

DAY 4

2026 edition

LONDON

ITINERARY

by **JESSICA DANTE** of **LOVE + LONDON**

Key:



HOURS



WHEELCHAIR FRIENDLY



ESTIMATED TIME TO SPEND ON A VISIT



VEGGIE FRIENDLY



WEBSITE (CLICKABLE)



VEGAN FRIENDLY



LOCATION (CLICKABLE)



GLUTEN-FREE FRIENDLY



ATTRACTION INCLUDED IN THE LONDON PASS



ONE OF JESS'S FAVOURITE SPOTS IN LONDON

Cost guide:

£ - up to £20 (*per person*)

££ - £21 up to £40

£££ - £41 up to £70

££££ - £70 +

DAY 4

ACTIVITIES AND SIGHTS



Welcome to Day 4!

Today we're exploring parts of west London. We'll start in South Kensington where you'll choose from seeing some of our most famous (free) museums, touring a historic concert hall, and exploring a real life royal palace.

Then you'll make your way up to Notting Hill with its cute houses, great cafes and boutique shops.

Finally, you'll make your way along Regent's Canal to Paddington, exploring Maida Vale along the way.

Have a great time!

Start at South Kensington Station or a recommended breakfast spot



Photo courtesy of South Kensington Books

South Kensington Books

I love to stop into independent bookshops when I travel, and South Kensington Books is a great little spot to start your day or to stop at after you've hit the museums. There's been a bookshop on this site since the 1940s, and they sell books on a range of topics and genres for both children and adults. They also have beautiful maps and prints that look like they could have come from one of the museums just down the road.

Free to visit - ££ | South Kensington

 Mon - Fri 10am - 8pm, Sat 11am - 7pm, Sun 12pm - 7pm



Photo courtesy of Science Museum

Science Museum

The Science Museum is... well, you can figure out what it's all about; the name is pretty self-explanatory! It was originally founded back in 1857 with the collection of the Royal Society of Arts and some items from the Great Exhibition, and for a while it was joined up with the V&A. Now an entirely separate entity, the Science Museum has a collection of over 300,000 items including famous pieces like Galileo Galilei's telescope and Alexander Graham Bell's telephone. There's also a large collection of more modern pieces and there are hundreds of interactive exhibits, great for both children and adults.

The Science Museum is another one that gets really busy during school breaks so it's best to arrive early and during the week.

Book your free tickets in advance

Free | South Kensington

 Daily 10am - 6pm (last entry 5:15pm)

 2 hours





Natural History Museum

Opened in 1881, the Natural History Museum holds more than 80 million objects, some of which were formed billions of years ago. If you love all things earth, animals, rocks, dinosaurs and basically anything to do with the natural world, this is THE museum for you. Because of how old the museum is, some of the exhibitions have been on display for a significant amount of time, and there are even collections put together by Charles Darwin.

The Natural History Museum is popular with families, but I recommend heading there early during school holidays as it does get very busy.

Book your free tickets in advance. Natural History Museum souvenir guidebook (£6) is included with The London Pass.

Free | South Kensington

 Mon - Sun 10am - 5:50pm (last entry 5:30pm)

 3 hours - an afternoon



Victoria & Albert Museum



The Victoria and Albert Museum, also called "the V&A", is "the world's largest museum of applied arts, decorative arts, and design, housing a permanent collection of over 2.27 million objects." It first opened in 1852 and is named after Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. Visit the V&A and you'll see a collection that spans 5,000 years of art from almost every continent. It feels like they have every type of artefact you could want to see, including jewellery, furniture, textiles, ceramics, glass, and more.

I'll be honest, the V&A can be incredibly overwhelming and it's very easy to get lost in it, as there are a whopping 145 galleries. So I recommend that you visit right at opening time, to try to avoid some of the major crowds, and that you look at the museum's website and plan ahead of time which exhibitions you want to see, so you can make a game plan.

Free | South Kensington

 Daily 10am - 5:45pm (on Fridays, it's open until 10pm)

 2 - 3 hours



Navigate to Royal Albert Hall or Kensington Gardens



Kensington Gardens



Kensington Gardens is one of London's eight Royal Parks, which are lands in London that were originally used for recreation (mostly hunting) by the royal family. They're now 5,000 acres of public space that are free to enjoy. Local Londoners love to come here no matter the weather to cycle, walk or run around the park, admiring the many beautiful aspects of it, like the Princess Diana Memorial Playground, the Albert Memorial (commemorating Prince Albert, Queen Victoria's husband) and the Italian Gardens.

Art lovers can also get their fix at the Serpentine Galleries, or you can tour parts of the historic and beautiful Kensington Palace, still a royal residence, mentioned next.

With 265 acres of green space, there's quite a bit to see here, with a chance to escape the craziness of the city and instead feel like you're in the English countryside.

Free | Kensington



Daily 6am – dusk



Kensington Palace

Fans of the royal family will love a visit to Kensington Palace, the birthplace of Queen Victoria and home to the young people of the royal family for over 300 years. More recently, it was the home of Diana, Princess of Wales, Princess Margaret and The Duke and Duchess of Sussex, as well as William and Kate, The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, and their children. Walk the huge palace to see how centuries of royals used to live, and learn the history of the stunning palace and its inhabitants.

Next to the palace is the beautifully manicured Sunken Gardens, home to the Princess Diana Memorial Statue, placed in the garden only in 2021. The palace is ticketed but anyone can visit the Sunken Gardens.

Adult tickets are £24.70 and kids £12.40, family discounts are available. **Book tickets in advance.**

££ | Kensington



Wed – Sun 10am – 6pm (last admission 5pm)



2 – 3 hours





Photo courtesy of Royal Albert Hall

Royal Albert Hall

The incredible Royal Albert Hall is a concert hall that's one of the most iconic buildings in London. It's held in trust for the nation and managed by a registered charity, but it hosts some of the most incredible events in the world, with seating for 5,272 people. It was opened by Queen Victoria in 1871, with its name coming from her husband Prince Albert, who had died a few years earlier. The hall hosts around 390 shows annually in its main auditorium, including concerts, film premieres, ballets, operas and more.

There are a few ways you can visit the legendary Royal Albert Hall. First is to, of course, come back in the evening and attend a show. On the hall's website is a list of the shows with public tickets available, so if something strikes your fancy then grab a ticket. You can also tour the hall, with the option to do a classic tour, running most days, or a behind the scenes tour, which happens a few times a year. [Both of these can be booked here.](#) (Adults £20, kids £12).

You can also [book a classic British afternoon tea](#) in the hall's Coda restaurant, where you'll enjoy "classic finger sandwiches, freshly baked scones and a mix of yummy cakes.

A guided tour is included in The London Pass.

Free | South Kensington



Tours: Daily from 10am,
Afternoon Tea: Daily from 1pm



1 hour



Photo courtesy of Sambourne House

Sambourne House

Quirky Sambourne House was the family home of famous illustrator and photographer Linley Sambourne. He and his wife Marion moved into the home in 1874 and with their limited funds, decorated in what was considered a pretty "maximalist" fashion for the time. The house is now a museum, and its visitors could honestly spend hours exploring the many levels of the Victorian home, looking at its William Morris wallpapers, plentiful displays of drawings and photographs, and observing its many historical knickknacks. If you visit Sambourne House, you can buy a combined ticket that gets you entrance to both Leighton House Museum and Sambourne House.

£ | Kensington | Adult tickets are £10.50 and kids £5.25



Wed - Sun 10am - 5:30pm (last entry 4:30pm)



30 minutes - 1.5 hours





Photo courtesy of Design Museum

Design Museum



The Design Museum is for lovers of modern design in all forms - from graphics to advertising to fashion to architecture - who will no doubt be familiar with its founder, Sir Terence Conan, one of the top design names in the world. Visit, and you can explore the permanent collection spanning various forms of modern design and art (my favourite pieces are about the design of the Tube carriages and maps) as well as the free and paid temporary exhibitions.

The building itself is something to see, as is the gift shop, so I highly recommend even just a short visit before you make your way to Notting Hill.

Free | Kensington



Mon - Thu 10am - 5pm, Fri - Sun 10am - 6pm



1 - 2 hours



Photo courtesy of Leighton House Museum

Leighton House Museum



The Leighton House Museum is both an art museum and a chance to appreciate unspoiled historic London architecture and design. The museum is in the home of the painter Frederic Leighton, who was the first Baron of Leighton from 1830-1896. Leighton commissioned architect and designer George Aitchison to build him a home and studio combination, and asked for the incorporation of tiles and other elements from the Near East. The house was completed in 1895 and is now Grade II listed, which means it's protected from major changes and demolition.

Since 1929, the museum has been open to the public to admire not only the home, but also Leighton's impressive permanent art collection. His works are on display across the house - including 81 oil paintings - along with pieces by the likes of John Everett Millais, Edward Burne-Jones and George Frederic Watts.

£ | Kensington | Adults tickets are £12.25 and kids £5.25, book here.



Wed - Mon 10am - 5:30pm (last entry 4:30pm)



1 - 1.5 hours





Holland Park



One of the most beautiful parks in west London, Holland Park is spread across 54 acres of what used to be Cope Castle, a large Jacobean mansion hidden in the woods of the city, built back in the early 17th century by Sir Walter Cope.

The castle was then renamed Holland House after the Earl of Holland's wife Lady Rich inherited it, but sadly the house was badly damaged during World War II. However, one wing was saved and now operates as a hostel, and a section of the front terrace was saved which is now used for the park's summertime open-air theatre shows and concerts.

Holland Park is smaller than many of London's more popular parks, making it a super manageable place to walk around and escape the hustle and bustle of the city. It's especially well-loved by locals in the summertime, who will take picnics, meet friends, and exercise here.

Free | Kensington



Daily 7:30am – 30 minutes before dusk



Kyoto Garden

This beautiful garden located in the heart of Holland Park was a gift from Kyoto to the City of London in 1991 to honour the long-standing friendship between the United Kingdom and Japan. And in true traditional Japanese fashion, it's filled with koi ponds, a waterfall and peaceful walking paths. If you're here in April, you might even be lucky enough to catch the cherry blossoms in full bloom!

Free | Kensington



Daily 7:30am – dusk





Photo courtesy of Daunt Books via Facebook

Daunt Books

Filled with old-world charm and a cosy vibe that makes you want to stay and browse all afternoon, Daunt Books has a beautiful collection of fiction, history, and art novels, including a pretty extensive travel section. If you're in the area, definitely swing by – even just for a moment of peace away from the bustling city. Plus, the little bookshop café is a perfect spot to grab a coffee and get lost in a novel for a hot minute.

Free - ££ | Kensington



Mon - Sat 9am - 7:30pm, Sun 11am - 6pm



Navigate to Notting Hill

Make your way to Notting Hill and you'll be in one of the most famous neighbourhoods in London. But it's more than Portobello Road Market and the Notting Hill Bookshop, so check out some of the spots I've recommended here, and then spend time exploring the area on your own.



Photo courtesy of Sézane

Sézane

Sézane is my favourite non-second hand shop in London. Founded in 2013 by Morgane Sezalory, Sézane is the epitome of "French girl style", selling chic, contemporary, effortless pieces. I recently invested in an absolutely stunning sand-coloured pea coat from here and I am in LOVE. Sézane was also recently awarded a B-Corp certification, which means that it has passed strict standards that show that they take care of the planet and their workers. I love to see it!

