

## #5: Greenwich, Where Time Begins

Overview: This tour will take us to Greenwich (pronounced “gren-itch”), home of the National Maritime Museum, the Old Royal Observatory, and the Prime Meridian. We will take the tube, and then a railway line to Island Gardens, (across the Thames from Greenwich), and walk through a tunnel UNDER the river to visit this town of tremendous historical and scientific importance. We’ll take a river boat back to central London for some more sightseeing, and dinner.



View the **Cutty Sark** – Historic Clipper ship – (outside tour only). The fastest and greatest of the old Tea Clippers, and a living testimony to the bygone, glorious days of sail, the *Cutty Sark* is the only extreme Clipper Ship still in existence.

[www.cuttysark.org.uk](http://www.cuttysark.org.uk)

Tour the **National Maritime Museum**, the largest maritime museum in the world, which comprises three sites: the **Maritime Galleries**, the **Queen’s House**, and the **Old Royal Observatory**. [www.nmm.ac.uk](http://www.nmm.ac.uk)

The **Maritime Galleries** contain some 2500 models of ships, plus paintings, navigational instruments, uniforms, historical artifacts, modern shipping and interactive exhibits telling the long story of Britain at sea. Look for the collection of royal barges and the special exhibits on Admiral Nelson and Captain Cook.



Reflecting Renaissance ideas of mathematical, classical proportion and harmony, the architecture of **Queen’s House** was revolutionary in Britain when it was built in 1635. Today it showcases the Museum's fine-art collection.



Visit the **Old Royal Naval College**, the great baroque masterpiece of English architecture, set in landscaped grounds on the River Thames in the center of the Maritime Greenwich World Heritage Site. It was built on the site of the Tudor Palace in which King Henry VIII and Queen Elizabeth I were born.

[www.oldroyalnavalcollege.org](http://www.oldroyalnavalcollege.org)



We’ll have **lunch** and some time for **shopping** in Greenwich.



Tour the **Old Royal Observatory**. Straddle the Prime Meridian, tour the observatory with its amazing collection of early timepieces, telescopes and devices to measure longitude and latitude. There is also a camera obscura, and a planetarium (we will catch a 30 min show if those participating wish to (book in advance) \$12)

Return to Central London via **boat cruise**. From the boat, you’ll see the **Tower of London** and **The Golden Hinde**, a full-sized reconstruction of the Tudor warship in which Sir Francis Drake circumnavigated the world in 1577 – 1580.



Walk to **Trafalgar Square** and **Nelsons’ Column** for a new appreciation of their seafaring importance, then walk along the embankment to view other docked ships, and find some dinner before returning to the hotel.

**Total, Admissions & Transportation:**

**Adults: \$39 OR \$51 (depending on planetarium show)**

**Students under age 16 = \$31 OR \$43**

**Additional \$\$ required for dinner & discretionary spending**