



Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

United Kingdom - London

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** London
- ✓ **Language:** English
- ✓ **Population:** ± 8.9 mln
- ✓ **Sq. km:** ± 1572
- ✓ **Currency:** Pounds (GBP - £)
- ✓ **Country code:** +44 (020)
- ✓ **Visa:** Yes, not part of EU. Info [here](#).
- ✓ **Emergency phone:** 999
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** None



History Recap Over 1 Drink

1801: UK formed. '15: Role in defeating Napoleon: Britain imperial power. 40s: Industrial Revolution, peak in 2nd half 19th Century. 80s: Irish separatist movement. 1906: Liberal government, welfare state. '14-'18: WWI, against Germany. '21: Foundation Irish Free State after 3 years war of independence – North still UK. '29: World stock market crash. '31: Economic crisis. '39: Germany invades Poland, UK declares war. '40: Churchill. Battle of Britain. German bombings. '44: Allied invade France on D-Day (6/6). '45: Germany surrenders. UK: UN Security Council. '47: Colony India independent. '48: National Health Service. '49: Founder member Nato. '56: Intervenes in Suez Canal Zone, US makes them withdraw. '61: UK application EEC vetoed by French president Charles de Gaulle → '73: joins. '79: Thatcher prime minister, free market policies, privatization state-run industries. '82: Falkland war Argentina. '93: Downstreet Declaration N-Ireland. '97: Blair - Labour Party. Diana dies. '99: UK takes part in war against Yugoslavia. 2000: Intervene in Sierra Leone. 01: UK supports US. '05: London bombings. IRA (Ireland) ends armed campaign. '07: Scottish independence parties. Blair. '08: Financial crisis. '10: Cameron. '11: Intervention Libya. '13: Anti-EU ideas start. '17: "Islamist" attacks. '20: Brexit.

Travel Seasons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Spring												
Summer												
Autumn												
Winter												
Budget												

Altitude: 11m. Climate: Oceanic Climate (Cfb).

Bucket List For Free

☺ **Sights:** [Tower Bridge](#), [Covent Garden](#), [Buckingham Palace](#), [Highgate Cemetery](#), [Sky Garden](#), Monument to the Great Fire, Piccadilly Circus, Millennium Bridge, [British Library](#), [Westminster Abbey](#), [St. Paul's Cathedral](#) (in famous churches: entry free during mass) & More.

☺ **Free Museums:** [National Gallery](#), [British Museum](#), [Victoria & Albert Museum](#), [National History Museum](#), [Tate](#), [Museum of London](#), [National Portrait Gallery](#), [Wallace Collection](#), [RAF Museum](#), [Museum of London Docklands](#), [National Maritime Museum](#), [Science Museum](#), [Freemason's Hall](#), [Royal Academy of Arts](#), [Wellcome Collection](#), [Somerset House](#), [Docklands](#), [IWM](#), [Guildhall Museum](#), [Mithraeum](#) & More (see blog story)

Worth The Extra \$€¥

👍 **Museums:** [Churchill War Rooms](#), [HMS Belfast](#), [Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum](#), [Postal Museum](#), [Charles Dickens Museum](#), [Courtauld Gallery](#) & More.

👍 **Other:** [Tower of London](#), [Chelsea Stadium Tour & Museum](#), [House of Parliament](#), [London Eye](#), [Royal Mews](#), [Abbey Road Studios](#) & More.

☺ **Nice suburbs:** Camden, Greenwich, Notting Hill, Soho, Westminster, South Bank, Little Venice, Mayfair, Kensington, Holborn, Chelsea, Whitechapel & More.

☺ **Graffiti:** Brick Lane, Leake Street Tunnel, Canary Wharf, Shoreditch, Camden, Hackney Wick & More.

More free/paid activities [here!](#)

Budget Bites

⌘ **Big supermarkets:** Aldi, Lidl, Sainsbury's, Waitrose, Costcutter, Tesco Metro, Marks & Spencer.