The shop is primarily women's clothing, however they also have a mens line.

££££ | Notting Hill



Mon - Wed 10:30 - 6:30pm, Thu - Fri 10:30am - 7pm ,
Sat 10:30 - 6:30pm, Sun 11am - 6pm





Westbourne Grove

There's a little bit of everything on this popular west London street, from mid-high end trendy fashion finds to unique homewares, plus some of the prettiest cafes. A local favourite? Daylesford Organic that's packed with farm-fresh goodies, pastries and a cosy place to sit if you need some respite from shopping.

Free - ££££ | Notting Hill



Portobello Road Market

Originally a rural road in the 18th century, it became more famous in the 19th century for its fruit and vegetable market before evolving into the eclectic mix of antique shops, vintage stores and trendy cafes you see today. The famous Portobello Road Market also takes place here daily from 8:30am-6:30pm, but personally, I think the best day to go is Friday because Saturdays are SO busy but there's still some "extra weekend areas" open. And the earlier in the morning you can go, the less crowds.

Free - ££££ | Notting Hill



Daily 8am - 7pm (stallholders usually close up at 6:30pm)



Portobello Road Green Market

If you loooooove a good vintage find like I do, make a beeline for Portobello Green Market. Open Friday to Sunday, it's packed with amazing retro pieces like leather jackets, vintage designer sunglasses, and one-off treasures you probably will never find anywhere else. I'd 100% go early for the best picks, and don't be shy about haggling, it's all part of the fun. There's also plenty of street food nearby if you tire from hours of sifting through the hundreds of racks.

£ - ££££ | Notting Hill



Fri - Sun 9am - 5pm



Photo courtesy of Portobello Road Green Market



Photo courtesy of Biscuiteers

Biscuiteers

Biscuiteers is an Instagram-friendly biscuit (cookie) shop selling the most adorable iced creations (which makes up for the fact that they don't taste particularly amazing lol). Tourists like to come here to get cute London-themed gifts to bring home, like double decker bus biscuits. There's also a little cafe at the back of the shop where you can have a coffee or a tea with some biscuits of your choosing, and they run a range of icing workshops throughout the week which would be super fun to book onto, especially if you take the kids to their child-friendly ones.

££ - £££ | Notting Hill



Mon - Sat 10am - 6pm, Sun 11am - 5pm



Photo courtesy of Electric Cinema

Electric Cinema Portobello

The Electric Cinema is not only one of the most iconic and beautiful buildings in Notting Hill, it also has a pretty significant history, as it's one of the oldest working film theatres in Britain now, opening way back in 1910. It was also one of the first buildings in the UK to be designed specifically for motion pictures to be shown to the public. Interestingly, the name comes from the fact that it was one of the first buildings in the area to be supplied with electricity! The Electric Cinema became the first Black-owned cinema in the UK back in 1993; it remained Black-owned until 2000, and it's now under the Soho House hospitality group (if you're a member, you get discounted tickets).

Even with all of this history, a ticket to Electric Cinema means watching a film in pure luxury. Your seating options include armchairs, beds for two, and sofas for two, and the fully-licensed bar serves a selection of cocktails, wine, beer and champagne, plus substantial cinema snacks.

If you find yourself with a rainy and cold day in London (or maybe it's hot as balls and you want to be in a cool dark place) get yourself to Electric Cinema. If you've got kids in tow, check out the special children's screenings, and do note that they are able to accommodate for hearing and visual impairments as well as wheelchair users.

Seats from £20.

£ | Notting Hill





Photo courtesy of XL Recordings

XL Recordings

XL Recordings is a tiny British indie record label founded back in 1989. Although it only releases a few albums a year, they've worked with some MAJOR names, like Adele, Azealia Banks, Dizzee Rascal, M.I.A., and The White Stripes, to name just a very few (seriously, there are a ton more names I couldn't fit here). It was only in 2008 that they started properly recording albums here however, as that's when co-owner Richard Russell turned the rear garage of the label's Notting Hill headquarters into a small, in-house recording and mixing studio called XL Studio. While you can't go into the studio, head down Codrington Mews to see the building's black-and-white striped exterior mural, created by Stanley Donwood. It was inspired by the artwork on Thom York's "The Eraser" album, and features a few major London landmarks like The Gherkin and the Tower of London.

Free to view | Notting Hill



Photo courtesy of Ceramica Blue

Ceramica Blue

If you're the kind of person who loves to come home from a trip with a beautiful bowl instead of a fridge magnet, Ceramica Blue is about to be your favourite shop in London. It's a chic homeware and tableware store on Portobello Road stocking incredible Sicilian hand-painted terracotta platters, Portuguese dinnerware, Egyptian glass candleholders and Swedish linens. It's been run since 1987 by Lindy, who has such a well-travelled, distinctive eye that the likes of Ottolenghi and Soho House come to her for their restaurant tableware. Everything in here has been chosen with real intention, and it shows.

£££ | Notting Hill



Mon - Fri 10am - 6pm, Sat - Sun 12pm - 5pm



Bob Marley Plaque

On Basing Street in Notting Hill, keep an eye out for a blue heritage plaque on the exterior of what was once Island Studios. It marks the spot where Bob Marley, Peter Tosh and Bunny Wailer, the founding members of The Wailers, finished recording the groundbreaking albums 'Catch A Fire' and 'Burnin'.

Free to see | Notting Hill





Photo courtesy of Museum of Brands

Museum of Brands



The Museum of Brands is a super interesting way to learn about British history and pop culture throughout the centuries. This little museum (a registered charity) has a "time tunnel" where you walk through a chronological journey of 200 years of consumer culture, with over 12,000 original items on display. You get to see how things like wars, technology, and cultural progression influenced fashion, marketing tactics, trends, and much more. When you're done learning, stop into the museum's cafe for a tea in their beautiful green garden patio.

