

THE LONDON TIMES

The students' account of their school trip to London in May 2017.

THE CITY OF LONDON

From the 8th to the 12th of May, we went to London, the capital city of England. This is where Queen Elisabeth II lives (Buckingham Palace).

During our stay¹, we saw a lot of nice museums and monuments; for example: the British Museum, the Tower Bridge, the Tower of London, the Gherkin, Big Ben, the London Eye...

We noticed² that the houses looked different from the houses in France. They all look the same.



To go from one place to another, we took buses (double deckers), a boat and we walked. We also saw many

black cabs but we didn't take any.

During our trip, we also noticed a lot of original people walking in the streets of London. They often had strange hairstyles and clothes.

There were a lot of shops everywhere and we saw some brands³ many times.

To conclude, we can say that in London there are always things to do and see. We would all love to go and visit London again.

By the 6th class (Bertrand, Emma & Marc)

OUR VISITS

On day one (Monday 8th May), we arrive in London and we put our bags at the Hostel. We have Fish and Chips for lunch and then go to Covent Garden to see street artists and visit London.



¹ Stay= séjour.

² To notice= remarquer.

On day two (Tuesday 9th May), we visit the Natural History Museum where we learn about geology and biology. After that, we walk and have lunch in Kensington gardens. During the afternoon, we go to



the British Museum: full of Historical treasures.

On day three (Wednesday 10th May), we visit the Tower of London, a very old castle. We have lunch at



Trafalgar Square, in front of the National Gallery where we go in the afternoon. There are a lot of beautiful paintings we can admire.

On the morning of day four (Thursday 11th May), we go to Westminster Abbey where we see the tombs of artists, scientists, Kings and Queens, and also the coronation chair. After that, we go on a boat trip⁴ on the River Thames (from Westminster to Greenwich) and we have lunch in Greenwich park. We visit the National Maritime Museum and we return to Westminster by boat.



On the last day, day five (Friday 12th May), we go to Buckingham Palace for the changing of the Guard. In the afternoon, we flight from London Stansted to Toulouse.



By the 5th class (Aude & Déotille)

³ Brand= marque.

⁴ Boat trip= excursion en bateau.

OUR DAILY LIFE IN LONDON

The first day, we arrived in the afternoon and we



were hungry. Fortunately, Faustine's mother invited us to a restaurant to discover a special dish⁵: Fish and Chips (and also burgers).

That night, we ate pancakes, bacon and eggs prepared by Mme Doutrebente who also prepared all our meals every day.



In the mornings, we ate breakfast at the hostel at around eight o'clock and then we visited different monuments. To go from one place to another, we walked and took buses.



On Thursday, we also took a boat across the River Thames. At around twelve o'clock, we ate lunch in town, usually in parks. In the afternoons, we also visited monuments or museums. Towards seven o'clock, we ate and after our dinner we went to the park located next the hostel to play leapfrog⁶. After that, we



returned to the hostel and we went to bed after the evening prayer⁷.

By the 5th class (Amandine & Diégo)

⁵ Dish= plat.

⁶ Leapfrog= saute-mouton.

⁷ Evening prayer= prière du soir.

THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

On the morning of the second day, we woke, had breakfast and then we hopped on a bus to go the Natural History Museum.

When we arrived, we saw an escalator and when we lifted our heads a little, we noticed that it was surrounded⁸ by a giant metallic globe. Its core⁹ was orange and illuminated.

We saw a few extinct animals such as the dodo. We also saw stuffed animals¹⁰ such as polar bears and some birds such as swans and ostriches.



We also visited a room where there was the ancestor of the polar bears.



We felt very small next to the dinosaurs' skeletons and the bears.

The things that I preferred were the globe and when we went to see the animals.

So here was our visit of this big and impressive museum.

By Clémence in 4th class

THE BRITISH MUSEUM

On the second day, after having visited the Natural History Museum, we went to the British Museum by bus.

The entrance made me think of a Greek temple because of its big columns.



When we arrived, the first thing we saw was the Egyptian area. In this room were shown many items brought back by Napoleon's soldiers such as the

⁸ To surround= entourer.

⁹ Core= noyau, centre.

¹⁰ Stuffed animals= animaux empaillés.



Rosetta stone, statues of different deities, sarcophagus and also mummies.

During the visit, we used audio-guides because the written descriptions were only in English.

I enjoyed this museum a lot because for a

few hours we were projected into a wonderful journey¹¹ in the past.

By Faustine in 4th class

THE TOWER OF LONDON

Let's go to the Tower of London! But Before I tell you my story, let's go back in time : 2017... 1917... 1817... 1717... 1617... 1517... 1417... 1317... 1217... 1117... Let's take away¹² a few more years and we are now in 1066.

1066 is certainly a date that doesn't ring a bell for you. In fact, it is the year when William the Conqueror, Duke of Normandy, invaded England and decided to build the Tower of London to secure Westminster.

So here we are now, on a nice Wednesday morning, in this splendid medieval castle.

Our first steps were for the Crown Jewels. It was



secured by two Queen's Guards, straight¹³ as sticks. They weren't troubled in any way while we were staring

at them. We started by watching a movie about the crowning of Queen Elisabeth II in 1953. Then, on the

« rolling carpet » (as some might say), we admired the beautiful golden crowns with diamonds, rubies... we thought we were dreaming. We saw a golden spoon, vases... gold, gold everywhere.

We were also able to see the armours, shields and swords used by the knights and thought: « How could they wear that! »



There was a room that every student waited for with impatience: the torture chamber! The teachers finally accepted to bring us in. We entered through a very narrow¹⁴ corridor and arrived in a room where there were a few torture instruments. I would have expected to see a feather used to tickle¹⁵ the prisoners but there weren't any, what a pity!

The « prisoner's room » was a room where a monk prisoner managed to escape with a rope.

Then, we left the fortress telling each other about the most beautiful wonders¹⁶ we had seen (mainly the Crown Jewels). Enriched by new knowledge¹⁷, we left with some regrets because we couldn't see everything.

It is with pleasure that I told you this marvellous visit to the Tower of London (which was my favourite monument).

I also write to the CM2 who will be in secondary school next year and who will have, I hope, the chance to travel to London and to explore its treasures.

By Anne in 4th class

¹¹ Journey= voyage.

¹² To take away= enlever.

¹³ Straight= droit.

¹⁴ Narrow= étroit.

¹⁵ To tickle= chatouiller.

¹⁶ Wonders= merveilles.

¹⁷ Knowledge= savoir /connaissances.

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