

# *London tower*

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# **London tower**



- The tower of London — a fortress erected on Northern river Bank Thames, historical center of London. One of the oldest historic buildings of great Britain, has long served as the residence of the English monarchs. Today, the tower is both a historical monument and Museum, included in the list of objects belonging to the UNESCO world heritage

# Base:



- The base of the fortress tower is attributed to William I. After the Norman conquest of England, William I began to erect defensive castles to intimidate the conquered Anglo-Saxons. One of the greatest was the tower of London. The wooden Fort was replaced by a huge stone building was a Great tower, which represents a quadrangular structure, measuring 32 x 36 meters, height of about 30 meters. Later when the new king of England ordered to whitewash the building, it was called White tower or White Tower. Subsequently, during the reign of Richard the Lionheart were built several towers of different height and two rows of powerful walls. Around the fortress was dug a deep ditch, making it one of the most impregnable fortresses in Europe.

# The zoo, the mint and the Royal Arsenal:

- In the early thirteenth century John of England was kept in the tower of lions. Over time, the zoo has replenished with a large number of exotic animals in the time of Elizabeth I, was opened to visitors. In the 1830-ies the zoo in the tower of London was abolished, and the animals moved to a new zoo, opened in London's Regent's Park.

More than 500 years in the tower was the main branch of the Royal mint. One of its most turbulent periods occurred in the reign of Henry VIII, when coins were minted of silver, requisitioned from the destroyed monasteries. In addition, the tower was kept important state and legal records, and is produced and stored weapons and military equipment of the king and the Royal army.

# The Palace guards and Royal regalia:

- With the base of the tower, its prisoners, and the buildings were carefully protected. Palace guards guard the tower to this day. Today, their duties also include conducting tours for many visitors. On special occasions they dressed in luxurious costumes of the times of the Tudor dynasty. Palace Caretaker ravens, cares for the flock of black ravens. There is a belief that, if the birds leave the tower, England will fall misfortune, so as a precaution they clipped wings.



- Keepers of the Royal treasures guarded by the famous jewels of the British Empire. For visitors the Museum is open from the XVII century. Among the precious stones that adorn the crown, orbs and scepters,— which is still used by royals during ceremonies— you can see the world's largest faceted diamond of high quality, Cullinan I.



# Modern look



- Today the tower of London is one of the main attractions in the UK. The symbol of the sinister past of the tower serves as a place where previously there was the scaffold of tower hill. Now there are installed a small plaque in memory of "tragic fate, and often the martyrdom of those who in the name of religion, homeland and ideals risked his life and accepted death". Currently the main building of the tower of London — a Museum and Armory, which holds treasures the British crown, officially still considered to be one of the Royal residences. In the tower there are also a number of private apartments, which are home to basically wait staff and distinguished guests





Thank you for your attention!

