

#### WAR AND PEACE...

#### Themed trail - full/half days

The 20<sup>th</sup> century saw the most prolific advancement in science and technology and also two major world wars. At the same time, there was a concerted effort to bring peace to our troubled world. This trail takes you through the history of war and also features symbols for a more peaceful future.

There are several museums in London that document warfare so you can pick and choose from the ones included within the detail of the trail to suit your own interests. To make it easier we have divided the trail into three parts. You can learn about military conflict, relive the experiences of life during the Second World War and the horror of the Holocaust or marvel at a wide range of historic aircraft. The story of the British army is also included as well as a chance to see the Household Cavalry in action.

You wander round some interesting parts of London including Hays Galleria at London Bridge and along Whitehall. The Tibetan Peace Garden and the Japanese Peace Pagoda add exotic and important symbols of the peace to this trail. More information about a Peace Memorial trail at the very end.

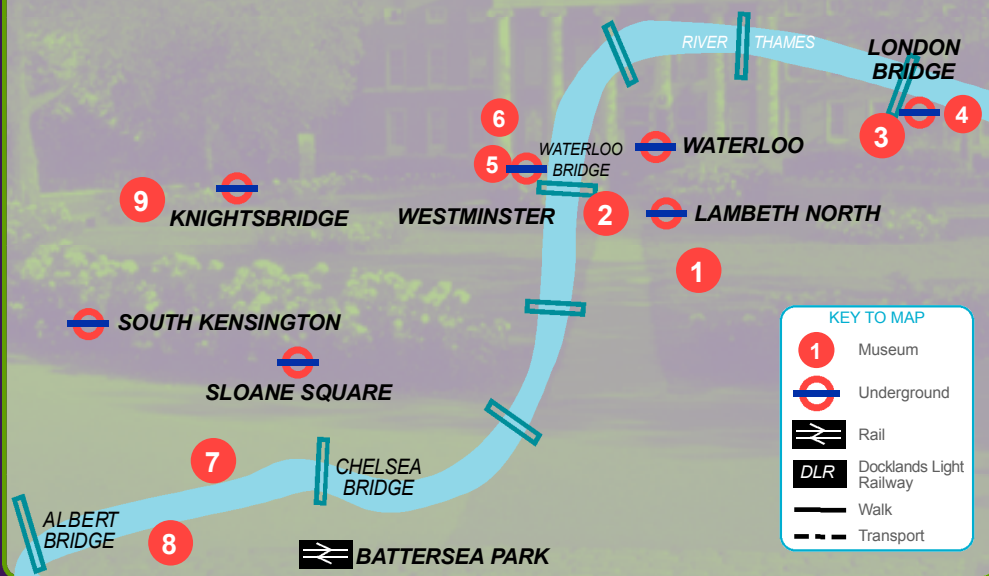
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Not to scale



**WAR AND PEACE...**  
Discover London's military connections...



**KEY TO MAP**

- 1 Museum
- Underground
- Rail
- DLR Docklands Light Railway
- Walk
- Transport



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#### Imperial War Museum

Lambeth Road, SE1  
[www.iwm.org.uk](http://www.iwm.org.uk)  
**Tel: 020 7416 5320**  
 Open: 1000-1800 daily  
 History of British military conflict

#### Tibetan Peace Garden

Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park, SE1  
[www.tibet-foundation.org/ac/tpg.php](http://www.tibet-foundation.org/ac/tpg.php)

#### Florence Nightingale Museum

St Thomas' Hospital, 2 Lambeth Palace Road, SE1  
[www.florence-nightingale.co.uk](http://www.florence-nightingale.co.uk)  
**Tel: 020 7620 0374**  
 Open: 1000-1700 daily  
 Admission charge  
 Life of the famous nurse, Florence Nightingale

#### Britain at War Experience

64-66 Tooley Street, SE1  
[www.britainatwar.co.uk](http://www.britainatwar.co.uk)  
**Tel: 020 7403 3171**  
 Open: 1000-1800 daily Apr-Oct  
 Admission charge  
 Insight into the Second World War

#### HMS Belfast

Morgan's Lane, Tooley Street, SE1  
[www.iwm.org.uk](http://www.iwm.org.uk)  
**Tel: 020 7940 6300**  
 Open: 1000-1800 daily (1000-1700 Nov-Feb)  
 Admission charge  
 Surviving armoured warship

