



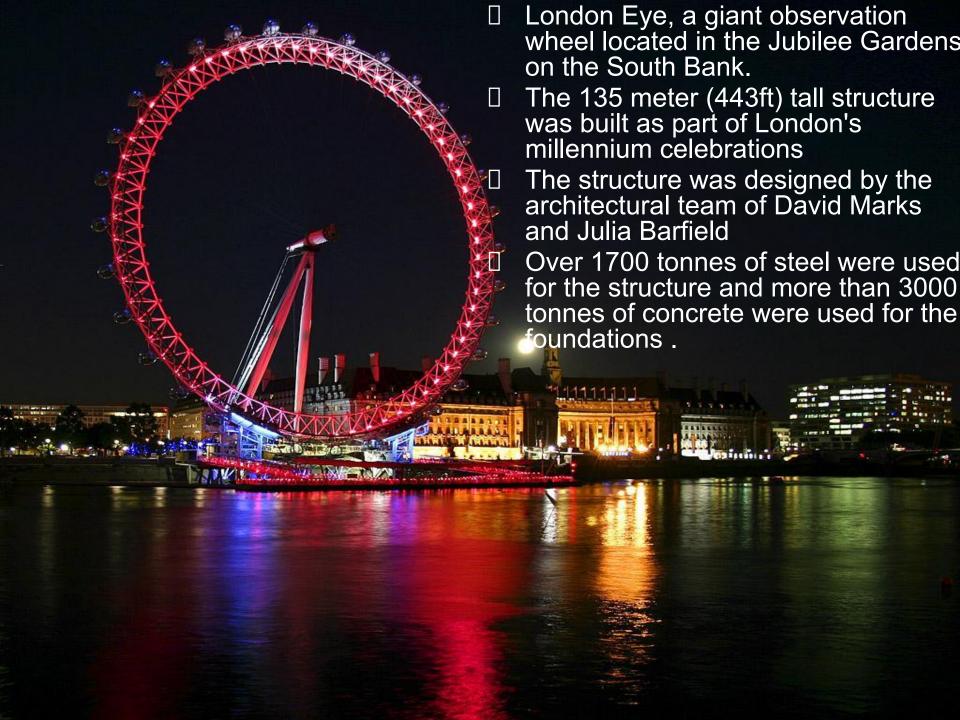
The Houses of Parliament, also known as the Palace of Westminster is the seat of Britain's two parliamentary houses, the House of Lords and the House of Commons.



- Palace of Westminster, situated on a central site near the river Thames.
- Sir Charles Barry and his assistant Augustus Welby Pugin created a large complex in neo gothic style and incorporated the buildings that survived the fire in 1870.
- Big Ban includes the Clock Tower, Victoria Tower, House of Commons, House of Lords, Westminster Hall and the Lobbies.
- The name Big Ben actually refers to the clock's hour bell, the largest of the clock's five bells, the others being used as quarter bells.
- Originally called St. Stephen's Tower, it was soon named after the tower's largest bell, the Big Ben.
- A light at the top of the tower is illuminated when Parliament is sitting at night.







The futuristic looking capsules, accommodating up to 25 passengers, were transported all the way from France by train through the chunnel. Each egg-shaped capsule is 8 meters long and weighs 500kg.

