

# Prepare for {IELTS}

## Describe a beautiful city you know

You should say:

- Where it is
- How you know about it
- What it is famous for
- And explain why you think it is a beautiful city

I have decided to talk about a city that I only know through the media, as to date\* I have not been lucky enough to visit it and this city is London. London is the capital city of the UK and is located in the south of the country. Off the top of my head, it has just under ten million inhabitants and is teeming with visitors and holidaymakers.

*To date = up until this point in time – this is useful for IELTS Writing Task 1 General as well e.g. I am writing to complain about... I spoke to the manager at the time and he said he would call me; however, to date I have heard nothing.*

London has a long history and this can be seen in its buildings such as the Houses of Parliament and iconic buildings such as Big Ben and Buckingham Palace where the Queen of England resides. These buildings give the place a historical feel and I imagine that it is like being in a Harry Potter book when you are walking around. The impression I have is that London is picturesque because it has a perfect blend of modern and traditional architecture. I like this contrast between the old and new – Paris has this as well, but it does not blend it well like London – it is separated into historical and contemporary.

In addition to its buildings, London is an unusual city because it is filled with public parks such as Hyde Park. These are huge open spaces filled with trees, flowers and wildlife. For the residents of London, who have very little outdoor space, these are not only attractive places, but also great for getting some fresh air or walking your dog. For those visiting the city, I imagine these are great places to visit and have a picnic if it isn't raining – I've heard it rains a lot in England though.

Another thing that I've heard about London is that it is a multicultural city and this makes it a colourful place, as you have places such as Chinatown where there are a large number of Chinese restaurants. As a football fan, if I were to visit London, I would go to the football stadiums such as the Emirates Stadium, which is home to the Arsenal football team and from the pictures I've seen it's a stunningly beautiful stadium.

## PART 3

### Tourists – positive or negative

Overwhelmingly positive, as many places could not survive without tourism.

They generate income for the country and provide many jobs in sectors such as the service industry.

Damage to the landscape: litter, vandalism, traffic congestion and pollution etc. Local goods can become expensive because tourists will pay more.

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## PART 3

### Why do people like visiting historical places?

Some are genuinely interested in history so it is both for enjoyment and educational purposes.

If you are interested in a particular place, Japan, for example, then visiting its historical places of interest can give you a better understanding of the culture and people.

Nowadays, there are a lot of visitors who visit historical places because they are instagrammable/instaworthy – they put images on social media to show off.

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