

The City

Neighbourhood Top Five

- 1 Tower of London** (p137)
Walking through a treasury of history, past the colourful Yeoman Warders (or Beefeaters), the spectacular Crown Jewels, the soothsaying ravens and armour fit for a *very* large king.
- 2 St Paul's Cathedral** (p143)
Listening in on whispering strangers in the

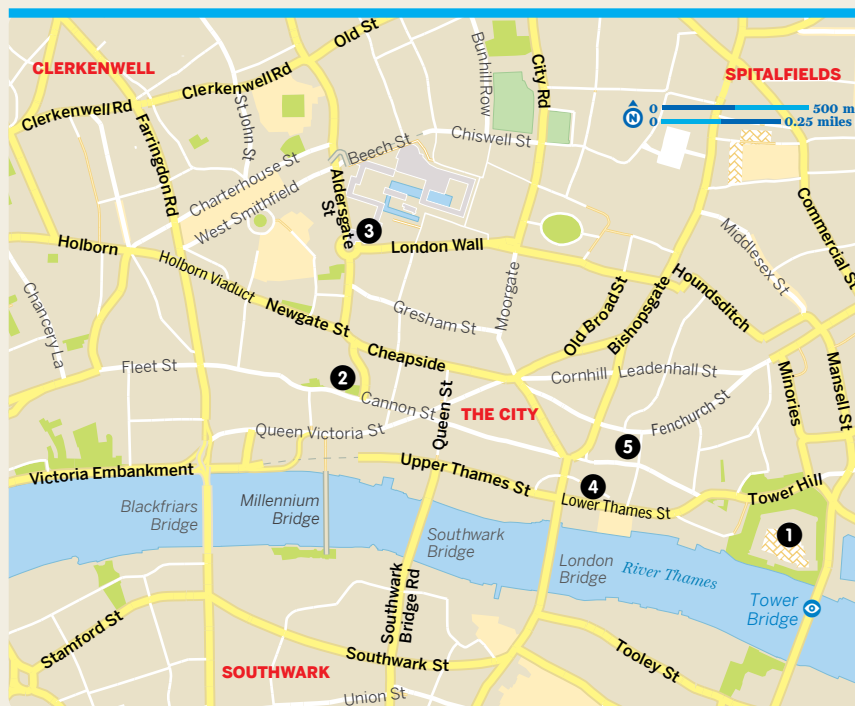
dome before enjoying its far-reaching views.

- 3 Museum of London** (p151)
Exploring the city's many and varying incarnations through artefacts, interactive displays and recreated streetscapes.

- 4 The Monument** (p149)
Imagining the tragedy of medieval London ablaze as

you climb the column commemorating the Great Fire of 1666.

- 5 Sky Garden** (p146)
Marvelling at the City's ultramodern new buildings from what is perhaps its least admired building, 20 Fenchurch St, aka the 'Walkie Talkie'.



For more detail of this area see Map p450 ➔

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

Designed by Jean Nouvel, One New Change (p157) – called the ‘Stealth Bomber’ by some because of its distinctive shape – is a shopping mall housing mainly high-street brands, but take the lift to its 6th floor and an open viewing platform will reward you with up-close views of the dome of St Paul's Cathedral and out over London.



Best Places to Eat

- ➔ City Social (p154)
- ➔ Sauterelle (p154)
- ➔ Miyama (p153)
- ➔ Club Gascon (p152)
- ➔ City Caphê (p152)

For reviews, see p152. ➔



Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Jamaica Wine House (p154)
- ➔ Sky Pod (p154)
- ➔ Madison (p156)
- ➔ Counting House (p156)
- ➔ Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese (p156)

For reviews, see p154. ➔



Best Places to Shop

- ➔ London Silver Vaults (p157)
- ➔ One New Change (p157)
- ➔ Royal Exchange (p150)
- ➔ Wine Pantry (p156)
- ➔ City of London Distillery (p156)

For reviews, see p157. ➔

Explore the City

For its size – just over 1 sq mile (nearly 3 sq km) – the City punches well above its weight for attractions. Start with the heavyweights – the Tower of London and St Paul's – allowing at least a half-day for each. It's worth arriving early to avoid the queues in season. You can combine the other big attractions with explorations of the City's lesser-known delights and quieter corners – Christopher Wren's dozens of churches make peaceful stops along the way.

While more than 350,000 people work in the City of London, fewer than 8000 actually live here. To appreciate its frantic industry and buzz, come during the week, when you'll find everything open. It largely empties in the evening as its workers retreat to the suburbs, and weekends have traditionally been quiet. But in recent years, the One New Change shopping mall and the new bars and restaurants atop the City's flashiest skyscrapers have begun attracting people outside of regular business hours.

Local Life

➔ **Culture culture nest** A powerhouse of culture (though arguably not the prettiest kid in class), people flock to the Barbican (p150) for its innovative dance, theatre, music, films and art.

➔ **Meals with a view** There's nothing like getting a taste of the high life, trying to spot your hotel and watching the sun go down over the capital at Tower 42's City Social (p154).

➔ **Old-style drinking** Though they tend to keep bankers' hours, the City's pubs are some of the most atmospheric and historic – the Jamaica Wine House (p154) once did time as London's first coffee house.

Getting There & Away

➔ **Underground** The City is served by seven tube lines (Hammersmith & City, Circle, Metropolitan, Central, District, Northern and Waterloo & City) and 11 stations (Blackfriars, Barbican, St Paul's, Mansion House, Cannon St, Monument, Bank, Moorgate, Liverpool St, Aldgate and Tower Hill).

➔ **Overground** From Liverpool St, trains head east to Bethnal Green and Hackney.

➔ **DLR** Bank and Tower Gateway both connect east to the Docklands.

➔ **Bus** Numerous bus routes pass through the City, including Nos 4 (Waterloo to Archway), 8 (Oxford St to Bow Church), 11 (Liverpool St to Fulham), 15 (Charing Cross to Blackwall), 26 (Waterloo to Hackney Wick), 56 (City to Stratford), 76 (Waterloo to Tottenham) and 172 (City to Brockley).

➔ **Train** Network Rail services head to Moorgate, Liverpool St, Fenchurch St, Cannon St, Blackfriars and City Thameslink.