Book tickets in advance (Adults £14, Kids £8).

£ | Notting Hill



Mon - Sat 10am - 5pm, Sun 11am - 5pm



1 - 1.5 hours



Graffik Gallery



Graffik Gallery is known as one of the top art galleries for street-style art in London, and their selection is well worth a browse. Their pieces are super cool and urban, and on display are works by Banksy, Dotmaster, Stik, Alec Monopoly, Bambi, TRUST:ICON, and more. But beyond just seeing these (very cool) pieces, you can also get involved and make your own street art with the gallery's graffiti class.

In a relaxed and friendly environment, you'll get the chance to spray your own piece on an printer-paper-sized canvas to take home with you (so it's suitcase-friendly). Because of the small size, you'll do stencil work on your canvas, but then you're given the chance to run wild and spray whatever you want on the gallery's garden walls. The workshops are run by recognised graffiti writers, and they're great for ages eight and up, and all levels of spray painting skills.

£££ | Notting Hill



Workshops: Various times available. Book via [Instagram DM](#).
Public workshops: Sat 1pm - 3pm



1 - 2 hours



Navigate to Golborne Road



Golborne Road



When people think "antiques" in London, they mostly think of Portobello Road Market which, in our opinion, is... fine. But it's not great, plus the market gets absolutely heaving with people on the weekends.

If you're a true lover of antiques, I recommend walking about ten minutes north along Portobello Road to Golborne Road instead. Here you'll find a mix of quirky and high-end antiques shops (think: pieces for thousands of pounds), plus on the weekends some sellers set up tents and sell antique furniture and home decor.

Mixed in with the antiques are coffee shops, indie fashion boutiques, and a heavy concentration of Portuguese cafes.

Free to visit | £££ - ££££ | Notting Hill



Trellick Tower

Trellick Tower is a Grade II listed tower block (partially historically preserved) in Kensal Green, but as one of the tallest buildings in the area, you can clearly see it from nearby places like Golborne Road. As a local landmark, it's got quite an interesting story: built and opened in 1972, it was commissioned by the Greater London Council and designed in the Brutalist style, which was quite the thing back then. It was planned to replace outdated social housing, and was designed with a few space-saving designs and even a separate access tower with its own plant room.

But high rise buildings and this style of architecture were no longer so on-trend once the tower was finished, and it, unfortunately, became a hotspot for various types of crime and drug abuse. But thankfully, things improved in the 1980s when a residents' association was introduced, which set up better security measures, and by the 90s, the tower was back in favour of local Londoners as a place to live. It's still predominately social housing, even in a time when demand for private flats is so high. You might recognise Trellick Tower from movies and TV shows like For Queen and Country and Black Mirror: Bandersnatch.

Free | North Kensington



5 - 10 minutes



Navigate to Regent's Canal



Photo courtesy of Regent's Canal

Regent's Canal

Regent's Canal runs through parts of north and east London, originally built in 1820 with the hopes of connecting Grand Junction Canal's Paddington arm to Limehouse, where a new dock was to be built. When it was completed, however, rail transport had recently become more popular and at one point the cut canal was almost turned into a railway. Thankfully, it stayed as a waterway and was a vital part of southern England's transport system for many decades.

These days, the canal is home to thousands of houseboats and scenic walking paths that are enjoyed by both Londoners and tourists.

At this point of your day, you can navigate to the "Regent's Canal" pin on your Digital Map, which is just a few minutes' walk from Golborne Road, then head right (east) to start your journey towards Paddington basin, through the beautiful Little Venice.

Free | Little Venice



Rembrandt Gardens

Stop into the quaint Rembrandt Gardens on your canal walk. It was created back in the 1950s as an ornamental garden and in 1975, 5,000 tulips and 500 hyacinths were planted to honour the 700th anniversary of the birth of the city of Amsterdam. You've probably walked a LOT at this point so find a bench and sit for a while to rest your feet; this is one of the most beautiful spots in London to do that.

Free | Paddington



Daily 8am – dusk





Photo courtesy of London Waterbus Company

London Waterbus Company

If you're tired of walking at this point, you could hop on a historic traditional narrowboat in Little Venice and make your way to Camden Town, passing through the Maida Hill Tunnel and Regent's Park. Along the way, you'll also see wildlife, Victorian mansions, and live-aboard houseboats, while your boat guide tells you stories of the area.

The trip takes about 45 minutes and is one-way, so you'll end up in Camden Town, which is part of another day of the itinerary! So if you decide to take this trip, probably best to do it at the end of the day when you're ready to head back towards your hotel from Camden Town.

Adult and kids tickets are £14 -17. [Book in advance.](#)

£ | Paddington



45 minutes



Clifton Nurseries



Photo courtesy of Clifton Nurseries

Tucked away off a quiet road in Little Venice is Clifton Nurseries, which made its home here all the way back in 1851. Go through the main entrance, down a narrow alleyway and you'll be in for a surprise: you'd never expect to find an extensive garden centre, shop and cafe smack dab in the middle of a busy part of the city. Even if you aren't into plants and gardening, it's still quite a special spot.

If you're visiting London, I appreciate it's not realistic to bring a plant back home, but they have a fantastic selection of home decor, gardening bits and bobs, and other potential gifts for anyone in your life that is greenery-inclined. And while you're there, stop into the cafe for a tea and a yummy piece of cake.

