Перевод:

Parliament, known as the Palace of Westminster, stands on the site where Edward the Confessor had the original palace built in the first half of XI century. In 1547 the royal residence was moved to Whitehall Palace, but the Lords continued to meet at Westminster, while the House of Commons met in the chapel of St. Stephen. Since these early times, the Palace of Westminster has been home to the British Parliament. In 1834, a fire broke out, which destroyed much of the old palace, all that remained of the chapel, crypt, Jewel Tower and Westminster Hall. It was Lord Melbourne, the Prime Minister, who saved a large hall, arranging for the fire trucks that were brought directly into the room and personally supervises the fire service.

The magnificent Gothic Revival masterpiece you see today was built between 1840 and 1888, it was the work of Charles Barry, who designed the building to blend in with the next Westminster Abbey. Two impressive towers, famous landmarks in London, the clock tower, it is the thirteen ton bell known as Big Ben and Victoria Tower, on whose flag pole Union Jack flies when Parliament is sitting. Much of the Victorian detail of the interior was the work of Barry's assistant Augustus Augustus Pugin.

Entrance to Westminster Hall is permitted only as part of the tour, otherwise it can be viewed from St. Stephen's porch above. Hall area of ​​240 feet by 60 feet has an impressive roof hammerbeam oak and is one of the most impressive medieval halls in Europe. In this noble setting of the coronation banquets were held until 1821. It was used in England the highest court of law to the XIX century, and this is where Guy Fawkes was convicted for attempting to blow up the House of Lords on November 5th 1605. The Statue of Oliver Cromwell, who stands outside the hall, reminds us here in 1653, he was given sworn in as Lord protector.

The route to the upper and lower chambers passes through the huge wooden doors to the St. Stephen's Hall. The vaulted ceiling and frescoes were designed to reproduce Barry medieval chapel, where the House of Commons met to 1834. From here you performed in the famous octagonal Central Lobby, whose tiled walls inscribed with the Latin motto. This is the central meeting place where voters can meet or "lobby" of the members of parliament. This is where you show your face or in the House of Lords or Commons.

The House of Commons.

Incendiary bomb destroyed the House of Commons in 1941. Barry Reconstruction of the original design for the house, taken from St. Stephen's Chapel, the Wikimedia Commons old venue was completed in 1950. Location of places in the house recalls the choir, members of the cabinet sit on the front benches of the opposition while the senior members sit directly opposite. The distance between the benches marking up on the floor of the red lines, exactly two sword lengths and width of shoulders. Members are not allowed to cross the line, thus ensuring that the debate is stored orderly. In the center of the floor it is on the table at home, where the Mace is placed at the beginning of each parliamentary session; Dynamics is the scepter. Speaker of the House presides over the meetings, ensure the order.

The House of Lords.

The House of Lords decorated in scarlet and gold has all the grandeur one would expect in this room. This is where Her Majesty the Queen comes to the opening of Parliament in November. Placed under the royal canopy, golden throne, which prevails in the house where the Queen sits to provide the traditional opening speech. The Lord Chancellor sits in front, on the famous hair is big scarlet cushions filled with wool, has a tradition dating back to the Middle Ages, when wool was England's main export.

Visiting the parliament building.

Recording through St. Stephen's entrance, where you can join the queue for the public galleries, known as foreign galleries. Debate in the House of Commons held on Mon. Wt. and Thurs. from 2-30 pm; Coll. & Fri. from 9-30 am.

The most lively and most interesting time to visit home during questions to the Prime Minister. If you want to attend the Prime Minister's question time you must book your ticket through your MP or your embassy. Question Time to the Prime Minister on Wed. 12 - 12-30 hours.

In the House of Lords sit on Mon. - Avg. From 2-30; On Thurs. From 3 pm; if the meeting takes place on Friday it starts at 11am.

Both chambers break for Christmas, Easter and the period from August to mid-October.