B02 London City Tour am; Change Guard ("cock up"); cameras everywhere; Tower Bridge personal tour

Friday, August 15, 2014 5:45 PM

Duncan, a Blue Badge Tour Guide for London, knighted by the Queen, gave a great descriptive tour of town. Our seats were in the front, across from Tom & Julie Karlo. Westminster was a focus. Photo op w toilet break.

Quick view from bus of "Diagon Alley - Harry Potter" as we drive by on the bus



We get off the bus from time to time, I think this is on Queen Victoria Street - we'd just gotten a break from rain. St. Paul's Cathedral



Really love the Peter Pan Bench



Back on the bus to Parliament Square. Abraham Lincoln statue pic in Parliament Square



Kris and Big Ben at Parliament Square



Glen and Kris with Mandela



Geoff got us to the park across from Buckingham Palace in a "perfect location" to view the incoming portion of the change.

The wrong place is to be at the bars surrounding the palace.



We saw the outgoing troops at the end of the street to our left.

We could see the fresh, new, troops staging to our right. Then police on horses are charged w stopping ALL traffic, but mistake was made - Duncan & Geoff have NEVER seen this before. Need to check news for a mention of what went wrong tonight. But never found a mention - classy news organizations in London. You can see a City Police on horse and the Guard in their Red Uniforms starting to march below - along with a car that is unheard of!



My little MP4 movie of The Guard & band marching on RHS (right hand side) of road with cars on LHS (left hand side) - non traditional. I couldn't keep myself from laughing

Duncan called this is a "cock-up". John Fistere of our group got a great video of the cars on one side of the road and the Guard, in red, on the other.



Driving in traffic a lot in London. Drivers seem very polite and it is very quiet - no one toots horn. Big contrast with NY or Rome.

Along the river Thames, I never got a chance to find out the meaning of this sphinx, but got one viewable photo (wobbly bridge background).



I like this reflection of the street sign for Parliament squares, indicating the 2 train stations, Waterloo and Victoria Station



Coming up on Trafalgar, with the blue chicken



There are cameras everywhere, watching everything


Police
enforcement
cameras



Closeup on the upper right corner



This is the building with camera on upper right corner



Probably good thing with all the people on the streets August in London

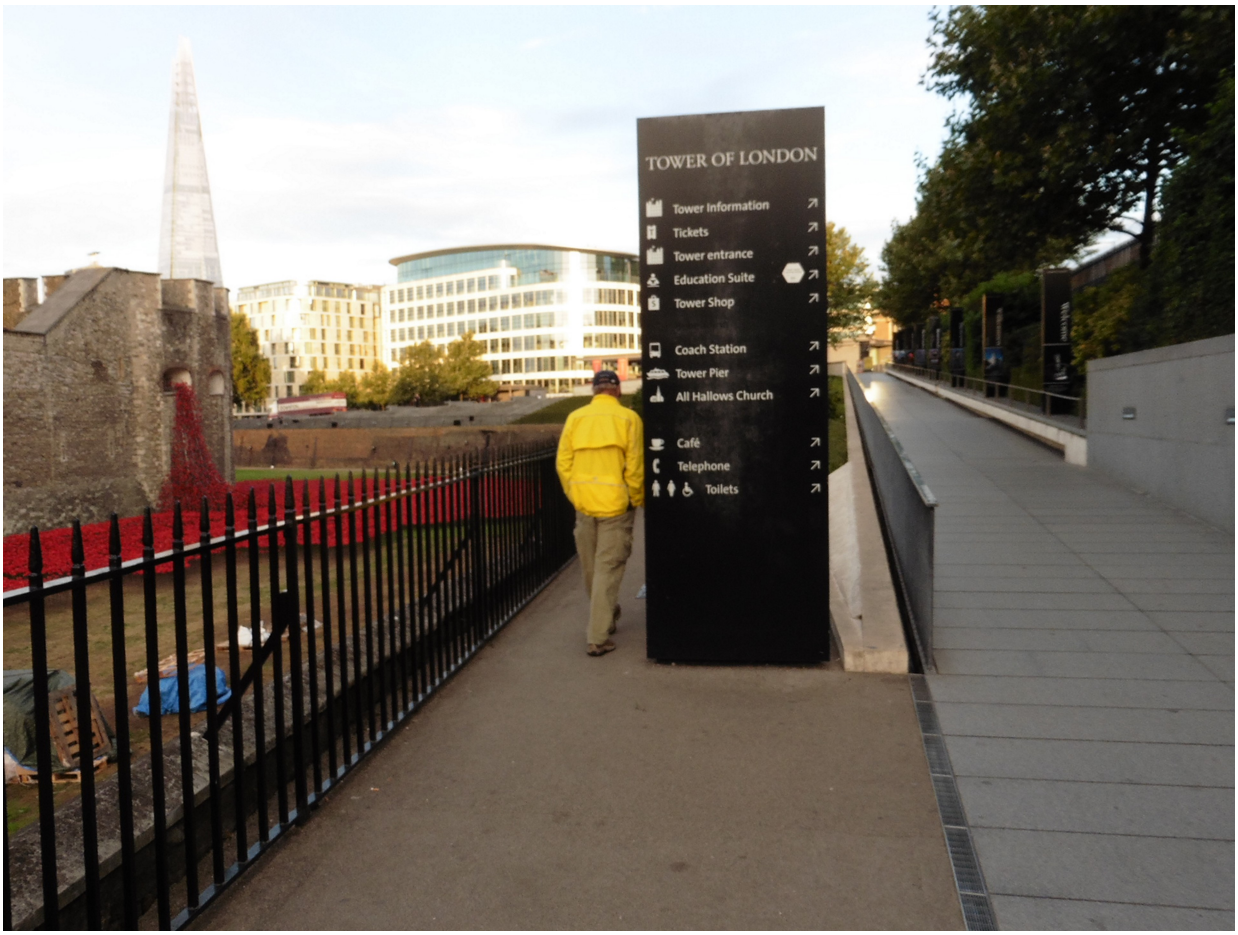
Trafalgar chicken and lion and lots of people



We never walked on the "wibbly-wobbly bridge", but Geoff pointed it out each time we passed



Now on our own in the late afternoon and Glen and I take a walking tour of London, central Tower of London with "the scard" in background



Lots going on in London to honor the 100 years since WW1




Blood swept lands and seas of red
An installation by ceramic artist
Paul Cummins
Setting by stage designer
Tom Piper
5 August – 11 November 2014
www.hrp.org.uk/TowerOfLondon
#TowerPoppies
1914 - 2014





Very old waterworks



1868



Really cute dragon boundary marks in the "City of London".



Walk across the Tower Bridge









You can kinda see Glen in his bright yellow slicker at the control area in the middle

