after death. The time when rooftop cats look down – their eyes green as ringstones – and see things that maybe we shouldn't see. Down here in the creepiest part of London... in alleyways so narrow you can't open an umbrella in them. And so old they're cobwebbed with time. And cobwebbed with something else too. Cobwebbed with events that occurred long ago – events that under certain conditions can again become dynamic. So when you see the unholy Trinity – and you will see it – and when silver dragons leer at you – and they will – and if you hear footsteps up a deserted alleyway – or voices of persuasion whispering in the darkness – or catch a glimpse of a hooded, staring transparent figure... congratulations – you've just fed a haunting. It'll be back. And one day... so will you. Guided by Andy or Richard Walker. "deliciously spooky" *San Francisco Chronicle*

JACK THE RIPPER HAUNTS

7.30 pm Tower Hill Tube ➔ Meet by the "Tower Hill Tram" coffee stall

He came silently out of the midnight shadows of August 31, 1888. Watching. Stalking. Butchering raddled, drink-sodden East End prostitutes. Leaving a trail of blood that led... nowhere. Yes, something wicked this way walked, for this is the Ripper's slashing grounds. We evoke that autumn of gaslight and fog, of menacing shadows and stealthy footsteps as we inspect the murder sites, sift through the evidence – in all its gory detail – and get to grips, so to speak, with the main suspects. Afterwards you can steady your nerves in *The Ten Bells*, the pub where the victims – perhaps under the steely gaze of the Ripper himself – tried to forget the waking nightmare. Guided by Donald Rumbelow & Molly. Let's tell it like it is. Going on this walk is as close as you're going to get to nailing the Ripper. Donald is, as *The A to Z of Jack the Ripper* puts it, "internationally recognised as the leading authority on Jack the Ripper." Britain's most distinguished crime historian and former Curator of the Police Crime Museum, he's the author of the definitive book on the Ripper. In *Frommer's* lapidary phrase: "London Walks has many copycats but it's the best." A word of warning: never part with your money until you're certain it's Don or Molly you're handing it to. Don't let anyone con you. See the video of the walk on www.walks.com

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL TOURS ON SELECTED SUNDAYS

DATE	WALK	TUBE ➔	TIME
Nov. 6	▶ Smithfield the In Focus Walk	St. Paul's exit 2	10.15 am
Jan. 1	▶ Shakespeare in London, Shakespeare in Performance†	London Bridge*	2 pm

† Guided by Lance "The Voice" * Tooley Street exit

➔ TRAVEL TIP

To calculate how long a Tube ➔ journey in central London will take, simply allow an average of three minutes between stations.



The Guides

The New York Times

“London Walks puts you into the hands of an expert on the particular area and topic of a tour...”

Adam – Celtic, kilted*, charismatic – is an avatar of countryman J. M. Barrie’s famous remark: *there are few more impressive sights in the world than a Scotsman on the make*. Mega wattage talented, he’s an author and national newspaper journalist. Adam is the editor of The Daily Constitutional – the London Walks blog. *Occasionally.

Alison is a lecturer for the *Blue Badge Guides Course*. A Dickens expert, she’s a prize-winning *Blue Badge Guide* herself... when she’s not collecting antiques!

Andy’s an actor. And a London historian (MA in early modern London history from London University). He’s young, handsome, jolly and gifted. *The Evening Standard*: “he’s a class act”.

Andy R crewed yachts in the Caribbean, was held at gunpoint in Haiti and delivered cars across the USA. He’s a grizzled old actor/playwright with a wealth of experience, knowledge, stories and a deep love of his native city.

Angela is one special actress. *“She’s so good it’s almost impossible to compliment her”*, as Frederic Raphael, the author of *The Glittering Prizes*, said of her performance in that award-winning series. A similarly smitten Clive James said of her Helena in *All’s Well That Ends Well* – “You couldn’t ask to hear the words better spoken”.

Ann, quondam BBC journalist and star *Blue Badge Guide*, is our Foodie. Knows its history, where to buy it, how to cook it, how to enjoy it and, into the bargain, keep your figure!

Anne-Marie That face, that form, that dignity, that ease. Those powers of pleasing with that will to please. *She’s also a demmed good guide*.

Barry is our “Renaissance man”. He’s a Consultant Public Health Physician, an Art Historian and a professionally qualified *Blue Badge Guide*.

Brian, a top flight *Blue Badge Guide*, won the London Tourist Board’s *Guide of the Year Award*. His career has embraced the law, surveying, catering, dispatch riding and art. And the stage beckons!

Canal Guides Aileen, Charlie, John, Mike, Richard and Roger have many years’ experience exploring the inland waterways by narrowboat (and, in Roger’s case, canoe). They’re all members of the Inland Waterways Association, which works in partnership with us to provide the towpath walks in our programme.

Chris is a classicist, weaver, and another professionally qualified *Blue Badge* and *City of London Guide* working right at the top of her form.

Claire Probably London’s best driver guide. Definitely London’s best pasta chef.

