

What's New in London

The New Year began with a successful celebrity addition to **The London Story** campaign and the excitement continues as 2014 marks the **450th** birthday celebration of **William Shakespeare**.

Read on for 2014 **highlights** and some great inspiration and ideas from our partners.



London & Partners News



Celebrities Share their London Story

Boris Johnson, Joanna Lumley, Twiggy, Gordon Ramsay and two of the world's most famous ballet dancers share their passion for London and talk about what makes their city the greatest place on earth.

[Read the full release](#)



London Celebrates Record Tourism Figures

Jan - Sep 2013 welcomed a record number of tourists to London according to the latest International Passenger Survey. For the first time ever, London is on course to welcome 16million overseas visitors in one year.

[Read the full release](#)



London Hotels Awarded by TripAdvisor

London was named one of the world's top hotel destinations at the Travellers' Choice® Awards with twenty two of the city's hotels receiving awards, outperforming New York, Rome and Barcelona.

[Read the full release](#)

Excursions 2014



Excursions 2014 sees visitor numbers rise by more than 30%

Last Saturday Excursions, the premier group travel show, celebrated 10 years at Ally Pally and welcomed more than 1,300 visitors, an incredible 30% on last year, to meet with over 260 exhibitors.

[Read more](#)

London Celebrates Shakespeare

With 2014 marking 450 years since the birth of playwright William Shakespeare, the capital is preparing for a year-long celebration. To help you plan we've picked out some of the highlights...



Shakespeare's Globe will dedicate their open air season to the bard with new productions of Antony & Cleopatra, Julius Caesar, The Comedy of Errors and a world tour of Hamlet: Globe to Globe begins on 23rd April.

[Find out more](#)



From 8th February, the Victoria and Albert Museum examines the enduring influence and popularity of the world's most famous poet with Shakespeare: Our Greatest Living Playwright.

[Find out more](#)



In theatre, the stage adaptation of seven times Academy Award® winning film Shakespeare in Love will begin this July at the Noel Coward Theatre. Group bookings are now open from Delfont Mackintosh Groups +44 (0)844 482 5100

[Find out more](#)

Inspiration & Ideas & from our Partners

NATURE: Kew Gardens Royal Palace

Explore a royal palace in Kew Gardens at no extra cost. Discover the quaint home of King George III as you explore fascinating princesses' bedrooms upstairs before checking out the newly-restored Georgian Royal Kitchens to imagine life below stairs. Kew Palace is open from 29 March to 28 September 2014. Telephone - +44 (0)208 332 5648. Email: groups@kew.org

[Find out more](#)

THINGS TO DO: BADA Antiques Fine Art Fair

The BADA Antiques Fine Art Fair is the UK's leading national art and antiques fair. Showcasing members of The British Antique Dealers' Association, top specialists from across the country will be selling fine art and antiques at the Duke of York Square, by Sloane Square SW3, one of London's most fashionable districts, between 19-25 March 2014.

[Find out more](#)

MUSEUMS: Imperial War Museum

Truth and Memory Truth and Memory will be the largest exhibition and first major retrospective of British First World War art for almost 100 years and will include work by some of Britain's most important artists of the twentieth century. Using artworks drawn mainly from IWM's national collection this exhibition will assess the immediate impact and enduring legacy of British art of the First World War.

[Find out more](#)

TOURS: Sportsworld Official Wimbledon Hospitality

Experience Sportsworld, appointed by the All England Lawn Tennis Club (AELTC), is an official hospitality agent and overseas tour operator to The Championships, Wimbledon. Now in its 22nd year of appointment, Sportsworld delivers a wide range of corporate hospitality and tours packages to the exclusive Fairway Village facility. For further information please contact Lesley.kaczynska@sportsworld.co.uk or call +44 (0)208 971 2966

[Find out more](#)

MUSEUMS: British Museum

Around the world in 90 minutes Highlights Tour Encounter the Rosetta Stone, the Lewis Chessmen and the Parthenon Frieze, as well as some lesser-known but equally fascinating objects, with expert guidance that goes to the heart of the Museum's collection. This tour is designed for adults, but children under 12 with an accompanying adult enjoy free entry.

[Book online now](#)

GALLERIES: The Queen's Gallery

At The Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace, a special exhibition marks the 300th anniversary of the beginning of the Georgian era – a time when Britain was the world's most liberal, commercial and modern society. The First Georgians: Art and Monarchy 1714-1760, opens in April.

[Find out more](#)

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[Changing the Guard at Buckingham Palace](#)

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