

# ZÁKLADNÍ ŠKOLA ČESKÝ KRUMLOV

Za Nádražím 222, 381 01 Český Krumlov



## ABSOLVENTSKÁ PRÁCE

### MY LONDON

**Autor práce:** Ema Mocová, IX.A

**Konzultant:** Mgr. Eva Vondrášková

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# Úvod

My mother and I have been travelling together since I was seven years old. We know a lot of countries in the south of Europe so this time we decided to travel to the west. At first we wanted to go to Paris but then we saw some pictures of London in the catalogue. We liked both places, but we realized that we have been both learning English and we wanted to practise it. So we decided to go to London.

## 1. The first time I went to London

When we went to London for the first time, I was ten. We went by bus, by Eurotunnel [Příloha 1]. When we arrived in London, we went to Greenwich [Příloha 2]. There we saw the Prime Meridian, which divides the Earth to the east and west, the Royal Observatory and Greenwich Park. Then we went to the Tower of London by boat called "Tower Millennium Pier", which is a river sightseeing transportation. In the Tower we saw the crown jewels and the collection of royal armour. Really interesting were also the Yeoman Warders, who are also known as beefeaters. They are something like guide, security and tourist attraction at the Tower. Every evening these guards make the "Ceremony of the Keys", which is a traditional locking up of the Tower of London. They breed eight ravens. A legend says that as long as the ravens stay in the Tower of London, England will be secure. The names of the eight ravens of the Tower are Gwylum, Thor, Hugin, Munin, Branwen, Bran, Gandulf and Baldrick.

After the Tower of London we visited the Cathedral of St. Paul [Příloha 7]. The cathedral was under reconstruction, so we saw only the scaffolding. I hope to see it next time I will visit London. The last thing that we saw that day was the Millennium Bridge [Příloha 4].

The next day we went to Windsor. Windsor castle is the second biggest castle in the world. Windsor is one of the residences of the royal family. The most important part of the castle is St George's Chapel. Some British kings are buried there [Příloha 4]. Another attraction is the famous dollhouse which was made for Queen Mary (Queen Mary's Dolls' House). It was designed by a famous architect of that time, Sir Erwin Lutyens. In the house there is true Wedgwood china, which is famous porcelain, a small working vacuum cleaner and electric lighting.

Next morning we went to Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum. In the wax museum we could see the wax figures of the royal family, the Beatles, Barack Obama, Albert Einstein, Marilyn Monroe, which I liked best, and a lot of other famous people. Tourists could take photos of themselves with anyone they wanted. After Madame Tussaud's we visited the Chinatown Soho [Příloha 12]. From Soho we went to Trafalgar Square and then to the National Gallery [Příloha 13]. There are exposed about 2000 pictures by British and western European painters. The gallery is divided into four sections: Sainsbury wing, where are pictures from years 1260–1510. West Wing, there you can see pictures from years 1510–1600. North Wing, there are pictures from years 1600–1700. And the last one, East Wing, with only British art from years 1700–1920.

The fifth day we went to Westminster Abbey [Příloha 9], one of the most famous temples in London. After Westminster Abbey we visited Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament. In the afternoon we watched the London Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace [Příloha 11]. It was great, the best of it was that traffic around the whole palace had to stop because of the guards' horses. Unfortunately, we and a few other people got lost there. After we found our group we went to the bus and got back to the Czech Republic.

## 2. The second time I went to London

The second time I went to London, I went with my mum and with my friend. The first day we went to see Tower Bridge. Tower Bridge rises only once a month, however, while we were next to it, it rose and a boat sailed through. On the boat there was an inscription saying "Seeing is believing" [Příloha 15], so everyone was happy we had this view. Then we went to Soho. Soho is a part of London in China style. Soho was originally marked by three gates. Now it has expanded beyond the borders of these gates. We had dinner there in a Chinese fast food. Then we saw Trafalgar Square [Příloha 21], Downing Street, where the Prime Minister lives at number 10, Piccadilly Circus and Big Ben. The name Big Ben is almost universally used for the whole clock tower. In fact, Big Ben is the name of the biggest St Stephen's bell.

The next day we could see Natural History Museum, Science Museum or Victoria and Albert Museum. We went to the Natural History museum. Natural History museum is one of three large museums on Exhibition road, the others are the Science Museum and the Victoria and Albert Museum in Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. We spent there just a while, because it is too large, so we decided that we would rather visit Harrods [Příloha 16]. Harrods is one of the most luxurious and most famous department stores in the world. The history of Harrods dates back to 1834 when the London Borough of Stepney was founded by Charles Henry Harrods. Then the company grew at a grocery store, later his son took over the business and expanded Harrods. Over the years Harrods has increasingly focused on new sectors, which also required new retail space. Apartments on the third and the fourth floor therefore disappeared and turned to the sales area. The department store is also known for its strict regulations concerning dress code. Visitors are not allowed to enter if they wear athletic shorts and cut off or torn pants. For girls it is taboo, if they decide to go shopping with a shirt that reveals their belly.

The third day we went to Covent Garden. Covent Garden is a district in central London in the east of Westminster. It is known as the business and entertainment centre, and it is entry into the Royal Opera House, which is also known as Covent Garden. After this we went to Leicester Square. The square is surrounded by a number of cinemas. Most British premieres of films take place in one of the four cinemas at Leicester Square. In the evening we went to London Eye. From 1999 to 2006 London Eye was the largest observation wheel in Europe. It is 135 metres high.