Free - ££ | Paddington



Mon - Thu 9am - 6pm, Fri - Sat 9am - 7pm, Sun 10:30am - 5pm



Navigate to Paddington Basin



Photo courtesy of GoBoat

GoBoat



Want to drive your own boat down Regent's Canal? Well, head to the GoBoat HQ in Paddington Basin and you can do just that. You're the captain of your own boat; just choose your route and get on your way - no experience necessary. Imagine the views of the canal FROM the canal! GoBoats can hold up to eight people and children are allowed as passengers (they'll wear life jackets if they're under eight) as well as dogs. You can even bring your own food and drink on board to enjoy while you sail past the canal boats and other points of interest like Regent's Park and Camden Lock. This is a GREAT way to see London when you have dry, warm-ish weather! You'll bring the boat right back to Paddington Basin so you can continue exploring or hop on the Tube at Paddington station.

Definitely book your boat at least a day or two in advance during the week or earlier on the weekends, as they are quite popular in the summer!

££££ | Paddington



1 - 2 hours



Paddington Bear Statue

If you're a Paddington Bear fan, then head to Paddington station and to platform one, where the Brown family first found him, to see his very own statue. There's also a green commemorative plaque and a cute Paddington-themed bench there.

Free | Paddington





Photo courtesy of Get Your Guide

Paddington Bear Walking Tour

Want the full Paddington Bear experience? Take a Paddington Bear walking tour. For 2.5 hours you'll visit lots of locations that are either featured in the Paddington books and films or that are significant to the author Michael Bond. The tour starts in Paddington station and ends in Notting Hill, and sets off in the morning, so if you want to do this tour, then just reverse the route for today and do it backwards, ending in South Kensington and hitting the museums at the end of the day.

Adult tickets are £20 and kids £6. [Book tickets in advance.](#)

£ | Paddington



2.5 hours



DAY 4

FOOD AND DRINKS



A heads up on breakfast... there aren't tons of great places to eat around Kensington so some of the recommendations are a bit of a walk away from the starting point (but worth it).
My favourite around here is Dishoom for sure!

Breakfast/Brunch around Kensington



Photo courtesy of Farm Girl

Farm Girl

Farm Girl is a cute Australian-style café on Exhibition Road, and its menu is full of hearty brunch dishes like breakfast bowls, fish tacos and gluten-free pancakes, with PLENTY of options for vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free eaters. But honestly, even if that's not usually your thing, the food is good enough to win you over. Don't leave without trying one of their speciality lattes either. The rose one is delicious.

££ | South Kensington

🕒 Mon - Fri 8:30am - 5pm, Sat - Sun 9am - 5pm



Photo courtesy of HJEM

Hjem Kensington

Step into HJEM Kensington (Hjem is the Danish word for home) and you're stepping into a Nordic dream. Housed in a former florist's boutique, this cafe quickly became a Kensington favourite when it first opened, and now there are sometimes queues out the door of eager locals waiting to enter.

Order a coffee here and it will be brewed with beans from London roasteries like Kiss the Hippo, and honestly, it's quite difficult to pick from the many beautiful sweet treats, breads and pastries on display. If you're after something a bit heartier, choose from their menu of Danish-influenced breakfast and brunch dishes like avocado on rye bread or croissants stuffed with cheese.

£ | Kensington

🕒 Mon - Fri 7:30am - 5pm, Sat - Sun 8:30am - 5pm





Photo courtesy of Dishoom

Dishoom



Dishoom is an all-day Indian restaurant that hit the scene in 2015, and since then has become a favourite of Londoners, both Indian and not. The decor at this Kensington location veers away from their usual homely feel to an art-deco 1940s Bombay club vibe. The food is inspired by Bombay as well, and none of it disappoints, despite being reasonably priced. This even goes for the breakfast, and in fact this would be my favourite breakfast/brunch recommendation for today's route. Their breakfast naan is DELISH. Make a reservation if you can, but walk-in spots are also available; just be prepared to wait a while during peak times and days.

££ | Kensington



Mon - Fri 8am - 11pm, Sat - Sun 9am - 11pm



Photo courtesy of Balans

Balans

Balans is an all-around great spot for breakfast in an area that doesn't have many great options that aren't also overpriced. Pop in for breakfast to kick off your day of sightseeing, and you'll get to choose from some top-notch brunch classics like French toast and eggs royale, with the breakfast burrito being a fave. They serve brunch all day, so no worries if you arrive here for a late start or want to do a bit of exploring before sitting down for some grub.

£ | Kensington



Mon - Tue 8am - 10pm, Wed - Sat 8am - 11pm, Sun 8am - 6pm





Photo courtesy of Ffiona's

Ffiona's

Ffiona's restaurant, which feels more like a cute little indie cafe with its blue and white wallpaper and chalkboard menu, has been a staple of Kensington for over 25 years. Stop in for brunch, lunch, dinner and Sunday roast, with a British-inspired menu. They're famous for their fluffy buttermilk pancakes (which are gluten-free) and french toast. They're also super diet-restriction friendly!

Book ahead if you can, especially on the weekends, as the restaurant is quite cosy and doesn't have many tables. Note that if you want to do brunch here before you hit the museums and Kensington Palace, they are only open for brunch and lunch on Saturdays and Sundays. Otherwise it's a dinner spot - a good option if you need to reverse the route for the day.

££ | Kensington



Tue - Fri 5:30pm - 11pm, Sat 9am - 3pm & 5:30pm - 11pm,
Sun 9am - 3pm & 6:30pm - 10pm



Photo courtesy of Libby's

Libby's

Libby's, a sweet, pink gluten-free bakery, is one for my gluten-free girls and boys. I know it's hard to find good GF pastries and sweets, so I had to add this to the itinerary so you could make a stop if you can't do gluten. They also do coffee here, as well as a few bits that are vegan too.

