



The Thames Chase Quiz

Answers - River Thames

8th May 2020

1. The River Thames is 215 miles (346km) long, the longest river that flows wholly in England.
2. The river rises at Thames Head in Gloucestershire, 3 miles from Cirencester and is marked by a stone inscribed:
The Conservators of the River Thames 1817 – 1974
This stone was placed here to mark the source of the River Thames
Thames Head
by Bret Harte
There's a little cup in the Cotswold Hills
Which a spring in a meadow bubbles and fills
Spanned by a heron's wing, crossed by a stride,
Calm and untroubled by dreams of pride,
Guiltless of fame and ambition's aims
That is the source of the lordly Thames!
3. The river is tidal up to Teddington.
4. The river flows through 45 locks from Lechlade to Teddington where it is at sea level and becomes tidal.
5. The river passes through or provides a boundary of 9 counties. (Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Middlesex, Surrey, Essex, Kent)
6. The river curves and winds on its path to the sea. There is only one straight section of 1 mile length suitable for rowing races and that is at Henley.
7. The last road bridge to be built is the Queen Elizabeth II Bridge at Dartford opened in 1991. It is 9,423ft (2,872m) long with a central span of 1,476ft (450m).
8. The Thames Barrier spanning 1,716 ft (523m) was built across the river at Woolwich in 1982 as a flood defence for London.
9. The entrance to the Tower of London from the river is called Traitor's Gate. Prisoners brought to the tower entered through this gate never to return.
10. The annual University Boat Race between Oxford and Cambridge ends just downstream from Chiswick Bridge. It is marked by a stone marked UBR on the Surrey bank and a blue and black marker on the Middlesex side.

THAMES CHASE FOREST CENTRE
PIKE LANE
UPMINSTER RM14 3NS

WWW.THAMESCHASE.ORG.UK
TEL. 01708 642970

CHARITY NO.1115627 COMPANY NO.5687558