

The one and only ...

Covent Garden!



1 **SPEAKING** Look at the photos of the tourist area Covent Garden in London. What do you know about this place? What can you guess from the photos?

2 **2.17** Read the text. Match the photos (1–3) with the paragraphs (A–C).

3 Read the text again. Answer the questions.

- Why did the pineapple become the logo of Covent Garden?
- Why did workers at Covent Garden not drink water?
- What was the nickname of the Lamb and Flag pub? Why?
- When did the oldest restaurant in London open?
- How many places are there in London where people are allowed to perform in the streets?
- What can you do if the outfits in Lily Allen's shop are too expensive for you to buy?

4 **VOCABULARY** Find these words in paragraph C of the text. Match them with the definitions below.

artist audience audition busk busker venue

- _____ : to play a musical instrument and/or sing in public for money; _____ : somebody who does this
- _____ : a group of people watching entertainment together
- _____ : a performance in front of judges, to see if you are good enough to perform
- _____ : a place for performances
- _____ : an entertainer or performer of some kind

A Flowers, fruit and vegetables

In the 17th century, Covent Garden was the biggest and most important flower, fruit and vegetable market in Britain.

It was also one of the first markets to start selling pineapples and for this reason, the pineapple became the market's logo. Today, there is no longer a fruit and vegetable market at Covent Garden, but you can still see pineapples as part of the architecture.

B Eating and drinking

Around 1700, workers at the market often went to a pub called the Lamb and Flag to drink beer or gin after work. (It wasn't safe to drink water!) They sometimes saw illegal boxing matches there, and for that reason, the pub's nickname was the 'Bucket of Blood'. The pub is still open today. The oldest restaurant in London, Rules, is in Covent Garden. It has been open since 1798 and serves traditional English food, including pies and puddings.

C Entertainment and shopping

Covent Garden is the only venue in London where buskers and other street performers are allowed to work. A lot of people want to perform there, so there are auditions and only the best artists can perform. Bon Jovi once busked there in front of a very surprised audience! In fact, if you want to spot a celebrity, Covent Garden is a good place to start. Singer Lily Allen owns a clothes shop there, and if you can't afford the outfits, you can hire them just for a night or

5 **2.18** Listen to five announcements. What is their main purpose? Choose a, b or c.

- a to advertise something c to give a warning
b to give advice

6 **2.18** Listen again. Are the sentences true or false? Correct the false sentences.

Announcement 1

You have to send your competition entry by email.

Announcement 2

You must contact the organisers immediately if you want to take part in the auditions.

Announcement 3

If you hire two items from Lucy in Disguise during the sale, you only pay for one of them.

Announcement 4

All rooms at the Tavistock Hotel cost between £150 and £200 a night.

Announcement 5

There is at least one performance of *The Lion King* at the Lyceum Theatre every day of the week.

7 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Ask and answer the questions.

- Imagine you are spending an afternoon in Covent Garden. What activities would you like to do?
- Is there a similar place in your town? What can you do there?