

# London landmarks



# What is a landmark?

A landmark is a feature of a landscape or town that is easily seen from far away. A landmark can help you describe your location.



# Monument to the Great Fire of London



The **Monument to the Great Fire of London** is a tall column with a golden urn of fire on the top. It stands near the place where the fire started on Pudding Lane.



# Royal Albert Hall



The **Royal Albert Hall** opened in 1871. It is named after Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert. Today, it is used as a concert hall.



# London Eye



The **London Eye** is a giant Ferris wheel on the bank of the River Thames. It opened in the year 2000. This ride gives tourists a view across London.



# Tower Bridge



**Tower Bridge** was built between 1886 and 1894. It crosses the River Thames and is raised to let large boats travel underneath.



# Houses of Parliament



The **Houses of Parliament** is also known as the **Palace of Westminster**. This building is the meeting place for people who work for the government.



# Tower of London



The **Tower of London** is a large castle that was built by William the Conqueror in the 1070s. In the past, it was used as a royal palace, a fortress and a prison. It is now a museum and the place where the Queen's Crown Jewels are safely kept.





# Westminster Abbey



**Westminster Abbey** is a large church and one of the oldest buildings in London. Every king and queen has been crowned in this building. It is used for Christian worship and special ceremonies, such as royal weddings.



# The Gherkin



**The Gherkin** is the name given to the building at number 30 on the street called St Mary Axe. It is a skyscraper with offices, restaurants and bars inside. It has 41 floors and was opened in 2004.



# Big Ben



**Big Ben** is the name that some people use to describe the tower, the clock and the bell at the Palace of Westminster. Big Ben is the nickname given to the Great Bell inside the tower.



# St Paul's Cathedral



**St Paul's Cathedral** is a large church on Ludgate Hill. This building is used for Christian worship and special services, such as the Queen's Jubilee celebrations.



# The Shard



**The Shard** is a tall skyscraper. It has 95 floors and 36 lifts that can travel very fast. It opened in 2012 and contains restaurants, bars, a hotel, apartments, businesses and viewing floors.



# Buckingham Palace



**Buckingham Palace** is the home of Queen Elizabeth II. Many special events are held here, including royal ceremonies and garden parties.

