

Carrie Bradshaw's top city choice is: London

London is the largest city in the UK and is full of excellent bars, theatres, museums, art galleries and parks. It is also the most culturally and ethnically diverse part of the county.

SHOP	Oxford Street – a shopper's paradise, dotted with every high street store you can think of. Bond Street – the designer diva's alternative to the high street, offering every desired high-end label. Camden – a quirky place to shop for those unique outfits, with Camden market (just on the high street) offering an array of colourful garments for all tastes.	Top Tip → Drop into Portobello Market Saturday morning for a vintage bargain – it's the best place to take advantage of those 'one-offs' by up and coming designers, not available in the stores. If you can't find what you're looking for there, then why not head to other many markets in London like Petticoat Lane on Sunday (9am-2pm).
EAT	Head to Covent Garden for lunch or dinner at the infamous celebrity hang out – The Ivy. Reasonably priced and not as pretentious as most celebrity hang-outs. Nearest tube is Leicester square. Or, why not treat yourself to afternoon tea at the Ritz? Enjoy a selection of tea served in the extravagant Palm Court.	Top Tip → Book a table as early as possible for the lvy or Ritz. Take a look at www.london-eating.co.uk for lists and reviews of London restaurants. You can find special discounted offers from some of the best restaurants in London. It's updated regularly
VISIT	The Tate Modern is a great way to spend the afternoon. It's free to enter and is open from 10am till 10pm. Website: http://www.tate.org.uk/modern/ A visit to London wouldn't be complete without a bus tour of the city and a trip to see a musical in the West End. Bus tours are £22 per adult from 'The Original London Sightseeing Tour' which also includes a free river cruise. There are an array of shows on at the West End from Avenue Q to Dirty Dancing.	Top Tip → Use the Tate Boat to get around. It runs every forty minutes during gallery opening hours between Tate Britain and Tate Modern and also stops at the British Airways London Eye. To get the best deals on West End tickets, get down early to TKTS (a ticket booth) in Leicester Square, where you can buy discounted tickets for all the best shows
TOP BAR/CLUB	Head down to Detroit Bar in WC2. A stylish subterranean bar with a long spiral staircase taking you to a quirky but intimate bar, filled with bright young things on their way up. Or get your name on the list at the exclusive Milk & Honey bar in Poland Street. With a sister bar in NY, this speakeasy-style reservations-only bar is an intimate and calming alternative to the usual Soho bar scene. 30s swing and jazz provide the background to what may well be the most polite bar in London.	Top Tip → Get there before 9pm on a Saturday and admission is free. Check out www.worldsbestbars.com for a thorough guide to the best bars in London.



SLEEP	Bag a £29 room at the <u>Travelodge Covent Garden</u> and stay at the heart of the action.	Top Tip → Book 7 days in advance to get the best room rate when you book online at www.travelodge.co.uk.
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Alternative retreat to the city, the UK's answer to the Hamptons:

Padstow, Cornwall

Stay at St. Austell Travelodge and splash out on a dining experience at one of Rick Stein's many restaurants in the Padstow. Or if you would like to really get into the culinary experience over the weekend, why not take a class at one of Rick's cooking schools?

Nearest Travelodge: Pentewan Road, St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 5BU