#### Churchill Museum and Cabinet War Rooms

King Charles Street, SW1A  
[www.iwm.org.uk](http://www.iwm.org.uk)  
**Tel: 020 7930 6961**  
 Open: 0930-1800 daily  
 Admission charge  
 Rooms where Second World War was planned

#### Household Cavalry Museum

Horse Guards, Whitehall, SW1  
[www.householdcavalrymuseum.org.uk](http://www.householdcavalrymuseum.org.uk)  
**Tel: 020 7930 3070**  
 Open: 1000-1800 daily Mar-Sept;  
 1000-1700 Oct-Feb  
 Admission charge  
 Ceremonial and operational role of the Household Cavalry Regiment

#### National Army Museum

Royal Hospital Rd, SW3  
[www.national-army-museum.ac.uk](http://www.national-army-museum.ac.uk)  
**Tel: 020 7730 0717**  
 Open: 1000-1730 daily  
 History of the British army

#### Peace Pagoda, Battersea Park

[www.batterseapark.org](http://www.batterseapark.org)  
 Open: 0800-dusk  
 Buddhist temple

#### Polish Institute and Sikorski Museum

20 Princes Gate, SW7  
[www.sikorskimuseum.co.uk](http://www.sikorskimuseum.co.uk)  
**Tel: 020 7589 9249**  
 Open: 1400-1600 Mon-Fri; 1000-1600  
 first Sat of month  
 Conservation of Poland's heritage

#### Royal Air Force Museum

Grahame Park Way, NW9  
[www.rafmuseum.org.uk](http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk)  
**Tel: 020 8205 2266**  
 Open: 1000-1800 daily, times vary by gallery  
 Free  
 Collection of aircraft, aviation artefacts and memorabilia  
 Images:  
 1. Cabinet War Rooms  
 2. Tibetan Peace Garden  
 3. Royal Air Force Museum  
 4. HMS Belfast



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#### TRAIL SUMMARY

This trail is in several parts so could be done on different days. Various combinations are possible.

#### Trail Part 1 – South of the River

Discover the history of military conflict at the **Imperial War Museum** in Lambeth and stop in the adjoining **Peace Garden**, before learning about **Florence Nightingale** in the museum of the same name at Waterloo. Walk to London Bridge to relive the experiences of life in London during the Second World War at the **Britain at War Experience** and explore the great warship, **HMS Belfast**.

#### Trail Part 2 Westminster to Battersea Park

From Westminster Underground station, visit the **Churchill Museum and Cabinet War Rooms**, the rooms from which Churchill planned Britain's Second World War campaign, and the **Household Cavalry Museum** in Horse Guards Parade off Whitehall. Dating from 1750, the museum building is still the headquarters of the Household Division where the Household Cavalry has performed the Queen's Life Guard in a daily ceremony broadly unchanged for over 350 years.

From Westminster, travel to Sloane Square and walk to the **National Army Museum** for an insight into the history of the British army over the last six centuries. Walk across the River to enjoy Battersea Park and see the **Peace Pagoda**. On a weekday afternoon or on the first Saturday of each month, you can also visit the **Polish Institute and Sikorski Museum** in Knightsbridge (before or after your visit to the National Army Museum).

#### Trail Part 3 - Hendon

Several hours or a even a whole day can be spent at the **Royal Air Force Museum** in Hendon so should probably be left for a different day. However, this museum could also be combined with the museums in Waterloo/London Bridge as the Northern Line is direct to the nearest station at Colindale.

Plan your own journey by visiting Transport for London's website [www.tfl.gov.uk](http://www.tfl.gov.uk).

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Part 1 of this trail begins at the **Imperial War Museum** Lambeth North (Bakerloo line). It is also walkable from Waterloo station (Bakerloo, Jubilee, Northern lines). The Museum tells the story of conflict in the front line and on the home front from the First World War to the present day, with iconic objects such as the MkIA Spitfire flown during the Battle of Britain, a First World War tank and a Second World War midget submarine.

One of the more dramatic features of the First World War exhibition is a walk-through re-creation of a front line trench on the Somme in the autumn of 1916, brought to life with special lighting, sound and smell effects. In the Second World War exhibition *The Blitz Experience* is a carefully researched reconstruction of an air raid shelter and a blitzed street in 1940. Appropriate sights, sounds and smells evoke for visitors a sensation of being caught in the bombing of London during the Second World War. *The Holocaust Exhibition* uses historical material to tell the story of the Nazis' persecution of the Jews and other groups before and during the Second World War and is a moving as well informative display. Current temporary exhibitions include (until March 09) one devoted to the life and work of James Bond, the world's most secret agent. Here, you discover how Ian Fleming's wartime experience inspired the 'spy story to end all spy stories' and find out how that spy became a legend.

