

Did you know?



Fact and fiction at the Tower of London

The Tower of London

There are many stories about the Tower of London; some of them are true and some of them aren't.

We're going to help you separate the fact from the fiction!



Yeoman Warders, including Moira Cameron, the Tower's first female Yeoman Warder

Why was the Tower built?

The tower has been a:

fortress

prison

military
storehouse

home to the
Yeoman Warders

place of execution

menagerie
(zoo)

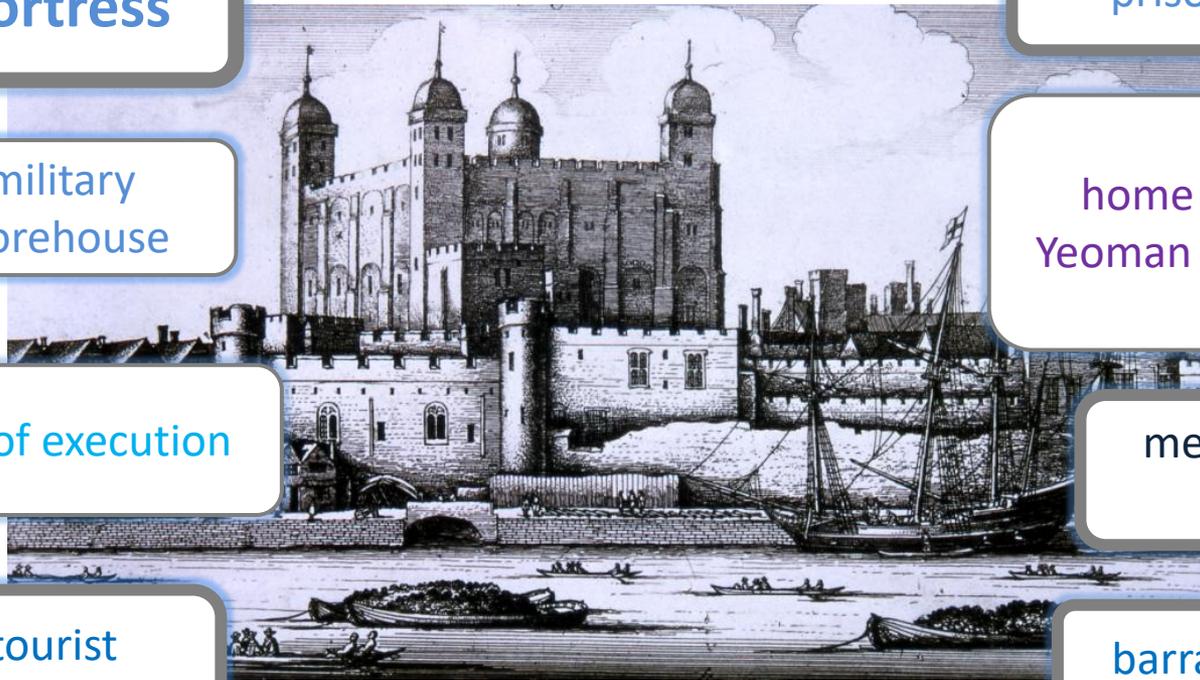
tourist
attraction

barracks

royal palace

place for keeping
crown jewels safe

Royal Mint



Who are the 'Beefeaters'?

Who is this man?

A Yeoman Warder or
'Beefeater'

How do you become a
Beefeater?

All Beefeaters must have
served in the British
military for at least 22
years

Why are Yeoman
Warders called
'Beefeaters'?

Nobody knows for sure, but the story
goes that many years ago, they may
have **received beef** as part
payment for their work as royal
bodyguards

What is their role
today?

They **live and work** at the
Tower where they give guided
tours and perform a ceremonial
and security role



Why are there ravens at the Tower?

When did the ravens arrive at the Tower?

No one knows when the ravens arrived

Why are they at the Tower?

There is a legend that says that if the ravens leave the Tower, then the Tower and the kingdom will fall

Can the ravens fly away?

The ravens' flight feathers are trimmed so they can't fly away.

