



For centuries, London has been one of the most influential cities in Europe and the world. Today it continues to be a vital centre of worldwide youth culture, music, fashion, media and the film industry. It has played a significant role in developing a modern government system, colonialism, globalisation, and is one of the world leaders in terms of banking and finance.

The gospel has poured out of London into the nations, through people like William Booth and the Salvation Army, John Wesley, David Livingstone, Hudson Taylor, John Wycliffe and William Wilberforce. Gladys Aylward and Jackie Pullinger, both born in London, were missionaries in China and Hong Kong. The Body of Christ in London today is vibrant, multi-ethnic and active, yet faces a tremendous task. In many parts of the city, the Church needs strengthening in order to see the Kingdom of God come to their city.

WHY LONDON? WHY NOW? If the riots in August 2011 have shown us anything, it is that London is in dire need of transformation. The radical message of repentance and the willingness of God's people to go to 'the least of these', has already transformed this nation once. It's needed again. London is made up of many ethnic groups that have yet to be reached with the gospel. **Now is the time to go to London!**

LONDON AT A GLANCE

- Greater London has an estimated population of about **7.8 million** and a population density of about 4,978/km².
- First founded as the Roman settlement "Londinium" in 43 AD, London has been a major settlement for **two millennia**.
- At the height of the British Empire, London was the capital city for between ¼ and 1/3 of the globe.
- **Over 300 languages** are spoken in London by people from **more than 270 different ethnic groups**, making London one of the most multicultural cities in the world.
- In 1863 the **world's first metro system** – the London Underground – was created.
- London has the most international visitors of any city in the world, with around **27 million overnight visitors** coming to the city every year.
- The City of London is the **world's largest banking and insurance centre** and one of the largest global financial centers alongside New York City and Hong Kong. London contains more than 100 headquarters of more than 500 of the largest companies in Europe.
- London is a huge entertainment centre, with one of its main tourist attractions being its many live shows. **Over 200 productions** are run in London's West End theaters over the course of a year, with around 70 performances per week, ranging from Shakespeare classics to modern plays and musicals.
- In 2012, London will be the first city to host the modern Summer Olympic Games for the third time.
- Around **412,000 students**, including 97,000 international students, receive teaching at the 43 universities in London, forming the largest concentration of higher education in Europe.
- London is the host city for several big **annual art and music festivals**, including the Frieze Art Fair, London Art Fair, Brick Lane Music Festival and City of London Festival, attracting art and music lovers as well as hundreds of galleries and professionals from all over the world.



SOME CHALLENGES FACING THE CITY

- The recent riots in London have brought to the public eye a social situation that has been brewing in England for some time. Youth in council housing estates, of many different ethnic backgrounds, struggle with unemployment, lack of direction and purpose, and their discontent has recently boiled over and been expressed through violence. In the wake of the events of August 2011, local councils, parents, the church and government are asking what happened, how did we get here, and how do we go about finding a solution? Many, including the British Prime Minister David Cameron, have suggested that a **breakdown in families** is one of the key factors underlying the situation. A 'Fatherless Generation' are in need of knowledge of their Heavenly Father.
- The London borough councils own and maintain **over 500,000 council homes**. Council housing estates are common in the UK and aim to provide un-crowded accommodation with reasonable rent to primarily working-class people. Around 200,000 households in London live in overcrowded conditions. 360,000 households are on the waiting list for council houses, which is 11% of all London households.
- 5.8% of 16-18 year olds in London are 'NEET' (**Not in Education, Employment or Training**)
- **Alcoholism** is the most common addiction with Londoners, and is even a problem among children and youth. About two thousand 11-15 year olds in London are receiving treatment for alcohol dependence. **One out of four drug users in the UK lives in London.**
- **Prostitution** has been occurring in London for centuries, with some parts of the city having a long reputation for it. There are concerns that prostitution and the related sex trafficking will increase due to the Olympic Games in 2012.
- **24.9% of Londoners say they have no religion.** About 15% of Londoners belong to religions like the Islam, Hinduism, Judaism and Sikhism.



JOIN US ANYTIME JAN-DEC 2012 - THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU

All teams are welcome to join us at anytime throughout our 12 month focus beginning January 2012 through to December 2012, you choose the length of time. Come anywhere from 2 weeks to 3 months or more – there's great flexibility to come at a time and date that suits you! – YWAM school outreaches, staff ministry teams, church teams, university groups, other missions organisations and more. Individuals can also come and we will place you into an effective team for the duration of your outreach.

When you come to London through Megacities, we will place your team in a strategic location and connect you into the broader move of God, partnered alongside the local body of Christ. Literally EVERY KIND of ministry can find an expression in the city. Every team can be engaged in evangelism and intercession, while they also work within whatever special focus God would lead them in. Counseling, performing arts, music bands, youth ministry, teachers, universities, homeless ministry, sports, families, mercy ministry, bible distribution, children at risk, market place ministry, worship, visual arts, community development teams – all are vital to what God wants to do in this city!

Accommodation will be arranged for you with local churches. The details of this will vary from church to church, however, in most circumstances, **accommodation will be free.** For food, transport and communication costs, we recommend you budget no less than AUD\$15 a day per person, and you would regulate this yourself.

Registration of your team enables us to place you in the region where you can have maximum contribution with the gift you bring to the city. We take into account your teams gifting and sense of leading, then seek the Lord as to the best location for the team. In addition, registration allows you to fully integrate into all that Megacities does throughout the year, including corporate events, etc. The registration forms are available on our website www.megacities.org.au, or we can email them to you directly. The registration fee for Megacities is \$35 AUD/person.

