



THE TOWER OF LONDONAND ITS LEGENDS

The Tower of London, which isn't a tower but a castle, was built during the reign of William the Conqueror between 1066 and 1087 and it is situated on the Thames' river. After William the Conqueror the building was extended by another king, Edward I, between 1272 and 1307.

Over the years the Tower of London has had several uses: it was the residence of the king, an observatory, a deposit but first of all it's famous for being a prison and a place of death sentences and executions and around which were born many legends.

The Tower of London is made up of many buildings. The main ones are: the Chapel Royal of Peter Vincula, the Tower Green, the Waterloo Barracks and the White Tower and St John Chapel

THE CHAPEL ROYAL OF PETER AD VINCULA



The Royal Chapel of St. Peter in Chains is a church where prisoners executed on the gallows that was on the outside were buried

Among those executed and buried here's Anna Bolena was the second wife of King Henry VIII and was beheaded on suspicion of betraying her husband.

According to legend, his ghost roams at night to the castle carrying his own head under his arms.

THE TOWER GREEN

The Green Tower is the place where once stood the gallows and where were executed the most "lucky" prisoners .The prisoners were killed here indeed were only important people (countesses, earls, ladies, queens ..) so they will not suffered the humiliation of being seen by the people when they died. Today in its place there is a Brian Catling' sculpure formed by two overlapping glass discs with above engraved a poem.



THE WATERLOO BARRACKS AND THE QUEEN'S JEWELS



In the Waterloo Barracks are kept the jewels of the Crown. There are scepters, plates, swords, crowns. The most important crown is the Imperial State Crown that as at all 2868 inclusive gemstones diamonds, sapphires, emeralds, rubies and pearls. An 'other very famous crown is the platinum crown of the current Queen Elizabeth because there is embedded a famous diamond: the Kho-i-Noor which means "mountain of light"



Although this stone is surrounded by a legend because it says that it gives enormous power to its possessor, but only if it is a female. If it were owned by a man it is said to be bound to a tragic death

THE WHITE TOWER



is the central part of the whole building , it is the first building had exactly the function of castle and fortress. Today it is collection of guns, rifles and armors

ST. MARGARET'S CHAPEL

Chapel is the church of the fortress and it is still in operation as it has been used the religious functions all year



CURIOSITY

THE DOUBLE WALL

In 1220, King Henry III to strengthen the defenses of the fortress made add internal walls, large 3,6 meters and with 12 towers.



On the outside walls instead was built by King Edward I a gate from which people could enter in the castle directly from the Thames' river. This gate is called Traitors' Gate because it was then used for coming in the castle prisoners that would be executed because they had betrayed the king or the monarchy.

YEOMAN WARDERS (BEEFEATERS)

Today in the Tower we can meet "Beefeaters" who are the guardians of the Tower. Once their task was to control the prisoners enclosed in the building prisons. Today they are a tour guide (in English language only) for tourists.

According to some, the name "Beefeaters" = meat eaters came from the fact that instead of bringing meat for the prisoners who were watching, they ate them. Others argue that they were so named because at the table they could eat all the meat they wanted.



THE RAVENS



of London are the major tourist attraction. These huge the fortress and are very dear to 'England because it se crows that live inside the tower will die then even with it will end Britain.

hey have been linked part of the wings, and each of with a lot of officially recorded documents

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Pisa, 25 March 2017