

Remembrance Day Parade – The Cenotaph, London



Arriving at the Cenotaph, I had some really mixed feelings and expectations of the day ahead. Despite having watched the parade on television for several years, I hadn't really fully appreciated the scale and emotion of such an occasion.

The number of people who turned out, both to parade and spectate, was overwhelming and there was a wonderful atmosphere as everyone waited together for the ceremony to begin.

As the canon fired at 11am to mark the start of the 2 minute silence, not a sound could be heard, as we remembered those who have fought and died. As the second canon sounded to end the silence, a breeze rustled through the surrounding trees, adding to the atmosphere and general feeling.

Watching the service on the screens and seeing so many people, including royalty and dignitaries, join together in hymn and prayer, was really humbling and made me feel so grateful and thankful for those who have been so brave.

As the parade began, we awaited our turn, and applauded with the crowds as the war veterans and other organisations passed.

As we took our turn and paraded past the Cenotaph, with the crowds clapping as we passed, I was filled with a real sense of pride that I was there to pay tribute to the servicemen and women who have fought to keep our country free. We really do owe them a debt of gratitude.

Despite the cold, attending the Remembrance Day Parade in London was a truly unforgettable experience and certainly one of my most memorable GB events. I would strongly recommend it to any girl, fortunate enough to be given the opportunity to go.

Sarah Ellis

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