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### **Trip to London**

“Happy new year” sounded through Zürich and Basel airports on January 4. We flew in two groups to London and met at Heathrow Airport. After one hour of travel by Underground, we deposited our luggage at the hostel and went to a pub. The first English beer tasted, we had our lunch in an Indian-food restaurant. Awakened after a really spicy lunch, we discovered the British Museum. In the sumptuous halls were countless different historical objects from all over the world. Especially the exhibits from the Egyptian culture with the large collection of mummies and sculptures are very impressive. A longer visit is worth it in any case.

The evening finished in some pubs near our hostel.



On the second day, we got our “Hop - On Hop-Off” bus tickets. Fortunately, the weather was very favourable for us during the three days. After a nice tour through London on the very cold top of the bus, we ate our lunch near the “London Eye”.

Big Ben and London Eye

We continued our sightseeing with a boat trip up the River Thames. At 3pm, we met at University College London for some very interesting talks about some specific geomatics subjects.

Afterwards, we had our dinner with some of the presenters in a



The London Bridge

charming restaurant. It was very interesting to have a chat with one of the presenters about geomatics and London.

With some recommendations from a London native, we went to the city center and spent our evening in some pubs and clubs. Unfortunately, we arrived too late at a pub where a live band was playing rock songs. We only heard their last song, and then they finished their performance. On Wednesday morning, we had a very interesting guided tour at the Royal Observatory in Greenwich.



The Royal Observatory in Greenwich

Divided into two groups, we heard a lot about the Observatory and its history. Hungry and filled with fascinating stories from our guide, we went for lunch, and afterwards back to London in small groups. Some of us did some shopping, others went to a café, and some to the top of a skyscraper to have a great view of London.

And then it was time to say goodbye to London. Three interesting and great days were over, and we had to go back to Switzerland. The flights back to Zürich and Basel were a bit uncomfortable because of turbulences caused by tailwind of 200km/h. Finally, all of us got back home safe and sound.