Corinna, a professionally qualified *London Guide*, is a National Theatre and West End actress. She may throw in a song or two, but she’ll leave her cello at home.

David – *the Seigneur of this favoured realm* – broods over words, breeds enthusiasms and is “unmanageable”. A balterer, literary historian, university lecturer, journalist and life-long thanatophobe – he’s also the London Walks “pen”. He wrote the leaflet you’re reading. And a big chunk of *London Stories*.

David R. Fun, quirky, knowledgeable, “Rats” is a City Finance Director who’s seen the light and become a guide.

Delianne’s a (white) witch. The broom’s a scarlet Jaguar convertible. The badge is blue, the hair’s blonde, the nails are ruby, coat and boots are red, style’s Goth, personality’s big, IQ’s Mensa, fun quotient’s huge.

Desirée is drop-dead glamorous. A former top fashion model and cult film actress, her world overlapped with Princess Diana’s. *Comes the walk, comes the guide!*

Donald “is internationally recognised as the leading authority on *Jack the Ripper*”. Britain’s most distinguished crime historian, he is the author of the pre-eminent book on the Ripper, the best-selling *The Complete Jack the Ripper*. (“Donald Rumbelow’s *The Complete Jack the Ripper* remains the definitive book on the subject”, *Sunday Times*.) A former Curator of The City of London Police Black Museum, he’s a Freeman of the City of London and a top *Blue Badge* and *City of London Guide*.

Fiona – actress, descendant of John of Gaunt, elite* professionally qualified guide – teaches juggling, circus skills and escapology (she made a famous break from the London Dungeon). *The works: *City of Westminster*, *Blue Badge Guide of the Year*, *City of London*. Par for the course for London Walks guides: covered in honours!

Fiona H. conducts our Thames beachcombing walks. An inter-tidal Archaeologist (and Archaeological illustrator), she’s a leading authority on the Thames foreshore. (She’s also excavated in many near Eastern and central European countries.) And she’s a Super Mum – six children! In her “spare” time she spins.

Gillian is a linguist and professionally qualified – and prize-winning – *Blue Badge Guide*. And she can out-Fred the nimblest Astaire on the dance floor!

Harry was voted *Britain’s Favourite Guide*. Enough said? Cockney and Scouser, he’s a rich repast.

Hilary, OBE, is a Historian, Soroptimist, and a top flight professionally qualified *Blue Badge* and *City of London Guide*. With her English eye for the idiosyncratic and her unquenchably cheerful manner, she’s a star turn.

Isobel is an artist, journalist, linguist and prize-winning *Blue Badge Guide*. Let alone London Walks’ token aristocrat! One of her ancestors introduced the waltz to this country.

Jan: Brilliant, beautiful Geordie ski champion. To walk with Jan is to go off piste in an avalanche.

Joanne’s a practicing criminal defence lawyer who escapes from prison and court cells to lead walking tours and run in the London Marathon. Ask her about her Olympics connection.

Judith, a Canadian, is an artist and lecturer on the History of London.

Judy, winner of the London Tourist Board’s prestigious *Guide of the Year* award, is a professionally qualified *Blue Badge* and *City of London Guide*.

Justin is Blue Badged, bi-lingual, laid back and 007 (*even unto looking the part*).

Karen comes trailing clouds of glory. *Travel & Leisure* crowned her “the world’s greatest tour guide.” Guide of the Year Award winner, author of *Royal London* and star of the flagship London Walks film, she has just hosted Discovery TV’s new travel series *London Next Stop*.

Katy, aka *Bloodline*, is our juv lead. She’s young, gifted and beautiful. Let alone to the manner born.

Kevin is a London archaeologist. Distinguished career: Museum of London Archaeologist, Victoria & Albert Museum Curator, Old Operating Theatre Director.

Kim, who has worked in the House of Commons and the European Parliament, is another 24-carat *Blue Badge Guide*: she won the *Guide of the Year* award in 2001.

Lance is an actor and professional poetry performer. His has been described as one of the most beautiful voices in the world. You can hear that voice on www.walks.com

Liam is an Irish actor, writer, director and sometime curator of London’s gingerest beard. Beautiful voice, perfect timing, lots of fun and leading man looks. What’s not to like.

Margaret, a former international arts journalist and editor, lectures at the V&A and is a top flight *Blue Badge Guide*.

Mary (“Poppins”) is “practically perfect”. A classically trained dancer and an actress (*West End credits include Gone With the Wind, a long stint at the Royal National Theatre and Noises Off*), she’s a trapeze artiste, an award-winning, professionally qualified *Blue Badge* and *City of London Guide* – and the boss.

Molly, an Art Historian, guides at the British Museum and lectures on Art, Archaeology, and London History. A Freeman of the City of London, she’s a non-pareil *Blue Badge* and *City of London Guide*.

Nick, a swashbuckling actor (RSC, NT, Almeida, Donmar and tons of TV), is also a yachtsman and TV chef. The feedback said: “informative, fresh and fun”. As Chaucer put it, “*what needeth wordes mo?*”

Oliver Londoner born & bred. Westminster Abbey chorister. West End musical theatre actor. Ergo the song bursts.