Last day we went to Hyde Park [Příloha 18]. Hyde Park is one of the largest parks in central London. The park is divided by Serpentine Lake in two halves. Then we had free afternoon in London, so we went to Madame Tussauds [Příloha 19]. At the time we were there, the Beatles were away because they were getting new clothes. Václav Havel should be there too, but we haven't seen him anytime we were there. In the evening we got back to the Czech Republic.

### **3. What I liked most**

What I liked most? People are nice, helpful, tidy, courteous, elegant and always pleasant. Very close to me is also the English humour which can be a little bit strange for us, Czechs. Another thing that I like is the devotion they have to their Queen and the whole royal family. Despite living in 21st century, the British government is still recognized as the establishment of the monarchy. They are happy about each pleasant event in the family. The last big sensation was Prince William's wedding with Kate. The whole Britain watched it.

Another thing which surprised me was when we were going down a street, we saw some men who were cleaning the street. They were singing and they looked happy. In the Czech Republic I have never seen people singing while sweeping a street.

#### **4. What I want to see next time**

What I want to see next time? The first place is Liverpool. Liverpool is known as a cultural centre, especially in conjunction with popular music. In Liverpool there was probably the most famous British band The Beatles. At the end of the 19th century Liverpool was considered as the second largest port of the empire, because through its port most goods were imported and exported compared to other UK cities except for London. The city was also an important industrial centre. However, in the 20th century it lost a large number of its jobs, so it has become one of the poorest parts of the UK. It became famous because of the Beatles and the horse racing Steeplechase. The next thing I really want to see is the Abbey Road. It got its fame thanks to the Beatles too.

The next place I want to see is the Globe Theatre. The Globe Theatre is associated with William Shakespeare. William Shakespeare was a shareholder and member of the theatre company called Lord Chamberlain's servants. In summer 1613 the Globe burned to the ground. A large fire was caused by cannon, from which they fired during a performance. The shareholders were obliged to build a new theatre. This version of the Globe survived for 30 years until it was closed by Oliver Cromwell and the Puritans. The building itself was demolished in 1644. In the 20th century, after three hundred and fifty years, another Globe was built. Shakespeare's fan Sam Wanamaker decided to build an exact replica of the Globe Theatre in Bankside. Now there is a theatre as it used to be in Shakespeare's time. The Globe runs an annual summer season of Shakespeare's plays.

Then I would like to visit Oxford. The first mention of the university dates back to the 12th century. The oldest faculties of the University are College (1249), Balliol (1263) and Merton (1264). These faculties were established at the time when Europe began translating works of Greek philosophers. During the English Civil War in 1642 Oxford became home of the king Charles I. Around 1840 the Companies of Great

Western Railway and London and North Western Railway linked Oxford with London. Now Oxford is a city in the county of Oxfordshire. Here is the oldest university in the countries that use English.



## **Anotace**

Absolventská práce *My London* je shrnutím zážitků a dojmů z mých návštěv Londýna. První se uskutečnila v červenci roku 2011, druhá pak o rok později v době Adventu. Cílem práce je ukázat poutavost Londýna v různých ročních obdobích. Dále také ukázat místa i mimo Londýn, která jsou také velice zajímavá.

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## Přílohy

### Příloha 1



Eurotunnel train and me at the Prime Meridian, Foto: Ema Mocová, 2011

## Příloha 2



Greenwich observatory, Foto: Ema Mocová, 2011

### Příloha 3



The Monument to the Great Fire of London, Foto: Ema Mocová, 2011

## Příloha 4



Millenium Bridge and Tate Modern Gallery, Foto: Ema Mocová, 2011

## Příloha 5



Changing of the guard at Windsor, Foto: Ema Mocová, 2011

## Příloha 6



Sherlock Holmes pub, Foto: Ema Mocová, 2011



## Příloha 7



Me sleeping at St. Paul's Cathedral, Foto: Lenka Augustinová, 2011

(použito se svolením autora)

## Příloha 8



Windsor, Foto: Lenka Augustinová, 2011

(použito se svolením autora)

## Příloha 9



Westminster Abbey, Foto: Ema Mocová, 2011

## Příloha 10



Picadilly Circus, Foto: Ema Mocová, 2011

## Příloha 11



Buckingham Palace and Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace, Foto: Ema Mocová, 2011

## Příloha 12



A gate to Chinatown and a shop in Chinatown, Foto: Ema Mocová, 2011

## Příloha 13



National Gallery and a boat in a bottle at Trafalgar Square, Foto: Lenka Augustinová, 2011 (použito se svolením autora)

## Příloha 14



A clock counting days to Olympic Games, Foto: Lenka Augustinová, 2011  
(použito se svolením autora)



## Příloha 15



Open Tower Bridge and a boat „Seeing is believing“, Foto: Ema Mocová, 2012

## Příloha 16



Harrods, Foto: Ema Mocová, 2012

## Příloha 17



Night London Eye, Foto: Ema Mocová, 2012

## Příloha 18



Hyde Park Winterwonderland, Foto: Ema Mocová, 2012

## Příloha 19



Me and my friend with the royal family in Madame Tussauds, Foto: Lenka Augustinová, 2012 (použito se svolením autora)

## Příloha 20



Me and my friend in a double decker and a view from a double decker, Foto: Lenka Augustinová, 2012 (použito se svolením autora)

## Příloha 21



A Christmas tree at Trafalgar Square, Foto: Ema Mocová, 2012