

2000 years of London in One Day

London is old. If you mark Londinium as the official beginning of the city, it's nearly 2000 years old. Take into account the Mesolithic and Bronze Age structures near Vauxhall Bridge, and it's thousands of years older than that. This itinerary that will let you pack in over 2000 years of history in just one day!

1 Pre-historic Era: Museum of London

The Museum of London's *London Before London* gallery has an extensive collection of artifacts from the last Ice Age hunters to the Iron Age tool makers. Don't forget to visit the other galleries to brush up on your history and put the next stops into perspective.

2 Roman Era: London Wall

Check out the section of the old Roman Wall, which has been modified over the centuries, located just outside the Museum of London.

3 Middle Ages: Guildhall

In the Middle Ages, guilds helped merchants and craftsmen protect their common business interests from outsiders and competitors. Built in the 1400s, Guildhall is the oldest non-ecclesiastical stone building in the City of London. Visit Guildhall Art Gallery and the old Roman Amphitheater recently discovered underneath the building.

4 Elizabethan Era: Shakespeare's Globe Theatre

Elizabethan Londoners had front row seats to some of the greatest plays ever written. The two most famous playhouses, The Rose and The Globe, are long gone, but you can visit a modern replica of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre.

5 Restoration Era: The George Inn

For people traveling to London, coaching inns provided the necessary place to sleep, eat and drink. Galleried inns also provided theatrical entertainment and influenced the layout of our modern theatre. Have some nibbles and grab a pint!

6 Regency Era: Sir John Soane's Museum

Eccentric is the only word to describe Sir John Soane's Museum. The famed Regency architect collected art works and architectural artifacts, including Hogarth's *A Rake's Progress* and Seti I's sarcophagus, and constructed his Lincoln Inn's Field home to display the items.

7 Victorian Era: London Transport Museum

London wouldn't be London without the Tube. Without this glorious Victorian invention, I'm sure London traffic would be worse than it already is. Climb aboard the vintage buses and underground carriages to transport yourself back in time!

8 Modern Wartime: Churchill War Rooms

The Churchill War Rooms, a branch of the Imperial War Museums, lets you experience what it would have been like to be part of Winston Churchill's government during World War II.

9 Postmodern Era: 20 Fenchurch Street

End your day with a cocktail at the Sky Garden at 20 Fenchurch Street (aka Walkie-Talkie, Walkie-Scorchie and Fryscrapper). Unlike observation decks at the taller Shard, the Sky Garden is free. (Tickets must be booked couple of weeks in advance).

