

# LONDON: Fashion Tour

(Note: This is only a sample tour)

**Day 1:** Depart for London.

**Day 2:** Arrive in **London** and meet guide for your sightseeing tour. Visit **Westminster Abbey, see Buckingham Palace, Big Ben and 10 Downing Street.**

**Day 3:** Day 3: Meet your guide in East London for a **full day of exciting fashion activities.** Many of the radical changes in fashion that occurred in the 1960's and 70's developed in the streets of London. Designers such as Mary Quant pioneered the mini skirt in the 60's, while punk with the ripped T shirts and Doc Martens dominated the 70's. In complete contrast was Laura Ashley who popularized the nostalgic long flouncy skirts and high necked blouses in floral prints. Your guide will take you on a walking tour through the area including **Brick Lane and Spitalfields Market** for some rare fashion delights. Later you will be escorted to a local design studio where you will participate in a hands on workshop from a designer whose mandate is sustainable styling. Learn the successful secrets to deconstructing, recutting and completely transforming ready to wear. After lunch on your own, **meet a designer** and **visit the studio** where the magic happens.



**Day 4:** Today is a half day immersed in the **London fashion scene** in Soho and Covent Gardens. Covent Gardens is famous for its fashionable boutiques, street performers, restaurants and the Royal Opera House and is recognized as London's premier entertainment and leisure destination. Soho's patchwork of streets is also famous as an entertainment district and has gone through dramatic alterations since it origins at the time of Henry VIII. Meet and talk with a store owner and a fashion blogger. Later visit some of London's notable street markets such as Petticoat Lane, Portobello Road and Camden Markets. Tonight is your West End Theatre performance.



**Day 5:** This morning visit the **Tower of London.** The tower has a notorious history of murder, confinement and intrigue and has served as a castle in wartime, a king's residence in peace, and as a prison and execution site and houses the best display of crown jewels on earth. Later cross the Thames to the **Southbank** Area, home to attractions, theatres, restaurants, exhibitions, festivals and all sorts of family fun activities. As you explore the Southbank, be sure to stop at **Borough Food Market** for some delectable lunchtime eats. Walk to the **Fashion Museum** for a visit or attend the **Globe Theatre Exhibition and Tour.** Tonight shop till you drop along Oxford Street and Dover Street Market.

**Day 6:** This morning coach to **Bath,** a perfect 18th century city, perhaps the best preserved in all of Britain. The museums, elegant shops and terraces of magnificent town houses are a joy to experience. The Romans knew the value of the waters in Bath and they called the place "Aqua Sulis" (Water of the Sun). After your guided walking tour of Bath you will visit the remains of these Roman Baths, spend a little time shopping and wandering the interesting streets of Bath and then you will visit the Fashion Museum housed in Bath's magnificent Assembly Rooms next to the Royal Crescent in Bath's upper town. The Museum collection includes menswear, womens wear, accessories, dresses, coats, jackets corsets, knitwear, fashion photographs, pockets shirts blouses, waistcoats and fans. The earliest pieces are embroidered shirts and gloves from about 1600.



**Day 7:** Make your way to **Buckingham Palace** to catch the changing of the guard. Then travel directly to London's Victoria and Albert Museum with its fabulous costume exhibit. The Victoria and Albert Museum has collected dresses since its earliest days and its collection includes fashionable dress from the 17th century to the present day. The V & A collections also include accessories such as jewelry, gloves and handbags. Later visit Camden Market and spend the evening in Covent Garden.

**Day 8:** Cheerio. Time to depart for home.

## **TOUR INCLUSIONS**

- Return airfare to London
- Coach transfers:
  - o London- return airport transfers
  - o 1 day coach visit to Bath
- Assistance upon arrival in London
- 7 nights hotel accommodation with private facilities
- 7 Breakfasts
- 3 dinners
- Guided orientation tours
  - o Walking in London
  - o Walking in Bath
- Entrances/visits:
  - o Westminster Abbey
  - o Tower of London
  - o 1 West End Theatre
  - o Fashion Museum or Globe Theatre backstage tour
  - o V & A Museum
  - o Roman Baths
  - o Fashion Museum Bath
- 1 ½ days fashion in London including
  - o Walking tour of the east end
  - o Hands on workshop
  - o Visit to designer and studio
  - o Guided visit to Soho and Covent Garden fashion scene
  - o Information session with store owner
  - o Information session with Fashion blogger
- 6 day tube pass for London