£ | Notting Hill



Tue - Fri 8am - 4pm, Sat - Mon 9am - 4pm



Lunch/Dinner around South Kensington



Photo courtesy of Lina Stores

Lina Stores

If you are still in this area around lunchtime, probably because you've spent your morning exploring museums, this is a great spot for a somewhat affordable, very tasty and a bit innovative Italian menu that works for almost everyone, even vegans and gluten-free people. As mentioned earlier, my must-orders include the Gnudi Fritti (fried ricotta & herb gnudi and Calabrian chilli marmellata) and rosemary foccacia to start, then I change it up for my main. And whatever you do, don't skip the Lina Stores Negroni, trust me.

££ | South Kensington



Mon - Fri 12pm - 9:30pm,
Sat - Sun 11:30am - 9:30pm



Lunch/Dinner around Notting Hill



Photo courtesy of Gold

Gold

One of the newer restaurants in Notting Hill, Gold Portobello sits smack-dab in the middle of Portobello Road. It's unassuming on the outside, but once you're seated, you'll see just how gorgeous the interiors are and how BIG the space is. With lots of gold everywhere (naturally... but done tastefully) there's also a good balance of light and greenery, especially on the ground floor, where you'll walk through palm trees to get to your table. Gold serves small, seasonal plates cooked in wood ovens, which are meant to be shared. It's a good thing because you'll definitely want to try as much of the menu as you can. While the vibe here is fairly laid back, in the evenings the clientele tend to be dressed rather trendy, so you might feel most comfortable following suit.

££ | Notting Hill

🕒 Mon - Thu 12pm - 12:30am, Fri 12pm - 1am, Sat 11:30am - 1am, Sun 11:30am - 11:30pm



Photo courtesy of De Nadas Empandas

De Nadas Empandas

Notting Hill is known for mostly having mid-range to luxurious food options, but if you just want something tasty and affordable while you're in the area, De Nadas is the perfect stop. They make incredible handmade Argentinian empanadas with 15 different types of cool fillings like blue cheese and pear, spiced lamb, plus squash and kale. There's something for everyone, including heaps of veggie and vegan options. You can eat in or takeaway, it's up to you.

£ | Notting Hill

🕒 Sun - Thu 10am - 8pm, Fri - Sat 9am - 9pm





Photo courtesy of Zephyr via Facebook

Zephyr



This modern Greek spot in Notting Hill is perfect for a more upscale lunch or dinner. Think next-level sharing plates with fresh, bold flavours. My favourites are the baked butter beans with feta and Kalamata olives, and the aubergine with citrus yoghurt, dukkha and parsley. If you're into cocktails, definitely try the NEGROILY too, which is a classic Negroni made with olive oil. It's SO good. Just make sure to book ahead because this place fills up pretty quickly.

£££ - ££££ | Kensington



Mon - Sat 12pm - 4pm & 6pm - 11pm,
Sun 12pm - 4pm & 6pm - 10pm



Photo courtesy of Granger & Co

Granger & Co

Australian restaurateur Bill Granger found success in Sydney, Tokyo and Seoul, so he then set his eyes on London, and because of that we have been blessed with Granger & Co. Think: bright and light interiors and an all-day menu, inspired by the colourful, sunny vibes of Australia, which we obviously do not get to experience quite as often here in London. Granger & Co is most famous for its breakfast menu, which features many twists on the traditional breakfast offerings you'd usually see. No booking here - walk-in only, so arrive early or late if you want to visit on the weekends.

££ | Notting Hill



Tue - Fri 7am - 10:30pm, Sun 8am - 9:30pm



Photo courtesy of Poppies

Poppies Fish & Chips

You've probably seen Poppies pop up a few times in this itinerary, and for good reason - it's a classic! Their Portobello Road location is right in the heart of Notting Hill and it's got all the charm and nostalgia of the original spots, with fun retro details that nod to the building's past (it used to be a bank and a butcher's shop). The fish and chips on the other hand are also incredibly authentic, served with mushy peas and all. It's honestly a perfect pitstop while exploring Portobello Market. You can choose to get takeaway OR dine in here... I'd recommend trying to get a table inside. Oh, and a little treat for you: I've managed to get you a 20% discount, just show [this discount here](#) to your server or at the register before you pay.

££ | Notting Hill



Sun - Wed 11am - 10pm, Thu - Sat 11am - 11pm





Photo courtesy of Holy Carrot

Holy Carrot

Holy Carrot is a plant-based restaurant that even your non-vegan and veggie travel companions will love. Full of bold flavours and unique dishes, I implore you to try their koji flatbread with white bean purée, coal-roasted leeks and artichoke schnitzel, if they're on the menu the day you visit.

I have to make a special note about the staff here, too. They are excellent, and the knowledgeable service they gave makes the whole experience feel super special. I'd really recommend coming here if you have a special anniversary on your trip or just want to head somewhere a little more elevated and romantic one evening.

££ | Notting Hill



Mon - Fri 12pm - 11pm, Sat 10:30am - 11pm, Sun 10:30am - 10pm



Photo courtesy of Conscience Kitchen

Conscience Kitchen



Tucked along All Saints Road, Conscious Kitchen is a real hidden gem serving up seriously tasty Egyptian-inspired breakfasts, brunches and lunches. The vibe's super relaxed and friendly, and the staff make you feel at home. The menu is full of dishes like shakshuka, kofta and the most amazing Egyptian breakfast made from fava beans (trust me, it's a must-order).

£ | Notting Hill



Wed - Thu 8:30am - 5pm, Fri 8:30am - 5:30pm,
Sat - Sun 9:30am - 5:30pm



Photo courtesy of Ria's via Instagram

Ria's

If you're a pizza lover, you're going to LOVE Ria's. Just a few doors down from Conscience Kitchen, this cosy, locally-loved spot serves up Detroit-style pizza (aka the perfect thick, square slice) alongside a great selection of natural wines. It's also got a super cosy, candle-lit interior which really adds to the vibes. Oh, and whatever you do, make sure you get a side of their hot honey. It's the best thing to drizzle over your deep-dish.

