

# LONDON WALKS®

Winter 2019-20

November 1 – April 30

**Free**  
London Walks Guide

*"London's best guided walks"*  
TIME OUT

*Streets  
Ahead!*

[www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)

## London Walks – The Dictionary Definition

**London Walks** – *"without a doubt the premier walking tour company in the entire world"* USA Tour Guide Convention

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

**London Walks** – the gold standard. Hallmarks are an astonishing variety of routes, utter reliability and – *most important of all* – **world-class guides**.

**London Walks** – *cauldron of creativity* run as a guides' cooperative.

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

**London Walks** – local, non-corporate, integrous, aggressively non-commercial, family-owned, fiercely independent.

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

**London Walks** – **tours guided by accomplished professionals.**

Editor and CEO of Independent Television News; renowned crime historian *"internationally recognised as the leading authority on Jack the*

*Ripper*"; Museum of London archaeologist; Cambridge University paleontologist.

Senior partner in a prestigious City of London international law firm; museum curators; geologists; London historians; university lecturer; CBE; OBE; two MBEs; TV chef; Royal Shakespeare Company actors.

Barrister; doctor; detective; composer; *crème de la crème* of professionally qualified Blue Badge, Westminster & City of London Guides; escapologist; criminal defence lawyer; journalists; London Mayor.

[www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)

# Don't just take our word for it...

*"the premier walking tour company in the entire world"*  
American Tour Guides Convention

*"London's best guided walks"*  
Time Out

*"London Walks puts you into the hands of an expert  
on the particular area and topic of a tour"*  
The New York Times

*"London Walks was the first –  
and is the best – of the walking tour firms."*  
Fodor's Great Britain

*"London's best walking tours"*  
Travel & Leisure

*"The best walks are conducted by London Walks"*  
Toronto Globe & Mail

*"The best walking tours are organized by London Walks"*  
USA Today

*"The best thing I've done in London"*  
Jason Cochran Editor-in-Chief Frommers.com

*"London Walks offer the very best  
walking tours of the capital"*  
The Travel Channel

*"London Walks has many copycats, but it's the best."*  
Frommer's London by Night

*"London Walks is by far the best"*  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

*"The best is London Walks"*  
The Berkeley Great Britain Guide

*"Best Tourism Experience in England"*  
Visit England

*"The original and best – there are several companies offering  
walking tours of London but London Walks (London's oldest)  
is easily the pick of the bunch"*  
London, Cadogan Guide

*"the capital's leading provider of guided walks"*  
The Holiday Show

*"London Walks is the best, hands down"*  
Frommer's London

*"the best guided tours"*  
Daily Mail

*"London Walks is a superlative walking tour company"*  
Visit London

*"the best is London Walks"*  
Let's Go Europe

*"Without a doubt the best walking tour company  
currently operating in London"*  
Stardust Magazine

*"London Walks is the best walking tour company  
that I know of anywhere"*  
Shannon McKenna Schmidt, co-author of Novel Destinations

*"The best walking tours in London"*  
The London Guide

*"London's best city tours"*  
The Telegraph

*"award-winning London Walks  
are unrivalled for quality and range"*  
American in Britain Magazine

*"the unfailingly fascinating London Walks...  
If you can't find one [of their tours] that captures  
your fancy, maybe you really are tired of life."*  
San Francisco Chronicle

*"I have the simplest tastes –  
I am always satisfied with the best"*  
Oscar Wilde

*"by far the most impressive series of walks that I have  
ever encountered are those offered by London Walks"*  
Travel and Enjoy

*"the most exciting way to discover London  
I've ever experienced"*  
Jason Cochran Editor-in-Chief Frommers.com

*"Even jaded Londoners find these London Walks  
a source of astonishing gems of information  
about the city in which they live."*  
Daily Mail, Top London Treats

*"Although the big companies tend to just shuttle vast  
hordes of people about, one tour company does give you an  
in-depth, personalized insight to the city, offering a dizzying  
array of themed tours conducted by very qualified guides."*

*The theatre tours, for example, are led by actors and actresses  
from the London stage, while the historical walks are done by  
historians, not just some bloke who's read a couple of books."*  
London Magazine

*"Best Tourism Experience in London"*  
Visit London

*"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"*  
The New York Times

*"without a doubt the premier  
walking tour company in London"*  
Best of the Net

*"the best London has to offer"*  
Culture Trip

*"you can't do better than London Walks"*  
London Day by Day

*"the best walking tour operator in London"*  
London The AA Key Guide

*"Nobody does it better than London Walks"*  
Celebrate London

*"Over a span of 20 years, I've gone on around 20-25  
tours with this company. It is simply the best  
walking tour company I have ever found."*  
Anders Steen

*"London Walks guides do it best"*  
Old English Saying

*"It's a truth universally acknowledged that London Walks  
does the best walks in London"*  
Jane Austen

*"Total bollocks, but it keeps me in Playstations"*  
12-year-old James, David and Mary's youngest sprog



# Monday's Walks



## GREENWICH *Boat ride & walking tour*

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

**To start the week... the perfect London Walk!** *Here's why.* 1) A finger snap – 8 minutes – from central London, Greenwich is its own universe. 2) We step into a *trompe-l'œil* 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. 5) The overture to London's most sensational "day out". Riverside pub lunch. The beer Nelson's old salts drank. His *bullet-holed* Trafalgar uniform. Observatory. Cream tea. The unique trifecta: *down Greenwich way people walk under the Thames, sail across it, fly over it*. 6) London's best boat ride and we get a big discount! **Guided by Ann, Isobel or Cynthia.** *The gondola in the sky!* [Video on walks.com](#)

## BRUNEL'S LONDON

*Not Dec. 23 or Dec. 30*

10.30 am Embankment Tube ➔ river exit [Video on walks.com](#)

**Game on! This one's on the shortlist.\*** This isn't just Brunel. It's a voyage and a walk and a train journey<sup>†</sup> into the birthplace of modern London. Under three Brunel bridges. Over two Brunels' tunnels. To the best-kept secret in London. Into the bargain a *sightseer's London checklist*, from Parliament to the Tower... For a grand finale, down into the tunnel where men died and Brunel met with destiny. **Boat Trip, River Walk, Train Ride, Tunnel Descent...** See Tuesday's column ➔ for full description. **Guided by Andy W.** *\*The Best Tour in London* <sup>†</sup>*"the coolest...of the top 10 train journeys in Britain Daily Mail"*

## SECRETS OF WESTMINSTER ABBEY

*Not Dec. 2*

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

**Mine eyes have seen the glory...** The Abbey is England in microcosm. Royal weddings. A great religious centre. The place where kings and queens are crowned and often buried. The reason London is "the unique city." The seed-bed of democratic government. The driving force of English music. A building of splendour, intricacy and consummate virtuosity. 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. Monumental sculpture and memorial tablets that are a tableau of national biography. *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 good discount. And a huge bonus, we sail right in, no queuing ("standing in line").* **Guided by Chris, Mary, Gillian, Brian, Tom MBE or Hilary OBE.**

## DARKEST VICTORIAN LONDON

*Not Dec. 23*

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.**

## MAYFLOWER & BRUNEL

*Not Dec. 23 or Dec. 30*

10.45 am Rotherhithe\* London Overground ➔ [Video on walks.com](#)

**"the strangest of hidden London"** Sunday's section overleaf for full description. **Guided by Gill.** *\*Very central and easy to get to. Take the Jubilee Line to Canada Water ➔ Tube. Change to the Overground – you want Platform 4, Northbound. Rotherhithe London Overground ➔ Station is one stop north.*

## THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS

*Not Dec. 23*

11 am Covent Garden Tube ➔

**Gnuttony. Fornication. Avarice. Pride...** And not forgetting the other three. So, yes, the full monty, the whole shebang. London's been world-class in all of 'em. This walk tracks them down. Gets them in its – in our – sights. The prize-winning entries for each and every one of them. It's a lot of discovery and a lot of fun. In many ways not all that much of a remove from Dante's *Inferno*. **Ulrike's your Virgil, your guide.**

## HIDDEN LONDON

*Not Dec. 23*

11 am Monument Tube ➔ Fish Street Hill exit

**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.* **\*And gifted actor** – you'll have seen him on the box and in films

## LEGAL & ILLEGAL LONDON

2 pm Holborn Tube ➔

*Not Dec. 23 or Dec. 30*

**"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](#)

## LONDON'S SECRET VILLAGE

*Not Dec. 23*

2.30 pm St. Paul's Tube ➔ exit 2

**The ancient, hidden village of Clerkenwell** clings to a hillside barely a stone's throw from St. Paul's. Its very name – the clerks' well – 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 narrow alleyways and ancient squares, we take in here the oldest church in London (*we've arranged an inside visit!*); there a magnificent Tudor gateway; round that corner the oldest house in the City of London; at our feet the ancient well itself; well (*so to speak*), you get the idea... **Guided by Kim, Steve, Andy R or Peter.** **\*Ditto its approaches**

## A VILLAGE IN PICCADILLY

*Not in Jan. or Feb.*

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, Peter or Simon W.** **See the video on www.walks.com**



## BRITISH MUSEUM TOUR

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

## OLD WESTMINSTER BY GASLIGHT

7 pm Westminster Tube ➔ exit 4

*Not Dec. 16 or Dec. 23*

**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. What else? Well, a pub frequented by Members of Parliament. *The most famous night-time view in Europe.* The view across the river to the Houses of Parliament. All towers and spikes and serifed windows, all bathed in golden light. Big Ben like a sentinel, booming out the hour. Garlands of Victorian lamps along the Embankment. Dark patches that suggest the old and mighty consequence of the place... 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.**

