

# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Our Concierge Team has compiled a list of activities to keep the children entertained.

With so much to see and do during your visit to London, and with Buckingham Palace, the Royal Parks and child-friendly museums and shops galore right on our doorstep, The Stafford London is perfectly placed to help you explore all the Capital has to offer.



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# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES ROYAL LONDON



## **Buckingham Palace**

The State Rooms of the Palace are open to visitors in August and September.There is a designated family pavilion, where children can enjoy activities, games and crafts. They also have a fantastic 'dressing up box' so the younger ones can dress up as Princes, Princesses or the Queen's guards!

### Watch The Changing of the Guard

The regular hand-over of guards in the forecourt of Buckingham Palace draws thousands of visitors to watch the soldiers and listen to the music. Children will love being close up to this spectacle and seeing the legendary guards in action. Check the dates and times with the concierge.





#### **Tower of London**

The Tower of London is one of the world's most famous and spectacular fortresses. The major draws are the Crown Jewels and the history associated with the Tower's role as a prison and for public hanging.

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# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES ROYAL LONDON



#### Windsor Castle

Windsor Castle is one of three official residences of The Queen. Don't forget to look at Queen Mary's Doll House complete with running water and electricity.

Enjoy a free multimedia tour for children, which takes them around the castle, introducing them to many characters living there.

#### Hampton Court Palace

Hampton Court was a favourite palace of the Tudors. At the entrance, pick up a 'Family Trail' and audio tours for children. The maze, set up in the 17th century, is a lot of fun. Plenty of room to run around in the acres of gardens. Take a picnic, or stop at the Tiltyard Café for lunch and snacks.



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# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES MUSEUMS



## Natural History Museum

The museum is home to life and earth science specimens comprising some 70 million items.

The museum is particularly famous for its exhibition of dinosaur skeletons and the magnificent blue whale skeleton in the main hall.

### **Science Museum**

There is something here for everyone, including plenty of hands-on exhibits and workshops for the kids. The aviation section is particularly impressive with many forms of aircraft to see and even simulators to help you to experience them for yourself.





#### London Transport Museum

The London Transport Museum explores the story of London and its transport system over the last 200 years, showcasing London's most famous icons – from the red buses and black cabs to Tube trains. There is also an 'All Aboard' play zone for children of ages 0 to 7.

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# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES MUSEUMS

### **Imperial War Museum**

The museum houses thousands of exhibits from art to aircraft. It covers both the military and social aspects of war.

Children particularly like the interactive videos, the Blitz Experience and simulated RAF flight.





#### The London Dungeon

The London Dungeon is one of London's 'must-see' signature attractions – delighting audiences for almost 40 years.

The journey takes visitors through 1,000 years of the capital's past - consisting of a series of set scenes reproducing chilling aspects of medieval London using live actors and special effects.

#### Shakespeare's Globe Theatre

This reconstruction of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre is located just 200 yards from the original playhouse on the banks of the river Thames. Throughout the year, a fascinating guided tour of the Globe Theatre is available, including the chance to try on original costumes.



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# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES MUSEUMS



### **Sherlock Holmes Museum**

Sherlock Holmes and Doctor John H. Watson lived at 221B Baker Street according to the stories written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

Here you can see how the famous characters lived and take a step back in time.

### Madame Tussauds

For over 250 years, Madame Tussauds London has entertained guests with incredible life-size wax replicas of famous celebrities and historic icons in themes galleries.

Avoid the queue and book your tickets with the Concierge for this popular museum.





# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES NAUTICAL LONDON



### **HMS Belfast**

Known as London's only war ship, the HMS Belfast was saved for the nation as a unique reminder of British heritage. Climb up and down ladders to discover all 9 decks, including the Boiler and Engine Room which are far below the water line. There are scenes set up to show what life would have been like living on the ship, from the on-board dentist to the ship's kitchens.

#### The Golden Hinde

The Golden Hinde is an exact replica of the ship that Sir Francis Drake used to travel around the world for the first time offering the opportunity to see what life was really like aboard an Elizabethan galleon in the days of the 16th Century. The guided tour around the ship is a unique experience as the guides are dressed in Elizabethan costume.





#### The Cutty Sark

Venture on board and beneath one of the world's most famous ships and discover what life was like on The Cutty Sark. The last surviving tea clipper and the fastest and greatest of her time has now been raised by three metres to allow visitors to even walk underneath and get the best view of this great ship from every angle.

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# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES NAUTICAL LONDON



### **Thames Rib Experience**

This company has the two biggest, fastest and loudest boats in operation on The Thames. Offering a variety tours which begin with a sightseeing tour of London from the water with commentary and then finish by propelling you to top speed to a background of James Bond theme music!



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# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES WILDLIFE IN LONDON



### London Zoo

London Zoo was the World's first scientific zoo and became the most famous zoo in the World. There is a link to Harry Potter as well.

The scene early in the film when the Dursleys go to the zoo and Harry talks to the snake was filmed at London Zoo.

### London Aquarium

Home to more than 350 different underwater species from oceans, lakes and rivers around the world, the London Aquarium is one of the capital's most popular attractions.

Visitors can stand face to face with sharks, walk through the steamy jungles of the rainforest and stroke the rays in the touch pool





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Feed the Ducks

The Stafford is located close to St. James's Park where there are plenty of hungry ducks to feed. Our chef's have an unlimited supply of bread for you to keep them well fed. You can also meet the resident Pelicans which first set up home there when they were given as a gift by the Russian ambassador. Since then over 40 pelicans have made their home in St James's park.