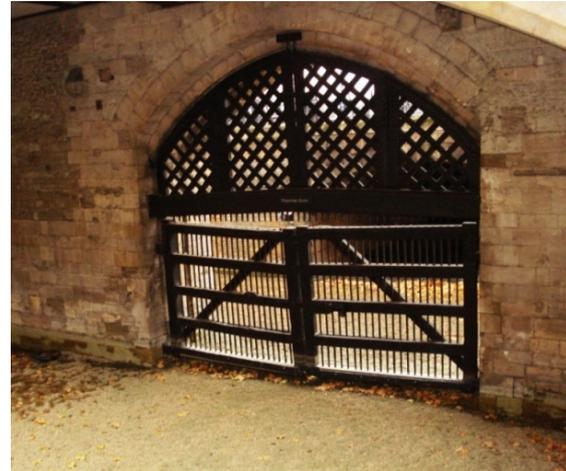


How do we know that the Tower was used as a prison?

The evidence:



Execution site



Traitor's Gate



Prisoner graffiti

What was it like for prisoners in the Tower?

Where were the prisoners kept?



Sir Walter Raleigh's room at the Tower

There are no cells or dungeons at the Tower! Important prisoners were kept at the Tower because it was safe and secure.

What were prisoners rooms like?

Prisoners kept at the Tower were usually important people – they were allowed certain luxuries

What do we know about the Tower's dark history?

How many people were tortured at the Tower?

The Tower is infamous as a place of torture and punishment but records show that **only 48** people were tortured there in almost 1000 years.

How many people were executed at the Tower?

Only ten. Most prisoners were executed on Tower Hill or at Tyburn.

Who is buried in the Chapel of St Peter ad Vincula?

Queen Anne Boleyn, Queen Katherine Howard, Lady Jane Grey, Thomas Cromwell, Sir Thomas More, and many other important people.

Crown Jewels: did you know?

Are the Crown Jewels real?

Yes! The jewels you see on display are the real Crown Jewels

What are the Crown Jewels?

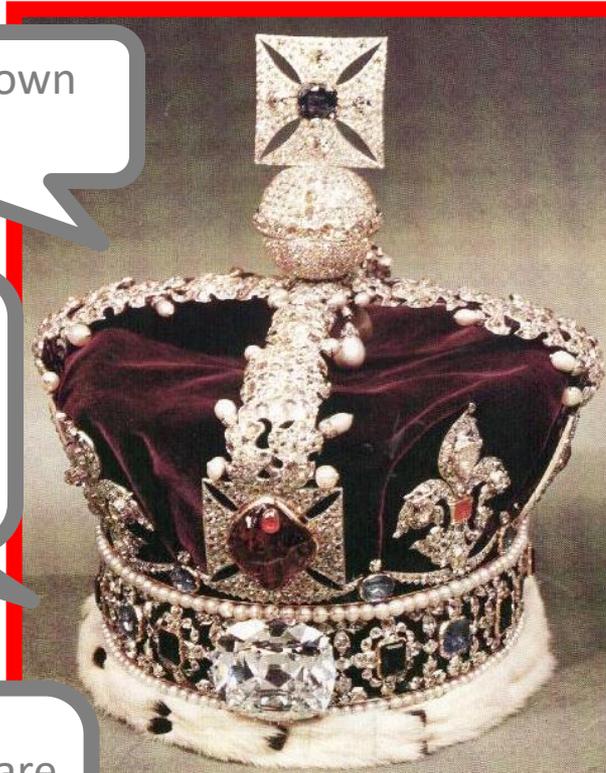
The Crown Jewels are the most valuable crowns, coronation regalia and royal jewels in the world!

How heavy is the Imperial crown?

The Imperial crown is just over 1kg – the same weight as a bag of sugar

How many jewels are there in the Imperial crown?

There are 2,868 diamonds, 17 sapphires, 11 emeralds, 269 pearls, 4 rubies in the Imperial crown!



Summary questions

What did you already know about the Tower?

What new information have you learnt?

What are you looking forward to learning more about when you visit?