Whether you want to enjoy world class museums, stroll around some of the finest parks ever seen or catch a show, the kids are bound to be impressed with what London has to

offer. (MORE: 10 Family-Friendly London Hotels for Every Budget)

Sleep



offers guests a spa, two restaurants, family-friendly rooms and a kitchenette. Even better,

kids get free breakfast and in-room movies!

Brown's Hotel (33 Albemarle Street, +44 20 7493 6020) In chic Mayfair, just beyond Oxford Street, Soho and Green Park, this smart hotel is a classic choice. Junior guests receive a Children's VIP card on arrival with a gift and lovely turndown cookies and milk.

The St. Ermin's Hotel (2 Caxton Street, +44 20 7222 7888) Just around the corner from

the Bond Street and St. James, the St. Ermin's Hotel is perfect for families thanks to their inroom video games, free WIFI and babysitting services - not to mention that it's home to 300,000 odd friendly Buckfast bees who live in three bespoke hives on its rooftop!

Walk on the Wild Side



SEA LIFE London Aquarium (County Hall, Westminster Bridge Road) One of the world's finest, London's Aquarium sits right near the Houses of Parliament and below the London Eye. In summer, don't miss the giant trampoline outside, always good for bouncing boys and girls! Tickets from \$36 for adults (booked online) and \$30 for children 3-15.

Battersea Petting Farm (Battersea Park, Chelsea Embankment) Whether you want to meet farm animals or monkeys, this small zoo set in beautiful Battersea Park, along the Thames is one of the city's hidden gems. The playground is worth a detour too! Tickets from \$14 for

Children's Zoo. Tickets from \$38 for adults (booked online) and \$25 for children 3-15.

adults (booked online) and \$11 for children 2-15. (MORE: Things to Do for Christmas with Kids in London) **Feed Your Culture**

London Transport Museum (Covent Garden Piazza) A brilliant place to take the kids,

especially those who love trains! Exhibitions connecting transport with the history of London are the specialty. With more than 80 vehicles, including the iconic red London bus

Best Kid-Friendly Museums:

and the world's first Underground train, there's plenty to keep the family busy! Great interactive exhibits too. General admission is free for under 17's and \$23 for adults.



the Darwin Centre, the amazing hands-on at Investigate experience (a science lab for 7-14 year olds), and the earthquake machine! General admission is free.

The Science Museum (Exhibition Road) A firm favourite, the Science Museum! You'll find all things Science here from space rockets to 3D movies, as well as special galleries for under 5s, the Pattern Pod aimed at 5-8-year-olds and Launchpad for teenagers. General admission is free. Charges apply for entry to the IMAX theatre. **Best Historical Sites:**

The Cutty Sark (King William Walk) This beautiful clipper ship built in 1869 takes pride of place on the Thames and will inspire any budding little pirates and parents too, (even though it was a tea cargo ship sailing to China and then Australia!). Tickets from \$20 for

Tower of London Actually named 'Her Majesty's Royal Palace and Fortress,' the Tower of London was founded at the end of 1066. Its White Tower was built by William the

Tower of London (Courtesy Historic Royal Palaces)

adults (book online), kids \$10 for 5-15 year olds.

and Lady Jane Grey. Tickets from \$35 for adults (book online), kids \$16 for 5-15 year olds. London Dungeon (Riverside Building, County Hall, Westminster Bridge Rd) Brought to life by a group of actors, you can catch a show recreating the macabre dungeon's history. An interactive experience, it's a great place for those who like an adrenaline rush and a few thrills! Tickets from \$39 for adults (book online), kids \$30 4-15 year olds.

Conqueror in 1078. Today, it's still home to the magnificent crown jewels. Spook lovers will also be keen to know the Tower has some famous ghosts including Anne Boleyn, Henri VI

(MORE: 7 Best Things to Do in London with Kids' Interests in Mind) Eat

Rainforest Café (20 Shaftesbury Avenue) A bit like a fantasy world, you might not have

imagined dining in the rainforest in the heart of London! Settle amidst the flora and mind the gorillas in this crazy themed restaurant just a stone's throw away from Piccadilly Circus.

Giraffe (6-8 Blandford Street) Known as one of London's most kid-friendly chainss, Giraffe is a great place to stop for a bite to eat. This one is situated in quaint Marylebone just off the high street, beyond Oxford Street. Whether you go for pasta, a burger or a quesadilla,

it's all about good hearty food in family-friendly surroundings. The smoothies and pancakes are ace too. Carluccio's (St. Christopher's Place) Fancy a plate of pasta or some pizza? Carluccio's is the go to place for families looking for an Italian quick fix in a family-friendly setting. This

outpost in St Christopher's Place sits pretty just beyond the chaos of Oxford Street. The perfect hideout! Rowena Carr-Allinson contributed this to MiniTime. Since the arrival of her son in 2011, she has taken him everywhere from Bangkok to NYC, writing family friendly articles en route.

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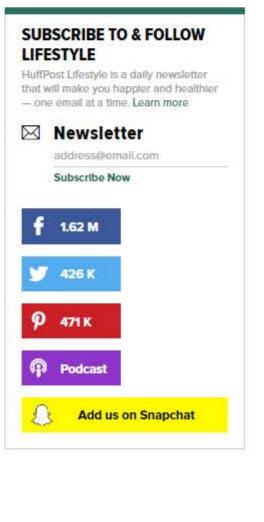
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