## APPARITIONS, ALLEYWAYS & ALE

7.30 pm Embankment Tube ➔ river exit

*Not in Dec. or Jan.*

**"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, towers and domes across a fen. Faded grandeur. Old buildings frozen in another time. *London's parallel universe.* Been some eerie goings-on here. *Haunted house analogy is spot on.* 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. Ditto the lore: *"they" can touch you but you can't touch them.* And the trace evidence (*the "signs" of a haunting*). **Guided by Captain Spooky.** [Video on walks.com](#)

## JACK THE RIPPER

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.** See Thursday's column ➔ for full description. **Guided by Molly & Delianne.** [See the video on www.walks.com](#)

## SPECIAL TOURS ON SELECTED MONDAYS

DATE	WALK	TUBE ➔	TIME
Dec. 23	Dickens' Christmas Carol & Seasonal Traditions	Tower Hill	2.30 pm
Dec. 30	London in Poetry 2 guides for the price of 1 <sup>†</sup>	St. James's Park*	1.45 pm

<sup>†</sup>David guides, RSC actor Steve reads – and performs – the poems *\*Broadway/Westminster Abbey exit*

**TOUJOURS  
PARIS**

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# Tuesday's Walks

## SECRETS & SPLENDOURS OF ST. PAUL'S

10.30 am St. Paul's Tube ☺ exit 2 **Not Nov. 19, Dec. 24 or Jan. 28**

**"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.**

## JEWISH LONDON

**Not Dec. 24**

10.30 am Bank Tube ☺ exit 1 (corner of Poultry & Princes Street) **Not Monument Station**

**Lechaim! To life, to life!** The other Jewish London. Most Jewish history tours – including our Old Jewish Quarter walk – focus on the East End, where penniless Jewish refugees settled in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. But the City – the original London, the oldest part of London – has a much older and richer Jewish heritage. A millennium of Jewish History. That's where we go, that's what we cover on this Jewish London walk. **Mazel Tov! Guided by Ian.** *Please note, there's a small entrance fee for our visit to the historic Bevis Marks synagogue. N.B. on Purim – March 10 – the synagogue is closed to visitors.*

## BRUNEL'S LONDON

**Not Dec. 24 or Dec. 31**

10.30 am Embankment Tube ☺ river exit

**Video on walks.com**

**Game on! This one's on the shortlist.\*** This isn't just Brunel. It's a voyage and a walk and a train journey<sup>†</sup> into the birthplace of modern London. Under three Brunel bridges. Over two Brunels' tunnels. To the best kept secret in London. Into the bargain a *sightseer's London checklist*, from Parliament to the Tower of London. Icons. And that secret. Seven secrets, actually. A secret gateway for the Russian Czar. Six dead men on a haunted ship. Five famous riverside pubs. Broken bones by the silent Harpy. Broken slipways on the Isle of Dogs. Four white ensigns. Three Brunels. Two Isle of Dogs illuminations. *Outcroppings of the past that haven't been swallowed by the passage of time.* That tell of the monster ship and 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. **Boat Trip, River Walk, Train Ride, Tunnel Descent...** *N.B. Oyster/ contactless recommended. We get you 50% off the boat ride cost and the Brunel Museum waives its £6 admission charge for us! But they ask for a £3 donation to help the museum charity look after "the underground cathedral."* **Guided by Keith.** *\*The Best Tour in London †"the coolest...of the top 10 train journeys in Britain" Daily Mail*

## 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, Steven or Anne-Marie.** *See the video on www.walks.com*



## THE BEATLES "IN MY LIFE"

11 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). *See the video of the Beatles Walks on www.walks.com*



## OLD WESTMINSTER

**Not Dec. 24**

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 or Chris.** *Video on www.walks.com*

## LITERARY LONDON

**Not Dec. 24**

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 taster? 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 MBE or Brian or Andy R.**

## PAST THE PALACE\*

**Not in Dec. or Jan**

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, Peter or Delianne.**

*\*Not suitable for under 12s See the video on www.walks.com*

## SHAKESPEARE OF LONDON

2.30 pm St. Paul's Tube ☺ exit 1

**Not Dec. 24 or Dec. 31**

**Inner and outer worlds.** William Shakespeare. Stratford bred him. London gave him a stage – literally and figuratively – for his fortune. Yes, welcome to Shakespeare's London. The London where he lived and worked. The London he drew inspiration from. *The outer world of his inner world.* Everything from St. Paul's to the unfortunate Jewish doctor who inspired Shakespeare to create Shylock to the pandemonium of the lanes and alleys of mediaeval London to Stationers' Hall, where the earliest printed copies of his works were registered to the theatre where unscrupulous playhouse managers forced kidnapped boys to perform. *London places that open a window on his life, his times, his world... and his art.* **Guided by Ian.**

## MAYFLOWER & BRUNEL

**Not Dec. 24 or Dec. 31**

6.15 pm Rotherhithe\* London Overground ☺

**Pirates, Pilgrims, Mayflower & Brunel...** Now the curtain rises on a different scene. Full description in Sunday's section overleaf. **Guided by Michael.** *\*Very central and easy to get to. Take the Jubilee Line to Canada Water ☺ Tube Stop. Change to the Overground – you want Platform 4, Northbound. Rotherhithe London Overground ☺ Station is one stop north. Great video of the walk on www.walks.com*

## HIDDEN PUBS OF OLD LONDON TOWN

7 pm Temple Tube ☺

**Not Dec. 24 or Dec. 31**

**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.**

## JACK THE RIPPER

**Not Dec. 24**

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

**"London Walks has many copycats but it's the best!"\*** He came silently out of the midnight shadows of August 31, 1888. Watching. Stalking. Butchering fellow human beings.<sup>†</sup> 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 meet the victims, inspect the murder sites, sift through the evidence – in all its gory detail – and get to grips, so to speak, with the main suspects. Afterward 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. <sup>†</sup> *"The victims of Jack the Ripper were never 'just prostitutes.' They were daughters, wives, mothers, sisters and lovers. They were women. They were human beings."* **Guided by Molly & Delianne.** Warning: never part with your money until you're certain it's going to the bona fide London Walks Guide. **\*Frommer's London Video on www.walks.com**

## SPECIAL TOURS ON SELECTED TUESDAYS

DATE	WALK	TUBE ☺	TIME
Dec. 24	Charles Dickens' <i>Christmas Carol</i> & Seasonal Traditions	Tower Hill	2.30 pm
Dec. 31	Disastrous London on New Year's Eve	Barbican	7.30 pm
Dec. 31	Auld Lang Syne in Old Hampstead <i>Fireworks from the roof of London</i>	Hampstead	8 pm



**NEW YEAR'S EVE WALK Meet Hampstead ☺ 8 pm**

**Auld Lang Syne in Old Hampstead Watch the fireworks from the roof of London**



# Wednesday's Walks

Except  
December 25th

N.B. on Wednesday, December 25 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 Trafalgar Square Christmas tree


## HELLO LONDON!

10 am Westminster Tube  exit 4


**Guard Change & Highlights Tour!** Hey ho and off we go – off we go to all the classic sights in the heart of London. Everything you want to see in the famous heart of London can be seen on foot in two hours. Seen better. Seen up close. Because we go where the buses can't go. **This is London!** See Sunday's section overleaf for full description. Guided by Fiona, Simon W. or Russell.



## BRUNEL'S LONDON

10.30 am Embankment Tube  river exit

Not Jan. 1

**Boat Trip, River Walk, Tunnel Descent...** See Tuesday's column  for description. Guided by Maribeth. [Video on walks.com](#)

## THE OLD JEWISH QUARTER

Not Jan. 1

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](#)

## TOWER OF LONDON

Not Jan. 1


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

**"the most important mediaeval fortresses in Europe"** See Sunday's section overleaf for full description. Guided by Tom MBE or Brian. We get you a discount on the Tower entry fee. N.B. there's a £3 charge for kids for the tour plus their entry fee.

## LEGAL & ILLEGAL LONDON

Not Jan. 1

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. See Monday's column  for full description. 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., Jan. or Feb.

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 the video on www.walks.com](#)


## CHELSEA

Not Jan. 1

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. [See the video on www.walks.com](#)

## OLD HAMPSTEAD VILLAGE

2 pm Hampstead Tube 

Not in Dec., Jan. or Feb.

