

## Westminster Abbey and More – February 4, 2018 – London, England

By Tom Allin

I've always said that the first thing tourists, or in our case travelers, lose is their "legs". We have both noted it takes us longer and longer to recover from a day of museum sightseeing than it used to.

We got off late this morning, or turning the aforementioned into a positive, we got off early this afternoon. We decided to visit Westminster Abbey, the Parliament Building and whatever else we came across.

The first thing we came across was Abraham Lincoln.



This is a replica of the statue in Chicago and was placed here in 1920.

I admit Lincoln wasn't the first thing we saw. It's impossible to miss either Westminster Abbey or the Parliament building. Westminster Abbey was begun in 1245. The building began as an abbey, moved on to being a cathedral and today is a Church of England "Royal Peculiar" – a church responsible directly to the sovereign. (Thank you, Wikipedia.)

The Great West Door and Towers.





The North face of Westminster.



Looking West.



Dragons and other unreal animals on the North face.





It was Sunday so Westminster Abbey was closed. However, there was a 3:00 pm Choral Service. We returned for this service. Other than being less than warm and sitting still (except for the up and down portions of the service) which made it even colder it was an enjoyable service. It was fun to listen to the organ music and choral.

Cattycorner to the Abbey is a Methodist church.



While we waited for the service we walked over to the Parliament building or Palace of Westminster.





On our way to the Parliament building we passed a protest group. The people were requesting that more money be spent on the national health care program – that’s correct -- they don’t want to end the program but to spend additional money. The English like everyone being insured and their national health care.



Richard the First or maybe better known as Richard the Lion Hearted.



I fell in love with the lamp poles – see the crown on top.



The now iconic London Eye ferris wheel.



Please note, it was just another sunny day in London.