Outside the Museum, in the Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park is **The Tibetan Peace Garden** opened by His Holiness the Dalai Lama in 1999 and dedicated to one of the principal teachings of His Holiness - the need to create understanding between different cultures and to establish places of peace and harmony in the world. At the same time the Garden also serves to create a greater awareness of Buddhist culture. At its heart is the Kalachakra Mandala associated with world peace. Merely to gaze on this Mandala is said to confer something of its blessing and power to transform, and here, cast for the first time in bronze, it rests as the central focus for the garden.

The contemporary western sculptures (which are set on a north, south, east, west axis) representing the four elements Air, Fire, Earth & Water and the language pillar with its carving in four languages of a message for the millennium by His Holiness The Dalai Lama, form a symbol of the harmony that can be created between different people and cultures.

Walk towards Westminster Bridge and Lambeth Road for the **Florence Nightingale Museum** (part of St Thomas' Hospital). Florence Nightingale is famous around the world for her influence on modern nursing, but she herself was more than a nurse. At the museum, personal artefacts, a life-size reconstruction of a Crimean ward scene and an audio-visual presentation together reveal the hidden person, from a serious and solitary child to an internationally recognised figure. Complimentary guided tours are available allowing visitors a personal insight into the collection.

From Waterloo, take the Jubilee Line to London Bridge for both the Britain at War Experience in Tooley Street and HMS *Belfast*. Alternatively, walk across Westminster Bridge to Westminster for the Churchill Museum and Cabinet War Rooms and also the Household Cavalry Museum in Whitehall.

Winston Churchill's **Britain at War Experience** gives you an insight into what the Second World War was really like. It recreates the London Blitz in all its fury with special effects highlighting the sights, sounds, artefacts, and even the dust and smoke of an air raid at its height. Experience a London Underground air raid shelter, see where thousands spent sleepless nights and share the excitement and anxiety of the evacuees as they wait to be transported to new homes. *(NB This is not a museum.)*

Cross Tooley Street through Hay's Galleria to **HMS Belfast**, the largest surviving example of Britain's 20th century naval power located on the River Thames.

Best known for her role in supporting the advancing allied on D-Day, 6 June 1944, HMS *Belfast* is now a naval time capsule, providing nine decks of living history to explore.

Hay's Galleria, with its focal point of a 60-foot sculpture with moving parts, water jets and fountains, is a converted wharf with traditional craft and market stalls as well as permanent shops and variety of eateries.

**Trail 2 from Westminster to Battersea Park**

The **Churchill Museum and Cabinet War Rooms**, in King Charles Street a stone's throw from Westminster Underground Station, is dedicated to the 90-year life and achievements of Sir Winston Churchill. Step back in time and walk along the same corridors as Churchill in the Cabinet War Rooms, the scene of many crucial meetings. Operating 24 hours a day from the beginning of the war in 1939 to its end in August 1945, this is where the Prime Minister, the War Cabinet and members of the inner circle ate and slept and where the Map Room staff plotted the war.

Just behind, at Horse Guards Parade in Whitehall is the new **Household Cavalry Museum**. The Household Cavalry was formed in 1661 under the direct order of King Charles II and now consists of the two senior regiments of the British Army – The Life Guards and the Blues and Royals. This is a unique 'behind-the-scenes' look at the work that goes into the ceremonial and operational role of the Household Cavalry Regiment. There is an outstanding collection of rare and unique treasures from ceremonial uniforms, royal standards and gallantry awards to musical instruments, horse furniture and silverware by Fabergé.

You can see troopers working with horses in the original 18th century stables and, at different times of the day, witness various activities such as the horses being brought in, groomed, fed and watered, their hooves oiled and shoes checked or hear personal stories of what the training is like for both horses and riders and find out the techniques used by soldiers to master their horses and

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complete the gruelling preparations for regimental inspections. A daily ceremony 'The Changing of the Queen's Life Guard' takes place daily on Horse Guards Parade at 1100 and there is a daily inspection at 1600. Back at Westminster; take the Circle or District Line to Sloane Square, walk down Lower Sloane Street, right into Royal Hospital Road and left into West End for the **National Army Museum**. Discover the impact the British army has had on the story of Britain, Europe and the world, and see how the actions of a few can affect the futures of many. An extensive programme of exhibitions including *Faces of Battle* and *Helmand*, events and activities complement the four permanent gallery displays: The Making of Britain; Changing the World; World Wars and Fighting for Peace.