**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  **There's a great video of this tour on www.walks.com**

## 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.

## BRITISH MUSEUM TOUR

Not Jan. 1

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 Molly. [See video on www.walks.com](#)

## THE CROWN

Not in Jan. or Feb

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

**"I'm three and you're four," the future Queen, then a child, imperiously informed her sister. The younger girl, not understanding this reference to their position in the succession, proudly countered, "No, you're not. I'm three, you're seven."** **Yes, say goodbye to the ordinary.** It's rapidly receding in the rear-view mirror of your life. Say hello to the real world of *The Crown*. The audacious, epic and hugely expensive *The Crown*. A walk there? For sure. A walk like no other. For a year four top flight Blue Badge Guides – one of them the author of *Royal London* – have read memoirs, diaries, letters, biographies, histories, etc. Have run their dragnets deeper and deeper through this world. Drawn on personal experience – several London Walks guides have been inside, met the Queen and Prince Philip. One has a contact who worked on the series. **Result:** a fireworks show of *snap-into-focus* moments. *You suddenly see and understand the geography of these places.* *See into them.* Tell-tale details that weren't on the screen. Which royal lived where in Clarence House. Who was one floor up? How did they communicate? Which side of Buckingham Palace was Group Captain Townsend's office on? Why was that important? Who was his neighbour? Riveting stuff. And *embarras de richesses*: stunning *Darkest Hour* (Churchill) moments. Guided by Karen, Jan, Delianne or Simon W. [Video on www.walks.com](#)

## JACK THE RIPPER

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... See Thursday's column  for full description. Guided by Steve & Andy. [Video on www.walks.com](#)

## SPECIAL TOURS ON SELECTED WEDNESDAYS

DATE	WALK	MEETING POINT	TIME
Dec. 18	Christmas Lights Photography Tour £19 at <a href="#">walks.eventbrite.com</a>	Embankment 	7 pm
Dec. 25	Christmas Morning, 1660 Samuel Pepys' London	In Trafalgar Square*	11 am
Dec. 25	The Christmas Day Charles Dickens' London Walk	In Trafalgar Square*	2 pm
Jan. 1	The Regent's Canal King's Cross – Granary Square – St. Pancras†	King's Cross 	2 pm
Jan. 1	Hampstead Village & Heath Best possible start to the New Year!	Hampstead 	2.30 pm

\*Merry Christmas! The meeting point for the two Christmas Day walks is by the Trafalgar Square Christmas tree  
†Villiers Street exit † Conducted in partnership with the Inland Waterways Association † Meet by taxi queue

The Café  
in the Crypt

Trafalgar Square

Where you can always pick up  
a London Walks leaflet!



## Photography Tours

Shoot London with a  
professional photographer

### Classic London on Sundays

Nov. 10, Dec. 8, Jan. 19, Feb. 16, Mar. 15 & April 19

Meet Westminster  exit 4 at 10:45 am

### Golden Hour & Night Shoot on Wednesdays

Nov. 20, Jan. 29, Feb. 26, Mar. 25 & April 29

Meet Westminster  exit 4 at 7 pm

Classic London & Golden Hour tours last 3 hours  
and cost £39. Bookable on [www.walks.eventbrite.com](#)

### Christmas Light Photography Tours

Wednesday Dec. 18 & Friday Dec. 27

Meet Embankment  exit Villiers Street at 7 pm

£19 online at [walks.eventbrite.com](#) – £20 on the day



# Thursday's Walks

**Really inside!!**

## COVENT GARDEN INTERIORS

**Not Dec. 26**

10 am Covent Garden Tube ☺

**INSIDE STORY** Gotta love it. 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: Downton Abbey film location, lost rivers, faded menus, whipping post, ballet students, private dining rooms, portable flogging and beheading kit, Pearly king, silver-domed trollies, 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. **Video on [www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)**

## UNDISCOVERED LONDON

**Not Dec. 26**

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 corsetry 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 apiary*. 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, Chris or Isobel.** \*Right up there with hidden places, hidden history. **Video on [www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)**

## BRUNEL'S LONDON

**Not Dec. 26 or Jan. 2**

10.30 am Embankment Tube ☺ river exit

**Video on [www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)**

**Boat Trip, River Walk, Tunnel Descend...** See Tuesday's column ☺ for description. **Guided by Martin.**

## WESTMINSTER ABBEY

**Not Nov. 7 or Dec. 12**

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

**Mine eyes have seen the glory** Monday's column ☺ full description. **Guided by Mary, Brian or Tom**

## OLD MAYFAIR

**Not Dec. 26**

10.45 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 bailiwick 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](http://www.walks.com)**

## 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.

## BEATLES MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR

11 am Tottenham Court Road Tube ☺ exit 1

**All you need is love...** 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 *roof-top 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.* **Video on [www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)**

## LAWYERS' LONDON

Guided by a criminal defence lawyer



## Magna Carta to Brexit

Meet Joanne at 11.30 am outside Temple ☺ Tube on Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, Jan. 30, Feb. 27, Mar. 12, Mar. 26, Apr. 9 & Apr. 23

## ROYAL KENSINGTON

2 pm High Street Kensington Tube ☺

**Meet just outside the arcade. On the pavement (sidewalk) by the Wasabi restaurant.**

**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 [www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)**

## OLD WESTMINSTER

2 pm Westminster Tube ☺ exit 4

**Video on [www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)**

**1,000 Years of History** This is the cornerstone, the seminal London Walk. Miss it and you've missed London. See Tuesday's ☺ column for full description. **Guided by Shaughan or David.**

**TOUJOURS PARIS**

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## CRIME & PUNISHMENT\*

**Not Dec. 26**

2 pm St. Paul's Tube ☺ exit 2

**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

**Not Dec. 26**

2.30 pm St. Paul's Tube ☺ exit 2

**Video on [www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)**

**"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.

## ANCIENT CITY AT NIGHT\*

**Not Dec. 26 or Jan. 2**

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.*

## DISASTROUS LONDON

**Not Dec. 26, Jan. or Feb.**

7.30 pm Barbican Tube ☺

**Apocalypse then. Pyres & Pubs, Riots & Rebels, Hanging & Heresy** Bloody, Flaming, Poxy London. Black Death. Churchyards brimming with bodies. Harvest of Death. Zombie apocalypse. **CODA:** pubs, stunning vistas, historical alleyways, centuries-old architecture and, yes, ahem, filthy street names. What more from a walk? Violence, mayhem, fire, sedition, sex and booze. The London Walk that just keeps on giving. *See Saturday's section overleaf for full description.* **Guided by Andy, Citalli or Nick.**

## JACK THE RIPPER

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

**"Exceptional... grim, compassionate, well-told"**

R. Narvaez, President, Mystery Writers of America NYC

**"London Walks has many copycats but it's the best!"** He came silently out of the midnight shadows of August 31, 1888. Watching. Stalking. Butchering fellow human beings.† 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 meet the victims, inspect the murder sites, sift through the evidence – in all its gory detail – and get to grips, so to speak, with the main suspects. Afterward 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. † *"The victims of Jack the Ripper were never just prostitutes. They were daughters, wives, mothers, sisters and lovers. They were women. They were human beings."* **Guided by Shaughan, Adam or Karen.** Warning: *never* part with your money until you're certain it's going to the *bona fide* London Walks Guide. \***Frommer's London**

**Superb, chilling video of the Jack the Ripper Walk on [www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)**

## TOURS ON SELECTED THURSDAYS

DATE	WALK	TUBE ☺	TIME
Dec. 19	Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol & Seasonal Traditions	Tower Hill	11 am
Dec. 26	Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol & Seasonal Traditions	Tower Hill	2.30 pm
Apr. 23	Shakespeare Anniversary Walk <b>Guided by Lance "The Voice"</b> †	London Bridge*	2 pm

† N.B. A wonder and a delight. Lance's voice has been described as "one of the most beautiful in the world." \* Tooley Street exit

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by Simon Jenkins

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# Friday's Walks

## ROYAL LONDON

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

**A Royal Walkabout Check** ✓ Walk alongside the Guards and their band. ✓ Watch the old Guard march off. ✓ Cut through to Wellington Barracks to watch the new Guard march out. ✓ Buckingham Palace and the Mall. ✓ The balcony – see what's behind it. ✓ Clarence House to see the Guards march through. ✓ Up close for the sentry box ceremony. ✓ Horse Guards – ceremonial climax and the parade to Hyde Park. ✓ Horse Guards history. ✓ Parade ground and its history. ✓ Downing Street and its history. ✓ War Rooms and its history. ✓ Abbey and its history. ✓ Glory, pomp and ceremony. ✓ Best vantage points. ✓ Royal iconography. ✓ Elite, professional guides who know what they're doing. ✓ Timed\* to perfection. ✓ \*Has to be to fit all the above together. **Revealed by Anne-Marie, Jan or Delianne.** † *on the corner, opposite 40 Broadway*

## 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

*Not Dec. 27 or Jan. 3*

10.30 am Embankment Tube ➡ *river exit* **Video on walks.com**

**Boat Trip, River Walk, Tunnel Descent...** See Tuesday's column ➡ for full description **Guided by Martin.**

## 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 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. 27*

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* – the one bit of London that looks as though it should be in St. Petersburg. Well, you get the idea. What's not to like. **Guided by Kim, Hilary or Alison.**

## ROCK 'N' ROLL LONDON

2 pm Tottenham Court Road Tube ➡ *exit 1* **Video on walks.com**

**IT ROCKS!** All roads once led 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 would have blushed*. † London Calling. Lend an ear. † With thanks to Morrissey **Guided by Adam, Richard P. or Rex. Keep on walking, keep on rocking!**

## 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 ➡

*Not Dec. 27 or Jan. 3*

**The Inns of Court** *Magic casement into olde world.* The Inns of Court – *habitat of the bewigged and gown'd 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. *Doesn't get any better than this.* **Guided by Angela.** **Video on www.walks.com**

## NATIONAL GALLERY TOUR

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

2.30 pm Temple Tube ➡

**A sojourn into a lost city – an Atlantis** Dickens and London? He wrote London. You read him, it's part of you, you're part of it. Same goes for walking his London. Pip's lodgings in *Great Expectations* ("who enters here leaves noise behind"); the bank which employed "resurrection man" Jerry Cruncher in *A Tale of Two Cities*; Tulkinghorn's chambers ("where lawyers lie like maggots in nuts") in *Bleak House*; even the "original" (or is it?) Old Curiosity Shop. Dickens' immortal Sam Weller had "extensive and peculiar" knowledge of London. This walk keeps that tradition alive. 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 (Pickwick Club Member) or Richard IV.**

## THE OLD PALACE QUARTER

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 58 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. Eighteenth century's par for the course but secret passageways 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? *"Maybe it's just me but I like to see things other people don't get to see."* 4) It's got superb guides. Their names are Hilary, Alison or Kim. **Video on walks.com**

## 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.

Exclusivement en Français

Votre guide vous attend à la sortie du métro **Bonne promenade!**

Visionnez notre film, en français, sur la promenade de Jacques l'Eventreur!

