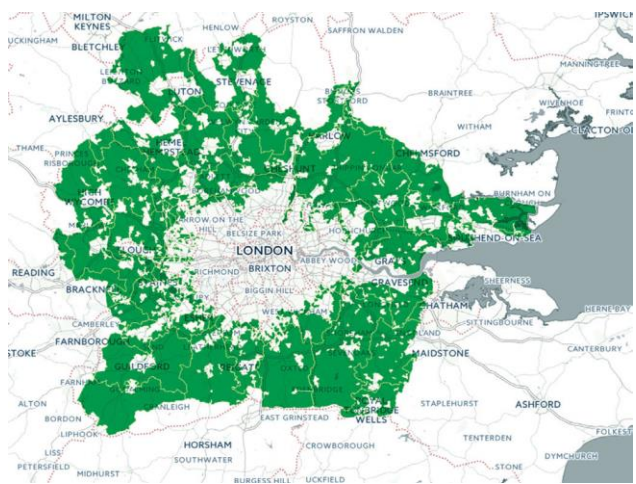


Environment & Sustainability

Being a Geographer

The River Thames flows from its source in Gloucestershire, towards the east coast of England and flows out into the North Sea through the Thames estuary.

Transport around London is a major environmental issue. London has tried to reduce the number of vehicles in the city by introducing the congestion charge and by having a very good public transport system.



London is surrounded by a green belt of land which is protected from development which means London cannot spread out any further.

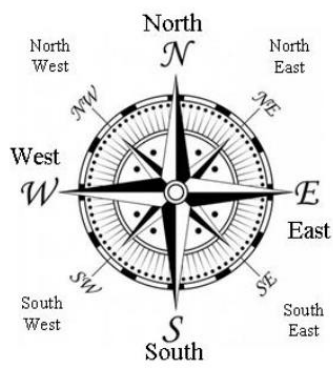
There are designated green areas in the city centre.

Population graph of largest UK towns and cities (2023)

London	9,648,110
Manchester	2,791,005
Birmingham*	2,665,100
Leeds / Bradford*	1,928,661
Glasgow	1,698,088
Southampton / Portsmouth*	951,531
Liverpool	917,032
Newcastle upon Tyne	823,431

Northampton's population in 2023 was 249,093

Compass Points



United Kingdom

London is located in the South-East Region of England.

Greater London is a county and a region.

There are two cities inside Greater London: the City of London and the city of Westminster and many smaller sections called boroughs. There are 32 boroughs of London.

Population= approx. 9 million people

Climate:

Temperature (average): 18 degrees in the summer, 5 degrees in the winter

Rainfall (average): 5cm in the summer, 6cm in the winter

Sunlight hours (average): 16 hours in the summer and 7 hours in the winter.

Economy & Trade

London is a place where people can trade and make money. It historically became a big city for two main reasons:

1. London's position as a place where ships could dock
2. The Thames could be bridged so crossings could take place.

London is a world centre for business and finance – over a million people travel into London every day to work there. Many work in the business/finance worlds but many also come to make one of London's other big industries work – tourism.

Very little of London's economy is linked to the river now, other than tourism.

Approximately 280 million people take day trips to London a year, 30 million of these people are from around the world.

London's large transport network is very important to its success as a centre for business and tourism.

There are many tourist attractions and landmarks in London, some of these include:



The London Eye



Houses of Parliament



Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park



O2 Arena

Counties of the UK (Y3 review)



What do we know already:

- London is the capital city of England and the United Kingdom. 9 million people live there (Y1)
- Capital cities are built next to water (Y1)
- The King of England lives in London (Y1)
- Famous landmarks include:

Queen Elizabeth Tower
(incl. Big Ben)



Wembley Stadium



- London has an underground train system (Y1)
- The River which flows through London is called the River Thames (Y1)
- the counties of England (Y3)

What's next:

- The counties surrounding London
- The boroughs and cities of London
- Key geographic facts about London e.g. population, number of visitors, climate
- Landmarks of London and their location along the River Thames
- Land use in London and the main location of these e.g. areas of leisure, attractions, financial district, government, residential

Vocabulary

Tier 1

bridge
Capital city
landmark

location
River Thames
visitors

Tier 2

- attraction**- A place of interest where people might visit
- boundary/ border**- where two counties or regions or countries meet.
- borough** – A town or district within a city.
- county** – A region has been divided into smaller parts *e.g. Northamptonshire*
- defence** – Something that provides protection.
- environmental issue** - a problem that harms the Earth, its natural places (like forests, oceans, and air), and the plants and animals that live there, often caused by human actions
- green belt** – An area of open land around town or city that is protected from development.
- human features**- things like houses, roads and bridges. They have been built by people.
- industry**- A group of businesses that sell similar things.
- land use**- how humans use the land due to human need e.g. farming, shops, leisure, residential.
- Mouth of the river**- the place where a river enters another river, sea, ocean or lake
- physical features** Physical features like seas, mountains and rivers are natural. They would be here even if there were no people around.
- population** – Total number of people who live in one place.
- region**– A geographical area. There are 12 regions in the UK.
- residential** – Where people live.
- settlement** – A place where people live and sometime work. Also a place where people establish a community.
- Source of the river**- where the river begins.

Tier 3

- City of London** – Known as ‘The City’. Historic financial district in London.
- City of Westminster** – A London borough with city status.
- Greater London** – The area which contains all London boroughs.
- Home counties**- This is the name given to the counties around London (Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Surrey).
- The Underground (tube)** – Underground railway system in London.