



MIND THE GAP: the Pulteney Bridge in Bath (from top); a view of the beach and pier in Brighton; Scudamore's Punting Company in Cambridge



* LHR *



DAYTRIPPING FROM LONDON:

Bath, Cambridge and Brighton

Steal away from the big city for a while and lose yourself in these **THREE ENGLISH ESCAPES.**

LONDON IS ONE of the most-visited cities in the world, and with good reason. But not far from the big city, several other English destinations have much to offer in the way of dining, sightseeing and culture. If you're planning a trip to London, consider making room in your schedule for these easily accessible daytrips to Bath, Cambridge and Brighton, all about an hour's train ride away. You'll see sides of England

you've never seen before — and be glad you did.

BATH

SEE: You can see Roman influences throughout this UNESCO World Heritage city, but most notably in the excavated remains of the original **Roman Baths**. The adjoining **Pump Room**, which was built in the 18th century, serves Bath mineral water as well as afternoon tea.

DO: You can bathe in Bath's thermal waters at

Thermae Bath Spa. This luxury spa spans four restored Georgian buildings and one contemporary new complex. Visitors can try any of the four natural baths that bubble up from underground.

EAT/DRINK: Bath is most famous for its buns, and **Sally Lunn's** has been serving the lightly sweetened bread since 1680. This is not to be confused with the Bath bun, which dates back to 1761. **The Bath Bun Tea Shoppe** specializes in these buns, which are generally sweeter.

CAMBRIDGE

SEE: You can't visit Cambridge without taking in the famous **University of Cambridge**. The university, founded in 1209, is actually 31 separate colleges spread throughout the city. If you're pressed for time, head to the Perpendicular Gothic **King's College Chapel** and explore.

DO: **Punting on the River Cam** is a unique way to see the city. If you're feeling adventurous, you can rent one of these gondola-like boats and try to navigate the shallow Cam yourself. If not, you can hire an eager Cambridge student to give you a rowing tour.

EAT/DRINK: The **Roof Terrace at the Varsity Hotel** is one of Cambridge's top spots for cocktails. **The River Bar Steakhouse & Grill** toes the line between modern and classic in all aspects. The menu focuses on modern British cuisine, with several local delicacies.

BRIGHTON

SEE: With its wide swath of sand along the English Channel, Brighton Beach is the clear attraction in this effervescent seaside town. Since its opening in 1899, the scenic **Brighton Pier** has attracted everyone from royal dignitaries to movie stars.

DO: The domed **Royal Pavilion** is Brighton's own seaside palace. This spectacular structure was originally built by George IV as a coastal escape.



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The opulent interior features all kinds of stylish surprises, like decor from the Far East.

EAT/DRINK: The English seaside is the home of fish and chips. **The Regency Restaurant**, which opened in 1930, serves locally caught fish at affordable prices. Since 1926, **Bardsley's of Baker Street** has served a creative rotation of seafood specials as well as the standard fish and chips.

AMERICAN AIRLINES offers a total of 14 peak daily flights to London (LHR) from Chicago (ORD), Dallas/Fort Worth (DFW), New York (JFK), Miami (MIA), Los Angeles (LAX) and Raleigh-Durham (RDU). **US AIRWAYS** offers one flight a day to London (LHR) from Charlotte (CLT) and Philadelphia (PHL). American, in cooperation with British Airways, Iberia and Finnair, provide unmatched coverage to London and competitive service to Europe's other key markets, serving 29 destinations in North America to 25 destinations in Europe, with nearly 100 routes between the two regions.