£ - ££ | Notting Hill



Mon - Sat 12pm - 11pm, Sun 12pm - 10pm





Photo courtesy of Bluebelles of Portobello

Bluebelles of Portobello

This blue-fronted, cosy little cafe at the top of Portobello Road feels like you're in someone's kitchen/living room combo, with exposed brick walls, a rustic wooden bar you can sit at, and chilled vibes from the staff and local pup customers. Stop here for a quick coffee from locally-loved Caravan beans, pick up a fresh baked pastry (I'm a big fan of the lemon and blueberry cake) or if you want to stay a bit longer, choose something from their brunch menu, which offers breakfast baps (sandwiches), egg pots, burgers and more. It gets busy on the weekends here, so go early to ensure you get a seat without a long wait.

£££-££££ | Kensington



Mon - Fri 8am - 3:45pm, Sat - Sun 8:30am - 3:45pm



Photo courtesy of Square Meal

Cafe Laville

Thanks to its location above Regent's Canal in Little Venice, Cafe Laville is one of the most unique cafes in London. In fact, if you take one of the [GoBoats recommended](#) for today, you can captain your boat right UNDER it. Sip your coffee and enjoy your breakfast or Italian-style lunch while you look over the canal and all of the houseboats lined up along it... I can't think of a better way to spend some time on a beautiful day in London.

££ | Little Venice



Mon - Sun 10am - 10:30pm



Pubs and Bars around Notting Hill

Most pubs I'll be mentioning below are super family-friendly and are great spots to have a delish lunch, dinner or Sunday roast, so they make for more great options for where you can eat today. Also, the drinking spots are mostly around Notting Hill because that's where the best ones are located, in my opinion!



The Churchill Arms

Dating back to 1750, the Churchill Arms is one of the oldest and most historic pubs in all of London, but that's not the only reason it's special. First off, the name comes from the fact that Winston Churchill's grandparents were regular patrons, and to take advantage of this fun fact, the pub was renamed after WWII (you'll see lots of Churchill memorabilia on the walls). The pub is also home to, somewhat strangely, one of the best Thai restaurants in the area. So you won't find pub grub here, but you'll still eat very well. Finally, the Churchill Arms is well known around the world for its stunning exterior, which is covered either in blooming flowers, or Christmas trees when it gets to the festive season. I actually include it in our [London Colouring Book](#), it's so iconic! Either way, a pint in this cosy, historic pub is one you'll not forget.

£ - ££ | Kensington

 Mon - Fri 11am - 11pm, Sat 11am - 12am, Sun 12pm - 10:30pm



Photo courtesy of The Churchill Arms



The Windsor Castle

The Windsor Castle is one of the oldest pubs in west London, dating all the way back to the 1820s. Its interiors have been beautifully preserved, from the wood panelling to very small doorways that you might have to duck to get through. Because this pub is tucked away on a quiet back street, it's heavily frequented by locals that live nearby and it's also super family-friendly during the day. The Windsor Castle is also a popular spot for a gorgeous Sunday roast. You can make a reservation [here](#)!

If you find yourself visiting on a sunny day, pop out to the inviting courtyard beer garden!

££ | Kensington

 Mon - Fri 12pm - 11pm, Sat 12pm - 12:30am, Sun 12pm - 10:30pm



Photo courtesy of The Windsor Castle



Photo courtesy of The Ladbroke Arms

The Ladbroke Arms



I love the selection of hyper-local pubs around Notting Hill and Holland Park, and the Ladbroke Arms is one of my favourites. Londoners will pop in here after work for a quick pint, meet up with friends on a Saturday, or bring the family for a Sunday roast on, well, Sunday. The staff are super chill and friendly, the food is AMAZING, and you can always count on a relaxed vibe no matter what time of day it is. If the weather is nice, be sure to grab a spot on the front terrace in the sunshine.

££ | Notting Hill



Mon - Sat 12pm - 11pm, Sun 12pm - 10:30pm



Photo courtesy of The Henderson at The Laslett

The Henderson at the Laslett

The Laslett is a luxury hotel right in Notting Hill named after Rhaune Laslett, a local activist who was a co-organiser of the original Notting Hill Carnival, parade and street festival that happens every August, celebrating the area's Caribbean and African roots. But even if you're not staying in this stunning, minimalist hotel, you can head through the lobby to the Henderson, the hotel's cocktail bar named after Russell 'Russ' Henderson, a well-loved Trinidadian musician, and another one of the co-founders of the Notting Hill Carnival. Cocktails here are unique and divine, and they often have an offering off-menu that your server will be happy to recommend, depending on your tastes. The bar itself is intimate, with just a few tables and green velvet seating lining the light pink walls. But if you find yourself with a beautiful sunny day, choose a spot on the terrace to sip your cocktail of choice.

££ | Notting Hill



Daily 7am - 11pm





Photo courtesy of Trailer Happiness

Trailer Happiness

On Portobello Road you'll find a little basement cocktail bar called Trailer Happiness. Head downstairs and you'll be ready to order exotic, tiki-style cocktails (or go for anything you'd like, really)! Rum fans, this is your spot, as here you'll find a vast selection of rums you can drink straight if your little heart desires. And on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights Trailer Happiness is straight vibes, with a live DJ playing the perfect mix of reggae, blues and funk. This place is popular on the weekends, so book a table if you can!

££ | Notting Hill



Mon - Wed 5pm - 12am, Thu 5pm - 12:30am, Fri 5pm - 1am,
Sat 4pm - 1am, Sun 4pm - 12am



Photo courtesy of The Pelican

The Pelican

The Pelican is a modern, classy pub done right – think welcoming space with a trendy, lively atmosphere that still feels true to its roots. It's the kind of spot you'd love to have at the end of your street, and Notting Hill locals clearly agree because this place is packed most nights with people sipping beers and cocktails and sitting down to dine. The menu is full of delicious, no-fuss dishes with a focus on top-quality meat and fish, like whole roasted turbot or a tomahawk steak.