Visitez [www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com) Enfant accompagné de leur parent: gratuit (moins de 12 ans)

## 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 jolt 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 Hinde*, 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 Corin.** **See the video of the walk on www.walks.com**

## CHILLING TALES FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE

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 Steve or Corinna.** *N.B. this walk shares some of the route and a bit of the content you get on the Sunday evening Gruesome London walk.*

## JACK THE RIPPER

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...

See Thursday's ➡ column for full description. **Guided by Donald Rumbelow, Andy or Richard.**

## TOURS ON SELECTED FRIDAYS

DATE	WALK	TUBE ➡	TIME
Dec. 27	Mrs. Dalloway's London †	St. James's Park ➡ <i>Abbey/Broadway exit</i>	2 pm
Dec. 27	In the Footsteps of Matthew Shardlake*	Chancery Lane exit 3	2.30 pm
Dec. 27	Christmas Lights Photography Tour ‡	Embankment Villiers Street exit	7 pm

† "What larks! What plunges!" in Virginia Woolf's *London & Novel*. Guided & Read & Performed by RSC actor Stephen!

\* Exploring award-winning novelist C.J. Samson's *Tudor London* ‡ £19 online at [walks.eventbrite.com](http://walks.eventbrite.com) – £20 on the day



## SATURDAY EXCURSIONS

DATE	Excursion	STATION	TIME
Nov. 2	Cambridge "Can such places be?"	King's Cross ➔	9 am
Mar. 28	St. Albans An England in Miniature!	West Hampstead ⚡	10.45 am

**Excursions** are all-day trips by train. All-in adult tariffs\* are £64 for Cambridge and £30 for St. Albans. For the Cambridge trip meet by the main ticket office (by the Leon Cafe). For the St. Albans trip meet just outside the exit of West Hampstead Tube. \*Includes everything: fares, admissions, guide's fee, etc.

## DOCKLANDS

10.30 am Canary Wharf Tube ⚡ main exit\*

N.B. Runs Saturdays: November 2, March 7 & April 4

**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 you just turned up trumps. And *après* walk: a visit to the fab River Thames & Docklands Museum makes a perfect fit. **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

10.30 am Embankment Tube ⚡ river exit [Video on walks.com](#)

**Boat Trip, River Walk, Tunnel Descent...** This isn't just Brunel, it's a voyage – and a walk – into the birthplace of modern London. See Tuesday's column overleaf for full description. N.B. Oyster/contactless recommended. Another saving: we get you a whopping great 50% discount off the price of the boat ride. And our seats are reserved – no "standing in line" hoping we get on, no queuing for us. **Guided by Robert.**

## Foodies



### Foodies' London The West End

takes place on Saturdays: November 16 & February 8

Meet Ann outside the Green Park exit of Green Park ⚡ Tube at 10.45 am

### Epicurean, Gourmets' Foodies' London

takes place on Saturdays: December 7 & February 22

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 28 & March 21

Meet Ann outside Cannon Street ⚡ Tube at 10.45 am

### Pie Crust to Upper Crust Culinary Destinations

takes place on Saturdays: January 18 & April 11

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!

## Walks

## NOTTING HILL & PORTOBELLO MARKET

10.45 am Holland Park Tube ⚡

**Reconnaissance on the razzle** The search-party that syncopates. 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 escapements. 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 MBE, 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	Denotes a new London Walk	TUBE STOP ⚡
Nov. 2	Whoa! Wow! The Slow Speed Trail of High Speed Rail Peekaboo HS2 & Javelin		Euston
Nov. 9	The World of Belgravia Secrets, Scandals & London's Grandest Houses		Hyde Park Corner exit 3
Nov. 16	James Bond & Spies Film Walk		St. James's Park Abbey/Broadway exit
Nov. 23	Literary Bloomsbury The London of Virginia Woolf, W.B. Yeats, T.S. Eliot, etc.		Holborn
Nov. 30	Fables, Fashion & Feasts Caledonian Road to Camden Passage		Caledonian Road
Dec. 7	Whitehall Affray! Statues of Discord		Charing Cross exit 5, front of mainline station
Dec. 14	London 1902 - 1916 Seedbed of the Russian Revolution*		Russell Square
Dec. 14	Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol & Seasonal Traditions		Tower Hill
Dec. 21	The Sherlock Holmes Christmas Walk On the trail of the Blue Carbuncle		Goodge Street
Dec. 21	London's East End The Peasants' Revolt to Street Art		Aldgate Aldgate High Street exit
Dec. 28	The Sherlock Holmes Christmas Walk On the trail of the Blue Carbuncle		Goodge Street
Jan. 4	London 1902 - 1916 Seedbed of the Russian Revolution*		Russell Square
Jan. 4	The Beatles & Bob Dylan in 60s London		Temple
Jan. 11	When Horses Ran London		Chalk Farm
Jan. 18	Merrie Islington A river swabbles through it...		Angel
Jan. 25	Sherlock Holmes Goes Home Sleuthing back to 221b Baker Street		Oxford Circus exit 4, by H&M
Feb. 1	Criminal London "When a man is tired of crime he is tired of London" Horace Rumpole		Blackfriars
Feb. 8	Classic London Mews & Hidden Passageways		Earl's Court Earl's Court Road exit
Feb. 15	Churches of High Society		Green Park Green Park exit by fountain
Feb. 15	The Jurassic World of Fossil Hunter Mary Anning		South Kensington
Feb. 22	Elizabethan Clerkenwell		Angel
Feb. 29	Whitehall Affray! Statues of Discord		Charing Cross exit 5, front of mainline station
Mar. 7	Mediaeval London		Tower Hill
Mar. 14	London 1902 - 1916 Seedbed of the Russian Revolution*		Russell Square
Mar. 21	The Arthur Conan Doyle Walk The London of Sherlock's Creator		Piccadilly Circus Eros statue
Mar. 28	Regent's Canal Little Venice to Camden Town		Warwick Avenue
Apr. 4	Introduction to Dickens 'The Inimitable' & his London		Embankment Villiers Street exit
Apr. 11	The Great Melting Pot Immigrants' London		Liverpool Street Bishopsgate exit
Apr. 18	Princes & Paupers Down Kennington Way Long Live Local London!		Kennington
Apr. 25	The Regent's Canal King's Cross - Granary Square - Camden		King's Cross meet by taxi queue

\* Conducted in partnership with the Inland Waterways Association. The Guides donate their fee to the IWA

\* Green Park exit by fountain \* Meet by Exhibition Road entrance. **Guided by a Cambridge University Paleontologist**

\* Meet in the ticket hall of Euston Underground Station \* Guided by comely, bi-lingual Russian expatriate Margarita



## 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 Tuesday'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

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, Simon W. or Ruth.**

## OLD CAMDEN TOWN

11 am Camden Town Tube ⚡

**"Alternative London"** The London smörgåsarbord 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"

11 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

**There's a great video of this tour on [www.walks.com](#)**

## DISASTROUS LONDON

1.45 pm Barbican Tube ⚡

**Apocalypse then. Pyres & Pubs, Riots & Rebels, Hanging & Heresy** Bloody, Flaming, Poxy London. The Black Death. Churchyards brimming with bodies. The harvest of Death. The zombie apocalypse. We start at an ancient Carthusian Priory built next to a plague pit so the brothers could pray for the tormented souls of the dead. We witness an execution at *that* place. Not just any execution site – THE killing ground – Protestants (yep, the big reboot) and Mel Gibson (ahem). We tour a battlefield. Revolting London. Poll tax – not Maggie – this is 1381, a Lord Mayor, a king, a revolutionary. Spoiler alert. It ends badly. Fast forward to 1666. The Great Fire (we'll see several pre-fire structures), the Duke of York and 100 men, poised, a last stand. Cock Lane (yep, exactly what it says on the tin). A peek at London's great phoenix, St. Paul's, risen from the ashes in all its glory. You'll need to quench your thirst so how about a pint at Shakespeare's gaff? His cellar is still there. It's our pub cellar, our pints come up from Shakespeare's cellar. **CODA:** so it's pubs, stunning vistas, historical alleyways, centuries-old architecture and, yes, ahem, filthy street names. What more from a walk? Violence, mayhem, fire, sedition, sex and booze. The London Walk that just keeps on giving. **Guided by Andy or Simon B.**

*"Blessed are the weird: poets, writers, mystics, painters, London Walks guides, troubadours, for they teach us to see the world through different eyes"*

Jacob Nordby

## OLD MARYLEBONE Psst! Read on ... Not Dec. 14

2 pm Bond Street Tube ⚡ Marylebone Lane exit, by Disney Store (north side of Oxford Street)

**"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.**



## 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](http://www.walks.com)

## ROYAL KENSINGTON

2 pm High Street Kensington Tube ☉

*Meet just outside the arcade. On the pavement (sidewalk) by the Wasabi restaurant.*

