

Your guide to

Regent's Park

With the Sultan of Brunei among its residents, Regent's Park has a wealthy, glossy image. But thanks to the park's use as a free public space with sporting and cultural facilities, the area has kept its feet on the ground finds **Prudence Ivey**.

Local authority

To the north, Regent's Park is in the London Borough of Camden and has a NW1 postcode, while the south side is in the City of Westminster. It is in the Westminster North parliamentary constituency.

Council Tax bands

Camden properties in Band A would expect to pay £891.32 in Council Tax, those in the average Band D should receive a bill for £1,336.81, while the most expensive homes in Band H pay £2,673.62. In the City of Westminster Band A properties pay £448.50, average Band D homes pay £672.74 and Band H properties would get a bill for £1,345.48.

Property

The average price of a two-bedroom flat in Regent's Park is £859,111. A terraced house costs an average of £2,716,878, while a detached house would be £4,009,559. The area's iconic housing stock is made up of the large Regency cream stucco crescents and terraces designed by John Nash in the early nineteenth century. The area also has a share of twentieth century local authority stock as well as new builds of varying quality.

Education

Netley Primary school is a small state primary with a connected nursery division. The nursery class has 29 places and offers two additional enhanced provision places for children with autism. The International Community School nursery and primary divisions are also based in the area, offering a syllabus geared towards the

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Focus on... Shopping and culture

Even long time residents of the area are bound to discover unknown facts and hidden gems on one of Marylebone Walks' taster walks of Regent's Park. One highlight is St John's Lodge (designed by Decimus Burton and Nash) which housed St Dunstons Home for Blind Servicemen during WW2. Talking Books were invented in one of the buildings on the site.

The area hosts some of London's most touristy attractions, including Madame Tussaud's, the London Planetarium and the Sherlock Holmes Museum, but a quirkier attraction is the window of Transport for London's Lost Property Office at Baker Street station, which displays an esoteric selection of lost and found items dating back through the 20th century.

St Katherine's Danish Church is mostly geared towards ex-pats but Danophiles will find plenty to delight, including a shop selling national groceries, language classes and film screenings.



A Marylebone Walks tour of Regent's Park.



St Katherine's Danish Church.

International Baccalaureate. Fee-paying Francis Holland School offers girls' secondary education the area and performs consistently well in exams.

Transport

Regent's Park is situated in Zone 1 on the London Underground and is served by the Bakerloo line. Other nearby Underground stations include Baker

Street on the Hammersmith & City, Metropolitan, Circle, Jubilee and Bakerloo lines and Camden Town on the Northern line.

The area is served by multiple bus routes travelling further into central London as well as several mainline rail connections from Marylebone and Euston stations.

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Focus on... Eating and drinking



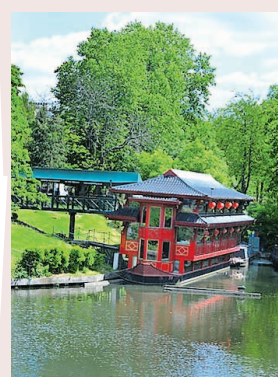
The Queen's Head and Artichoke

The Park itself has six cafes, offering a variety of coffee, snacks and full meals. Nearby, the Queen's Head and Artichoke is a gastropub serving tapas and European main dishes and has a decent wine selection. The York and Albany is part of Gordon Ramsay's stable of restaurants and serves modern British food in its bar and dining room.

For an elegant afternoon tea, head to the Palm Court at the Landmark Hotel, a turn-of-the-century railway hotel with a pretty glass-roofed central atrium. Fun, if slightly gimmicky, Chinese dining is available at the Feng Shang Princess, a Chinese restaurant in a double decker barge floating on the Regent's Canal.



Left, The York and Albany. Below left, the Boathouse Café



The Feng Shang Princess



What people say...

Marylebone High Street is lovely, Pat Val still do the same marzipan animals as they did when I was six! I love people watching, you find all ages around Regent's Park and there's a real sense of community amongst the locals.

Craig Karpel, 52, (with Henrietta the dog), Actor

“Regent's Park is basically my back garden; it's also my social life because I'm dog obsessed! It's one of the most dog-friendly spaces in London. Also the “secret garden” is unbelievable, and when the wind's in the right direction you can sometimes catch a song as you walk past the open air theatre, which is wonderful.

Jo Anne Good, 60, Broadcaster

“Regent's Park is the only space I can think of where I can walk the dog and at the same time be looking at a camel on the other side of the fence! It's a true public pleasure park and the theatre productions are right up there with the West End, but at a more reasonable price. Niall Gelder-Stones, 49, (with Marta the dog), voice teacher