££-£££ | Notting Hill



Mon 12pm - 12am, Sun 12pm - 10:30pm



and that's day 4 done!

Index

(Click the title to jump to it)

Activities and Sights

Biscuiteers, 12
 Bob Marley Plaque, 13
 Ceramica Blue, 13
 Clifton Nurseries, 17
 Daunt Books, 10
 Design Museum, 8
 Electric Cinema Portobello, 12
 Goboat, 18
 Golborne Road, 15
 Graffik Gallery, 14
 Holland Park, 9
 Kensington Gardens, 6
 Kensington Palace, 6
 Kyoto Garden, 9
 Leighton House Museum, 8
 London Waterbus Company, 17
 Museum of Brands, 14
 Natural History Museum, 5
 Paddington Bear Statue, 18
 Paddington Bear Walking Tour, 19
 Portobello Road Market, 11
 Portobello Road Green Market, 11
 Regent's Canal, 16
 Rembrandt Gardens, 16
 Royal Albert Hall, 7
 Sambourne House, 7
 Science Museum, 4
 South Kensington Books, 4
 Sézane, 10
 Trellick Tower, 15
 Victoria & Albert Museum, 5
 Westbourne Grove, 11
 XL Recordings, 13

Food and Drinks

Balans, 22
 Bluebelles of Portobello, 28
 Cafe Laville, 28
 Conscience Kitchen, 27
 De Nadas Empandas, 25
 Dishoom, 22
 Farm Girl, 21
 Ffiona's, 23
 Gold, 25
 Granger & Co, 26
 Hjem Kensington, 21
 Holy Carrot, 27
 Libby's, 23
 Lina Stores, 24
 Poppies Portobello, 26
 Ria's, 27
 The Churchill Arms, 29
 The Henderson at the Laslett, 30
 The Ladbroke Arms, 30
 The Pelican, 31
 The Windsor Castle, 29
 Trailer Happiness, 31
 Zephyr, 26

LONDON DAY 4 CHECKLIST

General

- ☐  South Kensington Books
- ☐  Science Museum
- ☐  Natural History Museum
- ☐  Victoria & Albert Museum
- ☐  Kensington Gardens
- ☐  Kensington Palace
- ☐  Royal Albert Hall
- ☐  Sambourne House
- ☐  Design Museum
- ☐  Leighton House Museum
- ☐  Holland Park
- ☐  Kyoto Garden
- ☐  Daunt Books
- ☐  Sézane
- ☐  Westbourne Grove
- ☐  Portobello Road Market
- ☐  Portobello Road Green Market
- ☐  Biscuiteers
- ☐  Electric Cinema Portobello
- ☐  XL Recordings
- ☐  Ceramica Blue
- ☐  Bob Marley Plaque
- ☐  Museum of Brands
- ☐  Graffik Gallery
- ☐  Golborne Road
- ☐  Trellick Tower
- ☐  Regent's Canal
- ☐  Rembrandt Gardens
- ☐  London Waterbus Company

- ☐  Clifton Nurseries
- ☐  Go Boat Paddington
- ☐  Paddington Bear Statue
- ☐  Paddington Bear Walking Tour

Food and Drinks

- ☐  Farm Girl
- ☐  Hjem Kensington
- ☐  Dishoom
- ☐  Balans
- ☐  Ffiona's
- ☐  Libby's
- ☐  Lina Stores
- ☐  Gold
- ☐  De Nadas Empanadas
- ☐  Zephyr
- ☐  Granger & Co
- ☐  Poppies Fish & Chips
- ☐  Holy Carrot
- ☐  Conscience Kitchen
- ☐  Ria's
- ☐  Bluebelles of Portobello
- ☐  Cafe Laville
- ☐  The Churchill Arms
- ☐  The Windsor Castle
- ☐  The Ladbroke Arms
- ☐  The Henderson at the Laslett
- ☐  Trailer Happiness
- ☐  The Pelican

LONDON DAY 4

Remember: you're not meant to do EVERYTHING.
I recommend picking 5-6 attractions a day, and a place to eat for each meal.

Spots to eat...

☐	
☐	
☐	
☐	
☐	

Must do...

☐	
☐	
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☐	
☐	

I'd also like to see...

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☐	
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☐	

DAY 4 BOOKINGS AND TICKETS TRACKER

A list of all of the spots along the Day 4 route that might need advance booking. Click on the links in the column "Book/Reserve here" to go directly to each attraction's booking or reservations page. You can also print these pages out and use the last column to keep track of which bookings you've made and when you've made them for.

Sights and POIs

Book/Reserve here

Booked/Bought?

Victoria and Albert Museum		Book in advance	
Kensington Palace	 	Book in advance	
Royal Albert Hall	 	Book in advance	
Electric Cinema		Reserve if you can	
London Waterbus Company		Reserve if you can	
GoBoat Paddington		Book in advance	
Paddington Bear Walking Tour		Book in advance	
Museum of Brands	 	Book in advance	

Street Food and Restaurants

Dishoom (Kensington)	  	Reserve if you can	
Ffiona's	   	Book in advance	
Balans	   	Reserve if you can	
Gold	  	Make a reservation	
Zephyr	 	Book in advance	
Ria's		Reserve if you can	
Holy Carrot	   	Reserve if you can	
Lina Stores	   	Reserve if you can	

Pubs and Bars

The Henderson at the Laslett	   	Reserve if you can	
Trailer Happiness		Reserve if you can	
The Pelican		Book in advance	