



# Free walks in London

## Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March.

To celebrate British Tourism Week, London's famed Blue Badge Guides are presenting a series of free public walks in the capital. The theme is 'Great British', with tours taking place all around central London. Come and discover the secrets and scandals of kings and queens, statesmen, actors, libertines and ghosts – the men and women who put the 'great' in Great Britain.

**'Great British Food' Elizabeth David** - with Clarissa Fell

A walk about the great British food writer, Elizabeth David, who revolutionised our diet in the 1950's and 60's, Ends with a visit to the Ebury Street Farmers Market; how Elizabeth would have approved!

Meet South Kensington tube station shopping concourse: 10.00am Finish: Ebury Street Shopping Village Duration: 120 mins.

**'Great British Statesmen'** - with Felicity Whittle

Explore the backstreets of Westminster. Meet the men and women who governed Great Britain: Cromwell, Emmeline Pankhurst, Eleanor Rathbone, Earl Mountbatten and more.

Meet Westminster Tube Station by barriers: 10.30am & 2pm. Finish: Westminster Tube. Duration: 90 mins.

**'Great British Performers of the Stage & Screen'** - with Richard Williams

To ends of their egos and back. Meet the wild personalities of London's Theatreland

Meet Haymarket (Her Majesty's Theatre): 10.30 & 14.00 Finish: Covent Garden. Duration: 90 mins.

**'Great British Music' -250 years of the music scene –** with Gregor Laing.

Exploring this corner of Marylebone, we follow a trail which leads from the 'Beggar's Opera' to Elgar and Paul McCartney - not forgetting the man who sponsored the first season of Promenade Concerts in 1895!

Meet St. Marylebone Church (opposite the Royal Academy of Music) nearest tube Baker St : 10.30am and 2pm. Finish: Regent's Park tube. Duration: 90 mins.

**Great British 'Bloody' Stories –** with Heather Symes

Come and 'meet' Sweeney Todd – the Demon Barber of Fleet Street.

Meet Royal Courts of Justice, Fleet St: 11am and 2.30pm. Finish: St Paul's Cathedral Duration 90mins

**'The City of London - A Great British Achievement'** - with David Thompson

Reaching new heights in spectacular architecture.

Meet Liverpool Street Station, (Bishopsgate exit): 11.00am & 14.30pm Finish: Fenchurch St. Duration: 90 mins.

**'Great British High Street 'Is Shopping a Modern Obsession?'** - with Sarah Tree

Walk through centuries of shopping – shoes, footmen, scents, silks, Sergeant Pepper....and more.

Meet outside Ritz Hotel (Green Park tube Station): 11.00am Finish: Oxford Circus Duration: 90 mins.

**Great British Heroes' 'Churchill's Finest Hours'** - with Kevin Molloy

A walk through the capital's corridors of power uncovering one of history's most fascinating figures.

Meet outside Ritz Hotel (Green Park tube Station): 11am & 2.30pm Finish: Parliament Square. Duration 120 mins.

**'Great British Nursery Rhymes'** - with Margaret Machin

The story of the City of London told and sung in Nursery Rhymes. From London Bridge to Mother Goose – real events and real people.

Meet London Bridge Tube ( Duke Street Hill exit): 11am & 2.30pm Finish: Bank Tube Station. Duration: 90 mins.

**The Great British Bard - the City of Shakespeare's London** - with John Renshaw

'Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears'. Walk in Shakespeare's footsteps, meander through city alleyways - the regular haunts of the Great British Bard.

Meet St Paul's Tube Station exit 2: 11am & 2pm. Finish: Farringdon Tube Station. Duration: 120 mins

**'Great British Theatre' – Goodbye Piccadilly, Farewell Leicester Square** - Joy Levene

Join your costumed guide, to hear about the theatres, the stars the shows and their songs. No excuse for not joining in, song sheets will be provided.

Meet at Eros statue, Piccadilly Circus: 11.00am. Finish: Charing Cross Road Duration; 120 mins.

**'Great British Heroes and Anti-Heroes in St James' & Piccadilly** - with Hugh Macdonald-Buchanan

See where British monarchs, statesmen, soldiers, architects, scientists and entrepreneurs rubbed shoulders with courtesans, rakes, libertines and crooks.

Meet Hyde Park corner Tube (exit for Apsley House): 11am & 2.30pm. Finish: Piccadilly. Duration: 90 mins

**'Great British Monarchs' - A Ramble among the Royal Statues** - with Howard Medwell

Hear about the ever changing popularity of Kings & Queens, their history and their monuments.

Meet Trafalgar Square (by Nelson's Column): 11.00am and 2.30pm. Finish: Westminster Abbey. Duration: 90 mins

**'Great British Engineering – The Lea & the 2012 Games'** - Stan Medland

A walk alongside British engineering – Bazalgette's 1860 masterpiece, the Northern Outfall Sewer and see his 'Temple to Sewerage' the Abbey Mills Pumping Station, ending with a view of engineering of the future – the 2012 Olympic Park at Stratford.

Meet Pudding Lane Mill Station (DLR): 2pm. Finish: Stratford Tube Station. Duration 90 mins.

**'Great British Villains' – The Kray Brothers** - with Ian Jelf.

A story of murder, intimidation and body disposal. Follow in the steps of the notorious Kray Twins who ruled the East End in the 50s & 60s.

Meet at Whitechapel Tube Station: 2pm. Finish: Whitechapel Tube St. Duration: 120 mins

**Great Britons Who Changed The World** - Marc Zakian

Inside the National Portrait Gallery you will come face to face with Great Britons who changed the world. Find out what made them unique; from their genius to their folly; from their inspiration, to their desperation.

Meet National portrait gallery (by the escalators): 2pm (Strict Maximum 25 people). Duration 60 mins

**'Great British Theatre' – Come Into The Garden** - Joy Levene

Covent Garden has several fine theatres, all with tales to tell. Hear about eccentric agents, a murdered actor, the prince & the actress, and a ghost.

Meet at Wyndhams Theatre, Charing Cross Road: 2.30pm. Finish: Covent Garden. Duration: 120 mins.

**'The Great British High Street' – The stories behind the stores** - Rachel Kolsky

A walk around Oxford Street. The story of shopping, and how some of London's stores became world famous. A must for shoppers!

Meet at Oxford Circus Tube Station, exit 4: 2.30pm Finish: Marble Arch Tube Station. Duration: 90 mins

For information call: Guild phone or visit

[www.blue-badge-guides.com](http://www.blue-badge-guides.com)