Walk right along the Embankment and across Albert Bridge to Battersea Park, a 200 acre green space situated on the south bank of the River Thames. Opened in 1858, the park occupies a mix of marshland reclaimed from the Thames and land formerly used for market gardens serving the growing London population. There is a boating lake, bandstand, several all weather outside sporting facilities and a children's zoo. One of the major landmarks in the park is the **Peace Pagoda**, a Buddhist stupa (type of Buddhist mound-like structure or monument) originally supposed to cover relics of the Buddha designed to provide a focus for people of all races and creeds and to help unite them in their search for world peace. The Peace Pagoda was a gift to London from the Japanese Buddhist Order, Nipponzan Myohoji, in 1985.

**The Polish Institute and Sikorski Museum** is at 20 Princes Gate (Knightsbridge and South Kensington Stations). *This is only open on weekday afternoons and the first Saturday of the month but could be visited prior to the National Army Museum.* The premises, named after General W Sikorski, a soldier and statesman who personified the hopes and aspirations of Poland, were acquired to consolidate and conserve Poland's heritage.

The museum has historical records, documents, regimental standards, uniforms, insignia, notable works of art and literature and innumerable personal effects which had once belonged to statesmen, diplomats, academics, military leaders and ordinary men and women.

The collection includes General Sikorski's personal belongings of his ceremonial sword, cap and uniform retrieved from the wreck of the 'Liberator' in which he met his death, books, albums, pamphlets and volumes of press cuttings relating to his life and activities as well as his wartime diary maintained by his aides-de-camps. The diary served as the basis for a complete chronicle of events relating to the General's activities as Prime Minister and Commander in Chief. A museum, research centre and publishing house, the Polish Institute has also become a cultural centre both for the Polish community and others interested in finding out about the history and tradition of one of central Europe's oldest nation-states.

**Trail 3 - Hendon**

For the **Royal Air Force Museum**, take the Northern Line to Colindale after visiting the museums in London Bridge or Waterloo or leave it for another day. Historic aircraft cover the whole span of the first 100 years of aviation development and several hundred thousands of objects range in size from aircraft to lapel badges. The main halls include 'The Bomber Hall' which follows the development of the bomber from its first appearance in the First World War to the highly sophisticated machines of today. The 'Battle of Britain Hall' tells the story of the world's first decisive air battle when the Royal Air Force stood alone against the German Luftwaffe and the 'Grahame-White Aircraft Factory' houses the museum's oldest aircraft.

The 'Milestones of Flight' building, opened in 2003, demonstrates the great achievements in the first 100 years of powered flight and in particular the major contribution made by the Royal Air Force, 100 years after the Orville Wright's first powered flight. This building has high viewing

areas and state-of-the-art interactive technology. The 'Historic Hangars' contain five separate exhibitions each telling a different story about the RAF and its aircraft.

There is a café and restaurant as well as an indoor and outdoor picnic area making it a pleasant half day or even all day visit.

**Peace Memorials:** *Statues and memorials to women and men who worked for peace are dotted throughout London. To follow the Peace Memorial trail go to:*  
[www.abolishwar.org.uk/trail.shtml](http://www.abolishwar.org.uk/trail.shtml)

*You can also visit The Royal British Legion Poppy Factory in Richmond where 50 people work all the year round to make the poppies and wreaths to mark Remembrance Sunday – nearest to 11th November. Guided tours only, book in advance on:*  
**Tel: 020 8940 3305**  
[www.britishlegion.org.uk](http://www.britishlegion.org.uk)

**CHILDREN'S/FAMILY ACTIVITIES**

**Imperial War Museum** – 'The Children's War' exhibition looks at the home front in Britain through the eyes of children.

**Churchill Museum and Cabinet War Rooms** – holiday workshops, special events, kids trail, audio guide.

**HMS Belfast** – a new family-orientated shipbuilding exhibition uses hands-on and computerised interactive displays to demonstrate techniques of shipbuilding. Family activities during last weekend of every month.

**Household Cavalry Museum** – Children's trails, activity packs, dressing up area, workshops.

**National Army Museum** – kids' zone tailored for under 10's, a free interactive learning and play space featuring forest, castle, construction, reading, art activity and board-game areas.

**Battersea Park** – adventure playground, children's zoo  
**Royal Air Force Museum** – hands on flight science centre with 50 purpose built exhibits to help children discover how aircraft fly.