



INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

Reading 9

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London

London is the capital of The United Kingdom and Northern Ireland. The River Thames flows through it. You can observe many important *sights* from its banks. London is located in the south-east England about 51km from the Northern Sea.

It is one of the most important business centres in the world.

It was founded by the Romans in 43AD as Londinium. After the collapse of Roman *rule* in the 5th century it started to be an Anglo-Saxon settlement together with near Lundenwick. There were two main parts of London in the 12th century – The City of Westminster - the political centre and the City of London – the commercial centre.

In the year 1 100 its population was around 18,000 but in 1 300 it was nearly 100,000.

Black Death attacked London in mid-14th century and it lost almost a third of its population.



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In the 16th century it became a very important port of the North Sea and it was a time of great development of the theatre.

There was a Gunpowder Plot on 5th November 1605. A Great *Plague* attacked London again. It culminated in 1665-1666 and killed up to 100,000 people.

The Great Fire of London in 1666 started in Pudding Lane and destroyed 80% of the wooden city. The rebuilding took more than ten years. Sir Christopher Wren built St. Paul's Cathedral in 1708. Modern buildings were built from stone and bricks. In the 18th century there was *established* a professional police force.

London was destroyed again by the German Luftwaffe during World War II. There were killed 30,000 Londoners. In 1948 Summer Olympic Games were held in the Wembley Stadium. That time the city was almost rebuilt.

To celebrate the start of the 21st century, the Millennium Dome (O2 Arena), London Eye and Millennium Bridge were constructed.

Nowadays it is a political, business and cultural centre of the UK.

Slovník:

sights-památky, AD – našeho letopočtu, rule- vláda, century- století, Black Death- mor – plaque, established-založena,



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Panoramatický pohled na Londýn



Middle Ages London



London Eye



Millenium Bridge



Millenium Dome

