

London

倫敦



London is situated in the southeast region of the Great Britain, lying astride the River Thames. It is not only the capital but also the largest cosmopolitan of the United Kingdom. According to the UN's World Urbanization

Prospects, the population of London in 2020 is estimated to be as much as 9.3 million. It is reported that people living in London are from about 300 different countries in the world. There is no doubt that London is one of the most diverse cities in Europe.

Because of the city's great cultural diversity, visitors always have something new to discover while they are traveling in London. Throughout the year, there are always carnivals and fairs. The most famous celebration should be the Notting Hill Carnival, which is the second largest carnival in the world and often attracts millions of visitors annually. The carnival is characterized with dancing and music performances deeply influenced by Afro-Caribbean cultures.

倫敦位於英國的東南地區，座落於泰晤士河兩岸。它不僅是英國的首都，也是國內最大的國際性都市。根據聯合國世界文明發展的前瞻報告，倫敦的人口數將在西元 2020 年達到九百三十萬人。有報告指出，居住於倫敦的人們來自約三百個不同的國家。無庸置疑，倫敦是歐洲地區最多元的城市之一。

由於這城市的文化多樣性，人們拜訪倫敦時總是有新鮮事可以探索。每年，倫敦總有許多不同的嘉年華會和慶典。在倫敦最有名的莫非是世界排名第二的諾丁山狂歡節了。這慶典每年吸引上百萬的遊客前往諾丁山享受那富有加勒比海非裔民族風格的舞蹈與音樂。

英語園地

In addition, there are also many renowned landmarks that are worth-visiting when you visit London. One of the most important attractions for visitors is the Buckingham Palace, the major residence of the British royal family. Every year, hundreds of tourists gather in the neighborhood of the palace just for watching the changing of the Queen's Guard. However, it is important to check the date and schedule before you visit because the ceremony is not held daily and may be canceled due to some unexpected factors.



Photo taken by Chihsia Tang

If you are a lover of historical architecture, the Tower of London is the place that you should not skip. The architecture is about 900 years old. It was the residence, prison, and execution site of the royalty in the early days. Now, it is turned into a museum and open to public. It is sure that you can get a great glimpse of the mysterious royal family by visiting the museum. For its profound history and extensive culture, London would not disappoint you no matter what your interests are.

除了狂歡節，倫敦也有許多有名的景點值得參觀。對遊客來說最吸引人的景點莫非是英國皇室所居住的白金漢宮了。每年，數以百計的遊客聚集到白金漢宮周邊只是為了一探女王衛兵交接的儀式。然而，由於衛兵交接儀式並非天天舉行，也可能因為非預期之因素而取消；因此要前往參觀前，要記得先確認日期與舉行時間。

倘若你喜歡歷史古蹟，那麼你不該錯過倫敦塔。倫敦塔約九百年前建成，是古代皇室的處所、監獄與刑場。如今，倫敦塔變身為博物館，開放遊客參觀。參觀完博物館絕對可以讓你對神秘的英國皇室有跟深的了解。無論你的喜好為何，倫敦的悠久歷史與它多元文化絕對不會讓你失望。

Vocabulary and phrase

1. astride 跨越

【Definition】 situated on both sides of something

【Example】 Its strategic position, next to Middle East and Russia and astride Europe and Asia, means that Turkey has always mattered.

土耳其靠著中東和俄羅斯，界臨歐洲和亞洲，如此的戰略位置凸顯了其重要的地位。



英語園地

2. cosmopolitan 大城市

【Definition】 having constituent elements from all over the world or from many different parts of the world

【Example】 Asia has a lot of big cities, many of which are world-class cosmopolitans.

亞洲有很多大城市，其中不乏世界級的大都會。

3. carnival 狂歡節

【Definition】 a festival or revel

【Example】 During carnival, everyone has a dream, even if it is only for one day.

在狂歡節，每個人都可以有夢想，儘管可能僅僅只有一天。

4. be characterized with 富有... 特色

【Definition】 to have a distinctive trait or mark of

【Example】 Any society is characterized with a system of morality ideas in agreement with the historical condition.

任何社會都有一套與當時的歷史條件相呼應的道德體系。

5. royalty 皇室

【Definition】 monarchs and their families considered as a group

【Example】 The Queen Elizabeth is the leader of the British royalty nowadays.

伊莉莎白女皇是先今英國皇室的領袖。

6. execution 刑責

【Definition】 the enforcement of the judgment of a court of law

【Example】 He faced execution by hanging for murder.

他因謀殺要以絞刑處死。

◎ Reference:

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