

The locations on the British version of Monopoly are set in London and were selected in 1935 by Victor Watson, managing director of John Waddington Limited. Watson became interested in the game after his son Norman had tried the original US version and liked it. Victor took his secretary Marjory Phillips on a day-trip from the head offices in Leeds to London to look for suitable locations to use. The London version of the game was successful, and was exported to Continental Europe, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, becoming the de facto standard board in the British Commonwealth. The locations on the board have become familiar to millions. Tourists from as far as Canada, Singapore and Saudi Arabia have been known to visit specific locations in London because of their presence on the Monopoly board.





**Old Kent Road** (SE1, SE14) is the only location south of the River Thames. It is part of the A2, a major road from London to Dover. The most noticeable feature in Old Kent Road is the number of public-houses, but many such as The Dun Cow, The World Turned Upside Down and The Duke of Kent, have been closed since the 1980s.



**Whitechapel Road** (E1) is known for the Whitechapel Road Market and the Royal London Hospital. Towards the latter part of the 20th century, Whitechapel Road became an established settlement of the British Bangladeshi community.



**King's Cross Station** (NW1) is the southern terminus of the East Coast Main Line to North East England and Scotland.

Light blue



The Angel, Islington (N1) was the site of the 'Angel Inn' in 1614, and the area became known as 'the Angel'. It was a Lyons Corner House in 1935 and is reportedly where Watson and Phillips stopped for lunch. It is now used as offices and a branch of the Co-operative Bank. In 2003, Watson's grandson (also called Victor Watson) unveiled a plaque here to commemorate this bit of Monopoly history.



**Euston Road** (W1, NW1). The light blue set are all part of the London Inner Ring Road, this section of which opened in 1756 as the New Road. Euston road contains several significant buildings including the British Library and the St. Pancras Renaissance London Hotel.



**Pentonville Road** (N1) was originally built in the mid-18th century as part of the New Road, a bypass of Central London for coach traffic. Some of its buildings are the Crafts Council Gallery, the Scala nightclub in a former cinema, and The Castle, a public house.

## Pink

**Pall Mall** (SW1) is named after 'paille-maille', a ball game played there during the 17th century. The three streets in the pink (or purple) set are where several British Government ministry departments are located.



**Whitehall** (SW1) is home to Her Majesty's Government and their offices. Downing Street, HM Treasury, the Ministry of Defence, The Horse Guards Building and the Houses of

Parliament are all here.



**Northumberland Avenue** (SW1) has offices used by departments of the British Government, including the War Office and Air Ministry, later the Ministry of Defence. The Playhouse Theatre opened in 1882 and become a significant venue in London.



**Marylebone Station** (NW1) is the southern terminus of the Chiltern Main Line to Birmingham.



**Bow Street** (WC2) connects Long Acre, Russell Street and Wellington Street. The orange set is related to locations dealing with the police and law. The former Bow Street Magistrates' Court was closed in 2006, and reopened in 2020 as Nomad Hotel.



**Great Marlborough Street** (W1) runs east of Regent Street towards Noel Street. It was built in the early 18th century to commemorate John Churchill, 1st Duke of Marlborough. The Marlborough Street Magistrates Court closed in 1998 and is now The Courthouse Hotel. On the Monopoly board, it was wrongly labelled by Victor Waddington as Marlborough Street.



**Vine Street** (W1) is a dead end running from Swallow Street, parallel to Piccadilly. At 70 feet (21 m), it is the shortest street on the board. There was once a Vine Street Police Station, which closed in 1997 and was demolished in 2005.



**Strand** (WC2) is a major thoroughfare in Central London, running from Trafalgar Square eastwards to Temple Bar, where the road becomes Fleet Street. The red set are all adjacent to each other as part of the A4 road, a major road running west from Central London.



Fleet Street (EC4) became known for printing and publishing at the start of the 16th century and it became the dominant trade so that by the 20th century most British national newspapers operated from here.



**Trafalgar Square** (WC2) commemorates the Battle of Trafalgar, the British naval victory in the Napoleonic Wars over France and Spain in 1805. Trafalgar Square serves as the official centre of London when measuring distances from the capital.



**Fenchurch Street Station** (EC3) has services running to destinations in east London and south Essex.



**Leicester Square** (WC2) is a pedestrianised square in the West End of London. All three streets in the Yellow set share a common theme of entertainment and nightlife. Leicester Square has a number of nationally significant cinemas such as the Odeon Leicester Square and the Empire, Leicester Square.



**Coventry Street** (W1) is known for its high-traffic restaurants, including the first J. Lyons and Co. and the first premises of the seafood restaurant Scott's.



**Piccadilly** (W1) is one of London's principal shopping streets. Its landmarks include the Ritz, Park Lane, Athenaeum and Intercontinental hotels.



**Regent Street** (W1) is a major shopping street in the West End of London. The streets in the green set have a background in retail and commercial properties. Regent street is known for its flagship retail stores, including Liberty, Hamleys, Jaeger and the Apple Store.



**Oxford Street** (W1) is Europe's busiest shopping street, with approximately 300 shops and around half a million daily visitors. The first department stores in the UK opened in the early 20th century, including Selfridges, John Lewis & Partners and HMV.



**Bond Street** (W1) has been popular for retail since the 18th century as the home of many fashion outlets that sell prestigious or expensive items. The southern section is Old Bond Street and the longer northern section New Bond Street.



**Liverpool Street Station** (EC2) is one of the busiest railway stations in London. It serves as the terminus of the West Anglia Main Line to Cambridge; the busier Great Eastern Main Line to Norwich, local and regional commuter trains serving east London and destinations in the East of England; and the Stansted Express service to Stansted Airport.



**Park Lane** (W1) is well known for its luxury hotels, particularly The Dorchester, completed in 1931. A number of properties on the road today are owned by some of the wealthiest businessmen from the Middle East and Asia.



**Mayfair** (W1) is not a street, but a suburb between Piccadilly, Regent Street, Oxford Street and Park Lane. It is the most expensive square on the board, and in real life. There is a street called Mayfair Place in Mayfair.