**London's Royal Village** Winston Churchill's mother's 200 lovers; ghostly figures behind a balustrade; World War II bomb damage; the second most embarrassing death ever suffered by a British monarch; how to "read" an extremely rare mews; "a rising room"; London's candy-striped house; a 41,300 matchsticks artistic *tour de force*; a visualisation of the four great Biblical rivers; the most remarkable small literary house on the planet; the connection between Twigg's figure and the Americans "going home"; the writing on the "blew coat" boy's scroll; six French *particules*; a woman cradling a church; T.S. Eliot's green face makeup; a £300 million house; the garden where Harry and Meghan announced their engagement; a regicide mole; a distant Kensington past visible thanks to the haphazard layout of a lane; a *grace and favour* apartment lived in by "the man who ruined Princess Margaret's life"; a £30,000 knife; the man who "couldn't see a belt without hitting below it"; a *matryoshka* of Kensington mini neighbourhoods; scorch marks from Luftwaffe incendiary bombs; the actress who tried to smuggle her dog into the country in her *decolletage*... the feast\* goes on and on. \*A sample from David's walk; Corin's and Adam's will be their own. **Guided by David or Corin.** [Video on www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)

## THE ♥ OF THE CITY

2 pm Tower Hill Tube ☉ *meet by the "Tower Hill Tram" coffee stall*

**Not Nov. 9; Dec. 7; Jan. 4; Jan. 11; Jan. 18; Jan. 25; Feb. 1; Feb. 8 or Feb. 15**

**Nitty gritty first, mood music second.** Iconic City buildings – Gherkin, Cheesegrater, Scalpel, 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. Higglely 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 reape 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 Richard, Judy or Ann** \*Er, actually, there's another best of all: Saturday's the best day to see it – cuz we've got it to ourselves!

## BRITISH MUSEUM TOUR

2.30 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. See Wednesday's column overleaf for full description. **Guided by Karen** \*Great guide indeed: one of the 15 best in the whole world according to the recent *Travel & Leisure* article, "The World's Greatest Guides!" [Video on www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)

## HARRY POTTER ON LOCATION IN LONDONTOWN

2.30 pm Embankment Tube ☉ *river exit*

**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.

## 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	► Denotes a new London Walk	TUBE STOP ☉
Nov. 2	Classic London Mews & Hidden Passageways		Earl's Court Earl's Court Road exit
Nov. 9	► Brexit Brexit means walking		St. James's Park Abbey/Broadway exit
Nov. 16	► Crystal Palace Dinosaur Safari <i>Guided by a Cambridge University Paleontologist</i>		Penge East ☽
Nov. 23	The City & the Blitz <i>Guided by a former Museum of London Archeologist</i>		Moorgate West Side
Nov. 30	In Search of Saxon London <i>Archeologist-guided!</i>		Moorgate
Dec. 7	Westminster Rocks <i>Urban Geology in "that terrible place" Geologist Guided</i>		Westminster exit 4
Dec. 7	Walworth Old & New Open Studios Day in the "seriously hip" artists' quarter <i>The Times</i>		Kennington
Dec. 14	► Natural History Museum <i>Guided by a Cambridge University Paleontologist</i>		South Kensington#
Dec. 21	Shakespeare's London Locations <i>The places in the plays</i>		Shoreditch High Street
Dec. 28	Charles Dickens' <i>Christmas Carol</i> & Seasonal Traditions		Tower Hill
Jan. 4	William Morris & Friends <i>Arts &amp; Crafts in Hammersmith</i>		Stamford Brook
Jan. 4	► Musical Covent Garden		Covent Garden
Jan. 11	Mary Wollstonecraft & Mary Shelley in Somers Town		Euston♥
Jan. 18	► London City of Scientific Discovery <i>Guided by a Cambridge University Paleontologist</i>		Euston†
Jan. 25	► Wolf Hall's London <i>Bringing up the bodies, tracking the wolf in Tudor London</i>		Liverpool Street☼
Jan. 25	► How the City Got Rich		Tower Hill
Feb. 1	► Tower to Rotherhithe Riverside Walk		Tower Hill
Feb. 8	► A Billion Years in Piccadilly <i>Geologist Guided</i>		Green Park Green Park exit, by the fountain
Feb. 15	Highbury Grand Houses & Grandeur Stadiums		Highbury & Islington
Feb. 22	The Archaeology & History of Bermondsey <i>Archeologist-guided!</i>		Bermondsey
Feb. 22	► How the City Got Rich		Tower Hill
Feb. 29	The Monopoly Walk <i>Advance to Mayfair</i>		Embankment
Mar. 7	► Brook Green <i>The Secret Side of Hammersmith</i>		Hammersmith Broadway exit
Mar. 14	► Mountain Building & Meteorites in the City of London*		Alldgate Alldgate High Street exit
Mar. 21	► London! "A bad day in London is better than a good day anywhere else"		Covent Garden
Mar. 21	► Brexit Brexit means walking		St. James's Park Abbey/Broadway exit
Mar. 28	► Victoria & Albert & Albertopolis <i>Retired V &amp; A Ass't Keeper guides it!</i>		High Street Kensington
Apr. 4	William Morris & Friends <i>Arts &amp; Crafts in Hammersmith</i>		Stamford Brook
Apr. 11	► The Arsenal Story <i>Highbury to the Emirates Stadium</i>		Highbury & Islington main exit
Apr. 18	Mediaeval London <i>Archeologist-guided!</i>		Liverpool Street Bishopsgate exit, top of escalator
Apr. 25	The Lost World of the River Fleet		Blackfriars

♥Meet in the ticket hall of Euston Underground Station ☼Bishops Gate exit #Meet by Exhibition Road entrance

†Meet by Robert Stephenson statue \*Guided by Ruth Siddall, the distinguished University College London Geologist

‡Makes the new familiar and the familiar new. Swan song of the doyen of London guides. Half a century in the making.

## TOP SECRET

## SPIES' & SPYCATCHERS' LONDON

Not Dec. 28

2.30 pm Piccadilly Circus Tube ☉ *exit 4: Eros exit, near Criterion marquee*

**"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," 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

3 pm Tower Hill Tube ☉ *Meet by the "Tower Hill Tram" coffee stall*

He came silently out of the midnight shadows of August 31, 1888... See below for full description. **Guided by Oliver, Nick and Peter G.** [Video on www.walks.com](http://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	► Denotes a new London Walk	TUBE STOP ☉
Nov. 2	Mayfair "includes the most haunted house in London"		Green Park north exit, on the corner
Nov. 9	London 1902 - 1916 <i>Seedbed of the Russian Revolution*</i>		Russell Square
Nov. 16	The London of 007 <i>Ian Fleming, James Bond &amp; the "shaken not stirred" Pub Walk</i>		Marble Arch exit 2
Nov. 23	Hampstead Pub Walk		Hampstead
Nov. 30	► Smithfield Pub Tour <i>Hanged, drawn &amp; Sherlock Holmes'd</i>		Barbican
Dec. 7	The London of 007 <i>Ian Fleming, James Bond &amp; the "shaken not stirred" Pub Walk</i>		Marble Arch exit 2
Dec. 14	In the Shadows of the Past <i>The Lost Lanes &amp; Old Pubs off Regent Street</i>		Piccadilly Circus exit 2
Dec. 21	Christmas Season Pub Walk <i>Christmas Lights &amp; Seasonal Cheer</i>		Embankment Villiers Street exit
Dec. 28	Bloomsbury <i>The Literary London Pub Walk</i>		Holborn
Jan. 4	Rock 'n' Roll London <i>The Pub Walk</i>		Tottenham Court Road exit 1
Jan. 11	The London of 007 <i>Ian Fleming, James Bond &amp; the "shaken not stirred" Pub Walk</i>		Marble Arch exit 2
Jan. 18	Secret St. James's <i>The Old Palace Quarter Pubby Perambulation</i>		Green Park Green Park exit
Jan. 25	► Blackfriars to Fleet Street Pub Walk		Blackfriars
Feb. 1	► Buckingham Palace's Pubby Purloins		Victoria Wilton Road exit, opp. Apollo Victoria Theatre
Feb. 8	London 1902 - 1916 <i>Seedbed of the Russian Revolution*</i>		Russell Square
Feb. 15	► Charles Dickens' London <i>The Pub Walk</i>		Embankment Villiers Street exit
Feb. 22	► Southwark & Bankside Pub Tour		London Bridge Tooley Street exit
Feb. 29	Smugglers & Sailors, Pirates & Pubs <i>London's Old Waterfront</i>		Tower Hill
Mar. 7	Bohemian Fitzrovia A Pub Walk in London's Old Latin Quarter		Goodge Street
Mar. 14	London's Secret Village		St. Paul's exit 2
Mar. 21	► Tom Lehrer's London <i>This season's wild card walk!#</i>		Marble Arch exit 2
Mar. 28	Little Venice & London's Best Fish & Chips		Warwick Avenue
Apr. 4	The Old West End <i>Conspiracy, Scandal &amp; Skulduggery in Celebrities' London</i>		Marble Arch exit 1
Apr. 11	Chelsea Old Belgravia Village Pub Walk		Sloane Square
Apr. 18	Backstairs Belgravia Byways, Hidden Haunts & Classic Pubs		Hyde Park Corner exit 3
Apr. 25	The Hitchcock & Holmes Pub Walk <i>Movies, Mystery &amp; the Master of Suspense</i>		Holborn

\*Guided by comely Russian expatriate Margarita (her English is flawless); includes pub stops †Outrageous. A one-off. Audience Participation. On-site sing-along. Bad singing & bad taste encouraged. Masochism Tango to Vatican Rag.