⌘ **Markets:** Borough Market, Camden Market, Old Spitalfields Market, Portobello Road Market, Brick Lane Market, Maltby Market, Greenwich Market, Mercato Metropolitano, Broadway Market & *More*.

⌘ **Local food:** Fish and Chips (*deep-fried*), Bangers and Mash (*sausages and mashed potatoes*), Black Pudding (*blood and pork fat pudding*), Shepherd's / Cottage Pie (*lamb / beef pie*), Steak and Kidney Pie, Beef Wellington (*pasty steak*), Cornish Pasty (*meat and vegetable pastry*), Full English Breakfast (*incl. bacon-beans-sausages*), Sunday Roast, Toad in the Hole (*sausages in gravy*), Scotch Egg (*boiled eggs wrapped in sausage meat, then deep-fried*), Haggis (*minced sheep's heart, liver and lungs*), Scones, Eton Mess (*meringue and cream*), Eccles Cake (*pastry*).

⌘ **Go vegan:** Being vegan is ridiculously easy in Europe, especially in cities like London. Local vegan dishes: Laverbread (*boiled and pureed seaweed*), Bubble and Squeak (*fried mashed potato with cabbage*), Pease Pudding (*with split peas*), Water-based Porridge. Check vegan-friendly restaurants here: [Happy Cow – London](#). Also check out the by-now-basically-local Indian restaurants.

Mama Said

☠ Europe is generally safe, but London contains the same risks as any other capital city. More 'dangerous' areas are West End, Haringey, Islington, Hackney, Camden and Brent.

☠ Tap water is drinkable.

☠ If you consider yourself an animal lover, avoid companies such as London Zoo and Sea Life, where animals are imprisoned out of their natural habitat.

Next?

➔ **In the UK:** Oxford, Reading, Cambridge, Brighton.

➔ **International destinations close by:** (*Wales, Ireland, Scotland*), France, Belgium, The Netherlands.

Sleep Cheap

❖ Hostels and alternative accommodation are very expensive in the UK. Check [Booking.com](#) for deals.

❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or Housesitting ([20% discount for Trusted Housesitters via this link!](#)). Also check

Festivals

☼ All Points East Festival: May.

☼ Bushstock Festival: June.

☼ Download Festival: June.

More festivals [here](#).

Nights Best Spent

◆ **Nightlife areas:** Shoreditch, Soho, Camden, Brixton, Chelsea, Clapham, Covent Garden, Kensington, Kings Cross, Elephant and Castle.

◆ **Top Theatres:** Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, Adelphi Theatre, The O2, Old Operating Theatre, Royal Opera House, Novello Theatre, Her Majesty's Theatre London, Prince Edward Theatre, Victoria Palace, Piccadilly Theatre, Apollo Victoria Theatre, Lyceum Theatre, Prince of Wales Theatre, Phoenix & *More*.

Free-Riding?

■ Walking is an excellent option to see the more subtle details of London. Stick to an area. From area to area other transport is required.

■ Biking is another fun way to explore. [Bike rental](#) is free the first half hour. Take into account: they drive on the left!

■ London has an excellent public transport system. You need an Oyster Card (*50% cheaper than paying cash*), which you can buy in the ticket machines, and charge it. Wipe upon entry and exit. With the Oyster Card you can use the Tube (*underground metro*), Buses, Docklands Light Railway, Overground (*trains*), TFL Rail and Tram. More info, travel planner and maps [here](#).

■ London has many [train stations](#). The earlier you book, the cheaper the ticket (*although trains are generally expensive in the UK*), the same principle goes for bus tickets. Cheap bus lines are [Flixbus](#) and [Megabus](#). [National Express](#) is standard.

■ Airports: London Gatwick (LGW), London Heathrow (LHR), London City (LCY), London Luton (LTN), London Stansted (STN), London Southend (SEN).