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THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY GUIDE
JANUARY 2014

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A WELCOME FROM THE MAYOR

As 2014 begins, there is probably no better way to get things started than with the *London New Year's Day Parade* on 1 January. Join the throng as thousands of performers from around the world – musicians, drummers, marching bands – make their way through the streets for a lively and colourful celebration (p. 34).

London is the home of theatre, with an unbeatable variety of classic and contemporary drama, musicals and family friendly shows. This month sees Zoë Wanamaker starring in *The Duchess Of Malfi* at the brand new Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, which is opening as part of *Shakespeare's Globe* (p. 62).

But there is a dazzling array of other productions and it is worth checking availability through the *Get Into London Theatre* scheme, which allows you to see some of the best shows in the capital for a fraction of the normal cost. There are some fantastic, world-class shows for all the family to enjoy, and at bargain prices (p. 17).



Boris Johnson, Mayor of London



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

January 2014

Welcome, Bienvenue, Welkom, Willkommen, Bienvenido, Benvenuto...

London is the top city in the world – it's official! It ranked first place out of 50 cities in an international survey published at the end of 2013, knocking Paris off the top slot.

The UK capital was also voted the city where visitors from different cultures felt it was easiest to fit in, according to the same study (2013 *Anholt-GfK Roper City Brands Index*).

We already knew that, as London's fantastic multicultural mix is one of the things that makes it such a fun place to be. For instance, this month sees celebrations as diverse as Scotland's *Burns Night* and the start of *Chinese New Year* (p. 34). Read on for my pick of this month's highlights, and for our regular readers – we hope you enjoy our new-look magazine.

David G. Taylor, Editor
david.taylor@morrisseurope.com



Editor, David (above right), is pictured at the *Pop Art Design* exhibition at the Barbican Art Gallery, p. 50.

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COVER IMAGES: Tower bridge © Thinkstock;
Guitars © British Music Experience; Nutcracker
© Caroline Holden/Crowne Image



Be Fashion Forward

Peek into the wardrobe of arts patron *Isabella Blow* in *Fashion Galore!* at Somerset House (p. 52). Seen here posing with designer Alexander McQueen.



See Cool Stuff

Enjoy the *London Ice Sculpting Festival* (above), as you turn your visit into a fairy tale come true.

Let It Rock!

Discover why the capital is a must for rock and pop fans. From roof-raising shows like *Thriller – Live* on stage (left), to exhibitions and concerts (p. 10-14).

14

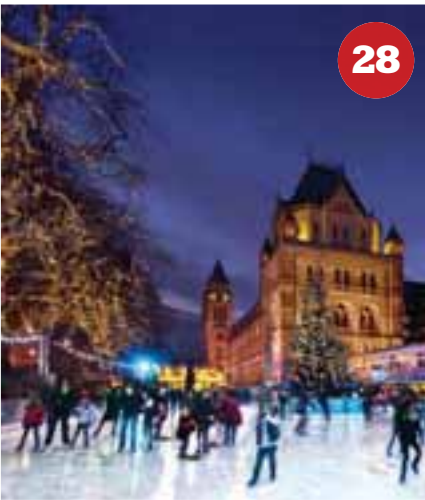
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Watch Showstoppers

Catch the best shows, including *Cirque Du Soleil's Quidam* at the Royal Albert Hall.



Get Your Skates On!

Enjoy a multitude of ice rinks, many at London's most iconic buildings, including the *Natural History Museum* (pictured above).

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THE TOP TEN

London's
Most Popular
Attractions



1

British Museum

This world-famous museum, founded in 1753, houses history's greatest treasures, including Egyptian mummies and the Elgin Marbles (see Museums).



2

Tate Modern

A former power station in Bankside that hosts a globally-recognised modern art collection, plus some great temporary exhibitions, such as *Paul Klee* (above, p. 52).



3

National Gallery

This gallery is filled with priceless European art belonging to the nation. See great works by artists Botticelli, Da Vinci, Van Gogh and more (see Galleries).



4

Natural History Museum

Explore the natural world, including a diplodocus skeleton (above), child-friendly exhibitions, prehistoric fossils and much more (see Museums). **Continues P. 8**

5

EDF Energy London Eye

Experience the full glory of London by taking a ride in one of the capsules (see Sightseeing). On a clear day, views can extend as far as *Windsor Castle* (see Sightseeing), which is over 40km away.

6

Science Museum

Interactive scientific fun for children, from steam engines to space rockets. Just as fascinating for bigger kids who want to learn how the world works (see Museums).

7

Victoria And Albert Museum

An incredible range of historic artefacts that spans more than 3,000 years and includes art, jewellery, photos, sculpture and fashion. Enjoy a wide range of exhibitions, special events and more (see Museums).



Madame Tussauds

See amazingly lifelike wax figures of famous people, including the Queen, Duchess Of Cambridge, Madonna (pictured), Hollywood and Bollywood stars, plus 14 fun interactive zones (see Sightseeing).

8

9

National Maritime Museum & Royal Observatory

Discover more about seafaring and stargazing at these interactive attractions (see Museums/Sightseeing).

10

Tower Of London

The infamous 900-year-old English fortress beside the River Thames is guarded by Beefeaters in period dress. Home to kings and prisoners for centuries, it's also rumoured to have ghosts (see Sightseeing).

» Compiled according to the latest available visitor numbers from London & Partners.

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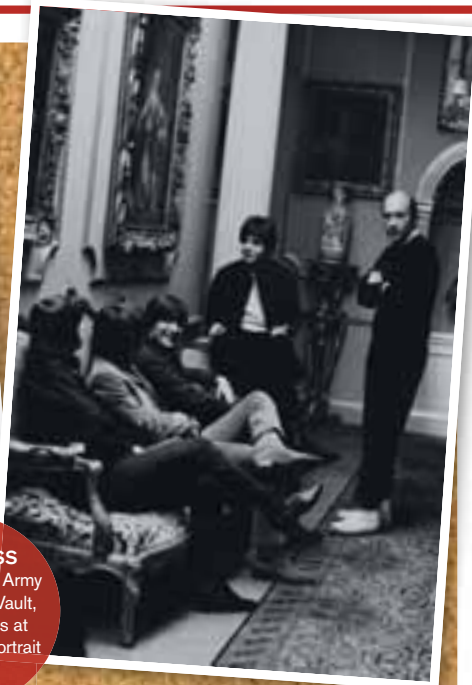
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London: The Capital Of

ROCK & POP

By David G. Taylor





DON'T MISS
John Lennon's Army
jacket at The Vault,
& The Beatles at
the National Portrait
Gallery

Fifty years ago this month, The Beatles' first album was released in America, and 'Beatlemania' suddenly went global. The record *Introducing... The Beatles* entered the US charts on 10 January 1964, and really put the Great Britain on the map as a breeding ground for serious musical talent. The first British music invasion had begun. Names such as The Rolling Stones, David Bowie, Elton John, Queen, The Spice Girls, Oasis, Leona Lewis, Adele and One Direction are among countless UK acts to achieve success on a global scale since.

Meanwhile, January couldn't be a better time to experience the UK's rock and pop pedigree, with exhibitions, tribute shows and live concerts all taking place

to celebrate musical talents from the UK and beyond.

The first stop for any visiting rock and pop fan, has to be the *British Music Experience* (p. 42), an interactive exhibition inside The O₂ that tells the story of the UK's global pop and rock influence, from the 1940s

onwards. It also has a collection of memorabilia that includes a Vivienne Westwood bondage suit designed for the Sex Pistols, and artefacts from David

Bowie, Ozzy Osbourne, Dusty Springfield, The Spice Girls and Freddie Mercury and others.

Over at the *Victoria and Albert Museum* (p. 47), not only do they have Adam Ant's *Prince Charming* costume on permanent display in the Theatre And Performance Galleries, but right now you can still catch

'David Bowie, Oasis and Adele are among many UK acts to achieve global success'

Top Rock Shops



For memorabilia and collectables head for:
London Beatles Store, p. 76
It's Only Rock And Roll, p. 76
The Vault and the Rock Shop (Hard Rock Cafe), p. 37



BLUR & OASIS EXHIBIT © BRITISH MUSIC EXPERIENCE; LONDON BEATLES STORES: COURTESY OF LONDON BEATLES STORE; BEATLES IMAGE BY MICHAEL PETO
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MARVEL AT
1D in wax
at Madame
Tussauds & Adam
Ant's costume at
the V&A



a special exhibition *Club To Catwalk: London Fashion In The 1980s* (p. 47). It looks at how London nightclubs such as *The Blitz*, *Taboo* and *Kinky Gerlinky* became a breeding ground for ideas and a place where young fashion designers could show off their skills. Their creations often ending up being worn by pop stars of the day such as Boy George, Adam Ant and Toyah, whose outrageous stage outfits all feature in the show.

It's not only UK music talent, you can indulge your passion for. Music fans shouldn't miss the *Hard Rock Cafe*

(p. 84), which lines the walls of its restaurant with amazing collectables from all kinds of international icons, while just across the road is its *Rock Shop* and *The Vault* (p. 37) there's even more to see. John Lennon's military jacket, Eric Clapton's guitar, Madonna's Jean Paul Gaultier bustier from her 1990 *Blonde Ambition Tour*, are just a few highlights of the collection.

Over at the *Barbican Art Galleries*, the *Pop Art Design* (p. 80), is another place to find many rock and pop goodies, from Andy Warhol's iconic banana silk screen print for a

Velvet Underground's album cover, to British artist Richard Hamilton's famous print depicting Rolling Stone, Mick Jagger, handcuffed over drug charges in the 60s.

At the *National Portrait Gallery* (p. 51) a candid photo of filmmaker Richard Lester (*Help!*) with the Beatles shows Ringo Starr, George Harrison, John Lennon and Paul McCartney in their heyday (p. 11), while on display nearby are artworks created by an American legend with *Bob Dylan: Face Value*.

One attraction that really let's you get up close to your favourite rock and pop icons,

Sophie-Ellis Bextor



See Live Concerts

We've got quite a range taking place at venues big and small. You could see *Sophie-Ellis Bextor* (left) at the Bush Hall (21 Jan. bushhallmusic.co.uk), *The 1975* at The O2 Brixton Academy (9-11 Jan, p. 72), *Mogwai* at the Southbank Centre (24-25 Jan, p. 24).

Veteran British reggae band *Musical Youth* play the Jazz Café (26 Jan, p. 71), and American rockers *Maroon 5* storm The O2 Arena (10-11 Jan, p. 72). For even more live gigs, turn to Entertainment and p. 71.



CATCH
sharp moves
and hit songs in
Thriller – Live

or at least lifelike wax figures of them, is *Madame Tussauds* (p. 33). Pose with likenesses of UK talents like the phenomenally successful One Direction, Adele, Amy Winehouse and more.

If it's live music you're after then London has plenty of that too from concerts (p. 13) to tribute shows (right).

The West End too is buzzing, with a range of musical theatre shows paying homage to pop and rock greats. For instance, Beatles fans can experience the 'Fab Four' in action thanks to *Let It Be* (p. 64); a show cum concert at the Savoy Theatre, packed with more than 40 of their hits.

Enjoy the songs of Freddie Mercury and Queen with *We Will Rock You* (p. 66) belting out anthems like the epic *Bohemian*

Rhapsody, while Irish amateurs give American soul a spin in *The Commitments* (p. 62).

Our international favourites get a look in too. See Michael Jackson's moves brilliantly recreated in *Thriller – Live* (p. 66), Whitney Houston's back-catalogue revisited in *The Bodyguard* (p. 62), and Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons story provide hit after hit in *The Jersey Boys* (p. 64).

If you've ever wanted to be a star yourself, then experience the potential pitfalls as the play *Mojo* takes audiences back to London's Soho of the 1950s and the struggles of one aspiring rock 'n' roll star (p. 67).

With so much choice, it's not hard to see why London is considered the centre of the rock and pop universe.

**'See Michael
Jackson's moves
brilliantly
recreated in
Thriller – Live'**

Tribute Acts And Shows

On 24 Jan, the UK-based music ensemble, Icebreaker, are reimagining early songs by Kraftwerk, the German electronic pioneers, such as *Trans Europe Express*. In the show *Kraftwerk Uncovered – A Future Past*, Icebreaker's live performance will be accompanied by film and this unusual event takes place in the *Science Museum's* cool IMAX Cinema (p. 47).

**More conventional
homages taking place
this month include:**

11 Jan: *The Smyths: The Smiths Tribute* at The O2 Academy Islington.
17 Jan: *Mercury* at The New Wimbledon Theatre.
17 Jan: *One Night Of Elvis: Lee 'Memphis' King* at the Richmond Theatre.
25 Jan: *The Counterfeit Stones* at the Richmond Theatre. For further details, turn to p. 72

One Night Of Elvis



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LONDON LOVES

By Rebecca Schulman

Fun On A Budget

Cheap Seats

Billy Elliot The Musical, *Disney's The Lion King* and *Wicked* are among the top shows offering cut-price deals as part of Get Into London Theatre, the annual discount ticket scheme. Running from 1 January to 13 February, bargain tickets cost £10, £15, £25, £35 or £40. Book via 0844 581 5050 or getintolondontheatre.co.uk.



Free Exhibitions

While away an afternoon in some of the capital's free museums and galleries, including the *Museum Of London*, *Victoria And Albert Museum* (below) and the *National Gallery*. See p. 40-52 for more ideas.

Save On Sights



Vintage Finds

Wimbledon Car Boot Sale is one of London's largest. Three days a week, the *Wimbledon Greyhound Stadium* is filled with over 200 punters offering everything from dolls to vintage dresses. Admission £2 for the first hour of the sale, 50p thereafter. Weds 10.30am-2pm; Sat 6.30am-1.30pm; Sun 7am-1.30pm (*Plough Lane, SW17 0BL. 020 7240 7405*).

Being Fast-tracked

Buy a *London Pass* for free entry into more than 60 top attractions and tours, as well as fast-tracked entry into many popular locations. Prices start at £47 for a 1 Day Adult Pass. 0870 242 9988. londonpass.com.



Unlimited Entry

Purchase an *English Heritage Overseas Visitor Pass* for unlimited admission (for nine or 16 days), into more than 100 historic buildings in the care of English Heritage, from £24. 0870 333 1181. english-heritage.org.uk.

Affordable Food

Cheap lunches abound at *KERB*, a street food collective at the top of King's Boulevard in King's Cross. From 12pm-2.30pm, Tues-Fri, find a selection of stalls and vans selling a wide variety of street food at affordable prices, including Indian cuisine from *Horn OK Please* (right), *King's Boulevard, N1C 4AH*.  *King's Cross St. Pancras*. Off map.



Cheap Eats

Bargain Brands!

The *January Sales* are taking place at shops across the city, with some brands offering up to 75% off throughout the month. Turn to Shopping for our pick of stores to visit (p. 74-78).



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: BILLY ELLIOT PHOTO © ALASTAIR MUIR; V&A MUSEUM © GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO; FOOD PHOTO © JAMES BYRNE; SHOPPING PHOTO © GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

FEATURE



Enchanted City

Turn your visit into a fairy tale experience...

By Beatrice Yeatman-Biggs



Left: The London Ice Sculpting Festival. Right: Wicked The Musical

Steeped in history and still reeling from the magic of Christmas, there's plenty to make you feel like you are part of your own fable as you take in the delights of the capital. If you thought that ice was purely functional, then think again. The *London Ice Sculpting Festival* proves that, with a little imagination and a lot of talent, frozen water can be fantastical. From 11-13 Jan, Canary Wharf will be glistening with all manner of ingenious shapes, created in front of your eyes by competitors from around the globe. Watch them wield their chain saws and chip with their chisels as you take in the action (londonicesculptingfestival.co.uk).

There are a handful of shows on stage that are sure to entrance you, but hurry – it's your last chance to catch them. Start with the production that calls itself a 'mix of theatre, illusion, circus,

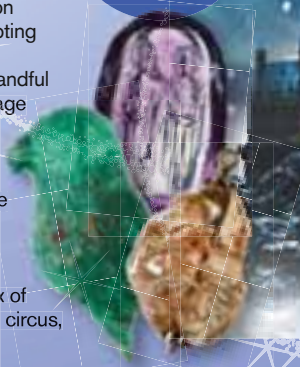
blockbuster movie and rock spectacular rolled into one': *Peter Pan – The Never Ending Story* (p. 72). Amazing special effects and direction from renowned names including Luc Petit (*Cirque Du Soleil*) and Geert Allaert (*Les Misérables*) inject J. M. Barrie's classic story with all the magic it deserves.

Meanwhile, in the classic ballet *The Nutcracker* at the London Coliseum, see what happens when the clock strikes midnight in the Christmas household of Clara, a

young girl whose toys come to life, and battle commences between her nutcracker doll, and the Mouse King – all to the soundtrack of Tchaikovsky's famous score (ballet.org.uk).

If you like fairy tales, both good and bad, then the multi award-winning show *Wicked The Musical* (p. 66) will provide thrills as well as spellbinding songs. Based on Gregory Maguire's 1995 novel *Wicked: The Life And Times Of The Wicked Witch Of The West*, it's a re-imagined take on Frank

MARVEL at Hogwarts In The Snow (right) and The Cheapside Hoard (below), p. 20



L. Baum's classic story, *The Wizard Of Oz*, and tells the tale of two young witches who eventually become rivals.

There's no better place to imagine the lives of kings and queens than in the royal palaces around London. At *Hampton Court Palace* (p. 30), see the recreated Imperial crown of King Henry VIII (pictured). The original was used by all the King's successors down to Charles I, until the Commonwealth government melted it in 1649.

Elizabeth I was held prisoner here before she became queen, and it saw several executions, but the Tower Of London (p. 37) is also famous for holding precious ceremonial objects associated with the coronations of many kings and queens, the Crown Jewels. Meanwhile, with its ornate structure and lavish decoration, the Queen's ceremonial Gold State Coach (pictured above) at Buckingham Palace's Royal Mews, will take your breath away, as will the Museum Of London exhibition *Cheapside Hoard: London's Lost Jewels* (p. 46). Fans of Harry Potter will be pleased to hear that, at *The Making*



Of Harry Potter Tour, Hogwarts In The Snow (p. 37), the school of witches and wizardry has been given a sparkling makeover.

See Hogwarts enveloped in a blanket of snow, with accompanying festive decorations.

Some of the most inspirational childhood reading experiences involved illustrations. Who could forget the otherworldly pictures of the Brothers Grimm books? Delve into these stories once more as you admire the illustrations from our favourite tales, in the British Library's *Picture This: Children's Illustrated Classics* (p. 42). There could hardly be a more appropriate way to end your fairy tale experience of London...

GET LOST in the imaginary world of Clara and her toys in *The Nutcracker*



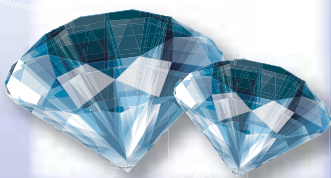
Snow Queen Sensation

If you really want to feel like a fairy tale queen, surely nothing can compare to having crushed diamonds applied to your face.

A new treatment at *Browns Hotel And Spa* does just that, as part of a one-hour facial that promises to make you look younger, using NuBo products, celebrated for their anti-ageing benefits.

Shine bright like a diamond (literally) with the *NuBo Snow Queen Facial* (£110). *Browns Hotel, Albermarle Street, W1S 4BP.* 020 7493 6020. brownshotel.com.

📍 *Green Park. Map C5.*



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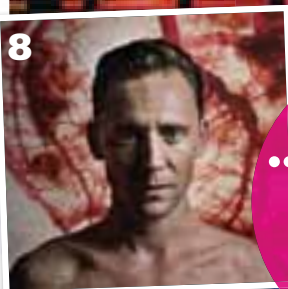
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DISCOVER...

By David G. Taylor



...King's Road SW3

There may be fewer punks and miniskirts strutting up and down King's Road, but it's still a fascinating place for a day out, and the January sales couldn't be a better time to explore it.

kingsroad.co.uk



CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP: ROYAL COURT © TIM WINTER; THE SAATCHI GALLERY, LONDON © MATTHEW BOOTH, 2009
BLUEBIRD CHELSEA © HELEN MURRAY

A Brief History

1 Now an affluent high street, it was a more bohemian King's Road at the epicentre of 'Swinging London' in the 1960s, and the place to buy Mary Quant's eyebrow-raising mini skirts. You can still visit a Quant's cosmetics store.

2 The street again found itself on the cutting-edge of youth culture in the mid 1970s, with punk rock (p. 10-14) and the clothes of influential designer, Vivienne Westwood. Today, shoppers can still visit Vivienne Westwood's original shop.

Famous Residents

3 Take a peek at the former house of author and playwright Oscar Wilde (*The Importance Of Being Earnest*). English Heritage's blue plaques mark the places notable creatives lived and worked, including James Bond creator Ian Fleming (*Dr. No*), Bram Stoker (*Dracula*), composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, ceramicist William De Morgan (p. 44), and painter Dante Gabriel Rossetti. For details go to english-heritage.org.uk

Art Exhibitions

4 Today contemporary artists show at the *Saatchi Gallery*. Its current exhibitions include *New Order: British Art Today II* (to 6 Apr) and *Body Language* (to 16 Mar, saatchigallery.com).

Shopping Heaven

5 The January sales are the perfect time to find bargains. The 1.9 mile (3.1 km) road is a shopper's paradise, with both international chains and small boutiques, but Sloane Square



department store *Peter Jones* (part of the John Lewis chain), is a great starting point.

Food And Drink

You'll find a huge variety of places to dine in the area.

6 *Bluebird Chelsea*, specialises in modern European cuisine and is housed in a former petrol station.

7 You'll also find great gastropubs, such as *The Cadogan Arms*. And don't forget to try award-winning Indian restaurant *Chutney Mary* (off map, p. 87).

Live On Screen

8 Alongside the latest blockbuster films, watch live screenings of opera and ballet inexpensively at the *Chelsea Curzon* cinema. There's the Royal Opera House Live with Marius Petipa's *Giselle* (27 Jan) at 7.15pm, plus the National Theatre Live's *Coriolanus* (30 Jan) at 7pm.

Brave New Works

9 The *Royal Court Theatre* is famous for innovation and new writers. Head there for a one-woman Samuel Beckett trilogy, *Not I, Footfalls, Rockaby* (9-18 Jan. p. 69) starring Lisa Dwan, and Abi Morgan's *The Mistress Contract* (from 30 Jan, p. 67).



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SOUTH BANK

The festive season may have been and gone but here on South Bank we have jumped, feet first, into 2014. We are kicking off the year with a whole host of fantastic shows, plus lots of the regular family favourites.



Fascinating Aida

The Magic of Live Theatre

Both the Lyttleton Theatre and The Shed at National Theatre were transformed into magical worlds over Christmas, and you still have time to catch the fantastic 'Elephantom' and 'The Light Princess'. Suitable for children and grown-ups of all ages, 'Elephantom' is the story of a little girl and her larger than life friend, told through captivating puppetry. For a little more drama, 'The Light Princess' is a tale of two opposing kingdoms that go to war. Will the love between the heirs to both thrones prevail? That is not the end of the great productions on South Bank this

month. The Old Vic are staging a new production of Ivan Turgenev's 'Fortune's Fool'. This savagely funny tale about a pair of newlyweds, who return home to be greeted by their wealthy neighbour, descends into an alcohol-fuelled lunch during which secrets are revealed, with interesting consequences. Meanwhile, over at the Young Vic, Olivier Award-winning actress Juliet Stevenson lights up the stage in Samuel Beckett's 'Happy Days', a powerful tale of resilience, and a woman's ability to survive against overwhelming odds.

A Laugh a Minute

If you need a dose of comedy to kick those January blues, head to Southbank Centre where you can enjoy a raucous performance by critically acclaimed trio, Fascinating Aida. Their brand new show is packed with topical numbers and outrageous old favourites, hot off the press. Alternatively, book tickets for a performance in this year's London International Mime Festival. With artists flying in from as far afield as Spain, Czech Republic and Australia, it is sure to be top notch.



Fun for all the Family

For a fun family day out, get down to the EDF Energy London Eye and make the most of the Eye Skate ice rink, but you better get your skates on, it closes on the 5th. Please also be aware that the EDF Energy London Eye will be closed for annual maintenance between the 6th and the 17th. If you would rather stay warm, pop in to IWM London and become a spy for a day. The Horrible Histories®: Spies exhibition will let you into all of espionage's greatest secrets, from stink bombs and itching powder, to cracking codes and creating disguises. If that doesn't take your fancy, you can always rely on our regular attractions for a fantastic day out. Plan a trip to SEA LIFE London Aquarium, The London Dungeon or take a London Duck Tour today.

Whatever you get up to this January, you are guaranteed to have fun on South Bank.



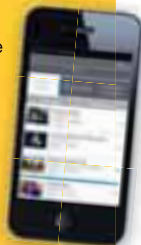
London International Mime Festival



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By Kohinoor Sahota



A Royal Invitation

When you set foot inside Buckingham Palace, it's like being part of a real-life fairy tale. There are grand staircases, crystal chandeliers and ornate furnishings. It is one of the most famous palaces in the world, but for the British public it's also a place where they can share in the royal family's sorrow and happiness. It's not often you can visit, but you can with the *Exclusive Guided Tour Of The State Rooms* (to 2 Feb, £75).