## LONDON HORROR STORY

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 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-plate-on-a-coffin grin, he is, as The San Francisco Chronicle put it, "deliciously spooky!"*)

[Go to www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com) to see a superb video of the Duke of Darkness in action

## JACK THE RIPPER

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

**"London Walks has many copycats but it's the best"** He came silently out of the midnight shadows of August 31, 1888. Watching. Stalking. Butchering fellow human beings.† 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 meet the victims, inspect the murder sites, sift through the evidence – in all its gory detail – and get to grips, so to speak, with the main suspects. Afterward 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. ‡ *"The victims of Jack the Ripper were never just prostitutes. They were daughters, wives, mothers, sisters and lovers. They were women. They were human beings."*

**Guided by Steve** \*Frommer's London

[Superb, chilling video of the Jack the Ripper Walk on www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)



The Café  
in the Crypt  
Trafalgar Square

Where you can always pick up  
a London Walks leaflet!

St Martin  
in the  
Fields



## SUNDAY EXCURSIONS

DATE	Excursion	STATION	TIME
Nov. 17	St. Albans Christmas lights switch on	West Hampstead ☺	10.45 am
Dec. 15	St. Albans Traditional Christmas market day	West Hampstead ☺	10.45 am

**Excursions** are all-day trips by train. All-in adult tariff\* is £30 for St. Albans. Meet just outside the exit of West Hampstead ☺ Tube. \*Includes everything: fares, admissions, guide's fee, etc. **Guided by Alison.**

## OLD HAMPSTEAD VILLAGE

10 am Hampstead Tube ☺

**Great walk. They don't come any better than this\*** London's most picturesque neighbourhood. A perfectly preserved Georgian village crowning the top of a handsome hill. A medley of cobble-stone lanes, pretty cottages, surprising turnings and unsurpassed views. The capital's most elegant promenade – an unrivalled *olde worlde* ensemble. A cast of characters ranging from Keats and Constable to Freud, Benedict Cumberbatch, Mr. Bean, Ricky Gervais, Lady Emma Hamilton, Mary Poppins, Judi Dench and Emma Thompson. 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 – has to be some sort of recommendation! [Video on walks.com](http://www.walks.com)

## HELLO LONDON!

Not Nov. 10 or April 26

10 am Westminster Tube ☺ exit 4

**Guard Change & Highlights Tour** Why go on a bus tour? 😊 You don't see the English countryside by taking the motorway through it. Same goes for London. *Rem acu tetigit*: everything you want to see in the famous heart of London can be seen on foot in two hours. Seen better. Seen up close. Because we go where the buses can't go. Guided better. Picture perfect better. Fraction of the cost. So Hey ho and off we go – off we go to all the classic sights in the heart of London. 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. **This is London!** Guided by Joanne, Andy R. or Steven. [Video on walks.com](http://www.walks.com)

## THE OLD JEWISH QUARTER

Not April 26

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 Shaughan.** [Video of the walk on walks.com](http://www.walks.com)

## THE FAMOUS SQUARE MILE

10.30 am Monument Tube ☺ Fish Street Hill exit

Not Dec. 1, Dec. 8, Dec. 22 or April 26.

**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.



## BRUNEL'S LONDON

Not April 26

10.30 am Embankment Tube ☺ river exit

**Game on! This one's on the shortlist.\*** This isn't just Brunel. It's a voyage and a walk and a train journey † into the birthplace of modern London. Under three Brunel bridges. Over two Brunels' tunnels. To London's best kept secret... yes, down into the tunnel we go where men died and Brunel met with destiny. See Tuesday's column overleaf for the full description of this **Boat Trip, River Walk, Train Ride, Tunnel Descent...** N.B. Oyster/ contactless recommended. We get you 50% off the boat ride cost and the Brunel Museum waives its £6 admission charge for us! But they ask for a £3 donation to help the museum charity look after "the underground cathedral." **Guided by Kevin.** \*The Best Tour in London † "the coolest...of the top 10 train journeys in Britain *Daily Mail*" And afterwards, anyone for lunch at the Mayflower? [Video on walks.com](http://www.walks.com)

## OLD HIGHGATE VILLAGE

10.45 am Highgate Tube ☺ Meet in the ticket 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, you'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, Cromwell, Nell Gwyn, Dick Whittington, Jamie Oliver, Yehudi Menuhin, Jude Law, Kate Moss, George Michael and Sting. Here's Witanhurst, the second largest house in London after Buckingham Palace, complete with family connections to Mary, the London Walks "boss." And after the walk, you can tour Highgate Cemetery ("one of the most astonishing places in London... architecture's answer to Hieronymus Bosch"). Or stroll over to Kenwood, the Platonic ideal of an aristocratic country house: perfection indoors (its world-class art collection) and outdoors (its landscaped gardens, the way it crowns its wooded slope on the Heath). Welcome to the perfect Sunday morning outing. But keep it under your hat, because if the word got out Highgate would be a major tourist attraction! **Guided by Richard III, Tom MBE, Corinna or Laurence.**

## 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	▶ Denotes a new London Walk	TUBE STOP ☺
Nov. 3	▶ Elizabethan Clerkenwell		Angel
Nov. 10	Royal Medicine <i>Monarchs, Matrons &amp; Maladies</i> <b>Doctor-guided</b>		St. James's Park Abbey/Broadway exit
Nov. 17	▶ Islamic Art in the British Museum		Russell Square
Nov. 17	Seasonal St. Albans Day Trip <i>Christmas lights, stalls and live music all day</i>		West Hampstead
Nov. 24	Musical London <i>Baroque to Rock, Handel to Hendrix</i>		Leicester Square exit 1
Dec. 1	Charles Dickens' <i>Christmas Carol</i> & Seasonal Traditions		Tower Hill
Dec. 8	Charles Dickens' <i>Christmas Carol</i> & Seasonal Traditions		Tower Hill
Dec. 15	▶ In the Footsteps of Matthew Shardlake <sup>#</sup>		Chancery Lane exit 3
Dec. 22	Charles Dickens' <i>Christmas Carol</i> & Seasonal Traditions		Tower Hill
Dec. 29	Fair Maids, Feminists & Philanthropists <i>Southwark's Unsung Women</i>		Southwark
Jan. 5	▶ Myths, Legends & Origins of London <b>Archaeologist-guided!</b>		Tower Hill
Jan. 12	Alfred Hitchcock's London <i>More than 39 Steps!</i>		Holborn
Jan. 19	▶ In the Footsteps of Matthew Shardlake <sup>#</sup>		Chancery Lane exit 3
Jan. 26	The Dark Side of Celebrities' London <i>Scandal, Skullduggery &amp; Conspiracy</i>		Marble Arch exit 1
Feb. 2	The Crown <i>Full description on Wednesday's column overleaf</i>		Green Park Green Park exit by fountain
Feb. 2	▶ Bishopsgate Ward Walk <b>Archaeologist-guided!</b>		Liverpool Street Bishopsgate exit, top of escalator
Feb. 9	Sherlock Holmes in the City <i>Stolen Jewels &amp; Vanishing Men</i>		Aldgate
Feb. 16	Roaming Down by the River <i>A London far Removed in Time</i>		Monument Fish Street Hill exit
Feb. 23	Viva Vauxhall! <i>Hidden Gardens, James Bond, and Potteries</i>		Vauxhall exit 2
Mar. 1	Backstairs Belgravia <i>Byways, Hidden Haunts &amp; Classic Pubs</i>		Hyde Park Corner exit 3
Mar. 8	C the City <i>I Spy in the City: C is for Cathedral, Cordwainers, Controversy...</i>		St. Paul's exit 2
Mar. 15	▶ In the Footsteps of Matthew Shardlake <sup>#</sup>		Chancery Lane exit 3
Mar. 22	Boat Race Preview <i>Blues Boys, Buoy, Boats, Bridges &amp; Troubled Waters</i>		Ravenscourt Park
Mar. 29	▶ ♀ of W1A the <i>Weird &amp; Wonderful Women of Marylebone</i>		Baker Street Baker Street exit
Apr. 5	Borough High Street the <i>In Focus Walk</i>		Borough
Apr. 12	Alfred Hitchcock's London <i>More than 39 Steps!</i>		Holborn
Apr. 19	Hampstead Garden Suburb <i>Arts &amp; Crafts Utopia</i>		Golders Green
Apr. 26	St. John's Wood <i>Mistresses &amp; Mansions, Courtesans &amp; Cricket, Villas &amp; Villains</i>		St. John's Wood

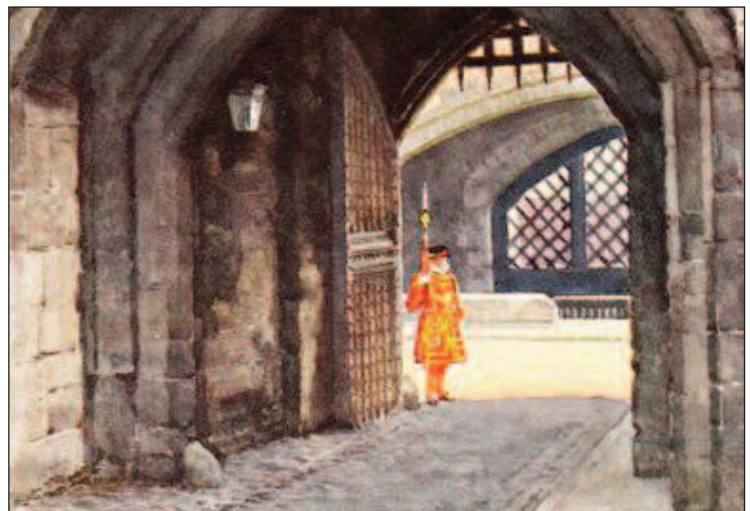
<sup>#</sup>Exploring award-winning novelist C.J. Sansom's Tudor London

