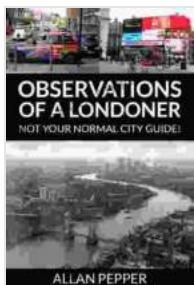


# Observations of a Londoner: Not Your Normal London City Guide



## Observations Of A Londoner (not your normal London city guide !) by Allan Pepper

4.1 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 772 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 60 pages

Lending : Enabled

Paperback : 48 pages

Item Weight : 3.68 ounces

Dimensions : 6 x 0.12 x 9 inches

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Discover London beyond the tourist trail through the eyes of a true Londoner.

## Hidden Gems

- The Charterhouse
- Leake Street Graffiti Tunnel
- The Golden Hinde
- God's Own Junkyard
- The Old Operating Theatre Museum

## The Charterhouse



Nestled in the heart of the city, The Charterhouse is a hidden gem that offers a glimpse into London's rich history. Founded in the 14th century, this former monastery has been converted into a private school and almshouse. Visitors can explore the beautiful cloisters, chapel, and gardens, which have been lovingly preserved over the centuries.

## Leake Street Graffiti Tunnel



## Leake Street Graffiti Tunnel

For a dose of urban art and culture, head to the Leake Street Graffiti Tunnel. This vibrant underpass is a haven for street artists, who have transformed its walls into a kaleidoscope of colors and creativity. Visitors can admire the ever-changing artwork, which ranges from political murals to abstract designs.

## The Golden Hinde



Step back in time and board the Golden Hinde, a replica of Sir Francis Drake's iconic galleon. This historic vessel is docked on the River Thames and offers visitors a glimpse into the daring voyages of the Elizabethan era. Explore the ship's decks, cabins, and cannons, and learn about the adventures of Drake and his crew.

### **God's Own Junkyard**



## God's Own Junkyard

For a touch of eccentricity and kitsch, visit God's Own Junkyard in Walthamstow. This eclectic collection of neon signs, vintage artifacts, and quirky sculptures is a feast for the eyes. Wander through the yard and discover hidden treasures, from retro pinball machines to giant fiberglass animals.

## The Old Operating Theatre Museum



For a glimpse into the gruesome history of medicine, visit the Old Operating Theatre Museum. Located in the attic of a 19th-century church, this museum houses a collection of surgical instruments and artifacts from the Victorian era. Visitors can learn about the primitive techniques and conditions under which surgeries were performed in the past.

### Quirky Traditions

- [The Changing of the Guard](#)
- [The Swan Upping](#)
- [The Lord Mayor's Show](#)
- [The Chelsea Flower Show](#)

- [The Royal Ascot](#)

## [The Changing of the Guard](#)



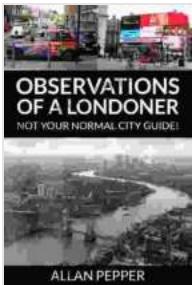
### The Changing of the Guard

Witness the iconic Changing of the Guard ceremony at Buckingham Palace. Every day, the Queen's Guard marches in perfect formation to hand over the protection of the palace from the old guard to the new. Visitors can watch the colorful ceremony from outside the palace railings or purchase tickets for a guided tour.

## **The Swan Upping**



Each summer, the Swan Upping takes place on the River Thames. This ancient ceremony involves the Royal Swan Marker and his team rowing up the river to count and mark all the swans that belong to the Queen. The tradition dates back to the 12th century and ensures that the Queen's swans are protected and accounted for.

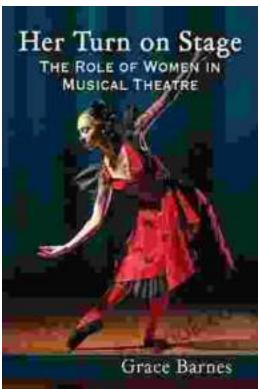


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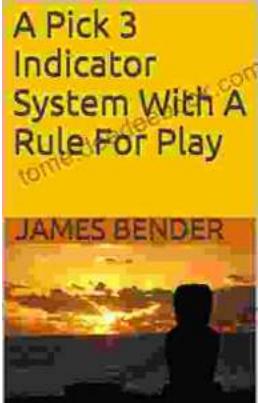
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