**The Thames** (Ang. Thames, pron. /tɛmz/; Latin Tamesis, Tamesa) – a river in southern England, along which London is situated. It is the second longest river in Great Britain (after the Severn), measuring 346 km.

Its source area is in the Cotswolds hills at an elevation of about 110 m above sea level. It bypasses the Chiltern Hills, flowing in meanders through the London Basin. It flows into the North Sea, forming an estuary beginning at London Bridge, several tens of kilometers from the sea.

Until the 1960s, it was devoid of biocoenosis due to pollution.

The Thames is connected by canals to other rivers in England and Wales, making it the most important waterway in Great Britain.

The largest urban centers along the Thames: Oxford, Reading, Windsor, and London

Main tributaries of the Thames: Windrush, Cherwell, Thame, Kennet, Wey, Mole, Lea, Roding, Medway, Churn, Colne, and Evenlode.