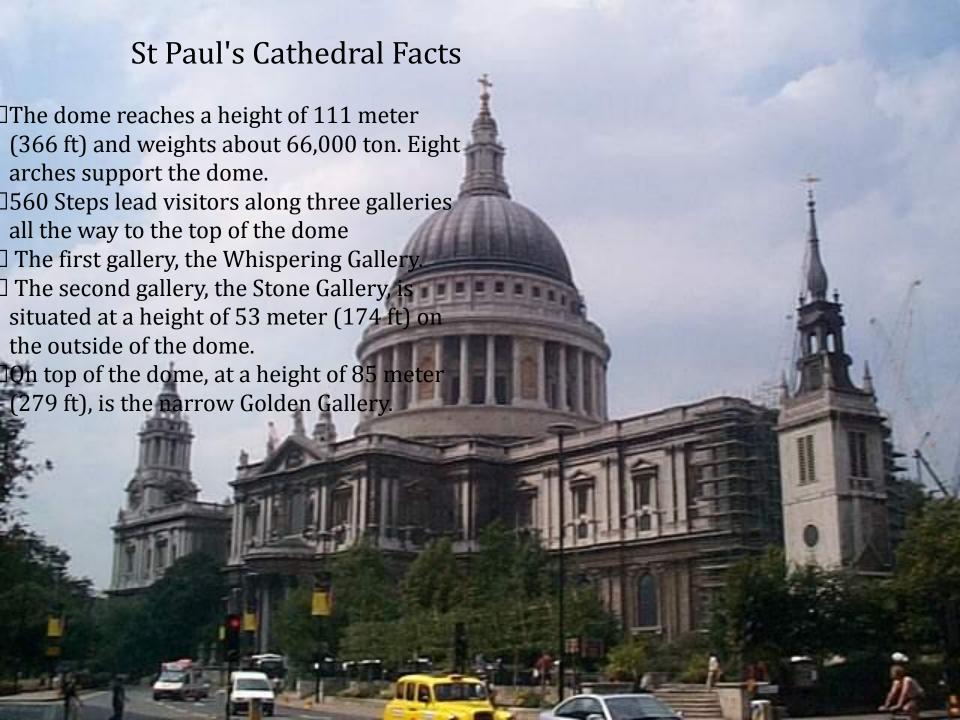


TOWER OF LONDON











Buck House' Facts:

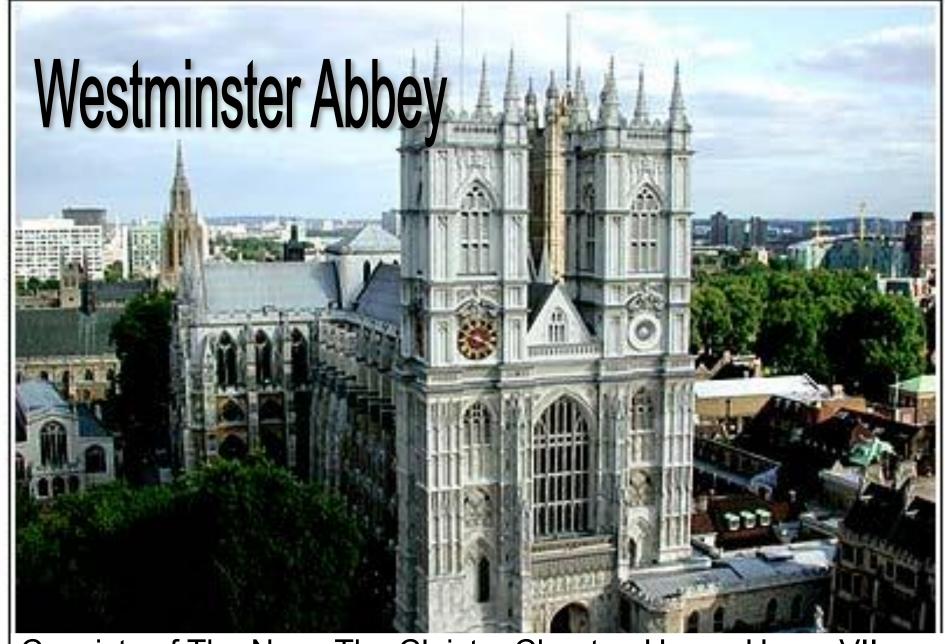
- ✓ The building was constructed as a countryhouse in 1705 by the duke of Buckingham, John Sheffield.
 - King George III bought the house in 1761 for his wife.
- ✓ The monumental façade of the east wing was built in 1913 by Aston Webb.
- ✓ The palace is not only home to the royal family, there are also a number of staff members.

✓ The palace has about 600 rooms, including a Throne room, a ballroom, Picture Gallery Drawing Room, Silk Tapestry Rooms, Picture Gallery, Music Room and even swimming



- The changing of the guard takes place daily at 11 o'clock in front of Buckingham Palace.
- A colorfully dressed detachment, known as the New Guard, parades along the Mall towards Buckingham Palace and during a ceremony replaces the existing, Old Guard
- The ceremony, which is accompanied by music played by a military band, always attracts throngs of onlookers.





Consists of The Nave, The Cloister, Chapter, House Henry VII Chapel.

Westminster Abbey in Brief:

- Most of the present building dates from 1245 to 1272 when Henry III decided to rebuild the abbey in the gothic style.
- Westminster Abbey, located near the Houses of Parliament, is more a historical site than a religious site.
- Since 1066 every royal coronation, with the exception of Edward V and Edward VIII has taken place in Westminster Abbey.
- The abbey also serves as the burial ground for politicians, sovereigns and artists.