## MAYFLOWER & BRUNEL

Not April 26

10.45 am Rotherhithe\* London Overground ☺ [Video on www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)

**Once upon a time in Rotherhithe...** 400 years ago the Pilgrims sailed from here. 200 years ago Brunel started here. Almost ended here too. Just up the river, Shakespeare's *Tempest* describes a miraculous shipwreck and 10 years later Pilgrims take 'a perilous voyage to an unknown land'. Oh Brave New World! So famous now. But embarkation Rotherhithe still unknown. The river coils round, protects – hides – this secret village in central London. East India Company town. Gulliver started and ended here: 'the strangest, the most extraordinary, of hidden London, unknown to the great mass of its inhabitants'. Sands Films studio, built from shipwreck, is the home of *Little Dorrit*. The Old Mortuary is where *Our Mutual Friend* begins. St Mary's Church has masts for pillars and chairs carved from the *Fighting Temeraire*. Love nest for a famous modern Princess. King Edward's Palace where Chaucer was first Poet Laureate. A Pirate's Gibbet. A Watch House protects the churchyard from Resurrectionists. Inside the gates a memorial to Christopher Jones, Captain of the Mayflower. Antonio to Prince Lee Boo, hero from the Spice Islands. Down steps to the secret underground cathedral, a memorial to Isambard Kingdom Brunel. This is the oldest structure in the oldest Underground in the world. Pilgrim, Poet, Prince and Princess. And for penitentiaries, a pint of Mayflower Scurvy at the Pirate's Pub. **Guided by Tim.** N.B. for us the Brunel Museum waives its £6 admission charge. But they ask for a £3 donation to help the museum charity look after "the underground cathedral." **In Rotherhithe, in Rotherhithe...** \*Very central and easy to get to. Jubilee Line to Canada Water ☺ Tube Stop. Change to the Overground – you want Platform 4, Northbound. Rotherhithe London Overground ☺ Station is one stop north.



## TOWER OF LONDON\*

Not Dec. 22 or April 26

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. 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. The 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 MBE or Brian or Judy.** \*We get you a discount on the Tower's admission charge! N.B. Tour charge for kids £3 plus entry fee.

## BEATLES MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR

11 am Tottenham Court Road Tube ☺ exit 1

**All you need is love...** "Imagine" Beatlemania & the Swinging 60s on Richard P.'s "Magical Mystery Tour" of Beatles' London haunts... See Thursday's column overleaf for full description. [Video on walks.com](http://www.walks.com)



## WESTMINSTER AT WAR

1.45 pm Embankment Tube ➡ river exit

Not Nov. 10  
or April 26

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 toms 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, Steven or Andy R.**

## STREET ART WALK

1.45 pm Liverpool Street Tube ➡ Bishopsgate west exit top of the escalator

**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 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](http://www.walks.com)



## LITTLE VENICE

2 pm Warwick Avenue Tube ➡

If you fancy something completely different... Little Venice is the prettiest and most romantic spot in town. See Saturday's ➡ section for full description. **Guided by Shaughan.** Video on [www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)

## BIZARRE LONDON

Not April 26

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

**Bedlam, Bursting Bodies & Beheaded Virgins** A jolt of the pure stuff – the best sort of London Walks alchemy. Alchemy that results when you mix off-the-beaten-path London with history that would do the Sorcerer's Apprentice proud. **Here be knights, nuns and notoriety.** An urban enchanted forest (that's the expurgated version) – Hieronymous Bosch's Garden of Earthly Delights is more like it. Fasten your seatbelts. Watch the pageant unfurl. Gentle monks and chivalric knights (how the mighty fell). A bursting royal body; a noble head in a biscuit tin; an annual ready-meal delivered to an open coffin; 1100 beheaded virgins; nuns so outrageous all of Europe was shocked; a palace of lunacy where the bones of the incarcerated reappear at regular intervals. **OMG. Guided by Sue, Laurence or David P.**

## THE UNKNOWN EAST END

2 pm Whitechapel Tube ➡

**N.B. In our Winter programme this walk runs on the first Sunday of every month**

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 Adam, Matthew, Steve & Andy R.**

## OLD WESTMINSTER

Not April 26

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. *Embarrassed of riches* 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 on [www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)

## HARRY POTTER FILM LOCATIONS IN THE CITY

2.30 pm Bank Tube ➡ exit 3, by the war memorial in front of the Royal Exchange

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 [walks.com](http://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	Denotes a new London Walk	TUBE STOP ➡
Nov. 3	Regent's Canal <sup>†</sup> Mile End to Limehouse		Mile End
Nov. 3	Gunpowder, Treason & Plot On the Trail of Guy Fawkes		Westminster exit 4
Nov. 10	A River of Memory A Special Walk for Remembrance Sunday		Embankment
Nov. 17	St. John's Wood Mistresses & Mansions, Courtesans & Cricket, Villas & Villains		St. John's Wood
Nov. 17	The Grand Union Canal <sup>†</sup> Little Venice & Paddington Green		Paddington Bakerloo Praed Street exit
Nov. 24	Frogna! A Hampstead Street through Time*		Hampstead
Dec. 1	Regent's Canal <sup>†</sup> Little Venice to Camden Town		Warwick Avenue
Dec. 8	What Ho, Jeeves! The London of P. G. Wodehouse		Marble Arch exit 2 (the Park Lane exit)
Dec. 15	Regent's Canal King's Cross – Granary Square – St. Pancras <sup>†</sup>		King's Cross meet by taxi queue
Dec. 15	Seasonal St. Albans Day Trip Christmas lights, stalls and live music all day		West Hampstead
Dec. 22	The Seven Deadly Sins See Monday's column for full description		Covent Garden
Dec. 29	The Hampstead Spies* The KGB in NW3		Belsize Park
Jan. 5	Regent's Canal <sup>†</sup> Little Venice to Camden Town		Warwick Avenue
Jan. 12	What Ho, Jeeves! The London of P. G. Wodehouse		Marble Arch exit 2 (the Park Lane exit)
Jan. 19	The Grand Union Canal <sup>†</sup> Little Venice & Paddington Green		Paddington Bakerloo Praed Street exit
Jan. 26	Auntie's London Roundabout the BBC		Oxford Circus exit 8
Jan. 26	Romans in London Archaeologist-guided!		Monument Fish Street Hill exit
Feb. 2	Regent's Canal King's Cross – Granary Square – Camden <sup>†</sup>		King's Cross meet by taxi queue
Feb. 9	James Bond & Spies Film Walk		St. James's Park Abbey/Broadway exit
Feb. 16	The London Wall Walk Londinium to Lundenwic to Londenburgh		Tower Hill
Feb. 16	Regent's Canal <sup>†</sup> Mile End to Limehouse		Mile End
Feb. 23	St. John's Wood Mistresses & Mansions, Courtesans & Cricket, Villas & Villains		St. John's Wood
Mar. 1	Regent's Canal King's Cross – Granary Square – Camden <sup>†</sup>		King's Cross meet by taxi queue
Mar. 8	Musical London Baroque to Rock, Handel to Hendrix		Leicester Square exit 1
Mar. 15	Regent's Canal <sup>†</sup> Mile End to Haggerston		Mile End
Mar. 15	Walking the Elephant The Regeneration Game		Elephant & Castle London South Bank Univ. exit
Mar. 22	Radical Islington Conflict & Mayhem, Riot & Murder		Farringdon Cowcross Street exit
Mar. 29	Denmark Hill & Camberwell South London's Belgravia		Denmark Hill ➡
Apr. 5	Grand Surrey Canal <sup>†</sup> Royal Navy Victualling Yard & Greenland Dock		Surrey Quays
Apr. 12	What Ho, Jeeves! The London of P. G. Wodehouse		Marble Arch exit 2 (the Park Lane exit)
Apr. 12	Regent's Canal <sup>†</sup> Little Venice to Camden Town		Warwick Avenue
Apr. 19	Limehouse – Thames – Docklands <sup>†</sup>		Westferry ➡ DLR by Cycle Hire Point
Apr. 26	Up the Cally Eventful History, Tales & Legends of the Caledonian Road		King's Cross meet by taxi queue

<sup>†</sup> Conducted in partnership with the Inland Waterways Association. The Guides donate their fee to the IWA

\* Created and guided by Stewart Purvis CBE, the former Editor and CEO of Independent Television News

## SHAKESPEARE'S & DICKENS' LONDON

2.45 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." Performed and guided by Royal Shakespeare Company actor Stephen. Played Hamlet, big roles in *Lear*, *Macbeth* etc. Video on [www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)

## SECRET SOHO & ITS PUBS

7 pm Leicester Square Tube ➡ exit 1 (by Wyndham's Theatre)

*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 gourmands; 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!