Pepe is our east London street art expert. He’s a collector. He’s tack-sharp, savvy and connected. Anything else? Yes, he’s an award-winning* *Blue Badge Guide*. *A big one – the equivalent of baseball’s Triple Crown!

Peter is an actor and a raconteur of genius. *When he talks... doors open*. He’s a man possessed – in the grip of a passionate love of architecture and parish churches. Like St. Peter, he’s got the keys!

Rachel Ms effervescence! Award-winning *Blue Badge Guide*, high seas lecturer and author of *Jewish London* and *Whitechapel in 50 Buildings*.

Rex is an English gentleman.

Richard – *the man with the honeyed voice and the distinctive red hat* – has four careers. He’s a fine actor, a professionally qualified *Blue Badge Guide*, a knight of the turf and he restores old houses. The mastermind of our **Great Escapes!** he brings authority, panache, and an insider’s savvy to his walks.

Richard P., “the Pied Piper of Beatlemania”, authored *The Beatles’ London*, was a consultant on the *Hard Day’s Night* DVD, holds the *Beatles Brain of Britain* title and owns the Beatles Coffee Shop!

Richard III, scion of a Lord Mayor of London, is a writer, actor, director, stand-up comic and member of the Dickens Pickwick Club. Let alone the only London Walks guide to have addressed the United Nations. His website is www.thehistoryoflondon.com

Richard IV is an actor, swordsman and expert on early detective fiction.

Richard Walker has a *past*. Crossed the Pacific in a two-man boat. Explored the Himalayas. Carved out a successful acting career. He’s True Grit, True North. True to the compass of his beyond perfect surname. Let alone the spun gold of his nickname: “Kontiki”. He’s a brilliant guide.

Robert, first person since Brunel to organise an underwater fair, is allowed to drive sheep across London Bridge. An Oxford graduate, he’s an actor, museum director, author and holder of the Freedom.

Russell: Dapper London chap, novice beekeeper, champion Charleston dancer, star *Blue Badge* guide.

Ruth, a UCL geologist, researches geological materials used in art, architecture and archaeology.

Shaughan – aka *The Duke of Darkness* – is a distinguished (and stylish) actor. His stage roles range from Frank-N-Furter in *The Rocky Horror Show* to Sherlock Holmes; his many television credits include *Poirot* and *Miss Marple*. A *Blue Badge* and *City of London Guide* and a rich baritone, he spices his walks with a song or two. **The video of *The Duke of Darkness’* Ghost Walk nails the coffin lid shut: “London Walks guides do it best!”**

Simon, a top flight *Blue Badge Guide*, is dark, dashing, debonair and tri-lingual.

Simon W. comes trailing clouds of guiding glory. An award-winning *Blue Badge* guide, he guides for the Royal Opera House, for the BBC and for London Walks. When he’s not acting.

Stephanie, a splendidly droll ex-Elephant Keeper, was in *Shakespeare in Love*. She’s a professionally qualified *City of London*, *Blue Badge*, and *Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre Guide*.

Steve is London Walks’ *fizziest* guide. Let alone an accomplished actor, a playwright, a song writer, a musician – and the father of twin lads!

Sue is a Freeman of the City of London, history and arts lecturer, Fellow of the Huguenot Society. She’s an expert on the Fleet River and a professionally qualified *Blue Badge* and *City of London Guide*.

Tom, an MBE, recovering barrister, Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, travel writer, and Chairman of the European Federation of Tourist Guides, has a lawyer’s ready wit and a noted ability to entertain an audience, let alone a judge and jury. He’s merely outrageous.

“London Walks guides do it best” Old English Saying



walks.com

You really should bookmark it you know!

- It's chock-a-block with additional information about our programme.
- It's updated with late-breaking, *special* London "tie-ins" for our walks.
- It's got photos – and some fine old imagery.
- And, hey, it's even interactive – there's *walker input*!
- It's a really good resource about London generally. There are great links. And it's frequently updated!
- It's got sound 🎧 You can listen to the guides in action, let alone some of the Sounds of London and several good-sized chunks of the **London Walks book: *London Walks London Stories***.
- There are lots of wonderful little video 🎬 trailers on www.walks.com They're tasters of the walks and **DAY TRIPS**. They give you a very good idea of what a London Walk is like – how it works, what happens, the kind of thing you get on a London Walk, etc. And it goes without saying they showcase guides in action, The guides in that little parade of London Walks videos include, for example, Guide of the Year Karen ("the world's greatest guide", according to Travel & Leisure). The video of our Jack the Ripper Walk features the Ripper Guide par excellence: Donald Rumbelow, "*internationally recognised as the leading authority on Jack the Ripper*". And there's one of the Duke of Darkness – London's premier Ghost Walk guide – in action. Etc.
- Lost your bookmark? Just type **walks.com** into your address bar. You can jettison all that [http://www. malarkey](http://www.malarkey). **Magic!**