During the tour, you can enjoy a glass of champagne and take in the regal sights of 19 state rooms, such as the Throne Room, which is where William and Kate had their wedding photos taken; and an art collection including work by Van Dyck and Canaletto.

It was less than 200 years ago that the palace transformed into what we recognise today. In 1826 the architect John Nash remodelled the townhouse into a palace, and four years later Edward Blore created the famous front façade. The palace contains 775 rooms and has 1,514 doors. Since 1837, when Queen Victoria moved in, it has been the official residence and workplace for the British monarch. The palace has been visited by Prime Ministers; American Presidents, and, of course, 'James Bond'; during the 2012 *Olympics Opening Ceremony*. *Buckingham Palace, SW1A 1AA. 020 7766 7300. royalcollection.org.uk.*   *Victoria. Map D5.*



All The King's Men

Prepare for an extraordinary sight: 365 years on, Charles I's death is commemorated on 27 Jan by the *King's Army* – historical re-enactment specialists in period uniform who process from St. James's Palace (p. 37) in the Mall, to the King's place of execution at the Banqueting House in Whitehall (p. 28).

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KEY INFO

Map: refers to grid on our Central London Map.

TBC: stands for to be confirmed.

Transport symbols: see Contents page for key.

MAIN ATTRACTIONS

BANQUETING HOUSE This grand old building was designed by Inigo Jones for James I, with an exquisite painted ceiling by celebrated baroque artist Peter Paul Rubens. Mon-Sun 10am-5pm. Check for closures. Admission £5, child free. *Whitehall, SW1A 2ER. 020 3166 6000. hrp.org.uk.* Charing Cross. Map C6.

CEREMONY OF THE KEYS Each night since 1340, the Tower Of London's outer gates are locked at 9.53pm and the keys delivered to the warden. To watch for free, send names, dates and an SAE two months ahead of your visit, to: Ceremony Of The Keys Office, HM Tower Of London, EC3N 4AB. *Tower Of London, Tower Hill, EC3N 4AB. 020 3166 6000. hrp.org.uk.* Tower Hill. Map C9.

CHANGING THE GUARD At 11.30am on alternate days, watch the changing of the Queen's Guard on the Palace's forecourt. No ceremony in very wet weather. *Buckingham Palace, The Mall, SW1A 1AA. 020 7766 7300. royal.gov.uk.* Victoria, Green Park. Map D5. The Mounted Guard Changing Ceremony takes place Mon-Sat 11am; Sun 10am. The mounted sentries change every hour. *Horse Guards Parade, Whitehall, SW1A 1DH. 020 7414 3269. army.mod.uk/events.* St. James's Park/Green Park. Map C6.

THE CRYSTAL The world's first centre dedicated to improving knowledge of urban sustainability. The landmark (a sustainable cities initiative by Siemens) features an interactive exhibition, lectures and conferences. It aims to educate on important global issues. Tues-Sun 10am-5pm. Admission

free. *One Siemens Brothers Way, Royal Victoria Docks, E16 1GB. 020 7055 6400. thecrystal.org.* Royal Victoria. Off map.

CUTTY SARK This 19th-century ship is the last surviving tea clipper in the world. Reopened last year after major restoration, it offers visitors the chance to explore above and below decks, and features interactive displays.

FAMILY 5 Jan: *Ahoy Captain!* Meet Captain Woodget and hear his tales of life on board the famous cargo ship. Daily 10am-5pm. Admission £12, child £6.50. *King William Walk, SE10 9HT. 020 8858 2698. rmg.co.uk/cuttysark.* Cutty Sark Greenwich. Map inset.



Get Your Skates On

During the Frost Fairs of the 15th century, Londoners would skate on the frozen-over River Thames. Now the Thames no longer freezes and the capital's rinks are man-made, but their locations are still rich in history: some of the city's most outstanding monuments providing a romantic backdrop. *Somerset House* (p. 34) offers skating 'club nights' after dark and Glad Tidings Tuesdays, with pop-up Christmas shops and festive food and drink.

Other historic sites include the *Natural History Museum* (p. 46), with an extra rink just for kids, *Hampton Court Palace* (p. 30), and of course the *Tower Of London* (p. 37). Of the more contemporary ice rink settings, there's *Broadgate* (broadgate.co.uk/ice. 0845 653 1424), the *London Eye* (p. 33) and *Westfield London* (p. 76).

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HAMPTON COURT PALACE Once home to King Henry VIII, this magnificent Tudor palace and impressive maze is set in 60 acres of parkland. Daily 10am-6pm; opening times for gardens vary. Palace, maze and gardens admission £16, child £8; maze only £4, child £2.50. *Hampton Court, East Molesey, Surrey, KT8 9AU. 0844 482 7777. hrp.org.uk.* ➡ *Hampton Court. Off map.*

FAMILY HMS BELFAST Permanently moored on the River Thames, this ship is Europe's only surviving World War II cruiser. In service until 1965, it is now a reminder of Britain's naval heritage. Daily 10am-5pm. Admission £14.50, child free. Daily 10am-5pm. Admission £14.50, child free. *The Queen's Walk, off Tooley Street, SE1 2JH. 020 7940 6300. iwm.org.uk.* ➡ ➡ *London Bridge. Map C9.*

HOUSEHOLD CAVALRY MUSEUM Discover the history of the mounted guards who participate in Changing The Guard (p. 28) and witness their day-to-day life, including working their horses in 18th-century stables. Daily inspection at 4pm. Daily 10am-5pm. Admission £6, child £4. *Horse Guards, Whitehall, SW1A 2AX. 020 7930 3070. householdcavalrymuseum.co.uk.* ➡ ➡ *Westminster. Map D6.*

HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT Parliament's home since 1265, though the current building was constructed in the 19th century in neo-gothic style. Its clock tower houses the famous bell Big Ben. Watch debates and committees on a first come, first served basis. Learn about the history, politics, art and architecture of this world-famous building during a 75-minute tour every Sat. See the Queen's Robing Room, the Royal Gallery, Central Lobby and Westminster Hall. Sat 9.15am-4.30pm. Tour £16.50; child £7 (one child free with each paying adult, otherwise). *Westminster, SW1A 0AA. 0844 847 1672. parliament.uk/visiting.* ➡ ➡ *Westminster. Map D6.*

KENSINGTON PALACE This royal residence sits in Kensington Gardens and was Princess Diana's last home. **To 4 Jul:** *Fashion Rules.* Exquisite dresses once worn by HM Queen Elizabeth II, Princess Margaret and Diana, Princess of Wales form this exhibition. It explores how Royal figures represented the spirit of each decade. **LAST CHANCE To 6 Jan:** *Christmas At Kensington – Game Of Crowns.* Enjoy 17th-century style festive celebrations. Daily 10am-5pm. General admission £15, child (under 16) free. *Kensington Gardens, W8 4PX. 0844 482 7777. hrp.org.uk.* ➡ *High Street Kensington/Queensway. Map C1.*

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW A botanical research centre and World Heritage Site containing plants from across the globe, with a tropical greenhouse and a stunning pagoda. The Xstrata Treetop Walkway offers great views of the changing season. The Victorian Temperate House, dating from 1863, is closed for restoration until 2018.

LAST CHANCE To 4 Jan: *Christmas At Kew.* Each night, Kew is illuminated with lights, plus a festive village with stalls, music, vintage rides and treats (open until 10pm); tickets £12.50, child £8. Gardens open 9.30am, closing times vary; glasshouses and galleries close 3.45pm. Admission £16, child free. *Richmond, TW9 3AB. 020 8332 5655. kew.org.* ➡ ➡ ➡ *Kew Gardens. Off map.*



1. The View From The Shard, p. 34
2. St. Paul's Cathedral, p. 37
3. The Monument, p. 33
4. EDF Energy London Eye, p. 33
5. Up At The O₂, p. 58
6. Tower Bridge, p. 37

FAMILY SEA LIFE LONDON AQUARIUM One of Europe's largest aquaria, with 500 species of global marine life and walk-through tank tunnels. Meet green sea turtles Boris and Phoenix during the *VIP Turtle Feeding Experience* and learn about one of the world's largest species of sea turtle (tickets £55), or experience the thrilling *Shark Reef Encounter*. Mon-Sun 10am-7pm. Admission £20.70, child £15. Joint tickets with London Eye, London Dungeon and Madame Tussauds available. *County Hall, Westminster Bridge Road, SE1 7PB. 0871 663 1678. visitsealife.com/london.* ➡ ➡ *Westminster. Map D6.*

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LONDON BRIDGE EXPERIENCE An exciting history lesson describing the past of the 1,700-year-old London Bridge site. Tickets also include The London Tombs, housed in a former plague pit. Mon-Fri, Sun 10am-5pm; Sat 10am-6pm. Admission £23, child £17. 2-4 Tooley Street, SE1 2SY. 0844 847 2287. thelondonbridgeexperience.com.   London Bridge. Map C8.

LONDON DUNGEON At this world-famous attraction, spectacular sets, actors and special effects evoke ghoulish encounters from Britain's past in a grimly comedic style. Note, not for small children or the faint-hearted. Mon-Wed & Fri 10am-5pm; Thurs 11am-5pm; Sat & Sun 10am-6pm. Admission £24.60, child £19.20. Joint tickets with London Eye, London Aquarium and Madame Tussauds available. County Hall, Westminster Bridge Road, SE1 7PB. 0871 423 2240. thedungeons.com.   Waterloo. Map C6.

EDF ENERGY LONDON EYE This London icon is one of the world's largest observation wheels, and takes centre stage on the River Thames. Interactive screens in each pod give an insight into the landmarks on view. Take a Champagne Tasting Capsule to enjoy a glass of bubbly in one of the pods (tickets £47.50). Ride and river tour packages, plus joint tickets with the London Aquarium, Madame Tussauds and the London Dungeon available. Daily 10am-8.30pm. Admission from £19.20, child £12.30. South Bank, SE1 7PB. 0871 781 3000. londoneye.com.   Waterloo. Map C6.

FAMILY WWT LONDON WETLAND CENTRE On this 42-hectare wildlife reserve, look out for more than 100 species of rare and wild birds, plus a family of otters who live in a specially-designed holt. The otters are fed daily at 11am and 2pm. Tours and bird-spotting hides, and the Water's Edge Café. Daily 9.30am-5pm. Admission £10.59, child £5.91. Queen Elizabeth's Walk, SW13 9WT. 020 8409 4400. www.wwt.org.uk.  Barnes. Off map.

FAMILY ZSL LONDON ZOO The world's oldest scientific zoo, includes more than 750 species, including gorillas, meerkats, giraffes, lions and zebras. Check out the Tiger Territory and its endangered Sumatran residents. There's a colourful Aquarium and an exotic Reptile House too. Don't miss Rainforest Life

and Penguin Beach, among other attractions. Daily 10am-4pm. Admission from £21, child £16.50. Regent's Park, NW1 4RY. 020 7722 3333. zsl.org.  Camden Town. Map A4.

FAMILY MADAME TUSSAUDS Celebrated home of life-sized wax figures depicting famous people from the worlds of politics, sport, history and entertainment. Pose with your favourite legend and visit the terrifying Chamber Of Horrors and Scream experiences. Opening times vary; check website. Admission £30, child £25.80. Joint tickets with the London Eye, London Dungeon and London Aquarium available. Marylebone Road, NW1 5LR. 0871 894 3000. madametussauds.com.  Baker Street. Map A4.

MARITIME GREENWICH WORLD HERITAGE SITE Stunning neo-classical buildings on the River Thames, with World Heritage Status, including The Old Royal Naval College, The Chapel and The Painted Hall. Painted Hall and Chapel open daily 10am-5pm. College grounds open daily 8am-6pm. Tour £5. Admission free. 2 Cutty Sark Gardens, SE10 9LW. 0870 608 2000. visitgreenwich.org.uk.  Greenwich, or  Cutty Sark. Map inset.

THE MONUMENT This beautiful stone column nestling in the heart of the City was built in 1677 to commemorate the 1666 Great Fire Of London. Visitors can see architect and scientist Sir Christopher Wren's laboratory. Daily 9.30am-5.30pm. Admission £3, child £1.50. Joint ticket with the Tower Bridge Exhibition is available. Monument Street, EC3R 6BD. 020 7626 2717. themonument.info.  Monument. Map C8.

OLD ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE This baroque masterpiece is the home of British naval training, with costumed characters and tours. Grounds open daily 8am-6pm; Painted Hall, Chapel and Discover Greenwich visitor centre open daily 10am-5pm. Tours noon and 2pm; £5, child free. Admission free. Greenwich, SE10 9NN. 020 8269 4747. ornc.org.  Cutty Sark or  Greenwich.

QUEEN ELIZABETH OLYMPIC PARK Formerly the site of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, this impressive park is gradually reopening to the public; now you can visit the North Park. The South Park will open in Easter, and include the Aquatics Centre and the observation tower, the ArcelorMittal Orbit. Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, Stratford,

E20 2ST. 0800 072 2110. queenelizabeth.olympicpark.co.uk.   Stratford. Off map.

FAMILY RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT! This curiosity shop-style museum is a big hit. Explore a huge range of oddities, from a shrunken head to an albino alligator. Don't miss the mind-blowing Mirror Maze. Daily 10am-midnight (last entry 10.30pm). Admission £26.95, child £21.95. 1 Piccadilly Circus, W1J 0DA. 020 3238 0022. ripleyslondon.com.  Piccadilly Circus. Map C5.



Important Dates This Month

1 Jan: New Year's Day Parade

Colourful floats, 10,000 performers, and half a million people line the streets in this annual parade. Get groovy to the 60s theme. Sets off from outside The Ritz at 11.45am.

5 Jan: Twelfth Night

It may be time to take down the Christmas decorations, but instead of feeling gloomy join the *Twelfth Night* celebrations that kick off at Shakespeare's Globe and end in the George Inn. There's comic shows, dancers and a prize for whoever finds a bean in their cake!

25 Jan: Burns Night (pictured)

Haggis and whiskey, what else do you need to get into the Scottish spirit? To celebrate the Scottish poet, Robert Burns, restaurants and bars hold special evenings dedicated to the national icon.

31 Jan: Chinese New Year

Prolong the new year celebrations, and gallop into the Year of the Horse. Visit Chinatown, in Leicester Square, which is elaborately decorated with lanterns and lights. Festivities continue on the following weekend, in Trafalgar Square, with lion dancing, food stalls and a fireworks display.

ROYAL OBSERVATORY The home of Greenwich Mean Time. The Peter Harrison Planetarium has a programme of regular shows, including the child-friendly. Don't miss Undiscovered World, which explores how technology has led us to discover planets outside the solar system. **To 23 Feb:** *Astronomy Photographer Of The Year*. Talented photographers submit their images of the night sky. Daily 10am-5pm; Planetarium times vary. Admission £7, child £2.50; Planetarium £6.50, child £4.50. Blackheath Avenue, SE10 8XJ. 020 8858 4422. rmg.co.uk.  Cutty Sark  Greenwich. Map inset.

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE THEATRE

& EXHIBITION Visit this reconstruction of Shakespeare's original Elizabethan Globe Theatre and explore its fascinating exhibition spaces. The building has one of the only thatched roofs in London. Exhibition: Mon-Sun 10am-5.30pm. Tours: 10.30am-5pm. Admission £13.50, child £8. 21 New Globe Walk, SE1 9DT. 020 7902 1400. shakespearesglobe.com.   Blackfriars. Map C8.

THE VIEW FROM THE SHARD Hop in a high-speed 'kaleidoscopic' lift and enjoy the view from the top of the 310m-high skyscraper. This recent addition to the London skyline is the highest building in Western Europe. Sun-Wed 10am-7pm; Thur-Sat 10am-10pm (last entry one hour earlier). Advance booking recommended. Admission £29.95, child £23.95 (cheaper when bought online). *Joiner Street, SE1 9SP. theviewfromtheshard.com. 0844 499 7111.*   London Bridge. Map C9.

SOMERSET HOUSE Explore this neoclassical 18th-century building, which houses the famous Courtauld Gallery, cafés and restaurants.

LAST CHANCE To 5 Jan: Skate At Somerset House. Get into the festive spirit at this pop-up ice rink, and skate in front of the iconic building. Embankment level daily 10am-6pm; river terrace and Seamen's Hall daily 8am-11pm; courtyard daily 7.30am-11pm. General admission free. *Strand, WC2R 1LA. 020 7845 4600. somersethouse.org.uk.*  Temple. Map C6.

SOUTHBANK CENTRE World-famous arts centre that hosts exhibitions, music and dance performances and festivals (see Entertainment).

LAST CHANCE To 10 Jan: Winter Festival. The whole site gets into the festive spirit with art installations, markets and Christmas shows. Prices and opening times vary, check website for

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020 7960 4200. southbankcentre.co.uk.
🚶🚶🚶 *Waterloo/Embankment. Map C7.*

ST. JAMES'S PALACE One of London's oldest palaces, constructed in the 14th century and home to royalty for three centuries. Visitors can watch part of the Queen's Guard mount daily at 11am in Friary Court. Palace and house closed to the public. *Marlborough Road, SW1A 1BS.* royal.gov.uk. 020 7930 4832 🚶🚶 *St. James's Park. Map C5/D5.*

ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS Church with live classical and brass rubbing centre. Enjoy Jazz In The Crypt every Wed 8pm in the atmospheric Café In The Crypt. Check for opening times. Admission free; brass rubbing from £4.50. *Trafalgar Square, WC2N 4JJ.* 020 7766 1100. smitf.org.
🚶🚶 *Charing Cross. Map C6.*

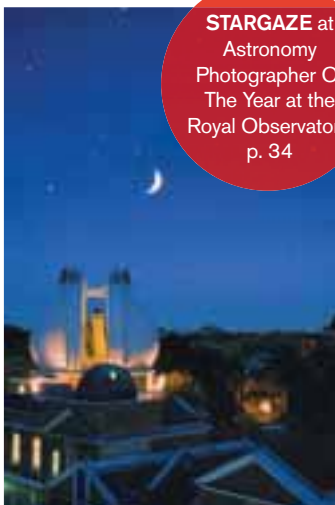
ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL Sir Christopher Wren's 300-year-old cathedral is filled with stunning mosaics and craftsmanship. Climb up the dome to the Whispering Gallery, then down to the crypt, with its monuments to famous Britons. Don't miss *Oculus: An Eye Into St. Paul's*, a 270-degree film experience for an excellent overview. Free tours. Mon-Sat 8.30am-4pm. Admission £16, child £7. *St. Paul's Churchyard, EC4M 8AD.* 020 7246 8357. stpauls.co.uk. 🚶🚶 *St. Paul's. Map B8.*

THE TOWER BRIDGE EXHIBITION This breathtaking bridge, designed in 1884, is one of London's most famous landmarks, offering wonderful views of the city (not to be confused with its less grand, but much older neighbour, London Bridge). Don't miss the exhibition *This Is London*, with illustrations by Czech artist Miroslav Sasek that provide a child-like perspective of the capital and its people. Daily 9.30am-5.30pm. Admission £8, child £3.40. Joint tickets with The Monument are available. *Tower Bridge Road, SE1 2UP.* 020 7403 3761. towerbridge.org.uk.
🚶🚶 *Tower Hill. Map C9.*

TOWER OF LONDON The world-famous historic landmark includes the Bloody Tower, Traitors' Gate and the Jewel House, home of the Crown Jewels. Admission includes the *Prisoners Of The Tower* exhibition, plus costumed tours. **8, 15, 22, 29 Jan:** *Tower Twilight Tours.* See famous sights like the Traitors Gate and the Bloody Tower (p. 33). Tues-Sat 9am-4.30pm; Sun & Mon 10am-4.30pm. Admission £19.50, child £9.75. *Tower Hill, EC3N 4AB.* 0844 482 7799. hrp.org.uk. 🚶🚶 *Tower Hill. Map C9.*

THE VAULT The Hard Rock Cafe's revamped rock 'n' roll memorabilia museum (p. 84). Daily 11.30am-9pm. Admission free. *Rock Shop, The Hard Rock Cafe London, 150 Old Park Lane, W1K 1QZ.* 020 7514 1700. hardrock.com.
🚶🚶 *Hyde Park Corner. Map D4.*

STARGAZE at
Astronomy
Photographer Of
The Year at the
Royal Observatory,
p. 34



FAMILY WARNER BROS. STUDIO TOUR LONDON Explore behind the scenes on *The Making Of Harry Potter* tour for a magical experience. Visitors can witness some of the film series' most iconic sets, including the Great Hall, Hagrid's Hut and the Gryffindor Common Room. **To 6 Jan:** *Hogwarts In The Snow.* Festive food props, decorations and fake snow. Advanced, timed tickets only online. Opening daily, times vary, please check website for details. Admission £30, child £22.50. *Studio Tour Drive, Leavesden, Hertfordshire,*

WD25 7LS. 08450 840 900. wbstudiotour.co.uk. 🚶🚶 *Watford Junction. Off Map.*

WELLINGTON ARCH Climb to the viewing galleries of this magnificent arch, which stands astride Hyde Park Corner for panoramic views over the Royal Parks and Parliament, plus an exhibition about the arch's history. Wed-Sun 10am-4pm. Admission £4, child £2.40. *Apsley Way, Hyde Park Corner, W1J 7JZ.* 020 7930 2726. english-heritage.org.uk.
🚶🚶 *Hyde Park Corner. Map D4.*

WESTMINSTER ABBEY Consecrated in the year 1065, this magnificent abbey is the crowning and burial site of most English

monarchs. It also houses Poets' Corner, the burial place of famous writers including Charles Dickens. Opening times vary, please check. Mon, Tues & Thurs-Fri 9.30am-3.30pm; Wed 9.30am-6pm; Sat 9.30am-1.30pm. Admission £18, child £8, under-11s free; tour £3. *Broad Sanctuary, SW1P 3PA. 020 7222 5152. westminster-abbey.org.*   Westminster. Map D6.

TOURS - GUIDED

BIG BUS TOURS Daily sightseeing trips aboard a fleet of open-top double-decker buses. Take in the city's very best sights guided by a multilingual commentary. A hop-on, hop-off ticket includes a river cruise and guided walking tours. Tickets £30, child £12, family £72. *48 Buckingham Palace Road, SW1W 0RN. 020 7233 9533. bigbustours.com.*   Victoria. Map D4.

CITY CRUISES Guided sightseeing tours on the River Thames between Westminster, Waterloo, Tower and Greenwich piers. Available every day. Lunch, tea and dinner cruises are available. The Red River Rover offers all-day, hop-on, hop-off sightseeing, while the London Showboat cabaret cruise boasts a four-course meal and wine. Ticket prices, times and departure points vary; please check the website for further details. 020 7740 0400. *citycruises.com.*

LONDON DUCK TOURS These unique tours start off in bright yellow amphibious World War II DUKW vehicles, which take you through the streets to see London's iconic landmarks. Then, you will transfer to the comfort of a river cruise boat to enjoy the sights of the river. Multiple daily departures Mon-Fri 10am-4pm, Sat-Sun 9.30am-4pm. Tickets £21, child £13. *Chicheley Street, SE1 7PY. 020 7928 3132. londonducktours.co.uk.*   Waterloo. Map D6.

ORIGINAL LONDON SIGHTSEEING TOUR With over 60 years' experience, these multilingual open-top guided bus tours take you to the city's best attractions, allowing you to hop on and off at more than 90 stops along the way. Tickets include walking tours and a special river cruise. Tickets £28, child £14. *17-19 Cockspur Street, SW1Y 5BL. 020 8877 1722. theoriginaltour.com.*   Charing Cross. Map C5.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL TOURS A 60-minute front-of-house tour around this neo-gothic Victorian concert hall, including the Royal Retiring Room, the auditorium and the

Queen's Box. Departs hourly on selected dates 10.30am-3.30pm. Check for Afternoon Tea Tours, and Family Victorian Experience tour. Tickets from £11. *Kensington Gore, SW7 2AP. 020 7589 8212. royalalberthall.com.*  South Kensington. Map D2.

SEE LONDON BY NIGHT TOUR Special winter tour in a double-decker bus that explores the West End and City under the cloak of darkness, giving visitors a unique view of the capital. There are regular departures from outside The Ritz at Green Park. Daily; please check for times. Tickets £15, child £10. *Piccadilly, W1J 9BR. 020 7183 4744. seelondonbynight.com.*  Green Park. Map C5.

TOURS - WALKING

BIG BUS WALKING TOURS Three tours to choose from, including *Ghosts By Gaslight* and *Royal London*; routes vary, please call in advance for details. Walks are free with the Big Bus Tour, or £5 if purchased separately. Daily from Trafalgar Square (  Charing Cross). *48 Buckingham Palace Road, SW1W 0RN. 020 7233 9533. bigbustours.com.*   Victoria. Map D4.

DR JOHNSON'S WALKS Departing from Dr Johnson's House (p. 44), the one-time home of writer Samuel Johnson and now a museum. Discover his life and work around Fleet Street and explore the Fleet Valley and St. Paul's Churchyard as Johnson knew them. Walks on the first Wednesday of each month. No booking required. 3pm. Tickets £5. *17 Gough Square, EC4A 3DE. 020 7353 3745. drjohnsonshouse.org.*  Chancery Lane. Map B7.

GOTOMIDTOWN More than 80 themed 45-minute free tours around central areas. There's no need to book. Check the website for dates and further details. The 10am & 1pm walks start by the orange information kiosk outside  Holborn station; walks starting at 11am, 2pm & 5.30pm meet at the Gotomidtown tourist information shop. *56 New Oxford Street, WC1A 1ES. 020 7078 7077. gotomidtown.co.uk.*  Tottenham Court Road. Map B5.

FAMILY JACK THE RIPPER TOUR Blue Badge Guide, Richard Jones, of London Walking Tours devised these popular walks, offering an intriguing, informative and chilling look at the infamous Jack The Ripper. Numbers are limited in order to give participants a

better experience. Booking is essential. The tours depart daily from outside ➡ Aldgate East at 7.30pm. Tickets £9. 020 8530 8443. rippertour.com.

LONDON WALKS London's oldest walking tour company offers more than 300 walks. Favourites include the *Jack The Ripper Walk* (departing daily at 7.30pm, plus Sat 3pm from ➡ Tower Hill) and *Charles Dickens' London*. Visitors can enjoy spine-tinglingly spooky stories on the Ghost Walks guaranteed to give you the chills every night at 7.30pm. Tickets £9, under-15s free (with adult). 020 7624 3978. walks.com.

ORIGINAL LONDON SIGHTSEEING WALKS

Walks depart daily from the centrally located Original London Visitor Centre and include *Changing The Guard* (departing 10.30am), *Rock 'n' Roll* (1pm) and *Jack The Ripper* (3.30pm from ➡ Tower Hill). Free with Original London Sightseeing Tour. 17-19 Cockspur Street, SW1Y 5BL. 020 8877 1722. theoriginaltour.com. ➡ Charing Cross. Map C6.

OUT OF TOWN

These are some of the top attractions within two hours of London. Times and prices may vary, so please call the individual venues, or a Tourist Information Centre (see Essential Information), before visiting. Train times are approximate.

STONEHENGE A beautiful and mysterious prehistoric circle of standing stones, which dates all the way back to 3,500 BC, and is a World Heritage Site. Daily 9.30am-4pm. Admission £8, child £4.80. Off A344 Road, Amesbury, Wiltshire, SP4 7DE. 0870 333 1181. english-heritage.org.uk. ➡ Waterloo to ➡ Salisbury (one hour and 20 mins).

FAMILY WARWICK CASTLE Built by William The Conqueror in 1068, this castle is now a family-friendly experience. Don't miss *Merlin: The Dragon Tower* and displays of medieval weaponry. Daily 10am-6pm. Admission from £30.60, child £25.80. Warwick, Warwickshire, CV34 4QU. 0192 649 5421. warwick-castle.com. ➡ Marylebone to ➡ Warwick (one hour and 40 mins).

WINDSOR CASTLE The world's oldest, largest inhabited castle, and one of the Queen's official residences. While you're there, visit the beautifully decorated State Apartments furnished with

paintings from the Royal Collection.

LAST CHANCE To 24 Jan: *Royal Paintbox*. Exhibition of artworks by royals including King George III and HM The Queen. Daily 9.45am-4.15pm (last admission 3pm). Admission £17.75, child £10.60. Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 1NJ. 020 7766 7300. royalcollection.org.uk. ➡ Waterloo to ➡ Windsor & Eton Riverside (one hour).



Tower Twilight Tours

Tried & Tested

There aren't many places with a more chilling history than the *Tower Of London*. The castle has been a fortress, a palace and a prison since it was built by William The Conqueror after the Norman Conquest in 1066 – and now the Tower's iconic Yeoman Warders are offering exclusive tours of the grounds during the most atmospheric hours, twilight.

The tour, which starts at 7pm, takes in famous sights including Traitors' gate, where prisoners were brought by boat before their confinement, and the Chapel of St. Peter Ad Vincula, in which the headless remains of Thomas Cromwell and countless unnamed others are buried.

If you're lucky you just might see one of the many ghosts that supposedly haunt the site, be it Anne Boleyn marching cross Tower Green, or the two murdered boy princes holding hands in the Bloody Tower.

In any event, it's an outdoor tour over uneven cobbles and up spiral stone staircases, so wear appropriate footwear and rain wear! Review by Matt Squires. *Tower Of London*, p. 37.

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

By Beatrice Yeatman-Biggs



Our
Pick

Diamond In The Rough

At the start of the 20th century, a group of demolition workers broke through the floor of a building on Cheapside in the City Of London and came across the stuff of dreams. Almost 500 pieces of exquisite jewellery gleamed from inside a hidden box, which have since been identified as late 16th and

early 17th-century gemstones.

But these pieces have been shrouded in mystery ever since: who owned the Hoard, why was it buried, and why was it never retrieved?



The Cheapside Hoard: London's Lost Jewels (to 27 Apr) at the Museum Of London (p. 46) casts new light on the

extraordinary cache of jewellery – among the dazzling collection are lavish necklaces, an emerald watch (pictured, left), brooches and scent bottles, from all over the globe. It is the first time the entire Hoard has been displayed since it was found in 1912.

It is now known that it was buried between 1640 and 1666 – an approximate date revealed by the Stafford Intaglio, a previously overlooked gemstone emblazoned with the badge of William Howard, the first and only Viscount Stafford, granted peerage in 1640.

The exhibition also reveals some interesting findings about Elizabethan and early Stuart London, including what it tells us about the period's jewellery trade and an insight into past construction techniques.

CHEAPSIDE HOARD MAIN IMAGE AND EMERALD WATCH © MUSEUM OF LONDON



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To dial the United Kingdom remove the first 0 and add 44. Here we list major museums and galleries, along with our selection of the best exhibitions currently on show.

Many venues offer free general admission, but charge entry to temporary exhibitions. Prices listed here are for tickets bought in person, unless otherwise stated – reductions may be available online.

Admission prices and opening hours can change at short notice, while the qualifying ages for 'child' admission prices vary – check with the venue before you visit.

KEY INFORMATION

Map: refers to the grid on our Central London Map.

TBC: To Be Confirmed.

Transport symbols: See Contents page for key.

MUSEUMS

BANK OF ENGLAND MUSEUM Charting the history of the nation's finances, from the Bank's foundation in 1694 to today. Mon-Fri 10am-5pm. Admission free. *Threadneedle Street, EC2R 8AH.* 020 7601 5545. bankofengland.co.uk. Bank. Map B8.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HOUSE The US Founding Father lived here before the signing of the Declaration Of Independence. Architectural tours Mon noon, 1pm, 2pm, 3.15pm, and 4.15pm; historical shows Wed-Sun noon, 3.15pm and 4.15pm. Admission £7, child free. 36 *Craven Street, WC2N 5NF.* 020 7925 1405. benjaminfranklinhouse.org. Charing Cross. Map C6.

BRITISH LIBRARY The world's largest library, with a permanent collection and temporary exhibitions. **To 11 Mar:** *Georgians Revealed: Life, Style And The Making Of Modern Britain.* Reveals the everyday revolution that took place in Britain between 1714 and 1830, through books, newspapers, maps, advertisements and artworks.

LAST CHANCE **To 26 Jan:** *Picture This: Children's Illustrated Classics.* Renowned illustrations of classic 20th century children's books, including *The Wind In The Willows* and *The Hobbit*. Mon to Thurs 9.30am-8pm; Fri 9.30am-6pm; Sat 9.30am-5pm; Sun & bank hols 11am-5pm. Admission free; guided

tour prices vary. 96 *Euston Road, NW1 2DB.* 020 7412 7332. bl.uk/everyone. King's Cross St. Pancras/Euston. Map A5.

BRITISH MUSEUM Array of international cultural history from ancient Egyptian mummies to the Elgin Marbles. **To 23 Mar:** *Beyond El Dorado: Power And Gold In Ancient Colombia.* Fascinating look at the myth behind the legend of a lost city of gold in South America.

LAST CHANCE **To 5 Jan:** *Shunga: Sex And Pleasure In Japanese Art.* Sexually explicit paintings, prints and illustrations created in Japan between 1600 and 1900. Not suitable for children. Sat-Thurs 10am-5.30pm; Fri 10am-8.30pm. Admission free; charges for special exhibitions. *Great Russell Street, WC1B 3DG.* 020 7323 8299. britishmuseum.org. Tottenham Court Road. Map B5/6.

BRITISH MUSIC EXPERIENCE Britain's award-winning museum of popular music, filled with iconic memorabilia and state-of-the-art interactive displays, including over 3,000 exhibits. You can play instruments, and use a 'smart' ticket to download content to take home. Daily 11am-7.30pm. Admission £13, child £6.50. *The O2, Peninsula Square, SE10 0DX.* 020 8463 2000. britishmusicexperience.com. North Greenwich. Off map.

CHARLES DICKENS MUSEUM Former home of Victorian novelist Charles Dickens, where he wrote novels including *Oliver Twist*. Decorated in early Victorian style as it might have been when Dickens lived here, it features his personal possessions. Costumed tours every third Sat of the month (on these days the museum opens at 12.30pm). Mon-Sun 10am-5pm (closed 1 & 6 Jan). Admission £8; child £4. 48 *Doughty Street, London WC1N 2LX.* dickensmuseum.com. Russel Square. Map A6.

CINEMA MUSEUM This collection encompasses every aspect of going to the movies, from advertising and architecture to photographs and projectors. Visits only by guided tour, which must be booked in advance. Daily 11am-4.30pm. Admission £10, child £7. 2 *Dugard Way, SE11 4TH.* 020 7840 2200. cinemamuseum.org.uk. Elephant & Castle. Off map.

CLINK PRISON MUSEUM A former prison dating back to 1144, it houses an exhibition about London's penal past and instruments of torture. It's said to be haunted by the ghosts



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of former occupants. Mon-Fri 10am-6pm; Sat-Sun 10am-7.30pm. Admission £7.50, child £5.50. 1 Clink Street, SE1 9DG. 020 7403 0900. clink.co.uk.   London Bridge. Map C8.

DE MORGAN CENTRE Excellent collection of ceramics and paintings by pre-Raphaelite artists, William and Evelyn De Morgan.

LAST CHANCE To 11 Jan: *Inspired: Tepee Glass Collective: A Selling Exhibition*. Jewellery, dishes, windows and glass installations form this exhibition, all for sale. Tues-Fri 1pm-5pm; Sat 11am-5pm (to 9pm first Thurs of each month). Admission £3.60, child free. 38 West Hill, SW18 1RX. 020 8871 1144. demorgan.org.uk.  East Putney. Off map.

DESIGN MUSEUM World-leading museum that examines the influence of contemporary design. To 9 Mar: *Hello My Name Is Paul Smith*. Explores the world of the internationally famed fashion designer through his collections and influences. Daily 10am-5.45pm. Admission £10.75, child free. 28 Shad Thames, SE1 2YD. 020 7403 6933. designmuseum.org.   Tower Hill. Map C9.

DR JOHNSON'S HOUSE Dr Samuel Johnson compiled the first comprehensive English dictionary in this period home. The building dates from the 18th century. Mon-Sat 11am-5pm. Admission £4.50, child £1.50. 17 Gough Square, EC4A 3DE. 020 7353 3745. drjohnsonshouse.org.  Chancery Lane. Map B7.

THE FAN MUSEUM The world's only museum dedicated to the art of the fan features pieces from around the globe, some dating back as far as the 11th century. Tues-Sat 11am-5pm; Sun noon-5pm. Admission £4, child free. 12 Crooms Hill, SE10 8ER. 020 8305 1441. thefanmuseum.org.uk.   Cutty Sark. Map inset.

FASHION AND TEXTILE MUSEUM British textile designer Zandra Rhodes is behind this hub of contemporary fashion, textiles and jewellery. To 11 Jan: *The Glamour Of Bellville Sassoon*. Highlights the influence of renowned couture label Bellville Sassoon, and traces its history from the 1950s couture houses to celebrity clients such as Diana, Princess Of Wales.

NEW From 31 Jan: *Artist Textiles: Picasso To*



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V&A Rotunda Chandelier, Dale Chihuly, 1999. Photography by Peter Durant

V&A

Warhol. Looks at the history of 20th century art through textiles. Includes works by Salvador Dali, Henri Matisse, Pablo Picasso and Andy Warhol. Tues-Sat 11am-6pm. Exhibition £8, child free. 83 Bermondsey Street, SE1 3XF. 020 7407 8664. ftmlondon.org.

🚶🚶🚶 London Bridge. Off map.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MUSEUM

Museum about the work of this pioneering 19th-century British nurse and health reformer, widely known as 'The Lady With The Lamp'. Daily 10am-5pm. Admission £5.80, child £4.80. 2 Lambeth Palace Road, SE1 7EW. 020 7620 0374. florence-nightingale.co.uk.

🚶🚶🚶 Waterloo. Map D6.

FREUD MUSEUM Former home of the trailblazing Austrian psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud, where you can see his famous couch, among other things. **To 2 Feb:** *Mad, Bad And Sad: Women And The Mind Doctors*. Examines female patients' relationships with those who cared for them psychologically, and how women use art to explore the mind and imagination, featuring work by Sarah Lucas, Tracey Emin and Alice Anderson, among others. Wed-Sun noon-5pm. Admission £6, child free. 20 Maresfield Gardens, NW3 5SX. 020 7435 2002. freud.org.uk. 🚶🚶🚶 Finchley Road. Off map.

GALLERY IN THE CRYPT This Palladian church holds classical and jazz music events, and has a café and even a brass rubbing centre. Opening hours vary; check website for details. Admission free. *St. Martin-In-The-Fields*, Trafalgar Square, WC2N 4JJ. 020 7766 1100. smittf.org. 🚶🚶🚶 Charing Cross. Map C6.

GARDEN MUSEUM Created in 1980, the museum has a 17th-century tomb, contemporary galleries and a busy events calendar. Sun-Fri 10.30am-5pm; Sat 10.30am-4pm. Admission £7.50, child free. *Lambeth Palace Road*, SE1 7LB. 020 7401 8865. gardenmuseum.org.uk. 🚶🚶🚶 Westminster/Lambeth North. Map D6.

GEFFRYE MUSEUM Historic 18th-century almshouses with rooms recreating English interiors from 1600 to the present.

FAMILY To 5 Jan: *Christmas Past*. The museum's period rooms are decorated with authentic festive decorations as they would have been in middle class homes over the past 400 years. Reveals how festive traditions came to be. **To 9 Feb:** *Who Once*

Lived In My House? Project that uncovers forgotten or obscured histories of people's homes. Tues-Sun & bank hols, 10am-5pm. Admission free. 136 Kingsland Road, E2 8EA. 020 7739 9893. geffrye-museum.org.uk. 🚶🚶🚶 Hoxton. Off map.

GUARDS MUSEUM Uniforms and more relating to the five regiments of the Queen's Foot Guards. 10am-4pm. Admission £5, child free. *Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk*, SW1E 6HQ. 020 7414 3428. theguardsmuseum.com. 🚶🚶🚶 St. James's Park. Map D5.

Our Pick



Xu Bing In Wonderland

The *Victoria And Albert Museum* is already one of London's most popular attractions, and now visitors can even get a taste of utopia there too. Chinese artist Xu Bing has breathed new life into the John Madejski Garden with his installation *Travelling To The Wonderland* (to 2 Mar), modelling the courtyard into a dreamlike landscape inspired by the Chinese fable *Tao Hua Yuan* (*The Peach Blossom Spring*).

'Mountains' have been created out of layered stone placed around a central water feature, dotted with small handmade ceramic houses. The installation is running parallel to *Masterpieces Of Chinese Painting 700-1900* (p. 47, pictured above), featuring artworks so fragile that they've previously never left Asia.

Victoria & Albert Museum, p. 47.



HANDEL HOUSE MUSEUM Anglo-German composer George Frideric Handel lived here for 36 years. Faithfully restored, the museum hosts exhibitions and ticketed music recitals. Tues-Sat 10am-6pm. Sun noon-6pm. Recital times and prices vary. Admission £6, child £2 (free Sat & Sun). 25 Brook Street, W1K 4HB. 020 7495 1685. handelhouse.org. 🚶 Bond Street. Map B4.

HORNIMAN MUSEUM & GARDENS

Displays ranging from natural history to musical instruments make up a collection based upon that of the adventuring Victorian tea trader Frederick John Horniman. Includes a wonderful aquarium. **To 2 Mar:** *After Life*. Poignant photographic portraits of endangered or extinct animals that have been preserved in museums. **To 1 Sep:** *The Art Of Harmony*. Display of some of the finest, rarest musical instruments that uncover the traditions of Western classical music. Daily 10.30am-5.30pm. Admission free; charges for aquarium and special exhibitions. 100 London Road, SE23 3PQ. 020 8699 1872. horniman.ac.uk. 🚶 Forest Hill. Off map.

LONDON TRANSPORT MUSEUM

Interactive exhibits exploring the past, present and future of the capital's transport network, with more than 80 historic vehicles plus glorious old advertising posters.

LAST CHANCE To 5 Jan: *Poster Art 150: London Underground's Greatest Designs*. Celebrates the 150th anniversary of the Tube through 150 of the greatest Underground posters, some by famous artists such as Paul Nash and Edward McKnight Kauffer. Mon-Thurs & Sat-Sun 10am-6pm; Fri 11am-6pm. Admission £15, child free. 39 Wellington Street, WC2E 7BB. 020 7379 6344. ltmuseum.co.uk. 🚶 Covent Garden. Map C6.

MUSEUM OF LONDON The world's largest urban history museum includes the Galleries Of Modern London, which tell the story of the capital from 1666 to the present day. **To 27**

Apr: *The Cheapside Hoard: London's Lost Jewels*. Major exhibition about the Cheapside Hoard – a priceless collection of 16th- and early 17th-century jewels and gemstones discovered in 1912, buried in a cellar on Cheapside in the City Of London. **To 16 Mar:** *Tomfoolery*. Black and white portraits of men in their 'bling' (jewellery) taken by acclaimed photographer Ross Trevail. **To 27 Apr:** *Made In London: Jewellery Now*. Collection of pieces by London's most talented jewellery designers. Daily 10am-6pm. Admission free. London Wall, EC2Y 5HN. 020 7001 9844. museumoflondon.org.uk. 🚶 St. Paul's. Map B8.

MUSEUM OF LONDON DOCKLANDS

The intriguing history of the meandering River Thames, from its time as a Roman thoroughfare

to the regeneration of the Docklands. Displays include *London, Sugar & Slavery*, which charts the history of the transatlantic slave trade and its links to the city. The gallery *Many East Ends*, explores the culture and history of the area through the eyes of its inhabitants. Daily 10am-6pm. Admission free. West India Quay, E14 4AL. 020 7001 9844. museumoflondon.org.uk/docklands.

🚶 DLR 🚶 Canary Wharf. Map inset.

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

ASTOUNDING collections, with exhibits ranging from the Images Of Nature gallery

to dinosaur skeletons and fossils. The Treasures gallery houses some of the museum's most precious artefacts.

FAMILY To 23 Mar: *Wildlife Photographer Of The Year*. Stunning images highlighting the wonders of the natural world, picked from thousands of international entries. Daily 10am-5.50pm. Admission free; charges for special exhibitions. Cromwell Road, SW7 5BD. 020 7942 5000. nhm.ac.uk. 🚶 South Kensington. Map D2.

OLD OPERATING THEATRE MUSEUM & HERB GARRET

A fascinating relic of the original St. Thomas' Hospital. It's built in the space of a church and dates from 1822. Inside



LOOK OUT
for the London
Art Fair, p. 52

you'll encounter bizarre medical implements and hair-raising stories of operations in times before the invention of anaesthetic. Note: there are lots of stairs. Daily 10.30am-5pm. Admission £6.20, child £3.50. 9a St. Thomas Street, SE1 9RY. 020 7188 2679. thegarret.org.uk.

  London Bridge. Map C8.

POLLOCK'S TOY MUSEUM A pair of neighbouring houses in the heart of Fitzrovia boasts a unique collection of toys. Historical board games, different types of dolls, toy theatres and more are crammed into every nook and cranny. There's a wonderful toy shop on the ground floor. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm. Admission £6, child £3. 1 Scala Street, W1T 2HL. 020 7636 3452. pollockstoymuseum.com.

 Goodge Street. Map B5.

THE QUEEN'S HOUSE This 17th-century house, once home of Charles I's queen, Henrietta Maria, now displays the museum's fine art collection. **To 1 Apr:** *Van De Velde Drawings*. Collection of drawings from Willem van de Velde The Elder (c.1611-1693) and Younger. Works portray naval battles, ships, and sea scenes. Daily 10am-5pm. Admission free. *Queen's House, Romney Road, Greenwich, SE10 9NF*. 020 8312 6565. rmg.co.uk/queens-house.

  Cutty Sark. Off map.

SCIENCE MUSEUM A huge museum, dedicated to science and technology, with changing exhibitions and an IMAX 3D cinema.

FAMILY To 6 May: *Collider: Step Inside The World's Greatest Experiment*. Immersive exhibition which explores the biggest scientific experiment ever constructed, CERN's Large Hadron Collider. It's the highest energy particle Collider ever made – and will address some of the biggest unsolved questions of physics.

To 16 Mar: *Only In England: Photographs By Tony Ray-Jones And Martin Parr*. At Media Space (the Museum's galleries) witness previously unseen images by photographer Tony Ray-Jones, displayed alongside black-and-white photographs taken by Martin Parr during the 1970s. Reflects on the men's fascination with the English. Daily 10am-6pm. Admission free; charges for special exhibitions. *Exhibition Road, SW7 2DD*. 0870 870 4868. sciencemuseum.org.uk.  South Kensington. Map D2.

SHERLOCK HOLMES MUSEUM Dedicated to the famous fictional detective and kept exactly as described in the author, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's thrilling stories. Daily 9.30am-

6pm. Admission £8, child £5. 221b Baker Street, NW1 6XE. 020 7224 3688. sherlock-holmes.co.uk.  Baker Street. Map A3.

SIR JOHN SOANE'S MUSEUM The celebrated 19th-century architect's Georgian home-turned-museum was designed to show off his outstanding collection of antiques and art. Museum tours daily; times vary.

LAST CHANCE To 25 Jan: *Alan Sorrell: A Life Reconstructed*. See the works of artist Alan Sorrell (1904-1974). Best remembered for his archaeological drawings, he was also a teacher and writer. Tues-Sat 10am-5pm. Admission free. 13 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2A 3BP. 020 7405 2107. soane.org.  Holborn. Map B6.

VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM The V&A's collection of fine and applied arts spans 3,000 years and includes ceramics, fashion, paintings, photographs and illustrations from around the world. **To 16 Feb:** *Club To Catwalk: London Fashion In The 1980s*. More than 80 outfits are brought together in this reflection on the daring looks of the decade, featuring designs by fashion's iconic names, including Katharine Hammett. **To 19 Jan:** *Pearls*. Pearls across cultures comprise more than 200 pieces of jewellery and works of art in this dazzling exhibition. **To 19 Jan:** *Masterpieces Of Chinese Painting 700-1900*. Rare surviving works from worldwide collections. Includes silk figure and landscape paintings, and works that reflect the introduction of Western influences.

To 21 Apr: *Jameel Prize 3*. International art prize for contemporary artists and designers inspired by Islamic traditions of art, craft and design. See work by 10 shortlisted artists and designers, including video installations and Arabic typography. Sat-Thurs 10am-5.45pm; Fri 10am-10pm. Admission free; charges for special exhibitions. *Cromwell Road, SW7 2RL*. 020 7942 2000. vam.ac.uk.

 South Kensington. Map D2/3.

V&A MUSEUM OF CHILDHOOD National collection of childhood objects dating back to the 16th century. **To 9 Mar:** *War Games*. Explores the relationship between conflict and children's play through toys, games and archive documents.

FAMILY To 1 Jun: *Confiscation Cabinets*. Charming collection of artefacts accumulated from 150 different London primary and secondary schools over three decades. Artist and former teacher Guy Tarrant has investigated pupil interaction, play and resistant behaviour

– as characterised by the toys within the exhibition. Daily 10am-5.45pm. Admission free. *Cambridge Heath Road, E2 9PA. 020 8983 5200. museumofchildhood.org.uk.* Bethnal Green. Off map.

WALLACE COLLECTION The former Wallace family home displays their beautiful collection of rococo art, sculpture and furniture. Paintings include Jean-Honoré Fragonard's 18th-century masterpiece *The Swing*. Free hour-long tours on selected dates.

LAST CHANCE To 26 Jan: *White Light/White Heat: Contemporary Artists & Glass*. Features work by major contemporary artists and designers, many of whom are using glass as a medium for the first time. To 19 Jan: *The Male Nude: Eighteenth-Century Drawings From The Paris Academy*. French drawings of male nude figures, created between the late 17th and late 18th centuries, by artists such as Nattier, Boucher and Rigaud. Daily 10am-5pm. Admission free. *Hertford House, Manchester Square, W1U 3BN. 020 7563 9500. wallacecollection.org.* Bond Street. Map B4.

WELLCOME COLLECTION Medicine, life and art are explored in this fascinating and sometimes bizarre collection, which includes shrunken heads and ancient remedies. Tues-Wed & Fri-Sat 10am-6pm; Thur 10am-10pm; Sun 11am-6pm. Admission free. *183 Euston Road, NW1 2BE. 020 7611 2222. wellcomecollection.org.* Euston. Map A5.

MILITARY MUSEUMS

CHURCHILL WAR ROOMS Former prime minister Sir Winston Churchill fought World War II from this fortified basement. Daily 9.30am-6pm. Admission £15.90, child free. *Clive Steps, King Charles Street, SW1A 2AQ. 020 7930 6961. iwm.org.uk.* Westminster. Map D5.

FIREPOWER, THE ROYAL ARTILLERY MUSEUM Europe's biggest artillery collection, with interactive galleries and big guns. Tues-Sat

10am-5pm, plus bank hols. Admission £5.30, child £2.50. *Royal Arsenal, SE18 6ST. 020 8855 7755. firepower.org.uk.* Woolwich Arsenal. Off map.

IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM LONDON Huge displays of conflicts, particularly those that involve Britain and the Commonwealth.

FAMILY To 4 Jan: *Horrible Histories: Spies*. Family-friendly exhibition based on Terry Deary's book series. To 21 Apr: *Donovan Wylie: Vision As Power*. Photographer Wylie's images reveal the impact of modern military architecture on the surrounding landscape. To 27 Apr: *War Story: Supplying Frontline Afghanistan*. Photographs, interviews and time-lapse footage collected during recent excursions to Afghanistan. Daily 10am-6pm. Admission free. *IWM London, Lambeth Road, SE1 6HZ. 020 7416 5000. iwm.org.uk.*

Lambeth North. Off map.

NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM The story of the British Army told through displays, events and lectures. To 31 Mar: *Unseen Enemy*. Explores the use of improvised explosive devices in recent conflicts. Daily 10am-5.30pm. Admission free. *Royal Hospital Road, SW3 4HT. 020 7730 0717. nam.ac.uk.* Sloane Square. Off map.

NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM exploring Britain's maritime history and future. To 21 Apr: *Turner And The Sea*. Striking works that reflect

J. M. W. Turner's fascination with the sea. Daily 10am-5pm. Admission free; charges for special exhibitions. *Romney Road, SE10 9NF. 020 8858 4422. rmg.co.uk.* Cutty Sark. Off map.

ROYAL AIR FORCE MUSEUM National aviation museum on the historic London Aerodrome site, with over 100 aircraft.

FAMILY To 3 May: *Airfix: Making History*. Profiles the plastic scale model aeroplanes. Daily 10am-6pm. Admission free. *Grahame Park Way, Hendon, NW9 5LL. 020 8205 2266. rafmuseum.org.* Colindale. Off map.



Great Museums

1. British Museum, p. 42
2. Horniman Museum, p. 46
3. Natural History Museum, p. 46
4. Science Museum, p. 47
5. Victoria And Albert Museum, p. 47

Westminster Abbey

Dickens' Dream at
The Charles Dickens MuseumLondon
Legend

Experience

Charles Dickens' London

In Dickens's book *Little Dorrit*, the title character was christened at *St. George The Martyr Church*. Built in 1734 it still stands today, opposite Borough Tube station. It even has a café you can visit, the Dragon Café. *Borough High Street, SE1 1JA. 020 7357 7331. stgeorge-themartyr.co.uk.*
 ➔ *Borough. Map C8.*

The church was familiar to the young Dickens when his father was an inmate of Marshalsea Debtors Prison next door, the remaining wall of which can be seen in public park, *St. George's Churchyard Garden*, just opposite off Tabard Street.

Fleet Street pub *Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese* was rebuilt shortly after the Great Fire of 1666. It was frequented by Dickens and was featured in *A Tale Of Two Cities*, when Charles Darnay recharges 'with a good plain dinner and good wine.' *145 Fleet Street, EC4A 2BU. 020 7353 6170.*
 ➔ *Chancery Lane. Map B7.*

Dating from 1669, the City Of London's *Royal Exchange* was the meeting and bartering place for the merchants of London in Dickens' time. Now you can admire the architecture as you browse its high-end boutiques and cafés. *The Courtyard, EC3V 3LR. 020 7283 8935. theroyalexchange.co.uk.*
 ➔ *DLR Bank. Map B8.*

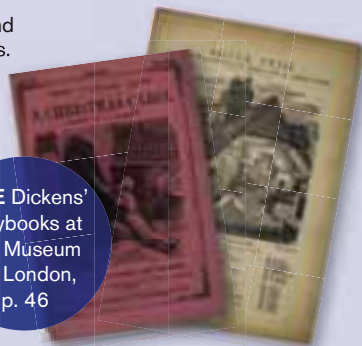
Dickens lived on Doughty Street in Bloomsbury from 1837 until 1839. His former home was first opened to the public in 1925. Now called the *Charles Dickens Museum* it's recently undergone a major refurbishment, so go along and check out all its improvements. *48 Doughty Street, WC1N 2LX. 020 7405 2127. dickensmuseum.com.* ➔ *Russell Square. Map A6.*

St. Paul's Cathedral is mentioned in many of Dickens' works. For example *David Copperfield* takes

friend Peggotty to the top of *St. Paul's*, to enjoy its impressive views over London, which is something visitors still do today. *St. Paul's Churchyard, EC4M 8AD. 020 7246 8357. stpauls.co.uk.*
 ➔ *St. Paul's. Map B8.*

Visitors can reflect on the man and his work in Dickens' final resting place at Poets' Corner inside *Westminster Abbey*, where he was buried on 14 June 1870. *Broad Sanctuary, SW1P 3PA. 020 7222 5152. westminster-abbey.org.*
 ➔ *Westminster. Map D6.*

SEE Dickens' playbooks at the Museum Of London, p. 46



MAIN GALLERIES

BARBICAN ART GALLERY & THE CURVE

Europe's largest multi-arts venue has two exhibition spaces: the Barbican Art Gallery and The Curve. **To 9 Feb:** *Pop Art Design*. Examines the influence of the pop art movement on design between the 1950s and 1970s. Works include those by artists such as Andy Warhol, Peter Blake and Roy Lichtenstein.

LAST CHANCE To 5 Jan: *Ayşe Erkmen: Intervals*. In The Curve, Turkish artist Ayşe Erkmen's backdrops are brought to our attention through ambitious subject matter. Opening hours vary; check website for details. Curve admission

free; charges for special exhibitions. *Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2Y 8DS. 020 7638 4141. barbican.org.uk. 📍 Barbican. Map A8/B8.*

COURTAULD GALLERY Important European art collection, plus temporary exhibitions, housed in Somerset House. **To 12 Jan:** *The Young Dürer: Drawing The Figure*. Outstanding drawings by the young Albrecht Dürer, reflecting his extensive travels.

LAST CHANCE To 12 Jan: *Richard Serra: Drawings For The Courtauld*. Internationally celebrated draughtsman and sculptor Serra has created 12 striking drawings, produced using dense black lithographic crayon on transparent plastic sheets. Daily 10am-6pm. Admission £6, child free. Admission £3 all day Mon. *Somerset House, Strand, WC2R 0RN. 020 7848 2526. courtauld.ac.uk. 📍 Temple. Map C6.*

DULWICH PICTURE GALLERY England's first public art gallery was founded in 1811 and today holds one of the finest collections of Old Masters in the UK. The building was designed by 19th-century architect Sir John Soane (p. 47).

LAST CHANCE To 12 Jan: *An American In London: Whistler And The Thames*. First major exhibition dedicated to the American-born artist James Abbott McNeill Whistler's time in London (from 1859 to 1903), featuring drawings, etchings and paintings. Tues-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat-Sun 11am-5pm. Admission £6, child free; charges for special exhibitions. *Gallery Road, SE21 7AD. 020 8693 5354. dulwichpicturegallery.org.uk. 📍 Herne Hill. Off map.*

THE FLEMING COLLECTION Collection of Scottish art comprising over 750 oils and watercolours from 1770 to the present day. Works include those by Raeburn, Ramsay and Wilkie, among others. **To 1 Mar:** *Foundation & Trust: (un)coverings*. Audit of paintings from the permanent collection by artist's collective The Foundation Trust – who critique and examine institutional models through their work. Tues-Sat 10am-5.30pm. Admission free. *13 Berkeley Street, W1J 8DU. 020 7042 5730. flemingcollection.co.uk. 📍 Green Park. Map C5.*

GUILDHALL ART GALLERY & ROMAN AMPHITHEATRE

Temporary exhibitions, extracts from the City Of London's permanent collection and the remains of a Roman amphitheatre. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm. Sun noon-4pm. Admission free; charges for special exhibitions. *Guildhall Yard, off*



Our
Pick

Queen Of Style

"Fashion is a vampiric thing, it's the Hoover on your brain. That's why I wear the hats, to keep everyone away from me" ...so said Isabella Blow, the late fashion editor, muse and all-round creative inspiration.

Blow's hugely successful career began as an assistant on *US Vogue*, after which she rose to become Fashion Director at *Sunday Times Style* magazine and *Tatler* magazine. She had a brilliant, distinctive style that enamoured fellow creatives (such as designer Alexander McQueen, pictured, above left), hence her persona as muse, most notably to milliner Philip Treacy. His hats became Blow's own trademark look, and are displayed, among many of her other vibrant clothes, in the exhibition *Isabella Blow: Fashion Galore*, which also explores her life and work. *Somerset House, p. 52.*

Gresham Street, EC2V 5AE. 020 7332 3700.
guildhallartgallery.cityoflondon.gov.uk.
🚶🏻  Bank. Map B8.

HAYWARD GALLERY The Southbank Centre's contemporary arts space featuring a range of events and exhibitions.
NEW From 29 Jan: *Martin Creed*. Major survey of work by the British artist, who is famous for his Turner-prize winning pieces. Creates minimalistic art, full of humour. Mon noon-6pm; Tues-Wed 10am-6pm; Thurs & Fri 10am-8pm. Admission £11, child free. *Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road, SE1 8XX*. 08448 750 073. southbankcentre.co.uk. 🚶🏻   Waterloo. Map C6.

ICA The Institute Of Contemporary Arts boasts galleries, a book shop, a bar and cinemas.
LAST CHANCE To 26 Jan: *Bloomberg New Contemporaries 2013*. Outstanding students from UK art schools have been chosen for this exhibition of contemporary works, spanning sculpture, photography, video and installation. Past participants include Jake & Dinos Chapman, Anthony Gormley and David Hockney. Tues-Wed & Fri-Sun 11am-6pm; Thurs 11am-9pm. Admission free. *1 The Mall, SW1Y 5AH*. 020 7930 3647. ica.org.uk. 🚶🏻   Charing Cross. Map C5.

NATIONAL GALLERY One of the world's greatest collections of Western European painting, including works by Leonardo da Vinci and Vincent van Gogh.
LAST CHANCE To 12 Jan: *Facing The Modern: The Portrait In Vienna 1900*. Portraiture collection, including works by Gustav Klimt and Richard Gerstl. Explores the multi-national, multi-ethnic, multi-faith city in 1900. Sat-Thurs 10am-6pm; Fri 10am-9pm. Admission free; charges for special exhibitions. *Trafalgar Square, WC2N 5DN*. 020 7747 2885. nationalgallery.org.uk. 🚶🏻   Charing Cross. Map C5.

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY British history through the ages told via portraits of famous and influential people. **To 5 Jan:** *Elizabeth I & Her People*. Learn about the Elizabethan period in this exhibition charting the reign of Elizabeth I, through the portraiture of the Queen and her people. **To 9 Feb:** *Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize 2013*. Major international photographic portrait award open to amateurs and professionals. Sixty of the best images are selected for display; the winner receives £12,000. **To 1 Jun:** *Michael*

Peto Photographs: Mandela To McCartney. Celebration of photojournalist Michael Peto's career through 10 photographs taken in London during the 1950s and 1960s. Subjects include Elizabeth Taylor with Richard Burton, Nelson Mandela and The Beatles. Admission free; charges for special exhibitions. Sat-Wed 10am-6pm; Thurs & Fri 10am-9pm. *St. Martin's Place, WC2H 0HE*. 020 7312 2463. npg.org.uk. 🚶🏻  Leicester Square. Map C6.

PHOTOGRAPHERS' GALLERY

Soho gallery specialising in international and British photography.
NEW From 17 Jan: *Happenstance*. Competition open to those who explore digital production through photography and animation. Selected finalist will have their work displayed at the gallery. **To 5 Jan:** *Home Truths: Photography, Motherhood And Identity*. Eight contemporary artists explore representations of motherhood that challenge conventional stereotypes. Addresses gender roles, domesticity and the body, among other issues. Mon-Wed & Fri-Sat 10am-6pm; Thurs 10am-8pm; Sun 11.30am-6pm. Admission free. *16-18 Ramillies Street, W1F 7LW*. 020 7087 9300. photonet.org.uk. 🚶🏻  Oxford Circus. Map B5.

QUEEN'S GALLERY Over 500 years of treasures from the Royal Collection displayed at Buckingham Palace, including paintings, furniture, ceramics, silver, jewellery and textiles. **To 16 Mar:** *Castiglione: Lost Genius*. Stunning large-scale, vibrant compositions by Baroque artist Giovanni Benedetto Castiglione (1609-64). Was celebrated for his tender drawings and prints. **To 16 Mar:** *Gifted: From The Royal Academy To The Queen*. In celebration of the Diamond Jubilee, the Royal Academy Of Arts (below) presented the Queen with works from high-profile artists including Anish Kapoor and Grayson Perry, featured in this exhibition. Daily 10am-5.30pm. Admission £9.50, child £4.80. *Buckingham Palace, SW1A 1AA*. 020 7766 7300. royalcollection.org.uk. 🚶🏻  Victoria. Map D5.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Founded in 1768, the RA stages regularly-changing exhibitions and varied events.
LAST CHANCE To 26 Jan: *Daumier (1808-1879): Visions Of Paris*. 19th-century artist Honoré Daumier made his living as a newspaper caricaturist, observing bourgeois society. Spans his work from 1830 to 1961 through paintings, drawings, watercolours and sculptures. **To 16**

Feb: *Bill Woodrow RA*. Display of humorous and inventive works, spanning sculptor Woodrow's entire career, from the early 1970s to the present day. Admission free; charges for special exhibitions. Fri 10am-10pm; Sat-Thurs 10am-6pm. *Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1J 0BD*. 020 7300 8000. royalacademy.org.uk.

➔ *Green Park/Piccadilly Circus*. Map C5.

SHIRLEY SHERWOOD GALLERY OF BOTANICAL ART

Part of Kew Gardens, this gallery is the first in the world dedicated solely to botanical art.

LAST CHANCE To 19 Jan: *Rory McEwan's Legacy: Artists Influenced By Him In The Shirley Sherwood Collection*. Explores the work of contemporary illustrators influenced by the exceptionally talented botanical artist Rory McEwan. Open daily 9.30am; closing times vary. Admission £14.50, child free. *Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, TW9 3AB*. 020 8332 5655. kew.org. ➔ *Kew Gardens*. Off map.

SOMERSET HOUSE This neoclassical 18th-century building houses the Courtauld Gallery.

To 2 Mar: *Isabella Blow: Fashion Galore!*

Major fashion exhibition celebrating the legacy of late magazine editor, muse and creative inspiration, Isabella Blow. Features her famous clothes collection.

LAST CHANCE To 26 Jan: *Stanley Spencer: Heaven In A Hell Of War*. Poignant, dreamlike paintings from the acclaimed British artist. Tells the story of Spencer's personal wartime experiences, leading up to the 100th commemoration of the outbreak of World War I. Large-scale works feature elements of the banal and everyday; the 'heaven' that soldiers were dreaming of within the battlefields of 'hell'. Daily 10am-6pm. Admission free. *Strand, WC2R 1LA*. 020 7845 4600. somersethouse.org.uk.

➔ *Temple/Embankment*. Map C6.

TATE BRITAIN Traditional and contemporary galleries showcasing British art.

LAST CHANCE To 5 Jan: *Art Under Attack: Histories Of British Iconoclasm*. Explores the history of physical attacks on art in Britain from the 16th century to the present. **To 9 Feb:** *Painting Now: Five Contemporary Artists*. Show of recent work by Tomma Abts, Gillian Carnegie, Simon Ling, Lucy McKenzie and Catherine Story, that opens up discussion on what painting means today. Daily 10am-6pm. Admission free; charges for special exhibitions. *Millbank, SE1P 4RG*. 020 7887 8888. tate.org.uk.

➔ *Pimlico*. Off map.

TATE MODERN Compelling contemporary art in a huge converted power station.

To 9 Mar: *The EY Exhibition: Paul Klee*. Swiss painter Klee was a highly influential figure in the 20th-century art world. See his abstract drawings and watercolours plus the characteristic 'magic square' paintings.

LAST CHANCE To 19 Jan: *Mira Schendel*. Paintings, drawings and sculptures by one of Latin America's most prolific post-war artists, reflecting her interest in faith, self-understanding and existence. Admission free; charges for special exhibitions. Sun-Thurs 10am-6pm; Fri & Sat 10am-10pm. *Bankside, SE1 9TG*. 020 7887 8888. tate.org.uk. ➔ *Southwark*. Map C7/8.

WHITECHAPEL GALLERY Cutting-edge

East End exhibition space showcasing a range of contemporary art.

NEW From 15 Jan: *Hannah Höch*. Part of the Berlin Dada movement, German artist Höch (1889-1978) was known for her radical collages on the themes of gender and identity. Displays her work between the 1910s and the 1970s. Tues-Sun 11am-6pm; Thurs 11am-9pm. Admission free. *77-82 Whitechapel High Street, E1 7QX*. 020 7522 7888. whitechapelgallery.org. ➔ *Aldgate East*. Map B9.

WILLIAM MORRIS GALLERY This gallery houses the art collection and works of 19th-century visionary William Morris. You'll also find designs, paintings and furniture by other influential Victorians, including pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood member Dante Gabriel Rossetti.

NEW From 11 Jan: *A Memory Palace Of Her Own*. Self portraits by Dutch artist Margje Bijl, known as a contemporary double of William Morris' wife and muse, Jane Morris. The portraits are photographed in the Morris' former home – echoing Jane's life story. Wed-Sun 10am-5pm. Admission free. *Forest Road, E17 4PP*. 020 8496 4390. wmgallery.org.uk.

➔ ➔ *Walthamstow Central*. Off map.

ART FAIRS

LONDON ART FAIR 15-19 Jan: Modern British contemporary art fair, featuring work by artists from the early 20th century to the present – both from the UK and overseas. Admission £17; child free. Wed & Thur 11am-9pm; Fri 11am-7pm, Sat 10am-7pm; Sun 10am-5pm. *Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, N1 0QH*. londonartfair.co.uk. ➔ *Angel*. Off map.



CENTRAL LONDON MAP

For key, please see page 53



SPORT

By Emma Levine



A Different Ball Game

If you want to practise your penalty-kicking skills to be the next Jonny Wilkinson, or find out why William Webb Ellis didn't actually invent the game, head to the newly revamped *World Rugby Museum* (p. 58).

Located under the East Stand of Twickenham Stadium (pictured, above), which is one of the world's most famous and largest sporting venues, the museum has recently reopened after a complete makeover.

Its newly enhanced galleries now house more than 25,000 iconic pieces of sporting memorabilia – that's the largest collection in the world of rugby-related items. Look out for the engraved silver Calcutta

Cup, made in 1879 for just 270 rupees for the tournament played annually between England and Scotland. A century-old braided black velvet cap from the New Zealand team is one of many historic items of clothing. There are also iconic pieces of film archive including past World Cup footage fit for any rugby fan.

An exciting new feature is the fully interactive Play Rugby Zone (above right), where visitors get a chance to try out their own skills, including agility, speed, jumping, scoring a try and of course, kicking prowess. Perhaps it'll make us realise just how difficult it is to get the ball between the sticks! Fans of all



nations will love learning about the origins of this great sport – which has its roots in Rugby School, right here in England.

One thing that all rugby followers are looking forward to next year is the *2015 Rugby World Cup* (18 Sep-31 Oct, 2015). England are the hosts and Twickenham Stadium is one of the venues, in addition to the Olympic Stadium and Wembley. For more information on the latest sports events, go to visitlondon.com/events.

TWICKENHAM STADIUM © RFU VIA GETTY IMAGES; PLAY RUGBY ZONE © LEO WILKINSON PHOTOGRAPHY

KEY INFO

Map: refers to grid on our Central London Map.
Transport symbols: see Contents page for key.

WATCH

FOOTBALL

English Premier League fixtures:

1 Jan: Arsenal vs Cardiff.

18 Jan: Arsenal vs Fulham.

Emirates Stadium, 75 Drayton Park, N5 1BU.
020 7619 5000. arsenal.com.  *Holloway Road/Arsenal. Off map.*

18 Jan: Chelsea vs Man Utd.

29 Jan: Chelsea vs West Ham.

Stamford Bridge, Fulham Road, SW6 1HS.
0871 9841 955. chelseafc.com.  *Fulham Broadway. Off map.*

1 Jan: Crystal Palace vs Norwich.

18 Jan: Crystal Palace vs Stoke.

28 Jan: Crystal Palace vs Hull.

Selhurst Park, Whitehorse Lane, SE25 6PU.
cpcfc.co.uk.   *Norwood Junction. Off map.*

1 Jan: Fulham vs West Ham.

11 Jan: Fulham vs Sunderland.

Craven Cottage, Stevenage Road, SW6 6HH.
0843 208 1234. fulhamfc.com.  *Putney Bridge. Off map.*

11 Jan: Tottenham vs Crystal Palace.

29 Jan: Tottenham vs Man City.

White Hart Lane, 748 High Road, N17 0AP.
0844 844 0102. tottenhamhotspur.com.
 *White Hart Lane. Off map.*

18 Jan: West Ham vs Newcastle.

Boleyn Ground Green Street, Upton Park, E13 9AZ. 0871 529 1966. whufc.com.
 *Upton Park. Off map.*

BASKETBALL

16 Jan: NBA Global Games London 2014:

Atlanta Hawks vs Brooklyn Nets.

The O₂ Arena, Peninsula Square, SE10 0DX.
0844 856 0202 theo2.co.uk.   *North Greenwich. Map inset.*

SNOOKER

12-19 Jan: The Masters. Tournament for the world's top 16 players. *Alexandra Palace, N22 7AY.* 0844 871 8807. alexandrapalace.com.
 *Alexandra Palace. Off map.*

WIMBLEDON LAWN TENNIS MUSEUM & TOUR



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Open Daily: **10:00am until 5:00pm**

Nearest Underground: **Southfields**

Telephone: **020 8946 6131**

The Museum Building, The All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club, Church Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 5AE

WIMBLEDON.COM/MUSEUM



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TOURS & MUSEUMS

ARSENAL STADIUM TOURS & MUSEUM

Self-guided audio tours of Emirates Stadium takes you to the changing rooms, players' tunnel and museum. The *Legends Tour* is led by former Arsenal players such as 70s hero Charlie George. Daily, please check for times (no tours on match days). *Legends Tour* on selected dates. Audio tour and museum £17.50, child £9. *Legends Tour* £35, child £18. 75 Drayton Park, N5 1BU. 020 7619 5000. arsenal.com.

➔ Holloway Road/Arsenal. Off map.

CHELSEA FC STADIUM TOURS & MUSEUM

Fully guided tours of 'the Bridge'

to see the dressing rooms and players' tunnel. Get your photo taken with the (replica) Champions League trophy. Daily (no tours on match day). Museum only £11, child £9. Tour and museum £20, child £13. Stamford Bridge, Fulham Road, SW6 1HS. 0871 9841 955. chelseafc.com/tours.

➔ Fulham Broadway.

Off map.

FULHAM FC STADIUM TOURS

Tour London's oldest Premier League football club, including the Chairman's Lounge, pitch-side dugouts, and the home team's changing room. Please check for dates. 11.15am and 1.15pm. Ticket £12, child £9. Match tickets from £30, child £20. Craven Cottage, Stevenage Road, SW6 6HH. 0843 208 1234. fulhamfc.com. ➔ Putney Bridge. Off map.



CHECK OUT
the Wimbledon
Lawn Tennis
Museum

LORD'S CRICKET GROUND Visit the home of world cricket, including the MCC Museum (home of the original tiny Ashes urn), the Long Room lined with portraits, players' dressing rooms and the J.P. Morgan Media Centre. Please check for times. Architectural tours available. Museum only: Adult £7.50, child £5. Tour £18, child £12. St. John's Wood Road, NW8 8QN. 020 7616 8595. lords.org. ➔ St. John's Wood. Map A2.

WEMBLEY STADIUM TOURS Get a behind-the-scenes look at one of the world's most famous football stadiums and concert venues, including the dressing rooms, players' tunnel onto the pitch and have your picture taken with a

replica of the FA Cup. Daily 10am-4pm. Tickets £16, child £9. Olympic Way, HA9 0WS. 0844 800 2755. wembleystadium.com/wembley-tours. ➔ Wembley Park. Off map.

WIMBLEDON LAWN TENNIS MUSEUM

Featuring trophies, tennis memorabilia and sporting fashions. Tour the grounds, including Centre Court, and meet John McEnroe's 'ghost'. Daily 10am-5pm. Museum £12, child £7; museum and tour £22, child £13. The All England Lawn Tennis And Croquet Club, Church Road, SW19 5AE. 020 8946 6131. wimbledon.com/museum. ➔ Southfields. Off map.

WORLD RUGBY MUSEUM & TWICKENHAM TOUR

This refurbished museum chronicles the sport's history. Museum Tues-Sat 10am-5pm; Sun 11am-5pm. Tours daily, check for times. Tour and museum admission £15, child £9.

Twickenham Stadium, Rugby Road, TW1 1DZ. 020 8892 8877. rfu.com/museum.

➔ Twickenham. Off map.

ACTIVITIES

ALL STAR LANES A 50s style, all-American and fun 10-pin bowling alley for all ages, with bar and restaurant. Mon-Thurs 4pm-11.30pm; Fri noon-2am; Sat 11am-2am; Sun 11am-11pm. Bowling from £6.95;

child £5.95. Victoria House, Bloomsbury Place, WC1B 4DA. 020 7025 2676. allstarlanes.co.uk. ➔ Holborn. Map B6.

CAPITAL KARTS Brand new, Britain's longest and fastest indoor Go Karting track offers an exhilarating racing experience. Two-seater carts also available. Suitable for ages 8+, and the disabled. Prices from £33. Unit 1 Rippleside, Barking, IG11 0RJ. capitalkarts.com. 020 7100 4412. ➔ Barking. Off map.

UP AT THE O₂ This exciting attraction at The O₂ gives visitors the chance to walk over the top of the iconic arena. Wheelchair access available. Open 10am, closing times vary, please check website. Tickets from £25. Peninsula Square, SE10 0DX. theo2.co.uk/upattheo2. ➔ North Greenwich. Map inset.



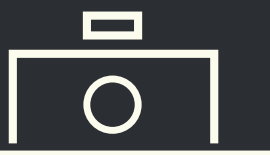
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SPORT IS GREAT

BRITAIN



ENTERTAINMENT

By David G. Taylor



The Globe's New Tudor Playhouse

When the life-sized riverside replica of William Shakespeare's Globe Theatre was first planned, it was always intended to include an additional indoor theatre to complement the Globe's open-air 16th-century Elizabethan design.

It was American film director and actor Sam Wanamaker (father of actress Zoë Wanamaker) who instigated the project, and so it's fitting that the new indoor theatre should be called the Sam Wannamaker Playhouse (pictured inset). It differs from the iconic Shakespeare's Globe because it draws on roofed 17th-century Jacobean designs, and will of course, provide a warm space for productions to be staged during the winter months, when



its outdoor counterpart is closed. Unique among London venues, its structure is made from handcrafted oak, will be lit by hundreds of candles during performances, and provides pit seating for 340 people.

The Playhouse stages its first production this month with

English dramatist John Webster's *The Duchess Of Malfi* (from 9 Jan, p. 67) starring Gemma Arterton (*Tamara Drewe*). First performed at the original Globe between 1613-14, the play's considered one of the greatest dramas of the English Renaissance. Directed by Dominic

Dromgoole, the tragedy set in Italy concerns a recently widowed Duchess who marries beneath her class, to the wrath of her family. Dealing with themes

including corruption, incest, the abuse of power and the status of women, and ending in murder, it's a brutal and macabre tale, something that Jacobean theatregoers loved.



ALL IMAGES (STOCKPHOTO; EXCEPT THE ARTIST'S IMPRESSION OF THE SAM WANAMAKER PLAYHOUSE © SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE/ALLIES+MORRISON)

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BOOKING TICKETS

visitlondon.com offers a secure online booking service, or buy from other legitimate agents registered with the Society Of Ticketing Agents & Retailers (star.org.uk).

Find a range of bargain tickets at the **TKTS** booth in Leicester Square (map C5).

For assisted performances and more, order the free **Access London Theatre** brochure (Society Of London Theatre on 020 7557 6700. Email: enquiries@solttma.co.uk).

Shows sometimes close early or make schedule changes, so check when booking.

KEY INFORMATION

Key: refers to numbers on our Theatreland Map.

Map: refers to the grid on our Central London Map.

TBC: To Be Confirmed.

In rep: In repertoire – so performances alternate.

Transport symbols: see Contents page for key.

MUSICALS & PERFORMANCE

LAST CHANCE
AMERICAN PSYCHO

To 25 Jan: A new musical based on the novel by Bret Easton Ellis and 2000 film. It's a satire of 1980s consumerism, in which young Patrick Bateman leads a double-life as a businessman and serial killer. Daily 7.30pm; Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £8-£45. *Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street, N1 1TA. 020 7359 4404. almeida.co.uk.*

 *Highbury & Islington. Off map.*

BILLY ELLIOT THE MUSICAL The story of a northern boy whose macho father tries to quash his dream of becoming a ballet dancer. Set during the financial hardships of the 1980s miners' strike, this Olivier Award-winning show has music by Sir Elton John. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Thurs & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £19.50-£67.50. *Victoria Palace Theatre, Victoria Street, SW1E 5EA.* 0844 811 0055. billyelliottthemusical.com.   *Victoria.* Key 49.

THE BODYGUARD MOBO Award-winner
Beverley Knight plays a pop star seeking
protection from a stalker. Based on the 1992
film, this new show features songs made famous
by Whitney Houston like *I Will Always Love You*.
Tickets £20-£67.50. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Wed &
Sat 3pm. *Adelphi Theatre, Strand, WC2R 0NS*.
0844 579 0094. thebodyguardmusical.com.
 Charing Cross. Key 1.

THE BOOK OF MORMON From the writers of TV's South Park, comes this controversial satire about organised religion and other hot topics. It follows the exploits of two hapless missionaries from the Church Of The Latter Day Saints. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Wed & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £49.50-£74.50. *Prince Of Wales Theatre, Coventry Street, W1D 6AS. 0844 482 5110.*
bookofmormonlondon.com
 Leicester Square. Key 38.

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY A new musical version of Roald Dahl's tale of an ordinary boy and an extraordinary confectioner. A once-in-a-lifetime competition has Wonka Bar devotees vying for a behind-the-scenes tour. A mostly new score includes the 1971 film's song *Pure Imagination*. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Wed & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £25-£67.50. *Theatre Royal Drury Lane, Catherine Street, WC2B 5JF, 0844 871 8810. charlieandthechocolatefactory.com.*

 Covent Garden.
Key 45.



NEW CIRQUE DU SOLEIL – QUIDAM From
4 Jan: Awesome aerial acts and more
 (p. 71). Times vary. Tickets £26.50-£95. Royal
 Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, SW7 2AP. 0845
 401 5045. cirquedusoleil.com.   South
 Kensington. Map D2.

THE COMMITMENTS World premiere of a musical based on Roddy Doyle's book and 1991 film. It's about an Irish music fan who creates a credible soul band from amateur locals. Tues-Sun 7.30pm; Sat & Sun 3pm. Tickets £10-£67.50. *Palace Theatre, 109 Shaftesbury Avenue, W1D 8AY. 0844 412 4656. thecommitmentslondon.com.  Leicester Square. Key 33.*

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Our
Pick

Bags Of Ballerinas

Airborne plastic bags seemingly dancing like ballerinas to the music of Debussy, provides a mesmerising opening to this year's 38th annual *London International Mime Festival* (8 Jan-1 Feb), which celebrates visual and physical theatre and takes place at venues across London.

The festival's opening bag ballet performance is by France's *Compagnie Non Nova*, a troupe set up in 1998 by Phia Ménard. Titled *L'Après Midi D'un Foehn* (8-11 Jan), it takes place at the Platform Theatre at Central Saint Martins University Of The Arts in King's Cross.

Among many other festival highlights you'll find *One Step Before The Fall*

(23-26 Jan) at the Barbican, from the Czech Republic's Spitfire Company and set in a boxing ring, and the UK premiere of Mathurin Bolze's *A Bas Bruit*, which pays homage to French New Wave cinema. 020 7637 5661. mimelondon.com.



DIRTY DANCING – THE CLASSIC STORY

ON STAGE An energetic love story based on the 1987 dance film. Set in 1950s America, it's a coming-of-age tale concerning a romance between a teenage girl and a holiday camp dance instructor. Hit songs include (*I've Had*) *The Time Of My Life*. Tues-Sat 7.30pm; Sun 7pm; Sat & Sun 2.30pm. Tickets £26.50-£67. *Piccadilly Theatre*, 16 Denman Street, W1D 7DY. 0844 871 7630. dirtydancingonstage.co.uk. Piccadilly Circus. Key 35.

FROM HERE TO ETERNITY

Tim Rice's wartime musical is based on James Jones' 1951 novel, following an illicit love affair on a Hawaiian army base in the leading up to the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Wed & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £18-£83. *Shaftesbury Theatre*, 210 Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2H 8DP. 020 7379 5399. fromheretoeternitythemusical.com. Tottenham Court Road. Key 42.

FUERZABRUTA To 2 Mar: An Argentinian spectacular with extraordinary sights including a watery ballet on a transparent sheet suspended above the audience. Standing only. Contains nudity and strobe lighting. Times vary. Tickets £32.50-£46.50. *The Roundhouse*, Chalk Farm Road, NW1 8EH. 0844 482 8008. roundhouse.org.uk. Chalk Farm. Off map.

JERSEY BOYS The Olivier Award-winning story of American pop sensations Frankie Valli And The Four Seasons, charting their meteoric career from the mid-1960s. Songs include *Big Girls Don't Cry*. Tues-Sat 7.30pm; Tues & Sat 3pm, Sun 5pm. Tickets £24.50-£69.50. *Prince Edward Theatre*, 28 Old Compton Street, W1D 4HS. 0844 482 5151. jerseyboyslondon.com. Leicester Square. Key 37.

LES MISÉRABLES The world's longest-running musical has lost none of its impact. Adapted from the Victor Hugo novel, it's an epic tale of love and courage amid a violent 1832 Paris uprising in post-Revolutionary France. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Wed & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £10 (standing)-£67.50. *Queen's Theatre*, 51 Shaftesbury Avenue, W1D 6BA. 0844 482 5160. lesmis.com. Piccadilly Circus. Key 39.

LET IT BE Tribute to The Beatles (p. 13). Mon & Wed-Sat 7.30pm, Sun 7pm; Sat & Sun 3pm. Tickets £15-£90. *Savoy Theatre*, Savoy Court, Strand, WC2R 0ET. 0844 871 7687. letitbelondon.com. Charing Cross. Key 41.

THE LIGHT PRINCESS A new musical about a mourning prince and princess. The grief makes him heavy-hearted, while she levitates bizarrely in the air. It's written by singer-songwriter Tori Amos and playwright Samuel Adamson. In rep. Tickets £12-£48. *National Theatre, South Bank, SE1 9PX. 020 7452 3000. nationaltheatre.org.uk.*  Waterloo. Key 27.

FAMILY DISNEY'S THE LION KING Now in its 15th year in Theatreland, this is a wonderful adaptation of the Disney film with ingenious costumes and innovative puppetry. The evil Scar sets out to kill the lion prince and claim the throne. Tunes include *Can You Feel The Love Tonight?* Tues-Sat 7.30pm; Wed, Sat & Sun 2.30pm. Tickets £22.70-£97.70. *Lyceum Theatre, 21 Wellington Street, WC2E 7RQ. 0844 871 3000. thelionking.co.uk.*  Covent Garden. Key 24.

MAMMA MIA! A tribute to the music of the Swedish pop legends ABBA, with a feel-good story that hinges on wedding day revelations on a Greek island. Hit songs include *The Winner Takes It All*. Mon-Sat 7.45pm; Thurs & Sat 3pm. Tickets £15-£67.50. *Novello Theatre, Aldwych, WC2B 4LD. 020 7812 7498. mamma-mia.com.*  Covent Garden. Key 30.

FAMILY MATILDA THE MUSICAL Roald Dahl's comic kids' book is brought to life in an excellent musical stage version by British writer Dennis Kelly and Australian comic Tim Minchin. It's about a gifted five-year-old girl whose sadistic headmistress and ignorant family have failed to realise that she's actually a genius. Tues 7pm, Wed-Sat 7.30pm; Wed & Sat 2.30pm, Sun 3pm. Tickets £20-£67.50. *Cambridge Theatre, Seven Dials, WC2H 9HU. 0844 412 4652. matildathemusical.com.*  Covent Garden. Key 8.

MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT Eric Idle's comedy musical is largely based on the 1975 film *Monty Python And The Holy Grail*. Join the escapades of King Arthur and his Knights Of The Round Table as they search for the holy grail, braving French insults and the Knights That Say "Ni!" Mon-Thurs 8pm; Fri 6pm & 9pm; Sat 2.30pm & 8pm. Tickets £20-£75. *Playhouse Theatre, Northumberland Avenue, WC2N 5DE. 0844 871 7631. spamalotontour.co.uk.*  Embankment. Key 36.

ONCE A romance blossoms between an Irish busker and a young Czech mother united by their love of music. This new musical is based



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on the 2006 film, written by Ireland's Enda Walsh. It includes the Oscar-winning song *Falling Slowly*. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Thurs & Sat 3pm. Tickets £19.50-£49.50. *Phoenix Theatre*, 110 Charing Cross Road, WC2H 0JP. 0844 871 7629. oncemusical.co.uk. 🚗 🚇 Tottenham Court Road. Key 34.

NEW THE ONLY WAY IS DOWNTON A one-man show sending up TV drama *Downton Abbey*. Impressionist Luke Kempner (*Avenue Q*) stars. Tickets £20-£30. Sun-Sat 7.45pm; Thurs & Sat 3pm. *Trafalgar Studios*, 14 Whitehall, SW1A 2DY. 0844 871 7632. atgtickets.com. 🚗 🚇 Charing Cross. Key 47.

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA A mysterious masked man haunting the Paris Opera House falls for a beautiful soprano singer in this gothic romance. Based on the novel by French writer Gaston Leroux, its songs include *The Music Of The Night*. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Thurs & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £21-£95. *Her Majesty's Theatre*, 57 Haymarket, SW1Y 4QL. 0844 482 9674. thephantomoftheopera.com. 🚗 🚇 Piccadilly Circus. Key 19.

STEPHEN WARD Andrew Lloyd Webber's new musical is about the 1963 sex scandal that rocked British politics. Ward was a well-connected osteopath whose fall from grace risked ensnaring a web of friends, including stars, spies, models, government ministers and aristocrats. Alexander Hanson (*Jesus Christ Superstar*) heads the cast. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Wed & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £15-£67.50. *Aldwych Theatre*, 49 Aldwych, WC2B 4DF. 0844 847 2379. stephenwardthemusical.com. 🚗 🚇 Charing Cross. Key 3.

STOMP A multi-award-winning fusion of theatre, dance, comedy and rhythmic percussion. Performers innovate with everyday items (such as dustbin lids, lighters and a kitchen sink), to create music and spectacle. Mon & Thurs-Sat 8pm, Sun 6pm; Thurs, Sat &

Sun 3pm. Tickets £26-£52.50. *Ambassadors Theatre*, West Street, WC2H 9ND. 0844 811 2334. stomplondon.com. 🚗 🚇 Leicester Square. Key 2.

THRILLER - LIVE Non-stop hit songs and razor-sharp choreography celebrate the career of the late Michael Jackson, and the Jackson 5. Songs include *Billie Jean*. Tues-Fri & Sun 7.30pm, Sat 8pm; Sat 4pm, Sun 3.30pm. Tickets £27.50-£62.50. *Lyric Theatre*, 29 Shaftesbury Avenue, W1D 7ES. 0844 482 9674. thrillerlive.com. 🚗 🚇 Piccadilly Circus. Key 25.



Our
Pick

Save On Seats

The moneysaving *Get Into London Theatre* season returns (1 Jan-13 Feb)! See top shows for a fraction of the usual price. Participating shows include *Billy Elliot* *The Musical*, *The Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-Time*, *Disney's The Lion King*, *Mamma Mia!*, *The Phantom Of The Opera*, *The Wind In The Willows* and *Wicked*. For more details see, p. 17.

£21.25-£97.75. *Apollo Victoria Theatre*, 17 Wilton Road, SW1V 1LG. 0844 826 8000. wickedthemusical.co.uk. 🚗 🚇 Victoria. Key 5.

PLAYS

THE 39 STEPS Comic adaptation of the 1935 Alfred Hitchcock film and John Buchan's novel. Four actors play more than 139 roles between them, as British hero Richard Hannay ends up on the run, being pursued by secret agents during World War One. Mon-Sat 8pm; Wed 3pm, Sat 4pm. Tickets £10-£42.50. *Criterion Theatre*, 218-223 Piccadilly Circus, SW1Y 4XA. 0844 847 1778. love39steps.com. 🚗 🚇 Piccadilly Circus. Key 10.

WE WILL ROCK YOU Set in a bleak futuristic world where rock music has been banned, it boasts anthems by the band Queen, including *Bohemian Rhapsody*. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Wed & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £16.25 (standing)-£66.25. *Dominion Theatre*, 268-269 Tottenham Court Road, W1T 7AQ. 0844 847 1775. weillrockyou.co.uk. 🚗 🚇 Tottenham Court Road. Key 11.

WICKED This multi award-winning show tells the tale of two magical girls from the Land Of Oz who grow up to be rivals. It's the backstory of the good and wicked witches, made famous in L. Frank Baum's iconic book *The Wonderful Wizard Of Oz*. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Wed & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets

CORIOLANUS To 8 Feb: As war and famine lay siege to Rome, Josie Rourke directs Shakespeare's tragedy of of political manipulation and revenge. Tom Hiddleston stars (*War Horse*). 6-11 Dec: Daily 7.30pm. From 12 Dec: Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Thurs & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £10-£35. *Donmar Warehouse, 41 Earlham Street, WC2H 9LX. 0844 871 7624. donmarwarehouse.com.* 🚶🚶🚶 Covent Garden. Key 12.

NEW CUCKOO 14-25 Jan: Life gets more exciting for a bored housewife when she meets her daughter's new friend. Suitable for ages 18+. Times vary. Tickets £10-£16. 147 Tooley Street, SE1 2HZ. 020 7645 0560. *unicorntheatre.com.* 🚶🚶🚶 London Bridge. Map C9.

THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME The National Theatre's production of Mark Haddon's book. It follows a 15-year-old boy with Asperger syndrome, as he solves the murder of his neighbour's dog. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Thurs & Sat 7.30pm. Tickets £12-£57.50. *Apollo Theatre, 31 Shaftesbury Avenue, W1D 7ES. 020 7452 3000. nimaxtheatres.com.* 🚶🚶🚶 Piccadilly Circus. Key 4.

NEW THE DUCHESS OF MALFI From 9 Jan: Tragedy awaits when a widowed Duchess marries beneath her (p. 60). Tues-Sat 7.30pm; Thurs, Sat & Sun 2.30pm. Tickets £10-£60. *Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, Shakespeare's Globe, 21 New Globe Walk, SE1 9DT. 020 7401 9919. shakespearesglobe.com.* 🚶🚶🚶 Blackfriars. Map C8.

NEW HAPPY DAYS From 23 Jan: Juliet Stevenson (*Truly Madly Deeply*) in Samuel Beckett's surreal masterpiece about a woman sinking into the earth. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Wed & Sat 2pm (except 25 & 29 Jan). Tickets £10-£35. *Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 8LZ. 020 7922 2922. youngvic.org.* 🚶🚶🚶 Waterloo. Key 52.

HENRY V To 15 Feb: Jude Law (*Alfie*) stars in the Bard's drama about a king at war with France. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Wed & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £10-£57.50. *Noël Coward Theatre, 85-88 St. Martin's Lane, WC2N 4BG. 020 7922 2922. atgtickets.com.* 🚶🚶🚶 Leicester Square. Key 14.

JEEVES & WOOSTER: PERFECT NONSENSE To 8 Mar: A new comedy, based on the works of British author P.G. Wodehouse. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Wed & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £20-£85. *Duke Of York's*

Theatre, 104 St. Martin's Lane, WC2N 4BG. 0844 871 3051. jeevesandwoosterplay.com. 🚶🚶🚶 Leicester Square. Key 14.

NEW THE MISTRESS CONTRACT From 30 Jan: Abi Morgan's play is about an elderly American couple who live in separate houses and have an unusual arrangement. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Thurs & Sat 3pm. Tickets £10-£32. *Royal Court Theatre, 50-51 Sloane Square, SW1W 8AS. 020 7565 5000.* 🚶🚶🚶 Sloane Square. Off map.

MOJO To 1 Feb: In 1958 London, an aspiring rock 'n' roll star gets caught between gangsters and seedy Soho lowlifes in Jez Butterworth's black comedy. Rupert Grint (*Harry Potter*) is among the cast. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Thurs & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £15-£85. *Harold Pinter Theatre, Panton Street, SW1Y 4DN. 0844 871 7622. mojotheplay.com.* 🚶🚶🚶 Piccadilly Circus. Key 18.

Our
Pick



Ales & Tall Tales

Donmar Warehouse hit *The Weir* transfers to the West End's Wyndham's Theatre this month (from 16 Jan, p. 69). It retains the original cast with stars including Brian Cox (*Manhunter*), Dervla Kirwan (*Ballykissangel*) and Ardal O'Hanlon (*Father Ted*).

Written by acclaimed Irish playwright Conor McPherson in 1997 and directed here by Josie Rourke, it's set in a remote rural Irish pub, where four men try and impress new neighbour Valerie with their stories of ghosts, fairies and mysterious happenings from Irish folklore, but Valerie has a supernatural story of her own to share, and it's true.



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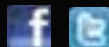
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THE MOUSETRAP A murderer strikes at a remote country house party in Agatha Christie's whodunnit. Now more than 60 years old, this is the world's longest-running show. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Tues 3pm, Sat 4pm. Tickets £16.60-£43.10. *St. Martin's Theatre, West Street, WC2H 9NZ. 0844 499 1515. the-mousetrap.co.uk.* 📍 Leicester Square. Key 40.

NEW NOT I, FOOTFALLS, ROCKABY 9-18 Jan: Actress Lisa Dwan (*Bhopal: A Prayer For Rain*) with a one-woman Samuel Beckett trilogy. Daily 8pm. Tickets £10-£25. *Royal Court Theatre, 50-51 Sloane Square, SW1W 8AS. 020 7565 5000.* 📍 Sloane Square. Off map.

ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS A slapstick comedy about food, money and small-time crooks in 1960s Britain. A National Theatre production, it's based on Carlo Goldoni's 1743 comedy *The Servant Of Two Masters*. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Wed & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £15-£57.50. *Theatre Royal Haymarket, 18 Suffolk Street, SW1Y 4HT. 020 7930 8800. onemantwoguvnors.com.* 📍 Piccadilly Circus. Key 46.

LAST CHANCE RICHARD II To 25 Jan: David Tennant (*Doctor Who*) stars in a new production of the Bard's royal tragedy by the RSC (Royal Shakespeare Company), which has transferred from Stratford-upon-Avon. Mon-Sat 7.15pm; Sat 2pm. *Barbican Theatre, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2Y 8DS. 0845 120 7550. barbican.org.uk.* 📍 Barbican. Key 7.

STRANGERS ON A TRAIN To 22 Feb: A casual conversation leads to murder in a stage adaptation of Patricia Highsmith's novel and Alfred Hitchcock's 1951 film. Laurence Fox (*W.E.*), Jack Huston (*Boardwalk Empire*) and Imogen Stubbs (*Sense And Sensibility*) star. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Wed & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £17.50-£57.50. *Gielgud Theatre, 35 Shaftesbury Avenue, W1D 6AR. 0844 482 5130. delfontmackintosh.co.uk.* 📍 Piccadilly Circus. Key 17.

TWELVE ANGRY MEN To 1 Mar: Martin Shaw (*The Professionals*) and Robert Vaughn (*Towering Inferno*) are among the stars of this nail-biting courtroom drama, inspired by the 1957 film. Mon-Sat 7.45pm; Thurs & Sat 3pm. Tickets £19.50-£49.50. *Garrick Theatre, 2 Charing Cross Road, WC2H 0HH. 0844 482 9673. nimaxtheatres.com.* 📍 Charing Cross. Key 16.

WAR HORSE A heartbreaking story, adapted from Michael Morpurgo's book, about friendship. When his horse is sold to the World War One cavalry, the boy lies about his age and enlists. Mon, Wed-Sat 7.30pm; Tues 7pm; Thurs & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £15-£55. *New London Theatre, 166 Drury Lane, WC2B 5PW. 020 7452 3000. warhorseonstage.com.* 📍 Covent Garden. Key 28.

NEW THE WEIR From 16 Jan: Conor McPherson's Olivier Award-winning play (p. 67). Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Wed & Sat 3pm. Tickets £10-£55. *Wyndham's Theatre, 32 Charing Cross Road, WC2H 0DA. 0844 482 5120. atgtickets.com.com.* 📍 Leicester Square. Key 51.

THE WOMAN IN BLACK A play based on Susan Hill's gothic-style 1983 book, in which an unwitting junior solicitor heads to spooky Eel Marsh House to sort out the affairs of a recently deceased recluse. Tues-Sat 8pm; Tues & Thurs 3pm; Sat 4pm. Tickets £18-£48. *Fortune Theatre, Russell Street, WC2B 5HH. 0844 871 7626. thewomaninblack.com.* 📍 Covent Garden. Key 15.



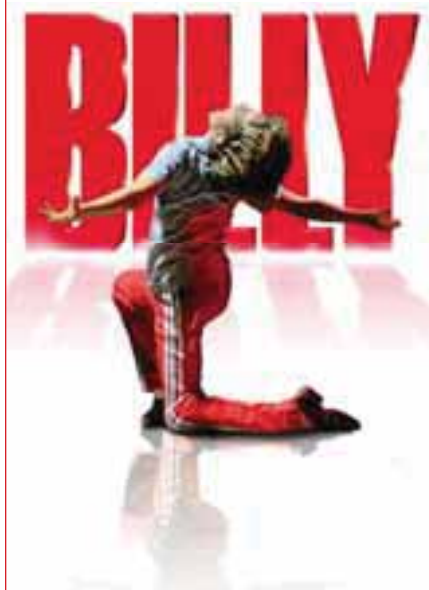
Secret Spaces

Arthouse

Crouch End's latest cultural venue opened at the end of 2013 in a former Salvation Army Hall built in 1910 (seen here prior to refurbishment). Inside visitors can enjoy cinema, theatre, dance, music and comedy or chill-out at its charming café-bar. Meanwhile, event highlights include author readings, live opera screenings and midnight movies. 159A Tottenham Lane, N8 9BT. *arthousecrouchend.co.uk.* 📍 Hornsey. Off map.

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DANCE

LONDON COLISEUM Home to the English National Ballet. **9-19 Jan:** *Le Corsaire* (various composers). In rep. Tickets £12-£110. 33 St. Martin's Lane, WC2N 4ES. 020 7845 9300. eno.org. 🚶🚶🚶 Charing Cross. Key 54.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE The Royal Ballet Company's home base. **To 16 Jan:** *The Nutcracker* (Tchaikovsky). **To 7 Jan:** *Jewels* (Fauré/Stravinsky/Tchaikovsky). In rep. Tickets £6-£112. Bow Street, WC2E 9DD. 020 7304 4000. roh.org.uk. 🚶🚶🚶 Covent Garden. Key 57

SADLER'S WELLS **To 26 Jan:** *Matthew Bourne's Swan Lake* (Tchaikovsky). Tickets £12-£60. Rosebery Avenue, EC1R 4TN. 0844 412 4300. sadlerswells.com. 🚶🚶🚶 Angel. Key 60.

FESTIVALS & SEASONS

BFI SOUTHBANK Enjoy film and TV from the archives of the British Film Institute (BFI).

LAST CHANCE **To 31 Jan:** *Gothic: The Dark Heart Of Film*. Horror season. **NEW** *Discover Arab Cinema*. A year of contemporary Arab films. Belvedere Road, SE1 8XT. 020 7928 3232. whatson.bfi.org.uk. 🚶🚶🚶 Waterloo. Map C6.

MUSIC

Phone ahead for individual times and ticket prices.

CLASSICAL

SOUTHBANK CENTRE **18 Jan:** *The Johann Strauss Gala*. Royal Festival Hall, Southbank Centre, Belvedere Road, SE1 8XX. 0844 545 8252. southbankcentre.co.uk. 🚶🚶🚶 Waterloo. Key 61.

ST. JAMES'S PICCADILLY CHURCH This 1676 church, designed by Sir Christopher Wren, has a wonderful programme of evening concerts. Details on the website. Enjoy free lunchtime recitals every Mon, Wed & Fri 1.10pm. 197 Piccadilly, W1J 9LL. 020 7381 0441. sjp.org.uk. 🚶🚶🚶 Piccadilly Circus. Key 58.

ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS CHURCH Head to this 18th-century church (rebuilt 1722-24 by architect James Gibbs), for an extensive programme of evening concerts. Plus free lunchtime music recitals at 1pm on Mon, Tues and Fri. Trafalgar Square, WC2N 4JJ. 020 7766 1100. smtf.org. 🚶🚶🚶 Charing Cross. Key 59.

ROCK, POP & JAZZ

JAZZ CAFE CAMDEN A 420 capacity venue with a mezzanine restaurant. **19 Jan:** *Nearly Dan Perform Steely Dan*. **24 Jan:** *Ginger Baker Jazz Confusion*. **26 Jan:** *Musical Youth*. 5 Parkway, NW1 7PG. 020 7688 8899. mamacolive.com/thejazzcafe. 🚶🚶🚶 Camden Town. Off map.



Imagination and illusion

Acrobats, human pyramids and aerial contortionists are just a few of the spectacular feats you can witness as *Cirque Du Soleil's* award-winning show *Quidam* returns to the Royal Albert Hall (from 4 Jan, p. 62). The story centres on a young girl called Zoé, who neglected by her family, escapes into the world of her imagination; a place called Quidam, where she finally finds support and encouragement from the strange characters she meets.

NEW WIMBLEDON THEATRE 17 Jan:

Mercury. Leading Queen tribute band. *The Broadway*, SW19 1QG. 0844 871 7646. atgtickets.com. 📍 South Wimbledon/Wimbledon

O₂ ACADEMY BRIXTON Built in 1929, this former cinema and theatre hosts live gigs and club nights, with a capacity of more than 4,000.

9-11 Jan: *The 1975*. 211 Stockwell Road, SW9 9SL. 0844 477 2000. o2academybrixton.co.uk. 📍 Brixton. Off map.

O₂ ACADEMY ISLINGTON 11 Jan:

The Smiths – The Smiths. N1 Centre, 16 Parkfield Street, N1 0PS. 020 7288 4400. o2academyislington.co.uk. 📍 Angel. Off map.

THE O₂ ARENA Indoor arena with a massive 20,000 capacity. **10-11 Jan:**

Maroon 5. Peninsula Square, SE10 0DX. 0844 856 0202. theo2.co.uk. 📍 North Greenwich. Map inset.

RICHMOND THEATRE

17 Jan: *One Night Of Elvis:*

Lee. 'Memphis' King.

18 Jan: *The Magic Of*

Motown. **25 Jan:** *The Counterfeit Stones*. *The Green*, TW9 1QJ. atgtickets.com. 📍 Richmond. Off map.

OPERA

LONDON COLISEUM

Home to the English National Opera. **From 29 Jan:** *Peter Grimes* (Britten). In rep.

Tickets £12-£110. 33 St. Martin's Lane, WC2N 4ES. 020 7845 9300. eno.org. 📍 Charing Cross. Key 54.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE Home to the world-famous Royal Opera company.

To 9 Jan: *Carmen* (Bizet). **To 10 Mar:** *Turandot* (Puccini). **To 15 May:** *Le Nozze Di Figaro* (Mozart). In rep. Tickets £8-£225. Bow Street, WC2E 9DD. 020 7304 4000. roh.org.uk. 📍 Covent Garden. Key 57.

KIDS & FAMILIES

ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND

To 15 Feb: Lewis Carroll's classic tale is brought to life with music and comedy.

Suitable for ages 6+. Times vary. Tickets £10-£16. *Polka Theatre, 240 The Broadway*, SW19 1SB. 020 8543 4888. polkatheatre.com. 📍 South Wimbledon. Off map.

EMIL AND THE DETECTIVES

In 1920s Germany, a boy has his money stolen on a train, and tracks the thief to Berlin. Based on Erich Kästner's book. Suitable for ages 7+. Times vary. Tickets £12-£48. *National Theatre, South Bank*, SE1 9PX. 020 7452 3000. nationaltheatre.org.uk. 📍 Waterloo. Key 27.

LAST CHANCE DINOSAUR ZOO

To 12 Jan: Giant puppetry and inflatable environments help bring dinosaurs to life in this interactive live show from Australia. Suitable for ages 3+. Times vary.

Tickets £14-£21.50. *Phoenix Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2H 0JP*. 0844 871 7629.

📍 Tottenham Court Road. Key 34.

THE GRUFFALO

To 12 Jan: A musical stage adaptation of the book by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler. Ages 3+. Wed-Fri 11am; Sat & Sun 10am & noon. Tickets £14-£21.50. *Lyric Theatre, 29 Shaftesbury Avenue, W1D 7ES*. 0844 482 9674. nimaxtheatres.com.

📍 Piccadilly Circus. Key 25.

ENJOY

David Tennant
as Richard II
p. 69



NEW PETER PAN: THE NEVER ENDING STORY

2-4 Jan: A hi-tech fantasy adventure combining live theatre with film and special effects. Stacey Solomon (*X Factor*) plays Tinkerbell. Times vary. Tickets

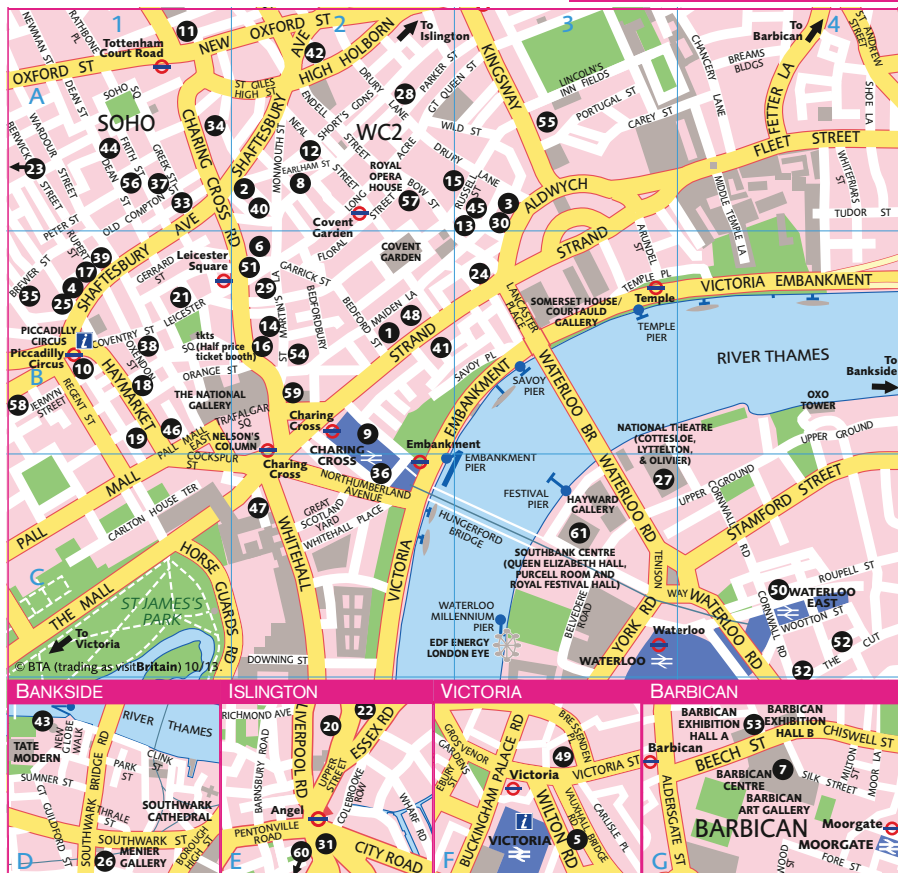
£22.50-£50.85. *London Wembley Arena, Arena Square, Engineers Way, HA9 0AA*. 020 8782 5566. wembleyarena.co.uk. 📍 Wembley. Off map.

THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS

To 1 Feb: Dance, music and puppetry tell Kenneth Grahame's story about friends Mole, Ratty, Badger and Toad. A Royal Opera House production. Suitable for ages 5+. Tickets £15-£50. *Duchess Theatre, 3-5 Catherine Street, WC2B 5LA*. 0844 412 4659. nimaxtheatres.com. 📍 Charing Cross. Key 13.

THEATRELAND MAP

0 Miles
Scale 0 Kms
1/4 1/2
N



London's major theatre and music venues can be located on the map above using the grid reference in the key below. 'Key' references in the listings also refer to this map. Venues with a 'Map' reference can be found on the Central London Map.

visitlondon.com has a secure online booking service for all major current and forthcoming theatre productions.

To book tickets go to visitlondon.com

Key to Theatres

1 Adelphi	B2	13 Duchess	A/B3
2 Ambassadors	A2	14 Duke of York's	B2
3 Aldwych	A3	15 Fortune	A2/3
4 Apollo Theatre	B1	16 Garrick	B2
5 Apollo Victoria	F	17 Gielgud	A1
6 Arts	B2	18 Harold Pinter	B1
7 Barbican Centre	G	19 Her Majesty's	B1
8 Cambridge	A2	20 King's Head Theatre	E
9 Charing Cross Theatre	B2	21 Leicester Square Theatre	B1
10 Criterion	B1	22 Little Angel Theatre	E
11 Dominion	A1	23 London Palladium	A1
12 Donmar Warehouse	A2		

24 Lyceum	B3	40 St. Martin's	A2
25 Lyric	B1	41 Savoy	B2
26 Menier Chocolate Factory	D	42 Shaftesbury	A2
27 National Theatre	C3	43 Shakespeare's Globe	D
28 New London	A2	44 Vaudeville	B3
29 Noël Coward	B2	45 Theatre Royal Drury Lane	A3
30 Novello	A3	46 Theatre Royal Haymarket	B1
31 Old Red Lion	E	47 Trafalgar Studios	C2
32 Old Vic	C4	48 Vaudeville	B2
33 Palace	A1	49 Victoria Palace	F
34 Phoenix	A1	50 Waterloo	
35 Piccadilly	B1	51 East Theatre	C4
36 Playhouse	C2	52 Wyndham's	B2
37 Prince Edward	A1	53 Young Vic	C4
38 Prince of Wales	B1		
39 Queen's	B1		

Key to Dance, Music and Multi-arts Venues

53 Barbican Hall	G	58 St. James's Piccadilly church	B1
54 London Coliseum	B2	59 St. Martin-in-the-Fields church	B2
55 Peacock	A3	60 Sadler's Wells	E
56 Ronnie Scott's	A1	61 Southbank Centre	C3
57 Royal Opera House	A2		

SHOPPING

By Jo Caird



New Designer Outlet

London's January sales offer bargains galore but, thanks to the recent opening of a very special new shopping centre, they're not the only place where you can find great deals on your favourite brands.

Part of an exciting lifestyle destination development neighbouring the iconic Wembley Stadium, the newly opened *London Designer Outlet* is the first of its kind in the capital, where savvy shoppers can nab the latest styles from leading high-street names at up to 70% off retail price year-round from the likes of retailers including L.K. Bennett, Superdry, Guess, Marks & Spencer, GAP, Phase Eight and Clarks.

New shops are opening every week, and in addition to the planned 70 outlets in total,

the centre is quickly becoming home to an exciting array of restaurants and cafés as well as a nine-screen Cineworld complex, perfect for a post-shopping break.

The newest addition to the diverse restaurant line-up, Brazilian barbecue chain *Cabana*, offers succulent chicken skewers made fresh to order, beef and pork served in a variety of styles including burgers and steaks, ribs and a range of salads.

The London Designer Outlet is open Mon-Sat 9am-8pm; Sun 11am-5pm; bank holidays 9am-6pm. *London Designer Outlet, Empire Way, HA9 0WS. london-designer-outlet.com.* ➡ *Wembley Stadium*, ➡ *Wembley Park*, ➡ *Wembley Central* Off map.



Our Pick

Fortnum's 1st in 300 yrs

Another exciting recent launch is the first new *Fortnum & Mason* store in 307 years. Discover it in the handy shopping mall at *St. Pancras International* station (p. 76), where you'll find trendy Scottish knitwear brand Lyle & Scott, which counts UK band the Arctic Monkeys among its fans.

Normal opening times are approximately 10am-6pm, although some stores open until late on Thursdays. Please contact retailers for further details. To dial the United Kingdom remove the first 0 and add 44.

KEY INFORMATION

TBC: To Be Confirmed.

Map: refers to the grid on our Central London Map.

Transport symbols: see Contents page for key.

MAJOR SHOPPING AREAS

COVENT GARDEN A former vegetable market, now a popular centre for arts, crafts stalls, plus restaurants, cafés and pubs. 🚶 Covent Garden. Map B/C6.

KING'S ROAD A range of high street names and boutiques, plus adjacent Duke Of York's Square is great for fashion and antiques (p. 22). 🚶 Sloane Square. Map G4/5-H5.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE This designer shopping area includes department stores Harrods and Harvey Nichols. 🚶 Knightsbridge. Map F5/6.

OXFORD STREET Europe's busiest shopping street has major department stores and popular high-street chains. 🚶 Oxford Circus/Bond Street/Marble Arch. Map D6/7.

REGENT STREET Prestigious retail area with stores including Apple, Liberty, Swarovski and the first British Ferrari shop. 🚶 Oxford Circus/Piccadilly Circus. Map D6/7/E7.

MARKETS

BOROUGH MARKET A popular destination for foodies, with produce, snacks and wines. Open Mon-Thurs 10am-5pm; Fri 10am-6pm; Sat 8am-5pm. 8 Southwark Street, SE1 1TL. 020 7407 1002. boroughmarket.org.uk. 🚶 🚶 🚶 London Bridge. Map C8.

BRICK LANE Vintage shops and weekend stalls selling everything from antique furniture to books, retro clothing and records.

Weekends are best. Open daily. Brick Lane, E1 6PU. visitbricklane.org. 🚶 Aldgate East. Off map.

CAMDEN MARKET Shops and stalls selling retro clothes, antiques and jewellery. Some shops daily; most stalls Fri-Sun. Chalk Farm Road, NW1 8AF. 020 7485 7963. camdenlockmarket.com. 🚶 Camden Town. Off map.

GREENWICH MARKET Covered market and courtyard with quirky shops selling food, arts and crafts. Some shops open daily; market Tues-Sun 10am-5.30pm. Church Street, SE10 9HY. greenwichmarket.net. 🚶 🚶 Cutty Sark. Off map.

LONDON SILVER VAULTS The world's largest retailer of fine antique silver. Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm; Sat 9am-1pm. Chancery Lane, WC2A 1QS. 020 7242 3844. thesilvervaults.com. 🚶 Chancery Lane. Map B7.

PICCADILLY MARKET Stalls in the church courtyard sell a range of food (Mon) antiques (Tues), plus arts and crafts (Wed-Sat). St. James's Church, 197 Piccadilly, W1J 9LL. 020 7734 4511. piccadilly-market.co.uk. 🚶 Green Park. Map C5.

PORTOBELLO ROAD MARKET Stalls every Sat, specialising in antiques, curiosities and arts. Shops open Mon-Sat. Portobello Road, W11 1AN. portobellomarket.org. 🚶 Notting Hill Gate. Off map.

OLD SPITALFIELDS MARKET Indoor market with a mix of stalls, including fashion on Sun, antiques on Thurs. Mon-Fri 10am-5pm; Sun 9am-5pm. Brushfield St, E1 6AA. visitspitalfields.com. 🚶 🚶 Liverpool Street. Map B9.

MAJOR STORES

DEBENHAMS Great bargains for designer clothing addicts. Fashion, homewares and accessories for the store. 334-348 Oxford Street, W1C 1JG. 0844 561 6161. debenhams.com. 🚶 Oxford Circus. Map B4.

FORTNUM & MASON Established in 1707, it's famed for its Food Hall. Don't miss the fashion and antiques departments

and the Diamond Jubilee Tea Salon. 181 Piccadilly, W1A 1ER. 0845 300 1707. fortnumandmason.com. 🚶 Piccadilly Circus. Map C5.

HAMLEYS One of the world's biggest toy shops, selling everything a child could dream of. 188-196 Regent Street, W1B 5BT. 0871 704 1977. hamleys.com. 🚶 Oxford Circus. Map B5.

HARRODS One of the world's most famous stores: top fashion labels, accessories and Food Hall. 87-135 Brompton Rd, SW1X 7XL. 020 7730 1234. harrods.com. 🚶 Knightsbridge. Map D3.

HOUSE OF FRASER Affordable designer fashion, beauty, homewares and more. 318 Oxford Street, W1C 1HF. 0844 800 3752. houseoffraser.com. 🚶 Oxford Circus. Map B4.

JOHN LEWIS Everything from hats to homewares at this splendid seven-floor store. 300 Oxford Street, W1A 1EX. 020 7629 7711. johnlewis.com. 🚶 Oxford Circus. Map B4.

LIBERTY Behind a mock-Tudor exterior lie accessories, fashion, beauty, interiors and haberdashery. Great Marlborough Street, W1B 5AH (and Westfield Stratford City). 020 7734 1234. liberty.co.uk. 🚶 Oxford Circus. Map B5.

MARKS & SPENCER Everything from food to furniture and clothing to cosmetics at this trusted British institution. 458 Oxford Street, W1C 1AP (and branches). 020 7935 7954. marksandspencer.com. 🚶 Marble Arch. Map B4.

SELFRIDGES Great for fashion, beauty and food, plus the enormous Shoe Galleries. 400 Oxford Street, W1A 1AB. 0800 123 400. selfridges.com. 🚶 Bond Street. Map B4.

LUXURY ARCADES

PICCADILLY ARCADE Home to 16 carefully curated shops with offerings from international luxury retailers. Piccadilly Arcade, SW1Y 6NH. 020 7647 3000. piccadilly-arcade.com. 🚶 Piccadilly Circus. Map C5.

PRINCES ARCADE This covered mall features a mix of independent specialist shops and boutiques. 192/196 Piccadilly or 36/40 Jermyn Street, SW1Y 6DS. princesarcade.co.uk. 🚶 Piccadilly Circus. Map C5.

THE ROYAL ARCADE This Victorian arcade sells fine silver, art, bespoke shoes and chocolate. 28 Old Bond or 12 Albemarle Street, W1S 4SB. 🚶 Green Park. Map C5.

MALLS

ST. PANCRAS INTERNATIONAL A wide range of high street shops and boutiques with extended opening hours. St. Pancras International Station, Euston Road, N1C 4QP. stpancras.com/shop. 🚶 King's Cross St. Pancras. Map A6.

WESTFIELD LONDON More than 300 luxury and high-street stores and 65 restaurants at this chic west London mall. Ariel Way, W12 7GF. 020 3371 2300. westfield.com/london. 🚶 Shepherd's Bush. Off map.

WESTFIELD STRATFORD CITY London's largest shopping centre boasts 270 shops, plus 70 restaurants and bars. 2 Stratford Place, E20 1EJ. 020 8221 7300. westfield.com/stratfordcity. 🚶 Stratford. Off map.

SPECIALIST STORES

IT'S ONLY ROCK 'N' ROLL Shop selling rock memorabilia, t-shirts, autographs, photographs and more. 230 Baker Street, NW1 5RT. 020 7224 0277. itsonlyrocknrolllondon.co.uk. 🚶 Baker Street. Map A3.

JOEL & SON FABRICS A family business and royal warrant holder offering top-quality fabrics. 73-87 Church Street, NW8 8EU. 020 7724 6895. joelandsonfabrics.com. 🚶 Edgware Road. Map A3.

LONDON GLASSBLOWING STUDIO & WORKSHOP Watch glass objects being created as you browse and buy. 62-66 Bermondsey Street, SE1 3UD. 020 7403 2800. londonglassblowing.co.uk. 🚶 🚶 🚶 London Bridge. Map D8.

LONDON BEATLES STORE London's only Beatles shop stocks new and original memorabilia. 231 Baker Street, NW1 6XE. 020 7935 4464. beatlesstorelondon.co.uk. 🚶 Baker Street. Map A3.

TWININGS Over 100 varieties of teas and infusions at one of the oldest shops in London. Open since 1706, it also houses also a small tea museum. 216 Strand, WC2R 1AP. 020 7353 3511. twinnings.co.uk. 🚶 Temple. Map C6.



Joel & Son Fabrics
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www.joelandsonfabrics.com

PICCADILLY MARKET

Piccadilly Market is held in the charming setting of the courtyard at St James's Church - just yards from Piccadilly Circus.

A popular destination for over 20 years, the market offers an exciting selection of antiques, arts & crafts, jewellery, souvenirs, fashions, furnishings and more.

Craft Market open:
 Wednesday-Saturday 10am-6pm.
St James's Antiques & Collectors Market open:
 Tuesday 10am-6pm.

St James's Church, 197 Piccadilly, London W1J 9LL
www.piccadilly-market.co.uk Tube: Piccadilly Circus/Green Park

How To Shop in the UK

SHOE SIZES

US	UK	Europe
WOMEN		
5	3	36
6	4	37
7	5	38
8	6	39
9	7	41
10	8	42

MEN		
8	7	41
9	8	42
10	9	43
11	10	45
12	11	46
13	12	47

CHILDREN		
8	7	24
9	8	25.5
10	9	27
11	10	28
12	11	29
13	12	30.5

CLOTHES SIZES

US	UK	Europe
WOMEN		
XS	2	6
S	4	8
	6	10
M	8	12
	10	14
L	12	16

MEN (CHEST)		
S	34	34
	36	36
M	38	38
	40	40
L	42	42
	44	44

CHILDREN		
4-5yrs	4-5yrs	110cm
6-7	6-7	116-122
8	8-9	128-134
10	10-11	140-146
12	12-13	152-158
13	14-15	164-170

FIND OUT
about late night shopping, and normal opening hours, on p. 75



Tax Free Shopping

Value Added Tax (VAT) is a 20% sales tax added on all goods except food, books, and children's clothing. Overseas visitors from outside the EU can shop tax-free in the UK, recouping some of the cost of the item. Ask in-store about *Tax-free Shopping*.

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SPAS & SALONS

By Jo Caird



Pankhurst: Razor-Sharp Grooming

For a quintessentially English experience that harks back to the classic barbershops of the 1950s and Edwardian gentlemen's clubs, head to *Pankhurst London* in their shopper-friendly location just off Carnaby Street. An area known as Newburgh Quarter that's increasingly gaining a reputation for interesting fashion boutiques, concept shops, quaint cafés and restaurants, and anything that's a tad different.

Owner Brent Pankhurst has quite a pedigree. He started his career working for Vidal Sassoon in the late 1980s as an eager 17-year-old, and more recently decided to create his own classic barbershop, but with a difference; it has its own

speakeasy-style lounge room, for those that want to hang out.

Treatments range from a Hot Towel Face Massage (£30) and Classic Wet Shave (£40) to various packages, which at the top end includes a haircut, deluxe shave and friction scalp massage (£125).

With my head shaved bald and a small beard, my barber Adam, focused on a relaxing wet shave with a traditional cut-

throat razor and beard and moustache trim, which, without a word of a lie, left them looking better than they ever have. Apart from looking my sharpest as I stepped into the street, my pampering proved the perfect antidote to the busy day, so I'd heartily recommend a visit.

Incidentally, Pankhurst produce their own range of products, from Aftershave Ice Gel (£24) to Head To Toe Shampoo (£19), so visitors can take a little bit of that grooming know-how home.

It's well-worth checking out Newburgh Quarter, so visit carnaby.co.uk. Review by David G. Taylor. *Pankhurst London*, 10 Newburgh Street, W1F 7RN. 020 7287 9955. pankhurstlondon.com.

📍 Oxford Circus. Map B5.



To dial the United Kingdom remove the first 0 and add 44.

Most spas and salons are open seven days a week. To avoid disappointment, book treatments in advance where possible.

KEY INFO

Map: refers to the grid coordinates on our Central London Map in the centre pages.

Transport symbols: See the key on Inside This Issue, our contents page.

SPAS

BERKELEY HEALTH CLUB & SPA The rooftop pool with views over Hyde Park is the star attraction here, but the spa treatments are also popular and there's a state-of-the-art gym too. *The Berkeley, Wilton Place, SW1X 7R. 020 7235 6000. the-berkeley.co.uk.* 🚶🏻 Knightsbridge. Map D4.

PORCHESTER SPA A splendid Victorian-era bath house offering affordable spa treatments including body scrubs, facials and massages as well as a range of salon treatments. Spa packages available. Men's treatments available during the men-only and mixed sessions (Mon, Wed & Sat 11am-8pm; Sun 4pm-8pm). *Queensway, W2 5HS. 020 7792 3980. better.org.uk/leisure/porchester-spa.* 🚶🏻 Royal Oak. Off map.

SANCTUARY SPA A women-only spa with multiple swimming pools, massage and heat treatment rooms, and even a pond with koi carp. Champagne-themed spa experiences also available. *12 Floral Street, WC2E 9DH (and branches). 0845 521 4567. sanctuary.com.* 🚶🏻 Covent Garden. Map C6.

SPA LONDON Affordable day spa offering a thermal spa experience with two steam rooms, two saunas and a relaxation lounge. *15 Marshall Street, W1F 7EL (and branches). 020 7494 2208. spa-london.org.* 🚶🏻 Oxford Circus. Map B5.

URBAN RETREAT Full-service spa and salon on the top floor of Harrods offering bespoke treatments for body, hair and skin, plus essential grooming. *87-135 Brompton Road, SW1X 0NA (and branches). 020 7893 8333. urbanretreat.co.uk.* 🚶🏻 Knightsbridge. Map D3.

SALONS

AVEDA INSTITUTE Large salon offering cuts, colour, blow drying and botanical treatments using Aveda's plant-based products. Beauty and spa treatments available. *174 High Holborn, WC1V 7AA. 020 7759 7355. avedainstitute.co.uk.* 🚶🏻 Covent Garden. Map B6.

BEAUTY ROOMS AT FORTNUM & MASON Waxing, facials, nail treatments and more. Special packages include the *Flagging Shopper*, a foot massage and back massage to soothe tense muscles and sore feet. *181 Piccadilly, W1A 1ER. 020 7973 4094. fortnumandmason.com.* 🚶🏻 Piccadilly Circus. Map C5.

DANIEL HERSHESON BLOW DRY BAR Walk in, browse the menu of 12 fashion-forward looks, pick your favourite and a stylist will recreate it. *Topshop, Oxford Circus, W1W 8LG (and branches). 020 7927 7888. hershesons.com.* 🚶🏻 Oxford Circus. Map B5.

MEN'S GROOMING

GENTLEMEN'S TONIC A traditional barber shop offering bespoke treatments and accessories. *31a Bruton Place, W1J 6NN (and branches). 020 7297 4343. gentlemenstonic.com.* 🚶🏻 Green Park. Map C4.

GEO. F. TRUMPER Traditional barber shop with a real Victorian ambience, offering wet shaves, toiletries and accessories. *9 Curzon Street, W1J 5HQ (and branches). 020 7499 1850. trumplers.com.* 🚶🏻 Green Park. Map C4.

MURDOCH Victorian-style barber shop. Trims, cuts, wet shaves, shoeshines and more. *46 Redchurch Street, E2 7DP (and branches). 020 3393 7946. murdocklondon.com.* 🚶🏻 Shoreditch High Street. Map A9.

THE REFINERY Grooming emporium in the style of a modern gentlemen's club. Treatments include barbering, skincare and spa. *60 Brook Street, W1K 5DU (and branches). 020 7409 2001. the-refinery.com.* 🚶🏻 Bond Street. Map B4.

SHARPS Get prepped and primped in this 1950s style establishment. Gentlemen's grooming services range from haircutting to shaves. *9 Windmill Street, W1T 2JF (and branches). 020 7636 8688. sharpsbarbers.com.* 🚶🏻 Goodge Street. Map B5.

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Haandi has two entrances: 136 Brompton Road, SW3 1HY & 7 Cheval Place, SW7 1EW.
020 7823 7373. haandi-restaurants.com.

📍 Knightsbridge. Map D3.

Spice up your trip with a visit to Gaylord's.

Gaylord- Serving finest Indian cuisine since 1966.

This time in London, get set for some royal Indian Hospitality at the Gaylord Restaurant - the most famous name in Indian dining in London. A menu that has for years been considered the best in Mughlai food in London, Gaylord Restaurant is the choice for fine Indian cuisine for hip Londoners. What makes dining here even more unique is the exotic royal décor and serving style. Delicately prepared curries with distinct characteristics of their own and a host of desserts to choose from leave a lingering taste urging to come back to recapture the spirit of royal India.



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79-81, Mortimer Street, London W1W 7SJ, Phone: 044-207-5803615 | www.gaylordlondon.com

EATING OUT

By Emma Levine



Tried & Tested

A Star Is Reborn

Talk show host Graham Norton used to be a waiter at the restaurant *Joe Allen* and actor Lionel Blair and comic Les Dawson were regulars. Since it opened in 1977, the brasserie *Joe Allen* was the 'staff canteen' of West End actors, who'd come to eat soon after curtain call.

The restaurant has recently relaunched with a new owner, yet this much-loved London icon (an outpost of the famous New York institution) is no ageing star. Looking as good as ever, the ambience has hardly altered and the pianist, Jimmy Hardwick, plays each night as he has done

since it opened 37 years ago. The walls of its revamped dining room are filled with photos of icons, from Liza Minnelli to baseball stars (original owner Joe Allen was a fan of stage, screen and sports).

Its menu still has a wide variety of mainly American classics, with Caesar salad, steak with béarnaise sauce, and a lobster with fries as skinny as shoelaces. London diners will no doubt be back for an encore. Review by Emma Levine. 13 *Exeter Street, WC2E 7TD*. 020 7836 0651. joeallen.co.uk. *Covent Garden. Map C6*.



Our Pick

Bun Fun

Flesh And Buns has been a hit since its 2013 opening. Part of a trend for 'izakaya' restaurants (informal Japanese dining), it has a twist. Instead of filled hirata buns, you order a main 'filler' – such as a succulent lamb chop with kimchi – and stuff it into the warm, sweet buns. With its new express 3-course menu (noon-3pm, 5-6pm, after 10pm), it's handy for a post/pre-theatre meal. 41 *Earlham Street, WC2H 9LX*. 020 7632 9500. fleshandbuns.com. *Covent Garden. Map B6*.



Approximate prices shown in listings are for a three-course meal without wine.

£: up to £20 per person. ££: £20-£40 per person. £££: £40 or more per person.

Venues are open daily for lunch and dinner, unless otherwise stated.

To dial the United Kingdom remove the first 0 and add 44.

KEY INFORMATION

Map: refers to the grid coordinates on our Central London Map in the centre pages.

Transport symbols: see Contents page for key.

AMERICAN

HARD ROCK CAFE Enjoy great burgers, steaks and other US classics, plus rock memorabilia. This 40-year-old branch is the original Hard Rock Cafe. The Vault has even more artefacts (see Sightseeing). ££. 150 Old Park Lane, W1K 1QZ. 020 7514 1700. hardrock.com. Hyde Park Corner. Map C4.

PLANET HOLLYWOOD

Head here to enjoy tasty burgers, great cocktails, and even a wok station for Asian dishes. While you're there, check out its fabulous film memorabilia, including James Bond. ££. 57-60 Haymarket, SW1Y 4QX. 020 7287 1000. planethollywood.com. Piccadilly Circus. Map C5.

RAINFOREST CAFE A rainforest jungle with life-size animatronic animals and simulated rainstorms. Kids will love the theme, and dishes including chicken wings and pasta. ££. 20-24 Shaftesbury Avenue, W1D 7EU. 020 7434 3111. therainforestcafe.co.uk. Piccadilly Circus. Map C5.

SHAKE SHACK Recently opened and situated in the heart of Covent Garden, this café-restaurant serves American diner favourites with a twist. For something different, try the 'shroom'

burger, or its signature 'Concretes', which are amazing frozen custard milkshakes. ££.

24 Market Building, Covent Garden Market, The Piazza, WC2E 8RD. 020 7240 0054. shakeshack.com. Covent Garden. Map B6.

BRITISH

ALBION NEO BANKSIDE Delicious traditional British dishes emerge from the open kitchen in Terence Conran's new café-restaurant, opposite the Tate Modern (see Galleries). Why not try the hearty kedgeree, followed by rhubarb fool? ££. Pavilion B, Holland Street, SE1 9FU. albioncafes.com. Blackfriars. Map C7.

AQUA SHARD For a real treat, head up The Shard, the wonderful new London landmark. Here, you'll enjoy contemporary British cuisine

for breakfast, lunch and dinner, along with fantastic panoramic views. A real treat. £££. 31 St. Thomas Street, SE1 9RL. aquashard.co.uk. London Bridge. Map C9.

CAFÉ IN THE CRYPT

One of London's best-kept secrets, located on Trafalgar Square. In the basement of the landmark church, this café serves top-notch English food at reasonable prices. Mon-Sat from 8am; Sun 11am. £. St. Martin-in-the-Fields, corner of Trafalgar Square, WC2N 4JJ. 020 7766 1158. smitf.org. Charing Cross. Map C6.

CARAVAN New eatery in a converted warehouse,

serving innovative sharing plates including butternut squash croquettes. Informal, all-day dining, plus breakfast. Daily 8am-11pm. £-££. Granary Building, 1 Granary Square, N1C 4AA. 020 7101 7661. caravankingscross.co.uk. King's Cross St. Pancras. Off map.

CELLARIUM CAFE & TERRACE Dine in the 14th-century Benedictine vaults of Westminster Abbey, or on a roof terrace with views of its gothic towers. Enjoy breakfasts, lunch and afternoon teas. £-££. Westminster Abbey, 20 Dean's Yard, SW1P 3PA. 020 7222 0516. cellariumcafe.com. Westminster. Map D6.



1. Cellarium Cafe & Terrace, p. 84
2. Restaurant At St. Paul's, p. 85
3. Wallace Collection, above, p. 48
4. The British Museum, p. 42
5. Café In The Crypt, p. 84.

GARFUNKEL'S With a range of popular British dishes, from a traditional fried breakfast to good old battered fish and chips. You'll find a huge selection of food, including pasta, chicken wings and soups. Many city-centre locations. Daily 7am-midnight. ££.19 *Irving Street, WC2H 7AU*. garfunkels.co.uk. 🚗 *Leicester Square*. Map C5.

PARK TERRACE Located in the Royal Garden Hotel London, this luxurious venue uses locally-sourced ingredients. Choose from the formal restaurant or the relaxed lounge for all-day dining and afternoon tea. ££. 2-24 *Kensington High Street, W8 4PT*. 020 7937 8000. parkterracereastaurant.co.uk. 🚗 *High Street Kensington*. Off map.

RESTAURANT AT ST. PAUL'S In the cathedral's vaults, dine on top British produce, with simple dishes such as artichoke and watercress tart, and chicken with broad bean salad. Lunch & afternoon tea only. ££. *St. Paul's Cathedral, St. Paul's Churchyard, EC4M 8AD*. 020 7248 2469. restaurantatstpauls.co.uk. 🚗 *St. Paul's*. Map B8.

ST. PANCRAS GRAND This ornate dining room, in the Eurostar terminal, is the perfect ambassador for British food. Enjoy this romantic spot and try brasserie-style dishes, cooked to perfection. Jazz brunch Sun noon-4pm. Daily from 7am. ££. *Upper Concourse, St. Pancras International, N1C 4QL*. 020 7870 9900. searcys.co.uk. 🚗 *King's Cross St. Pancras*. Map A6.

SOPHIE'S STEAKHOUSE & BAR Enjoy some excellent British dishes in Theatreland, such as Black Angus burger and Porterhouse steaks. Other tasty options include a terrine board. There's also a pre-theatre menu. ££. 29-31 *Wellington Street, Opera Quarter, WC2E 7DB (and branches)*. 020 7836 8836. sophiessteakhouse.co.uk. 🚗 *Covent Garden*. Map C6.

CHINESE

HAKKASAN This ground-breaking Chinese restaurant has immaculate service and spectacular décor. Excellent traditional and fusion dishes, including Peking braised pork belly in plum sauce with kumquat. £££. 8 *Hanway Place, W1T 1HD (and branch)*. 020 7927 7000. hakkasan.com. 🚗 *Tottenham Court Road*. Map B5.

MIN JIANG Superb food accompanied by wonderful views across Hyde Park at this five-star Chinese gastronomic experience. Try traditional Sichuan dishes, and don't miss out on the Beijing duck (pre-order only). £££. *Royal Garden Hotel, 2-24 Kensington High Street, W8 4PT*. 020 7361 1988. minjiang.co.uk. 🚗 *High Street Kensington*. Off map.

PING PONG Tasty, beautifully-presented dim sum, plus rice dishes, wonton (dumplings), spring rolls, spare ribs and more, with a fun vibe and very reasonable prices. £-££. 45 *Great Marlborough Street, W1F 7JL (and branches)*. 020 7851 6969. pingpongdimsum.com. 🚗 *Oxford Circus*. Map B5.



Our
Pick

Great British Baking

With a nod to its City location (it's just down the road from the Bank of England), the new flagship outlet for *Euphorium Bakery* has lampshades shaped like black bowler hats hanging from the ceiling. It's a quirky and humorous touch to this brand-new café, the latest in London's oldest artisan bakery group.

Like all its outlets, it prides itself on hand-baked breads, pastries, soups and fresh salads. However, this is the only branch with a carvery, for slow-roast suckling pig, beef rib or herb roast turkey, carved and crammed into warm bread for a fabulous lunchtime sandwich. Head upstairs to its comfortable sofas – and relax. 60 *Threadneedle Street, EC2R 8HP*. 020 7796 3433. euphoriumbakery.com. 🚗 *Liverpool Street*. Map B8.



Sarastro Restaurant

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Located in the heart of theatreland can be found one of London's most spectacular restaurants. Sarastro is not only a treat for the palate but for the eyes and ears as well. Dine in the flamboyant operatic surroundings and feast upon the fine array of Mediterranean dishes.

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Tel: 020 7836 0101 Fax: 020 7379 4666
www.sarastro-restaurant.com
E: reservations@sarastro-restaurant.com

EATING OUT

ROYAL CHINA CLUB One of four London outlets, this huge Cantonese restaurant is especially popular for its excellent dim sum, served every lunchtime. Evenings see favourites such as crispy aromatic duck. ££. 40-42 Baker Street, W1U 7AJ (and branch). 020 7487 4688. royalchinagroup.co.uk. 📍 Baker Street. Map B4.

FISH & SEAFOOD

MR FISH Fish and chips is a longstanding favourite British dish. Here, the fish is wonderfully fresh and great value. Try the crunchy plaice with chips and mushy peas. £. 9 Porchester Road, W2 5DP. 020 7229 4161. mrfish.uk.com. 📍 Bayswater. Map B/C2.

THE SEASHELL Stick with classic fish and chips, or try elegant dishes of goujons of lemon soul, and pan-fried king scallops. Don't miss the traditional English desserts. ££. 49-51 Lisson Grove, NW1 6UH. 020 7224 9000. seashellrestaurant.co.uk. 📍 Marylebone. Map A3.

SOHO OYSTER HOUSE Run by the famous Wright Brothers, this stylish restaurant, near Oxford Circus, is spread over three floors. Enjoy fresh oysters from raw bar, spilling out onto Kingly Court, or the more formal restaurant upstairs. Set lunch and pre-theatre menu £15. ££-£££. 13 Kingly Street, W1B 5PW (and branches). 020 7434 3611. thewrightbrothers.co.uk. 📍 Oxford Circus. Map B5.

FRENCH

BALTHAZAR The famously stylish New York venue has now arrived in Covent Garden. With a French brasserie-inspired menu, including seafood platters, you can also enjoy breakfast and afternoon tea. £££. 4-6 Russell Street, WC2B 5HZ. 020 3301 1155. balthazarlondon.com. 📍 Covent Garden. Map B6.

BEL CANTO Dine on tasty French cuisine while enjoying live opera performed by music students. Try the pan-fried beef fillet and ox cheek in red wine sauce. £££. Corus Hotel Hyde Park, 1 Lancaster Gate, W2 3LG. 020 7262 1678. lebelcanto.co.uk. 📍 Lancaster Gate. Map C2.

BRASSERIE ZÉDEL A Parisian-style brasserie serving traditional French food. The vast and picturesque dining room boasts acres of marble. Why not take an elegant afternoon tea served amid its art deco splendour? ££.

20 Sherwood Street, W1F 7ED. 020 7734 4888. brasseriezedel.com. 🚗 Piccadilly Circus. Map C5.

GASTRO PUBS

THE BULL AND LAST Situated next to Hampstead Heath, this popular pub, with a striking yet simple interior, serves sophisticated and hearty English fare. Try octopus carpaccio and well-hung steak. ££. 168 Highgate Road, NW5 1QS. 020 7267 3641. thebullandlast.co.uk. 🚗 Gospel Oak. Off map.

THE EAGLE One of London's first gastropubs, this busy and much-loved venue still has appeal. People rave about its laid-back style, and dishes including Napoli sausages with beans. ££. 159 Farringdon Road, EC1R 3AL. 020 7837 1353. 🚗 ➡ Farringdon. Map B7.

THE GUINEA This lovely old pub in Mayfair, beautifully maintained, has a grill room upstairs, known for its 28-day aged Scottish beef. Its steak and kidney pies are highly recommended. ££. 30 Bruton Place, W1J 6NL. 020 7499 1210. theguinea.co.uk. 🚗 Bond Street. Map C4.

THE THOMAS CUBITT Enjoy top quality British dishes in this classic dining room, for lunch or dinner. Starters include dressed Devon crab, followed by pork belly with sweet potato and mead jus (sauce). ££-£££. 44 Elizabeth Street, SW1W 9PA. 020 7730 6060. thomascubitt.co.uk. 🚗 ➡ Victoria. Map D4.

INDIAN

AMAYA Glamorous contemporary dining. The Michelin-starred food is light and packed with exotic flavours; watch it being cooked in the open kitchen. Grilled, tandoor and seared dishes made for sharing are a speciality. £££. 19 Motcomb Street, SW1X 8JT. 020 7823 1166. amaya.biz. 🚗 Knightsbridge. Map D4.

CHUTNEY MARY This pretty restaurant has a conservatory, and offers a gourmet tour of seven Indian regions. Try unusual dishes like sea bass with fenugreek and tamarind. No lunch Mon-Fri. ££. 535 King's Road, SW10 0SZ. 020 7351 3113. chutneymary.com. 🚗 Fulham Broadway. Off map.

GAYLORD RESTAURANT London's second-oldest Indian restaurant lies very close to Oxford Circus, a perfect spot for its award-winning curry

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East Meets West At Rosa's

Tried & Tested

In funky Soho, this outlet of *Rosa's Thai Cafe*, which began life seven years ago as a stall on Brick Lane, is an authentic taste of Bangkok. This, its first proper home, recently reopened following a total refurbishment. It's now spread over two floors with a rustic decor, and the large lower floor is next to an open kitchen so you can watch the chefs at work.

Seafood features strongly on its large menu, so we enjoyed starters of huge tiger prawn tempura, plump and delicious, plus soft-shell crab, served in the kind of enamel dishes used by monks in Thailand.

For mains we shared a tingling spicy seafood hotplate, with succulent squid, tiger prawn, scallops and mussels. Rosa's is proud of its venison dishes (there were three on the menu) so we also had a venison red curry, cooked with pepper, pineapple, pumpkin and sweet basil. A dessert of mango sticky rice made the perfect ending to a 'home-cooked' meal. Review by Shia-Ying Wallis. £-££. 48 Dean Street, W1D 5BF. 020 7494 1638. rosaslondon.com. 🚶 Tottenham Court Road. Map B4.

and Mughal dishes, fit for a Maharajah. Try the great-value lunch-time tiffin menu, light and delicious. ££. 79-81 Mortimer Street, W1W 7SJ. 020 7580 3615. gaylordlondon.com. 🚶 Oxford Circus. Map B5.

GOLDEN SHALIMAR This small but perfectly formed restaurant has served classic Indian dishes since 1956 at excellent value. Look out for tasty biryanis, masalas and kormas, plus a range of great value set menus. £. 6 Spring Street, W2 3RA. 020 7262 3763. goldenshalimar.co.uk. 🚶 Paddington. Map B2.

HAANDI Named after a cooking utensil used to help create the strong flavours of Punjabi cuisine. Watch the chefs prepare classic North Indian food such as authentic Punjabi chicken curry, plus plenty of vegetarian dishes. £. 7 Cheval Place, SW7 1EW. 020 7823 7373. haandi-restaurants.com. 🚶 Knightsbridge. Map D3.

IMLI STREET This Soho favourite has enjoyed a refurb. It has a new bar area and menu, plus extended hours (it's now open for breakfast). Delicious regional Indian cuisine including 'railway curry' (an Anglo-Indian lamb dish) and authentic chaat (street food). £-££. 167-169 Wardour Street, W1F 8WR. 020 7287 4243. imlistreet.com. 🚶 Oxford Circus. Map B5.

LA PORTE DES INDES Step inside this Georgian townhouse for a taste of colonial India. The cuisine is fabulous, taking inspiration from southern city Pondicherry. Try spicy guinea fowl or Samudri thali (a home-style mini feast) with seafood. ££. 32 Bryanston Street, W1H 7EG. 020 7224 0055. laportedesindes.com. 🚶 Marble Arch. Map B3.

MASALA ZONE This group of eateries offers fantastic value, high-quality Indian street food. The branch here has lovely décor strung with colourful Rajasthani puppets, plus an open kitchen and regularly-changing thalis. The Soho branch (9 Marshall Street, W1F 7ER. 020 7287 9966) is handy for West End shoppers. Alternatively stop by the Masala Express at Selfridges & Co (see Shopping). £. 48 Floral Street, WC2E 9DA (and branches). 020 7379 0101. masalazone.com. 🚶 Covent Garden. Map B6.

MEMORIES OF INDIA This smart restaurant is well located for South Kensington's museums. It has two sister venues: Khan's Of Kensington (3 Harrington Road, SW7 3ES. 020 7584 4114) and Little India (32 Gloucester Road, SW7 4RB. 020 7584 3476). ££. 18 Gloucester Road, SW7 4RB. 020 7589 6450. memoriesofindia.com. 🚶 Gloucester Road. Off map.

MINT LEAF Innovative Indian cuisine in a chic setting. Its menu is inspired by head chef Rajinder Pandey's travels across South Asia, and the Haymarket location makes it ideal for before or after the theatre. ££. *Suffolk Place, Haymarket, SW1Y 4HX. 020 7930 9020. mintleafrestaurant.com.* 🚶 Piccadilly Circus. Map C5.

VEERASWAMY London's oldest Indian restaurant has enjoyed a major refurbishment. The lavish décor evokes a 1920s maharajah's palace. The food is excellent too, while the menu offers something for everyone. £££. *99 Regent Street, W1B 4RS. 020 7734 1401. veeraswamy.com.* 🚶 Piccadilly Circus. Map C5.

INTERNATIONAL

SARASTRO In the heart of Theatreland, the unique baroque-style décor sets the scene for Mediterranean and Turkish cuisine in ornate opera boxes. Enjoy live opera from music students during Sun lunch, Sun and Mon evenings, plus a Motown band on Thurs evenings. ££. *126 Drury Lane, WC2B 5SU. 020 7836 0101. sarastro-restaurant.com.* 🚶 Covent Garden. Map B6.

