



London for kids

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Pre-trip planning		
Barriers to booking London for kids	Pre-booking essential	Everything. Attractions, museums, restaurants, swimming pools (including your hotel) and trains
	Fully cancellable or last minute bookings	The cheaper the better for last minute as you are still running a risk.
	No 2 for 1 deals	No rail deals or Blue Peter badges. Save the expensive attractions for your next visit?
	Go outdoors	Parks, gardens (Buckingham Palace?) walking tours and markets
	Some things are Covid closed	Buckingham Palace, Mews, Ice Bars and Battersea Dogs
Make an itinerary	Only 2 things/day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include food stops. • Add optional extras, in case you have the energy and weather on the day but avoid putting money down on these.
	Have a rainy day plan b	Book a museum way in advance as a back up plan anyway if there is any chance of rain. You can always cancel and it is free.

	Print out timetable and tickets	Avoids wi-fi/phone failures on site.
Travel	Train	Book near to date to travel to minimise risk financial impact of cancellation
		Seats need to be booked so you might as well go for a nominated train if it is cheaper.
		With flexi tickets save the trauma of having no seat and go for your booked train
	Train and Tube	Use railcards for a discount and buy in advance so you don't spend your holiday queuing
	Buses	Try buses for less crowded and more scenic London travel than on the Tube
Hotel	Facilities	Go for a family room and a pool
	Food	Novotel do free breakfasts for under 15's and are all over the city.
	Rewards	Join a reward scheme for discounts/upgrades and free drinks

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Itinerary				
Day	Attraction	Location/ Station	Cost/website	Tips
1	Parliament Hill Lido	Hampstead Gospel Oak	£4.05 per Adult; £1.20 /child per hour https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/green-spaces/hampstead-heath/where-to-go-at-hampstead-heath/parliament-hill-lido	Book 2 hours back-to-back

	Brick Lane	Brick Lane Aldgate East	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Markets 2. Cafes: 93 Feet East 3. Curry: Aladin's £60 for dinner for 4 with discount <p>www.aladinbricklane.co.uk/</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Café 93: takes kids til 7pm • Aladin's: 20% online discount and BYO
2	Olympic Park	Stratford Park	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Slide £33 for 4 through Tiqets https://arcelormittalorbit.com/whats-on/the-slide/ 2. BMX Bike hire £16 /family - only bookable on the day 3. Boris road bikes parked up here and available for hire 	<p>Slide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first section of slide tube is also see though for your spectator photo. • Before you exit, look up at the sculpture and get slide hero photos. <p>BMX Bikes: Long trousers and sleeves mandatory</p>
	Chin Chin Nitrogen Icecream	Soho Piccadilly circus	<p>£5 for a sundae</p> <p>https://chinchinicecream.com/chin-chin-ice-cream/soho/</p>	Take away option
	Rainy day 2 plan B			
	Razer gaming store	Leicester Square	https://www.razer.com/razerstores/london	Try the neon basement for new games when open.

	Camden Markets	Camden Town	Indoor/outdoor so good for all weathers https://www.camdenmarket.com/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not miss Cyberdog neonware Wetherspoons for cheap eats and free refills
	Abbey Road Beatles crossing	St Johns Wood	https://www.abbeyroad.com/	Check shop times
3	Boat and cafes, Grand Union Canal	Darcie Mae and GoBoat, Paddington Basin Paddington	<p>1. Flowery barge cafe Walk-ins possible https://www.daisygreenfood.com/locations</p> <p>2. Hire a family friendly Go Boat for 8 people £89/ hour or £129 for 2 hours to see London by canal. https://goboat.co.uk/</p>	Best in the sun
	Hyde Park	Lancaster Gate or Marble Arch	<p>1. Parakeet feeding by the Peter Pan statue</p> <p>2. Boating: £29 for a family of 4 for 1 hour Walk up only www.royalparks.org.uk/parks/hyde-park/</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring grain for the birds. Boating: Go for the full hour for time to tour the lake.

	Franco Manca Pizza	London Bridge (all over London)	From £8/pizza https://www.francomanca.co.uk/restaurants/borough-market/	Best and cheapest sourdough pizza in town. Eat before the tour.
	Ghost Tour	London Bridge	£14/adult, £9/child (8+) Cancellable up to 24 hours before. Time: 19.30-21:00 www.lanternghosttours.com/london	Book the Bunch of Grapes or The George before the tour for an atmospheric drink. Consider bus rather than walking tours at the end of the day.
4	Thames Boat ride	Embankment	£40 return family ticket Embankment to Greenwich under Tower Bridge https://www.thamesclippers.com/	Sit outside for the wind in your hair
	Greenwich Royal Observatory, Park and Market	Greenwich pier (boat) North Greenwich station (train)	For giant telescopes, Harrison's clocks, the Meridian line and original Time Ball. £16/adult, £8/child (no sign of cancellation) https://www.rmg.co.uk/royal-observatory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go at 1pm in summer when the time ball drops. • For a budget version watch the time ball through the fence and find the Meridian line outside the walls of the Observatory. • In winter book on a star gazing session • Don't miss the Cutty Sark