

The Tower of London



The Tower of London is situated on the north bank of the river Thames.

*The Tower of London is
one of the most
interesting historic sights
of London. It has 20
towers.*



The Tower was founded during the Norman Conquest of England at the end of 1066.



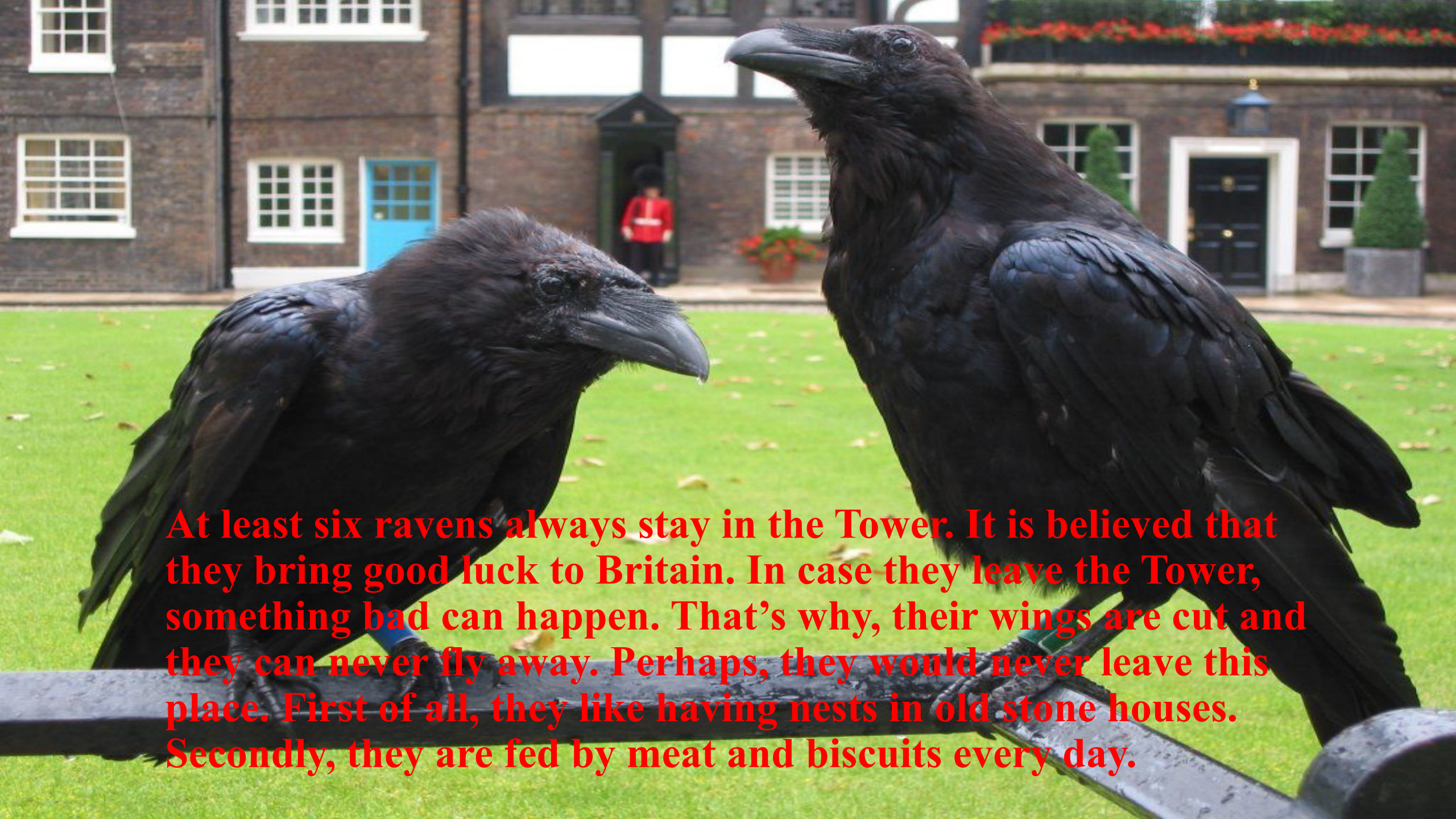
The famous White Tower is the most important and the oldest building of London, which was constructed by William the Conqueror.





**THE TOWER HAS A LONG AND RICH HISTORY. IT HAS
ONCE BEEN A ROYAL PALACE, A FORTRESS, A PRISON,
A PLACE OF EXECUTION AND EVEN A ZOO.**





At least six ravens always stay in the Tower. It is believed that they bring good luck to Britain. In case they leave the Tower, something bad can happen. That's why, their wings are cut and they can never fly away. Perhaps, they would never leave this place. First of all, they like having nests in old stone houses. Secondly, they are fed by meat and biscuits every day.

While it was a prison, many noblemen were locked up there, including kings and queens. The Tower and its prisoners were guarded by the Beefeaters. At present times they work mainly as guides. They still wear a nice uniform with high ruffs and scarlet tunics.






Old traditions and ceremonies are kept up in the Tower of London. One of them is the Ceremony of the Keys. Every night for the last 700 years at 21.53 the Tower has been locked up in the Ceremony of the Keys. The chief Yeoman Warder locks various doors ceremonially.

*Later the Tower of London
was the Royal Mint.*



The Crown Jewels are one of the most interesting sights in the Tower. They are carefully looked after.



The image shows three of the Crown Jewels of the United Kingdom. In the center, the Crown is displayed on a red velvet cushion. To the left, the Cross is visible, and to the right, the Scepter is partially shown. The background is dark and out of focus.

The Crown Jewels are shown in the Jewel House. They are well looked after. Once they were stolen by a man called Colonel Blood. But he was caught just as he was leaving the Tower. Thomas Blood didn't have to go to prison. The king gave him a pension instead. It was in 1671.



Nowadays the Tower of London is a place of great interest for millions of people. Tourists come there to visit the museum of Royal Armouries, the Fusilier museum and a new Jewel Tower where Crown Jewels are exhibited. Tourists can also speak with the guardians who wear special uniform which was assigned to them during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I.

THANKS FOR
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