

Knightsbridge Area Guide

<p>KNIGHTSBRIDGE SW3 / SW7 / SW1X</p>	 <p>1</p> <p>PARKS / OPEN SPACES</p>	 <p>3</p> <p>MICHELIN STARRED RESTAURANTS</p>
 <p>1</p> <p>5* OFSTED-RATED PRIMARY SCHOOLS</p>	 <p>TRAVEL: 20 MIN DRIVE TO CENTRAL LONDON</p>	 <p>4</p> <p>NEARBY STATIONS CLOSEST TUBE: KNIGHTSBRIDGE</p>
 <p>WHO LIVES THERE: FAMILIES / PROFESSIONALS / AFFLUENT</p>	 <p>POPULAR ROADS: CADOGAN SQUARE / LENNOX GARDENS / HANS CRESCENT / WALTON PLACE</p>	 <p>AREA GOOD FOR: LOCATION / TRENDY / LIFESTYLE / CULTURE</p>

Living in Knightsbridge – Overview

From its humble beginnings Knightsbridge today is famous not only for its luxurious residential property but also its exclusive retail outlets. Its district is identified by The London Plan as one of two 'international centres' in the city of London, the West End being the other.

Lying directly alongside Hyde Park, this leafy district mostly comprises of strictly controlled conservation areas and contains 275 listed buildings, many of which are grand, large scale Victorian terraces and verdant squares.

Labelled a shopper's paradise, Knightsbridge is famous for the affluent department stores of Harrods and Harvey Nichols, the big name fashion designers that can be found on Sloane Street, and elegant stores in Beauchamp Place, Walton Street and Brompton Cross.

There is a wealth of superb restaurants, with fine establishments boasting cuisines rich in culture and diversity from around the globe. The area is also renowned for its vast range of exclusive bars providing a diverse array of entertainment.

Knightsbridge is one of the most unchanged, attractive areas of central London. It is home to some of London's best museums with the Science Museum, the Natural History Museum, and the Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A) all close by. Other notable landmarks are the Royal Albert Hall and the distinctive tower of Knightsbridge Barracks, home to officers of the Household Cavalry.

Did You Know

- In 1898, Harrods installed the world's first moving staircase (escalator). Covering over five acres of land and having more than 1,000,000 square feet of floor space
- Did you know that Knightsbridge is the sole English place-name with six consecutive consonants?
- King's Road derives its name from its function as a private road used by King Charles II to travel to Kew.

Architecture and property

The great attraction of the Knightsbridge area is the enormous variation in architecture, street-scape and the famous garden squares. The underlying landowners of the few streets making up, without any dispute, Knightsbridge are the Duke of Westminster, Lord Cadogan and the Wellcome Trust with a minority of the freeholds to houses in each street sold to others. Red-brick Queen Anne Revival buildings form most of the Cadogan Estates, whereas white stucco-fronted houses are mostly found on the Grosvenor Estate, designed by architect Thomas Cubitt.

In addition the market has seen the emergence of new super prime apartment buildings, such as One Hyde Park, The Knightsbridge and 10 Lancelot Place, providing new levels of service as prime residential and hotel living fusion.

Who Lives There

Knightsbridge is a multicultural centre and internationally recognised address and attracts international residents. Families are drawn to the area due to the good local schools.

Going Out

Where to eat:

Incredible Italians: Scalini on Walton Street, Zafferano on Lowndes Street, San Lorenzo on Beauchamp Place

Formal Dining: Dinner by Heston Blumenthal at the Mandarin Oriental, Koffman's at the Berkley, Rivea at the Bulgari Hotel & Residences

Pan Asian: Zuma on Raphael Street and Nozomi on Beachamp Place

For Kids: Serpentine Bar & Kitchen in Hyde Park

Gastro Pub Cuisine: The Alfred Tennyson, Motcomb Street

Where to Drink:

Knightsbridge is spoilt for choice with bars for night caps- Harvey Nichols Fifth Floor Bar, Mandarin Bar at the Mandarin Oriental, The Blue Bar at The Berkeley, Eclipse Bar on Walton Street to name but a few.

Culture:

There is a fantastic selection of five star hotels – the Mandarin Oriental, the Berkley and the Bulgari Hotel to name but a few, world-class shopping including Harrods and Harvey Nichols and London's finest restaurants. The Royal Court Theatre, Cadogan Hall and the Saatchi Gallery as local arts venues. You can visit the wonderful Royal Hospital home to the famous Chelsea Pensioners and the venue for the famous Chelsea Flower Show in the summer.

Both the V&A, the Natural History and the Science Museum are in this area along with Imperial College and the Royal College of Music. Visit the spectacular and international music venue of The Royal Albert Hall Albert Hall for a variety of musical tastes. All of which make Knightsbridge an exceptional London address and cultural hub.

Sports & Leisure:

Hyde Park is one of London's iconic parklands, the activities on offer include the The Serpentine lido, boats and fantastic cycling and running routes and Will to Win tennis courts. Various luxury healthgyms such as KX, Lomax and LA Fitness. Demand for private membership to Burton Court is always high, the private grounds owned by the Royal Hospital Chelsea, and offers members tennis courts, cricket pitch and nets and dog walking facilities in the heart of Chelsea.

Shopping:

Famous as one of the capital's premium shopping areas, Knightsbridge is renowned for its designer shops and being the home to many luxury flagship stores - with Harrods and Harvey Nichols the first port of call for most. For designer clothes, look no further than Sloane Street. Christian Dior, Prada, Gucci, Jimmy Choo, Louis Vuitton, Hermes, Chloe are just some of the designers with shops in Knightsbridge.

Parks & Green Spaces:

The area is home to several open spaces including Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens, Chelsea Embankment Gardens, Royal Hospital Chelsea, the grounds of which are used by the annual Chelsea Flower Show and Chelsea Physic Garden.

Transport Links

- **Underground (London only):** Sloane Square (District and Circle lines), Knightsbridge underground station (Piccadilly line) and South Kensington underground stations (Circle, District and Piccadilly lines).
- **Overground:** The closest main line terminus is Victoria mainline station which is approximately a ten minute taxi journey to Harrods. Alternatively Paddington station is about 15 minutes by taxi across Hyde Park.
- **Bus routes:** Numerous buses travel through Knightsbridge including the 14, 22, 74 and 9 routes.
- **Car:** Knightsbridge is approached from the west by the A4, the Cromwell Road, becoming the Brompton Road, taking visitors straight into the heart of Knightsbridge at the top of Sloane Street
- Heathrow, approximately 16 miles to the west and has a vehicle transfer time of about 40 minutes.

Education

Knightsbridge is well serviced by a high concentration of excellent pre prep and prep schools in and around the area, including Francis Holland School, Garden House, Hill House, More House School, Sussex House School and The Knightsbridge School. Excellent secondary schools within close proximity include The Westminster, St Paul's School, The Godolphin and Latymer School and further education at the world-leading university, Imperial College London.

Council & Tax Bands

Council: Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and the City of Westminster

Knightsbridge Council Tax Rates

Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea