

boulevard[ˈbuːl(ə)vɑː(d)] *n*

1. бульвар
2. *амер.* проспект

boulevard

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

boulevard [boulevard boulevards] *BrE* [ˈbuːləvɑːd] *NAmE* [ˈbʊləvɑːrɪ]**noun**

1. (BrE) a wide city street, often with trees on either side
2. (abbr. Blvd.) (NAmE) a wide main road (often used in the name of streets)
 - Sunset Boulevard

Word Origin:

mid 18th cent.: French, a rampart (later a promenade on the site of one), from German **Bollwerk** from Middle Low German and Middle Dutch **bolwerk**; related to **bole** and **work**.

Culture:**street names**

In Britain, main **roads** outside towns and cities are known by numbers rather than names. An **exception** is the A1 from London to north-eastern England, which is often called the **Great North Road**. Roads that follow the line of former **Roman** roads also have names, e.g. the **Fosse Way**. If a main road passes through a town, that part of it usually has a name, often that of the place which the road goes to, e.g. London Road.

The main shopping street in a town is often called High Street, or sometimes Market Street. Many streets take their name from a local feature or building. The most common include Bridge Street, Castle Street, Church Street, Mill Street and Station Road. Some names indicate the trade that was formerly carried on in that area. Examples are Candlemaker's Row, Cornmarket, Petticoat Lane and Sheep Street. Many streets laid out in the 19th century were named after famous people or events. These include Albert Street, Cromwell Road, Shakespeare Street, Wellington Street, Trafalgar Road and Waterloo Street. When **housing estates** are built, the names of the new roads in them are usually all on the same theme. Names of birds or animals are popular. Others are based on the old names for the fields that the houses were built on, e.g. Tenacres Road, The Slade and Meadow Walk. The name of a road is written on signs at each end of it, sometimes together with the local **postcode**.

Some streets have become so closely identified with people of a particular profession that the street name itself is immediately associated with them. In London, **Harley Street** has been associated with private doctors and **Fleet Street** with newspapers.

In the US main roads such as **interstates** and **highways** are known by numbers. Most towns and cities are laid out on a **grid** pattern and have long **streets** with **avenues** crossing them. Each has a number, e.g. 7th Avenue, 42nd Street. The roads are often straight and have square **blocks** of buildings between them. This makes it easier to find an address and also helps people to judge distance. In **Manhattan**, for example, **Tiffany's** is described as being at East 57th Street and Fifth Avenue, i.e. on the corner of those two streets. The distance between West 90th Street and West 60th Street is 30 blocks.

As well as having numbers, many streets are named after people, places, local features, history and nature. In Manhattan there is Washington Street, Lexington Avenue, Liberty Street, Church Street and Cedar Street. Some streets are named after the town to which they lead. The most important street is often called **Main Street**. A **suburb** or **subdivision** of a city may have streets with similar names. In a subdivision of Baton Rouge, **Louisiana**, all the names end in 'wood', e.g. Balsawood Drive, Limewood Drive and Aspenwood Drive.

Some roads are called boulevards, with **Hollywood's** **Sunset Boulevard** and **Miami's** Biscayne Boulevard among the best known. Avenues usually cross streets, as in New York, but often the word is chosen as part of a name for no particular reason. **Avenue** and **boulevard** once indicated roads with trees along each side, but few have trees today. A **road** in the US is usually found outside cities, though Chicago uses the name for some central streets.

Some street names have particular associations: Grant Avenue in **San Francisco** is associated with **Chinatown**, **Beale Street** in **Memphis** with the **blues**, and Bourbon Street in New Orleans with **jazz**. In New York **Wall Street** is associated with the financial world, **Madison Avenue** with **advertising** and **Broadway** with theatres.

Example Bank:

- They sauntered along the tree-lined boulevard
- a boulevard lined with cafes
- A number of little cafes lined the sunny boulevard
- A police car sped down the crowded boulevard
- It is a city of broad boulevards and spacious parks.
- We visited the world-famous Hollywood Boulevard

boulevard

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

boulevard /ˈbuːl(v)ɑːd/ *BrE* *AmE* *noun* [countable][Date: 1700-1800; Language: French; Origin: Middle Dutch **bolwerk**; ⇒ **bulwark**]

1. a wide road in a town or city, often with trees along the sides
2. (*written abbreviation* **Blvd.**) used as part of the name of a particular road:
 - Sunset Boulevard
 - • •

THESAURUS■ **types of road**

- **road** a hard surface for cars, buses etc to drive on: They're planning to build a new road. | My address is 42, Station Road.
- **street** a road in a town, with houses or shops on each side: She lives on our street. | We walked along the streets of the old town. | Oxford Street is one of Europe's busiest shopping areas. | He was stopped by the police, driving the wrong way down a one-way street. | Turn left on Main Street (=the street in the middle of a town, where most of the shops are – used in American English). | These days the same shops are on every high street (=the street in the middle of a town, where most of the shops are – used in British English).
- **avenue** a road in a town, often with trees on each side: the busy avenue in front of the cathedral | He lived on Park Avenue.
- **boulevard** a wide road in a city or town – used especially in street names in the US, France etc. In the UK, streets are usually called **avenue** rather than **boulevard**: the world-famous Sunset Boulevard in Los Angeles.
- **lane** a narrow road in the country: a winding country lane
- **cul-de-sac** a short street which is closed at one end: The house is situated in a quiet cul-de-sac in North Oxford.
- **track especially British English, dirt road American English** a narrow road in the country, usually without a hard surface: The farm was down a bumpy track.
- **ring road British English** a road that goes around a town: The airport is on the ring road.
- **bypass British English** a road that goes past a town, allowing traffic to avoid the centre: The bypass would take heavy traffic out of the old city centre.
- **dual carriageway British English, divided highway American English** a road with a barrier or strip of land in the middle that has lines of traffic travelling in each direction: I waited until we were on the dual carriageway before I overtook him.
- **freeway/expressway American English** a very wide road in a city or between cities, on which cars can travel very fast without stopping: Take the Hollywood Freeway (101) south, exit at Vine Street and drive east on Franklin Avenue. | Over on the side of the expressway, he saw an enormous sedan, up against a stone wall.
- **motorway British English, highway American English** a very wide road for travelling fast over long distances: The speed limit on the motorway is 70 miles an hour. | the Pacific Coast Highway
- **interstate American English** a road for fast traffic that goes between states: The accident happened on Interstate 84, about 10 miles east of Hartford.
- **toll road** a road that you pay to use: The government is planning to introduce toll roads, in an effort to cut traffic congestion.
- **turnpike American English** a large road for fast traffic that you pay to use: He dropped her off at an entrance to the New Jersey Turnpike.

boulevard

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RANGE: **9k** BOULEVARD ³⁸⁵³

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