

## Discover the different days of Christmas



**DID you know you can find the 12 Days of Christmas right here in London?**

**A partridge in a pear tree**

The Pear Tree in Hammersmith (Margravine Road, W6) is offering Hertfordshire partridge on its Christmas menu.

**Getting there:** A ten-minute walk from Barons Court or Hammersmith stations.

**Two turtle doves**

Rare in England in December, turtle doves migrate to North Africa each September. Instead, for winter 2014, TwoRuba at Hilton London Tower Bridge (More London Place, SE1), has created a Two Turtle Doves cocktail.

**Getting there:** Travel to London Bridge station.

**Three French hens**

Coucou de Rennes, a variety of chicken that heralds from Breton, often features on the menu at the Michelin-starred Hedone (Chiswick High Road, W4).

**Getting there:** Take the District line to Chiswick Park or the 27 bus to Chiswick Road.

**Four calling birds**

Calling birds is actually Americanisation of the traditional English 'colly birds', otherwise known as blackbirds. For an invigorating winter's day walk, try Morden Hall

Park in south west London, on the banks of the River Wandle.

**Getting there:** Take the tram to Phipps Bridge or Tube to Morden.

**Five gold rings**

Hatton Garden in Clerkenwell has been famed as the capital's jewellery quarter since the mid-19th century, and continues to offer the greatest cluster of jewellery stores in the UK.

**Getting there:** Buses 243 and 55 go to Hatton Garden, or use cycle hire for Hatton Wall.

**Six geese-a-laying**

Mudchute City Farm (Pier Street, E14) covers 32 acres on the Isle of Dogs. Besides horses, cows and pigs, it has a number of Greylag and Chinese geese.

**Getting there:** Take the DLR to Crossharbour or the River Bus to Masthouse Terrace Pier.

**Seven swans-a-swimming**

Regent's Park is home to 100 species of wild bird including swans.

**Getting there:** Head for Baker Street station or collect a hire bike and go to Park Road or St John's Wood docking stations.

**Eight maids-a-milking**

Long gone are the days when you used to be able to buy fresh milk from a milkmaid in St James's Park. Head to the V&A to check the 18th century artwork, the Milkmaid's Garland, by English painter, Francis Hayman.

**Getting there:** Take the Tube to South Kensington or use

buses C1, 14, 74 and 414 which stop outside.

**Nine ladies dancing**

One of London's few remaining dance halls is the ornate Rivoli Ballroom in Brockley (Brockley Road, SE4). Enjoy a tea dance, jive or tango within its red velvet and gold-framed walls.

**Getting there:** Catch the London Overground to Brockley and then the 172 or 171 bus to Crofton Park.

**Ten lords-a-leaping**

Where else but the House of Lords? Open to the public, you can watch business in the main chamber for free.

**Getting there:** Head for Westminster Tube station or use buses 3, 11, 12, 24, 53, 87, 88, 148, 159, 211 or 453.

**Eleven pipers piping**

Strictly Come Piping is an annual competition for bagpipe players. This year's event takes place on December 6 at the The Mudlark, Montague Close, SE1.

**Getting there:** Take the 35, 47 or 48 bus to London Bridge Borough High Street.

**Twelve drummers drumming**

With an estimated 10,000 performers, the annual New Year's Day Parade – which begins in Piccadilly and finishes in Parliament Square – will feature dozens of drummers.

**Getting there:** Decide where you want to watch the event then check tfl.gov.uk for details.

### Traffic information for the capital

**Hyde Park**

**Daily, 10am to 10pm until January 4**

Roads within the park are closed for access, except on Christmas Day. Expect crowds around Hyde Park, Marble Arch and Park Lane.

**Charing Cross Road**

Charing Cross Road is now fully open after four years following a lane closure during the rebuilding of Tottenham Court Road Tube station.

**Uxbridge Road  
Until December 5, 6pm**

The westbound carriageway of The Broadway is closed for improvement works between South Road and Woodlands Road. Diversions are

in place. The Lady Margaret Road junction is closed in both directions.

**Wandsworth Road**

**December 6, 6am to December 7, 6pm**

Road closure between Miles Street and Wyvil Road due to crane operation.

**Whitehall**

**December 6, 11am to 2pm**

A group will form in Whitehall Place and move off to Downing Street for a rally. No closures are planned. Traffic delays are possible.

**For a full list of traffic information, go to tfl.gov.uk/trafficnews**

### London travel advice: plan your journey now

 **tfl.gov.uk**

 **24 hour travel information  
0343 222 1234\***

   **tfl.gov.uk/socialmedia**

**London Travelwatch**  
London's transport watchdog  
call 020 3176 2999, or visit  
[www.londontravelwatch.org.uk](http://www.londontravelwatch.org.uk)

\*Service and network charges apply.  
See tfl.gov.uk/terms for details.

 Newspapers left on the Tube can jam doors and cause delays to your journey.  
Take your newspaper with you or put it in a recycling bin.