

A nighttime photograph of the London skyline across the River Thames. The Houses of Parliament and the Elizabeth Tower (Big Ben) are brightly lit with warm yellow lights, and their reflection is clearly visible in the water. The sky is dark blue.

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London is the capital city of the United Kingdom. It is situated on the south-east coast of England. London has over seven million inhabitants. Metropolitan London is one of the most densely populated areas of Europe.

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Buckingham Palace is the official London residence of the British monarch and the largest "working" royal palace remaining in the world. It was built for the Duke of Buckingham in 1703.



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Buckingham Palace is the London home of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

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The Tower of London is officially Her Majesty's Palace and Fortress.

This is the complex of several buildings along the River Thames which have served as fortress, armoury, treasury, mint, palace, place of execution, public records office, observatory, refuge, and prison.

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Tower Bridge is a bridge over the River Thames. Horace Jones, the City Architect, designed this bridge. It is 800 feet (244 m) in length.

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The Palace of Westminster, on the banks of the River Thames is also known as the **Houses of Parliament**. The building has approximately 1,000 rooms, 100 staircases, and two miles (3 km) of passageways. This is the home of the Parliament of the UK.

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The Clock Tower is the most famous feature of London. It houses the bell known as **Big Ben**, from which the Clock Tower is colloquially, but inaccurately named. It's 98 metres high.

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Westminster Abbey, a mainly Gothic church, on the scale of a cathedral, is the traditional place of coronation. It is located in Westminster. The historic Abbey was built by Edward the Confessor between 1045-1050.



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St Paul's Cathedral is a cathedral on Ludgate Hill, in the City of London. The present building dates from the 17th century.

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Piccadilly Circus is a plaza and traffic intersection in the West End in London.

It is renowned for its video display and neon signs in the northwestern corner. Piccadilly Circus is surrounded by several major tourist attractions, including the Shaftesbury Memorial, Criterion Theatre, London Pavilion and several major retail stores.

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The
London
Eye

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The **London Eye** is, as of December 2003, the largest observation wheel in the world. Designed by architects David Marcs and Julia Barfield, it stands 135 metres.

The wheel carries 32 sealed, air conditioned, passenger capsules. It rotates slowly (at a rate of about 1.6 km/hour) so that a complete revolution takes about 30 minutes to complete.

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Trafalgar Square is a square in central London that commemorates the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805. The Nelson's Column is in the centre of the square. It is a popular tourist spot in London, and used to be particularly famous for its pigeons.

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Hyde Park is one of the largest parks in central London and one of the Royal Parks of London. The park is divided in two by the Serpentine Lake. Hyde Park is 140 hectares. Sites of interest in the park include Speakers` Corner.

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Regent's Park (officially **The Regent's Park**) is one of the Royal Parks of London. It is in the northern part of central London. The 487 acre (2.0 km²) park is mainly open parkland. The north-east end of the park contains London Zoo.



The "City" is now one section of London's city centre and is best known London's main financial district, the "Square Mile".



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London's symbols

a red bus



a black taxi



THE END