## GRUESOME LONDON, GHOSTLY LONDON

7.30 pm Monument Tube ➡ Fish Street Hill exit

**"deliciously spooky"** *San Francisco Chronicle* Nervous disposition? Sure you want to go on this walk? Ok, but here's some advice: don't get separated from the group. Where you're going – and what you'll hear – is going to get into your hair. Talking full-on mediaeval. Talking places where things went south big time. Talking alleyways like hideaways. Talking peeling back layers to reveal something else. Something – *several somethings* – seriously, grotesquely nasty. Repugnant. Talking torture and "bring out your dead" and the faint, sickly smell of rotting flesh. Talking murder and remnants and revenants and creepy churchyards and slurry in the night filth-cart. Talking an actor – your guide – who can do the stainless steel voice and shining-with-madness eyes. Give you the look which ought to be sticking four inches out of your back. I've been on this walk. Heard frightened little gasps of horror, seen eyes out on stalks. Courtesy of a parade of horrors like this: "one gruesome aspect of being stretched too far on the rack was the loud popping noises made by snapping tendons, ligaments and bones." History as a pillbox of maggots? Morbid, grisly, tabloid sensationalism? Hardly. Dark secrets, grim goings-on, twisty, sinister little byways are pathways to the past. *They ground' big picture history* – reflect social and economic attitudes and structures. They're an x-ray of the London that was. **N.B. this walk shares some of the route and a bit of the content you get on Friday's Chilling Tales from Beyond the Grave walk.** **Guided by Stephen or Andy.**

## JACK THE RIPPER

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

**"London Walks has many copycats but it's the best"** He came silently out of the midnight shadows of August 31, 1888. Watching. Stalking. Butchering fellow human beings.<sup>†</sup> 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 meet the victims, inspect the murder sites, sift through the evidence – in all its gory detail – and get to grips, so to speak, with the main suspects. See Saturday's ➡ section for full description. **Guided by Donald Rumbelow or Freeman of the City and ace Blue Badge Molly.** Donald is "internationally recognised as the leading authority on Jack the Ripper." Britain's most distinguished crime historian and former Curator of the Police Crime Museum, Donald Rumbelow is the author of the definitive book on the Ripper. This is his walk. He created it, curates it, mentors it and still occasionally guides it. **Warning:** never part with your money until you're certain it's Molly or Don you're handing it to. **Don't let anyone con you.** \*Frommer's London

Superb, chilling video of the Jack the Ripper Walk on [www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com)

# The Best Guides in Town

## It all comes down to the guiding

**Aaron** Cambridge scientist. Paleontologist. Expert on Jurassic fossils (his dinosaur tours are kid magnets). Research Fellow. Tri-lingual. Tokyo Swallows fan. 2 billion Chinese admirers. Award-winning guide.

**Adam** Charismatic, Celtic, kilted.\* 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 and multiply talented, he's a national journalist, author, star guide, star dad, cartoonist and guitar strummer & *chansonnier* for hire. Award-winning professionally qualified City of Westminster Guide. Course Lecturer.\**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** Actor and London historian (MA in early modern London history from London University). Young, handsome, jolly and gifted. *The Evening Standard*: "he's a class act".

**Andy R** Crewed yachts in the Caribbean. Held at gunpoint in Haiti. Delivered cars across the USA. Grizzled old actor/playwright. 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*. London Walks' 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** 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, David, Flora, John, Lulu, Mike, Naomi, 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.

**Corin**, gifted young actor, accent specialist, voice coach to the stars. Londoner.

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

## "London Walks guides do it best"

### Old English Saying

**David** *Seigneur of this favoured realm*. Doyen of London walking tour guides. 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 P.** A London Mayor.

**Delianne's** a (white) witch. Broom's a scarlet Jaguar convertible. Badge is blue, hair's blonde, nails are ruby, coat and boots are red, style's Goth, personality's big, IQ's Mensa, fun quotient's huge.

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

**Donald Rumbelow's** *The Complete Jack the Ripper* remains the definitive book on the subject" (*Sunday Times*). Britain's most distinguished crime historian, Don *"is internationally recognised as the leading authority on Jack the Ripper."* The former Curator of the Police Crime Museum, he's got unrivalled access.

**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!

**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!

**Hilary** OBE Historian. Soroptimist. Top flight professionally qualified *Blue Badge* and *City of London Guide*. English eye for the idiosyncratic. Unquenchably cheerful manner. Star turn.

**Ian** Degrees from Oxford and UCL in Law and History. City lawyer. Senior Partner of a major international law firm. Got over the wall. *City of Westminster* and *City of London Tour Guide* qualifications (prestigious battle honours to add to the Oxford and UCL complement). Garners no end of rave reviews for his tours. Donates all his guiding income to charity. Special guy(de) indeed.

**Isobel** Aristocrat. Artist. Journalist. Linguist. Prize-winning *Blue Badge Guide*. Ancestor introduced the waltz to England.

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

**Joanne** Criminal defence lawyer. Escapes from prison cells to lead walking tours. Forensically minded, brilliant, professionally qualified guide. Teaches law on the *Blue Badge* guiding course.

**Judith** Canadian. Artist and lecturer on the History of London. Lives in the middle of Camden Market.

**Judy** Winner of the London Tourist Board's prestigious *Guide of the Year* award. Elite, professionally qualified *Blue Badge* and *City of London Guide*.

**Justin** *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*.

**Kevin** is a London archaeologist. Distinguished career: Museum of London Archaeologist, Victoria &

Albert Museum Curator, Old Operating Theatre Director.

**Kim** worked in the House of Commons and the European Parliament. Another 24-carat *Blue Badge Guide*. The 21st century's first *Guide of the Year* award winner.

**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](http://www.walks.com)

**Liam** 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** Former international arts journalist and editor. Lectures at the V&A. Top flight *Blue Badge Guide*.

**Mary** ("Poppins") *"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.

*"London: proudly barbaric yet deeply civilised, common yet royal, vulgar yet processional, sacred yet profane"* Stephen Fry

**Matthew** Polymath. Writes operas which get produced. Paints pictures which sell. Tells stories of his native London which amuse and inform. Art history, British social history, philosophy. Raconteur.

**Molly** 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** Swashbuckling actor (RSC, NT, Almeida, Donmar and tons of TV). Yachtsman and TV chef. Reviewer 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.

**Peter** Actor and a raconteur of genius. *When he talks... doors open*. 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. Whitechapel in 50 Buildings and Women's London.

**Rex** An English gentleman.

**Richard** *The man with the honeyed voice and the distinctive red hat*. Four careers. He's a fine actor, a professionally qualified *Blue Badge Guide*, a knight of the turf and he restores old houses. Masterminds our *Excursions!* Brings authority, panache and an insider's savvy to his walks.

**Richard P.** *"The Pied Piper of Beatlemania"* The "sixth Beatle," he authored *The Beatles's London*, was a consultant on the *Hard Day's Night* DVD and holds the *Beatles Brain of Britain* title.

**Richard III** Scion of a Lord Mayor of London. 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](http://www.thehistoryoflondon.com)

**Richard IV** Velvety-voiced actor of audiobooks fame. Swordsman. 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. Allowed to drive sheep across London Bridge. 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** Distinguished UCL geologist. Researches geological materials used in art, architecture & archaeology.

**Ruth S.** Velvet-voiced National Theatre and BBC actress. Professionally qualified City of London guide.

**Shaughan** aka *The Duke of Darkness*. Gifted, stylish, *distinguished* 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 professionally qualified *Blue Badge* and *City of London Guide* and a rich baritone, Shaughan regularly spices his walks with a song or two. **The video – you can see it on [www.walks.com](http://www.walks.com) – of The Duke of Darkness' Ghost Walk nails the coffin lid shut: "London Walks guides do it best!"**

**Simon** Top flight *Blue Badge Guide*. Dark, dashing, debonair, leonine-voiced and tri-lingual.

**Simon B.** Royal National Theatre, Globe & screen actor. Quick wit, strong voice, tall. Easy to follow.

**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** Splendidly droll ex-Elephant Keeper. Was in *Shakespeare in Love*. Professionally qualified *City of London, Blue Badge*, and *Shakespeare's Globe Theatre Guide*.

**Stephen** Fiercely intelligent, terrifically talented, renowned actor. Royal Shakespeare Company, West End shows, lots of films, Sir Peter Hall's Shakespeare productions, etc. Best ear ever. His impersonation of John Lennon is a resurrection. Doesn't just guide Shakespeare, performs him.

**Steve** London Walks' fizziest guide. Don't be fooled by his gentle, genteel manner. When he starts guiding it's KA-BOOM! He's also an accomplished actor, playwright, song writer and musician.

**Steven** Top flight *Blue Badge Guide*, APTG Chairman, subterranean London expert.

**Stewart Purvis** CBE Mover and shaker. Former Editor of Independent Television News. Former CEO of ITN. Distinguished academic. Co-author of *Guy Burgess, the Spy Who Knew Everyone*.

**Sue** Freeman of the City of London. History and arts lecturer. Fellow of the Huguenot Society. Expert on the Fleet River and a professionally qualified *Blue Badge* and *City of London Guide*.

**Tom** MBE Recovering barrister. Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. Travel writer. Chairman of the European Federation of Tourist Guides. *Blue Badge Guide*. *BB* Course Examiner. Lawyer's ready wit. Noted ability to entertain an audience. Let alone a judge and jury. He's merely outrageous.

**Ulrike** Trilingual (English, German, Italian), double-badged (City of London and Westminster) and singularly gifted guide.

# The New York Times

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



# 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](http://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.com). **Magic!**