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# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES WILDLIFE IN LONDON



### **City Farm**

This little haven in Vauxhall brings the countryside to London. It is run as a charity which allows children to experience the countryside in the city and meet animals.

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## CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES MISCELLANEOUS LONDON



#### Football stadium tours

For the young and old football fans, a stadium tour can be a great way to experience behind the scenes of these legendary stadiums. Wembley offers a fully guided tour with entry to the England team's dressing rooms, players' tunnel and press room. Chelsea and Arsenal football clubs offer a similar experience with their own football museums to discover as well.

#### Gambado

Gambado is a fantastic soft indoor play centre for children of 10 years and under. The centre gives children the chance to play, learn and explore in a safe, fun and colourful environment. There is such a variety of stimulating and exciting activities to enjoy that no two trips to Gambado will be the same.





#### **Escape Rooms**

London has a great selection of Escape Rooms for children and adults alike. Choose from varied concepts and themes around London.

Mission Breakout is perhaps the most immersive experience, set in an abandoned tube station. Escape Plan has a World War II theme which will appeal to history buffs.

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# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES MISCELLANEOUS LONDON

### Discover Children's Story Centre

Unique venue for 0-11 years old, consting of two floors of magical 'Story Worlds' and a 'Story Garden'. These immersive play spaces encourage exploration and imaginative play.

You can add story telling sessions to each booking as part of your visit.





# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES FURTHER OUTSIDE LONDON



### Warner Bros Studio Tour - The Making of Harry Potter

The must-go to destination for Harry Potter fans. Here, you can tour the actual film sets and learn about the special effects used in the films. The studio is about 20 miles outside of London, in Watford where there is a shuttle bus service from there to the studios.

Speak to the Concierge team - we have special access to tickets.

### Legoland

Legoland puts the fun in family trips with something geared towards every family member. Discover kid-powered rides, cool building challenges, a unique mix of interactive attractions, exhilarating coasters, shows that pull the audience into the action and much more.

Legoland is located in Windsor, which is 40 minutes on the train from London Paddington.





### **Thorpe Park**

A large theme park in Surrey which includes the U.K.'s first winged coaster and the tallest log flume in the U.K. With over 30 thrill rides, family attractions and special events, it is a great day out for all the family.

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## **CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES** FURTHER OUTSIDE LONDON



#### **Chessington World of Adventures**

Theme Park designed for younger children, with a great mixture of activities - a SeaLife Centre, zoo, rides, interactive games, as well as a busy schedule of live shows throughout the day.



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# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES SHOPPING



### Hamleys

England's biggest toyshop! Just a ten minute walk from The Stafford on Regent Street.

This world famous multi-storey toy shop has fantastic demonstrations and displays for all the family to enjoy.

#### Harrods Toy Kingdom

Within the iconic Harrods building, lies this magical kingdom filled with a huge selection of toys for babies and children.

All the favourites are here – from Barbie and Lego to Disney and an amazing array of stuffed animals.





# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES PARKS & GARDENS



### Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens

Technically two different parks, Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens are in practical and historical terms one huge, merging green expanse. Almost every kind of outdoor pursuit takes place within its 625 acres all year round.

Horse-riding, rollerblading, swimming, boating, tennis, cycling, bowling and putting are just some of the formal activities catered for.

The Diana Memorial Playground is also popular and centres round a wooden pirate ship in a sandpit which children love to climb over and explore.

Another attraction is the Peter Pan Statue which J.M. Barrie, his creator, commissioned after being so inspired by the gardens which he used to live near.

#### **Battersea** Park

This beautiful riverside park lies on the south bank of The Thames between two attractive bridges - Chelsea Bridge & Albert Bridge. It is a peaceful haven and less touristic than many of the London parks, locals love to come here to take in the views while walking their dogs.

It again has plenty for children, including a recently opened Go-Ape climbing centre, crazy golf and its own Children's zoo with monkeys.



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# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES VIEWING LONDON



### The London Eye

The world's largest observation wheel is a spectacular way to take in over 55 of London's famous landmarks in just 30 minutes.

A 'flight' on the London Eye takes you an incredible 450ft above the River Thames making it the world's tallest observation wheel and London's fourth tallest structure.



## Tally Ho Bike Tours

With choices between landmarks tour, old city tour, educational, Harry Potter or even a private tour tailored to you, this charming company gives an immersive experience of London at a slower pace.

Tours are led by their hipster historian guide and you ride on lovely, vintage-style bikes. You can even request a Penny-Farthing experience!

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# CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES VIEWING LONDON



### The Royal Observatory - Greenwich

The Royal Observatory is the home of Greenwich Mean Time and the Prime Meridian of the World, making it the official starting point for each new day and year.

It is also home to London's only planetarium, the Harrison timekeepers and the UK's largest refracting telescope.

### The View from the Shard

The Shard is an iconic, landmark building on the London skyline. At a height of 1,016ft (310m) it is the tallest building in Western Europe. For the best view in town, ascend to Level 72, at 244m, the highest public level of The Shard. You'll be exposed to the elements with sounds of the city around you. All tickets are dated and timed, so we advise pre-booking.