WHYTE & BROWN This new restaurant in the heart of Carnaby Street takes inspiration from around the world. All dishes are created from chicken – or occasionally egg – such as Hanoi chicken noodle soup, and tender souvlaki (kebab) with tzatsiki. Chic, industrial decor. ££. *Kingly Court, Carnaby, W1B 5PW. whyteandbrown.com.* 🚶 Oxford Circus. Map B5.

ITALIAN

FIFTEEN Jamie Oliver's trattoria (an informal Italian restaurant) is run as a training scheme for unemployed youngsters. It's always busy, so reservations are recommended. Try the Sicilian fisherman's stew and linguine carbonara. ££. *15 Westland Place, N1 7LP. 020 3375 1515. fifteen.net.* 🚶 Old Street. Map A8.

MACHIAVELLI Charming Italian café, restaurant and deli in Covent Garden. Upstairs, the all-day café offers breakfasts, coffee and nibbles, while the downstairs dining room includes a pre-theatre menu. £-££. *69-76 Long Acre, WC2E 9JS (and branches). 020 7240 2125. machiavellifood.com.* 🚶 Covent Garden. Map B6.

PAESAN It's all about 'shabby chic' and candlelit interior in this new informal Italian restaurant. Try small plates of delicious home-style dishes, good for sharing, such as the meat antipasto and hand-cut pappardelle (pasta) with braised rabbit ragu. ££. *2 Exmouth Market, EC1R 4PX. 020 7837 7139. paesanlondon.com* 🚶 Farringdon. Off map.

JAPANESE

BENIHANA Show-stopping chefs create griddle-cooked dishes at your table, providing entertainment as well as great food. Try their traditional wagyu beef and prawn, or a range of sushi and sashimi. £££. *35 Carter Lane, EC4V 5AJ. 020 7074 1001. benihanarestaurant.co.uk.* 🚶 🚶 🚶 Blackfriars. Map B7.

TOKYO DINER Intimate, unpretentious and reasonably priced, Tokyo Diner offers well-prepared sushi and sashimi, as well as traditional rice and noodle dishes such as katsu curry. £. *2 Newport Place, WC2H 7JJ. 020 7287 8777. tokyodiner.com.* 🚶 Leicester Square. Map C6.

MEXICAN

CANTINA LAREDO A classy take on Mexican cuisine. Enjoy delicious, quality dishes like asada steak wrapped with poblano pepper, sautéed tiger prawns, Monterey Jack cheese and chimichurri sauce. ££. *10 Upper St. Martin's Lane, WC2H 9FB. 020 7420 0630. cantinalaredo.co.uk.* 🚶 Covent Garden. Map B6.

CHIKUITO This fun venue is in a fantastically central location. Its lengthy menu is filled with many popular Mexican classics; try the fajitas, burritos and interesting side dishes; great-value kids' menu for under £5. ££. *20-21 Leicester Square, WC2H 7LE. 020 7321 6070. chikuito.co.uk.* 🚶 Leicester Square. Map C5.

WAHACA Popular chain of stylish cantinas, with the spirit of a Mexican market. The menus feature a range of dishes including burritos, tacos and quesadillas. Accompany with Mexican beers and great house margaritas. £. *80 Wardour Street, W1F 0TF (and branches). 020 7734 0195. wahaca.co.uk.* 🚶 Piccadilly Circus. Map B5.

MID EAST/NORTH AFRICAN

COMPTOIR LIBANAIS Fabulous and funky designed deli-style Lebanese restaurant. Its menu is filled with delightful dishes, such as tabbouleh

(parsley bulgar wheat salad), pumpkin kibbeh (dumplings), plus hummus and breads. £. 65 Wigmore Street, W1U 1JT (and branches). 020 7935 1110. lecomptoir.co.uk. 🚶 Bond Street. Map B4.

MEZZA EXPRESS A friendly Lebanese restaurant in the heart of Camden. Enjoy a meal of lamb and chicken shish kebab, or share mezze (starters, or side dishes) and fill up on falafel, fowl (fava bean stew) and Lebanese sausage. ££. 47 Parkway, NW1 7PN. 020 7267 7111. mezzaexpress.com. 🚶 Camden Town. Map C5.



Angler Proves A Real Catch

Tried & Tested

At the top of the South Place Hotel is its *Angler* restaurant, which was recently awarded a Michelin star – impressive for a one-year-old establishment. Executive chef Tony Fleming, a seafood specialist, achieves the perfect blend of exquisite flavours and imaginative creations, plus classic comfort food (like signature dish Angler lobster pie).

I started with a refreshing endive and walnut salad, while my guest began his foray into the six-course tasting menu – his spiced mussel soup was velvety with a delicate spice. My halibut was adorned with fresh herbs including a delicate dill, accompanied perfectly with seasonal vegetable casserole and smoked salmon veloute; my guest wowed at the bravery of accompanying seared scallops with braised beef. For such quality, prices are good, with a three-course fixed menu for just £30. £££. Review by Emma Levine. 3 South Place, EC2M 2AF. 020 3215 1260. anglerrestaurant.com. 🚶 Moorgate. Map B8.

MOMO A wonderful North African experience with an outdoor terrace, and sumptuous decor of brass lamps and low tables. Enjoy mezze such as wood pigeon pastilla (filo parcels) and samosa-like cheese briouats, with mains of succulent tagine. £££. 25 Heddon Street, W1B 4BH. 020 7434 4040. momorest.com. 🚶 Piccadilly Circus. Map C5.

MODERN EUROPEAN

CRITERION RESTAURANT A bejewelled Victorian room is the setting for an impressive dining experience. The menu offers top British ingredients, with dishes including Aylesbury duck breast and Hereford beef Chateaubriand. ££-£££. 224 Piccadilly, W1J 9HP. 020 7930 0488. criterionrestaurant.com. 🚶 Piccadilly Circus. Map C5.

THE DELAUNAY Situated in Theatreland, the interior and menu are both inspired by the grand cafés of central Europe. The excellent dishes include schnitzels, moules frites and steaks; great for brunch. Mon-Fri from 7am; Sat from 8am; Sun from 11am. ££-£££. 55 Aldwych, WC2B 4BB. 020 7499 8558. thedelauay.com. 🚶 Temple. Map B6.

GALVIN BISTROT DE LUXE This French-style bistro from the Michelin-starred Galvin Brothers is a real treat, its huge menu including risotto of Scottish girolles, boeuf Bourguignon, and its signature apple tarte tatin. Superb service, elegant atmosphere. £££. 66 Baker Street, W1U 7DJ. 020 7935 4007. galvinrestaurants.com. 🚶 Baker Street. Map B4.

HELIOT Hippodrome Casino's in-house restaurant and lounge serves British classics and more, with dishes such as steaks, swordfish, exotic salads and even French favourite croque madame. Daily 5pm-midnight. ££-£££. The Hippodrome Casino, Cranbourn Street, WC2H 7JH. 020 7769 8844. hippodromecasino.com/heliot. 🚶 Leicester Square. Map C5.

R.S. HISPANIOLA Enjoy Mediterranean cuisine with views aboard this restaurant ship, moored opposite the London Eye (see Sightseeing). Choose from the à la carte menu, on dishes such as monkfish wrapped in pancetta. ££. Victoria Embankment, WC2N 5DJ. 020 7839 3011. hispaniola.co.uk. 🚶 Embankment. Map C6.

SPANISH

MORO Moro's cuisine is Moorish (North African meets Spanish), packed with people sampling dishes such as duck fattee (a layered bread dish) with chickpea pilav (rice in broth). Little sister Morito, serves delectable bar food next door. ££-£££. 34-36 Exmouth Market, EC1R 4QE. 020 7833 8336. moro.co.uk. 🚗 Angel. Map A7.

EL PIRATA It's a buzzing atmosphere for dozens of top-quality Spanish tapas here. Try the chilli prawns with garlic, and patatas bravas. Good value set menu with a huge choice of tapas to share. Closed Sun. £-££. 5-6 Down Street, W1J 7AQ. 020 7491 3810. elpirata.co.uk. 🚗 Green Park. Map C4.

EL PIRATA DETAPAS A more contemporary, laid-back version of El Pirata in Mayfair (above), this Notting Hill neighbourhood restaurant serves imaginative tapas, including the excellent paprika crispy fried squid. ££-£££. 115 Westbourne Grove, W2 4UP. elpiratadetapas.co.uk. 🚗 Westbourne Grove. Off map.

SOUTHEAST ASIAN

BALI BALI A wonderful spot offering Balinese cuisine, with traditional satays and Indonesian rijsttafel set menu, filled with a range of flavours. Closed Sun lunch. £-££. 150 Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2H 8HL. 020 7836 2644. balibalirestaurant.com. 🚗 Covent Garden. Map B6.

BLUE ELEPHANT Treat yourself to some fantastic Thai cuisine in a gorgeous riverside setting. The delicious green and lamb massaman curries are recommended, or try the set menus for a full range of dishes. £££. The Boulevard, Imperial Wharf, Townmead Road, SW6 2UB. 020 7385 6595. blueelephant.com. 🚗 Imperial Wharf. Off map.

MANGO TREE This stylish restaurant, close to Buckingham Palace, produces delicious traditional Thai cuisine. Try green papaya salad with peanuts, and spicy prawn curry, or opt for the five-course 'taste' menu. £££. 46 Grosvenor Place, SW1X 7EQ. 020 7823 1888. mangotree.org.uk. 🚗 Victoria. Map D4.

NAAMYAA The latest opening from Wagamama's restaurateur, is a busy new southeast Asian café in Islington, which serves authentic, Bangkok-style street food throughout



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10% OFF Any Sandwich,
Salad or Wrap

38-40 Ludgate Hill, (nr St. Paul's) London EC4M 7DE
www.earlofsandwich.co.uk

Present this advert when ordering. Not valid with any
other offer. Expires 31/03/14. Code: LPLAN

the day. At communal tables, try dishes such as jasmine tea smoked beef ribs and sesame squid. Also serves Thai-style breakfast. ££. 407 St. John Street, EC1V 4AB. 020 3122 0988. naamyaa.com. 🚶🏻 Angel. Off map.

PHO Authentic Vietnamese street food, with hearty noodle soups, salads, noodles and curries that are low in fat. Try the goi ngo sen salad with lotus stems and cashew nuts. Takeaway also available. £-££. 163-165 Wardour Street, W1F 8WN. 020 7434 3938. phocafe.co.uk. 🚶🏻 Oxford Circus. Map B5.

THAI POT This award-winning and popular spot has stylish décor and classic Thai food. Freshly sautéed dishes sit alongside expertly-prepared tofu, fish and meat. Perfect for a pre-theatre meal. Closed Sun. £. 1 Bedfordbury, WC2N 4BP. 020 7379 4580. thaipot.biz. 🚶🏻 Covent Garden. Map C6.

TAKEAWAY

EARL OF SANDWICH Near St. Paul's Cathedral, you'll find this emporium of delicious hot and cold signature sandwiches, soups, salads, desserts and more. Drop by for great breakfasts and frothy cappuccinos. £. 38-40 Ludgate Hill, EC4M 7DE. 020 7236 2846. earlofsandwich.co.uk. 🚶🏻 St. Paul's. Map B7.

WOK TO WALK Great-value beef, tofu or pak choi, as well as a variety of delicious Asian sauces, offering you dozens of great

combinations. £. 4 Brewer Street, W1F 0SB (and branch). 020 7287 8464. woktowalk.com. 🚶🏻 Piccadilly Circus. Map C5.

VEGETARIAN & VEGAN

MILDREDS A long-running Soho dining institution with classic dishes made with meat-free products, such as burgers or sausage and mash. Look out too for delicious curries and burritos, plus clever items like sundried tomato risotto and porcini mushroom and ale pie. ££. 45 Lexington Street, W1F 9AN. 020 7494 1634. mildreds.co.uk. 🚶🏻 Oxford Circus. Map B5.

TIBITS This informal, unhurried vegetarian café is self-service, where you help yourself to freshly-prepared crunchy salads, imaginative hot dishes and great desserts. Diners are charged by plate weight. £-££. 12-14 Heddon Street, off Regent Street, W1B 4DA. 020 7758 4110. tibits.co.uk. 🚶🏻 Piccadilly Circus. Map C5.

WOODLANDS A fine selection of authentic pan-Indian vegetarian cuisine, such as masala dosa (stuffed pancakes), thalis, and chaat – tasty Mumbai street food. Team your dishes with a delicious range of organic, vegan or vegetarian wines. Excellent value. ££. 37 Panton Street, SW1Y 4EA. 020 7839 7258. woodlandsrestaurant.co.uk. 🚶🏻 Piccadilly Circus. Map C5.

Our
Pick

Afternoon Tea With An Italian Twist

BB Bakery at County Hall recently launched its own take on the British afternoon tea, accompanied by dishes such as grissini with aged parma ham, and bruchetta with tomato and basil oil (pictured). For something even more substantial, next door's **BB Pasta Bar** has hand-made pasta and sauces at very reasonable prices.

If you're in Covent Garden, check out the branch there for the divine freshly-baked pastries. Its figurative murals, elegant French furniture and silver cutlery help set the scene for a truly European experience. 6 Chandos Place, WC2N 4HU. 020 7836 6588. 🚶🏻 Leicester Square. Map C6 or County Hall, Belvedere Road, SE1 7PB. 020 7633 0129. 🚶🏻 Westminster. Map D6.



Present this
advert for 15%
off your bill if
you dine in.



MR FISH

Head to London's premier purveyor of traditional British fish and chips, for lunch or dinner.

Dishes are made from the finest ingredients, and range from a classic battered cod and chips with mushy peas and a refreshing beer, to sumptuous grilled Sea Bass, Plaice or Halibut, washed down with a glass of wine.

If you want to enjoy the great British dining experience, look no further! Daily 11am-11.30pm.

9 Porchester Road, Bayswater, W2 5DP.

020 7229 4161. mrfish.uk.com.

🚶 Bayswater/Queensway/Royal Oak. Map B1.



DEGÒ WINE BAR & RESTAURANT

Degò is a popular Italian wine bar on a quiet side street near Oxford Circus. Enjoy great Italian cuisine including delicious pasta and handpicked fine wines. The lounge area is comfortable with its sofa seating and cocktail bar, perfect for large groups of up to 150 max. Awarded two AA Rosettes, Degò has had recommendations from many acclaimed food publications and critics. Mon 5pm-11pm; Tues-Fri noon-12am; Sat 1pm-12am; closed Sun.

4 Great Portland Street (entrance via corner of Market Place) W1W 8QJ. 020 7636 2207. degowinebar.co.uk. 🚶 Oxford Circus. Map B5.



EL PIRATA

A very popular venue, El Pirata is a classic Spanish tapas bar and restaurant that serves affordable authentic Spanish cuisine in a relaxed, friendly ambience. No wonder then, that it's received excellent reviews in leading food guides, including 'Harden'. According to one leading critic, it offers 'fine food, excellent choice, comfortable surroundings, and marvellous service, and a bill that doesn't give me indigestion!'

5-6 Down Street, Mayfair, W1 7AQ. 020 7491

3810/020 7409 1315. elpirata.co.uk.

🚶 Green Park. Map C5.



EL PIRATA DE TAPAS

El Pirata De Tapas in Notting Hill won critical acclaim for its excellent value contemporary tapas menu, interesting wine list and warm hospitality.

The younger sibling of El Pirata in Mayfair, it was featured on the Channel 4 series Ramsay's Best Restaurant, and continues to offer some of the best Spanish cuisine in London. Top critic Marina O'Loughlin said: 'This is just the kind of restaurant I'd like at the end of my road.'

115 Westbourne Grove, W2 4UP.

020 7727 5000. elpiradatapas.co.uk.

🚶 Bayswater/Queensway. Map C1.

NIGHTLIFE

By Emma Levine



Tried & Tested

The High Life At Zinc

Put on your most dazzling jewellery, flashiest party gear and highest heels – or, for the guys, your designer ripped jeans – and treat yourself to a night on the town at the new late-night bar and club, *Zinc*.

It's on the 31st floor of Centrepont, the landmark building at the corner of Tottenham Court Road and Oxford Street, below Paramount restaurant. It's the latest creation of Paris-born club owner Pierre Condou who launched Paramount in 2008, and whose experience in London's nightlife and dining scenes stretches back 30 years.

The sky really is the limit here. You enter through a beaded curtain and sit back on the snake-shaped velvet chaise longue, taking in the staggering panoramas of London life

below (it's hard to take your eyes off the bright lights of Oxford Street).

The bar itself is also a huge draw, 10 feet long and created from real zinc. The bar menu is a short but select list of specially-created cocktails, mixology magic such as Beekeeper, a blend of butter-infused Bacardi with lime and honey and, in honour of its altitude, the Mile High – gin with dry Curacao, fresh lime and vanilla.

Guest DJs play beach house and electro, the tempo and volume increasing as the night goes on and sunrise approaches. Go on, join the party! Review by Emma Levine.
*Floor 31, Centrepont, 101-131 New Oxford Street, WC1A 1DD. zinc.uk.net.
Tottenham Court Road. Map B5.*



Sherry To Savour

Our Pick

There's more to sherry than you think, as *Drakes Tabanco* proves. Styled on Spain's traditional tavernas, it specialises in fine varieties from exclusive small-scale producers, rare to London. Sip on hand-bottled En Rama sherry, or 30-year-old Antique Palo Cortado poured from the barrel.
3 Windmill Street, W1T 2HY. 020 7637 9388.
drakestabanco.com.
Goodge Street. Map B5.

Here are some of the highlights of London's rich nightlife. Most bars open from 11am-11pm, and most nightclubs from 10pm-3am (some stay open as late as 6pm).

Please check for opening hours, admission charges, and dress code. The UK's legal drinking age is 18-years-old, but some establishments have a minimum age of 21.

For advice on late-night transport and more, turn to Essential Information.

TRADITIONAL PUBS

THE BLACK FRIAR The art nouveau décor is well preserved in this little Grade II-listed building, dating back to 1905. Enjoy unusual cask ales and traditional British pies – and look out for the resident ghost, George. *174 Queen Victoria Street, EC4V 4EG. 020 7236 5474. classicpubs.co.uk.*   *Blackfriars. Map C7.*

THE SPANIARDS INN Located by Hampstead Heath, is one of London's oldest pubs. Dick Turpin and Charles Dickens used to drink there. Sample 17 kinds of specialty beers. *Spaniards Road, NW3 7JJ. 020 8731 8406. the-enterprise.co.uk.*  *Hampstead. Off map.*

YE OLDE CHESHIRE CHEESE Dating back to the 17th century, the old pub is a series of tiny snug stone-walled rooms and narrow passageways – mind your head on the low doorways, and order a Samuel Smith's draught beer. *145 Fleet Street, EC4A 2BU. 020 7353 6170.*   *Blackfriars. Map B7.*

BARS & CLUBS

BAR ITALIA This 24-hour café-bar, open since 1949, is a Soho institution, serving cold beer and steaming espressos. Great for people-watching. *22 Frith Street, W1D 4RP. 020 7437 4520. baritaliasoho.co.uk.*  *Tottenham Court Road. Map B5.*

HEAVEN A world-famous gay venue. It's home to dance nights inc G-A-Y (Thurs-Sat). Expect a young crowd and chart tunes. *Off Villiers Street, WC2N 6NG. 020 7930 2020. heavennightclub-london.com.*   *Charing Cross. Map C6.*

OPIUM COCKTAIL BAR This stylish Chinatown venue is spread over three levels, with the ambience of a bijou Shanghai bar. Fantastic cocktails, some using Chinese

ingredients. Booking recommended. *15 Gerrard Street, W1D 6JE. 020 7734 7276. opiumchinatown.com.*   *King's Cross St. Pancras. Map A6.*

SEARCYS CHAMPAGNE BAR Europe's longest champagne bar offers a huge choice of bubbly, inside the Victorian splendour of St. Pancras International station, plus plenty of snug booths to sit at. *The Grand Terrace, St. Pancras International Station, N1C 4QL. 020 7870 9900. searcyschampagnebars.co.uk.*   *King's Cross St. Pancras. Map A6.*

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

THE BLUES KITCHEN Live bands or late-night DJs each night, plus a popular Sunday Blues Jam. Famed for the huge choice of bourbon and ryes, there's also good southern BBQ food on the menu. *111 Camden High Street, NW1 7JN. 020 7387 5277. theblueskitchen.com.*  *Camden Town. Off map.*

MADAME JOJO'S For an over-the-top night of burlesque, cabaret and live entertainment, dress up and join some glamorous drag queens at this famous London nightspot. *8-10 Brewer Street, W1F 0LA. 020 7734 3040. madamejojoes.com.*  *Piccadilly Circus. Map C5.*

RONNIE SCOTT'S At this famous Soho jazz club, opened in 1959, dine on European cuisine while listening to live music from top performers. In addition to jazz, it may be funk or soul bands. Reservations essential; no booking required for Ronnie's Bar. *47 Frith Street, W1D 4HT. 020 7439 0747. ronniescotts.co.uk.*  *Tottenham Court Road. Map B5.*

CASINOS

CASINO AT THE EMPIRE A spectacular venue houses a contemporary Asian restaurant, deluxe bars, dedicated poker room and the latest table and electronic games. Open 24-hours daily. *5-6 Leicester Square, WC2 7NA. 020 3014 1000. thecasinolsq.com.*  *Leicester Square. Map C5.*

HIPPODROME CASINO This landmark 24-hour venue, was recently refurbished, and has gaming over three floors, plus in-house restaurant, *Heliot*, on a mezzanine looking on (see Eating Out). *Cranbourn Street, Leicester Square, WC2H 7JH. 020 7769 8888. hippodromecasino.com.*  *Leicester Square. Map C5/6.*



BEYOND LONDON

Day trips and short breaks around Britain By Jo Caird

TAKE A LOOK
At the Turner
Contemporary
Gallery



1 Margate

Margate was a leading seaside resort throughout the 19th and most of the 20th centuries, its long sandy beaches a major draw for tourists from all over the south-east and London in particular. Today, the town is undergoing something of a resurgence following the opening of the *Turner Contemporary* in 2011. This striking gallery is situated on the seafront on the exact spot where great British painter J.M.W. Turner stayed during his visits to Margate from the 1820s onwards. It celebrates the artist's association with the town – more than 100 of Turner's works were inspired by the east Kent coastline.

A new exhibition, entitled *Paintings By J.M.W. Turner And Helen Frankenthaler*, opens at the gallery this month (from 25 Jan). It juxtaposes Turner's work with that of the American artist Helen Frankenthaler. Frankenthaler, who died in 2011, first exhibited her large-scale abstract expressionist works in the 1950s. Pictured above right is Frankenthaler's evocative oil painting, *Sun Dial* (turnercontemporary.org).

Sun Dial by Helen Frankenthaler



FROM LONDON BY TRAIN

90 mins from
St. Pancras Int.

MARGATE

90 mins from
Waterloo

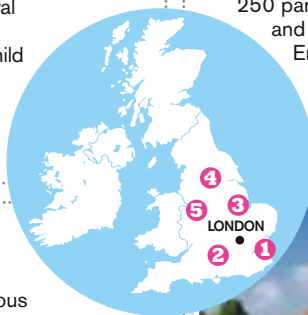
STONEHENGE



2 Stonehenge

It may be chilly outside but that's no reason not to get out and about in the beautiful English countryside this month.

Explore the landscape around Stonehenge on a *National Trust Winter Archeology Walk*. This three-hour guided walk with views of the stone circle starts in the nearby village of Larkhill and takes in several ancient earthworks (18 Jan, 2pm-4.30pm. Tickets £5, child free). Complete your day with a visit to Stonehenge itself (p. 39. nationaltrust.org.uk).



4 Manchester

Sample over 200 cask ales (including tipples like delicious Red ale, pictured, from Cumbria-based Hawkshead Brewery) at the *Manchester Beer and Cider Festival*, a new event taking place at the Manchester Velodrome this month (23-25 Jan). As cyclists zoom past you around the indoor track, get to know the best of British traditional ales – which tend to be less fizzy than lager and are often served at room temperature. A large variety of ciders, perries (pear ciders), bottled real ales and draught and bottled foreign beers are also available. *Manchester Velodrome, Stuart Street, Manchester, M11 4DQ. 0161 223 2244. manchesterbeerfestival.org.uk.*



3 Whittlesea

No one knows when the Cambridgeshire village of Whittlesea began dressing a member of the community in a costume made of straw and marching this 'straw bear' around the village, but it was in 1980 that the tradition was revived. *The Whittlesey Straw Bear Festival* has been going strong ever since, with increasing numbers of people accompanying the 'bear' on its journey (10 Jan). As well as the bear's keeper, there are now over 250 participating dancers and musicians. This English folk dance tradition dates back to the 15th century. (strawbear.org.uk).

SEE
a traditional straw
'bear keeper'



5 Stratford-upon-Avon

The Royal Shakespeare Company, as the name suggests, specialises in the work of Stratford-upon-Avon native William Shakespeare, but this winter the theatre is doing something a little different. It's presenting *Wendy & Peter Pan* (to 4 Mar), a spectacular new stage version of J.M. Barrie's classic tale. The well-loved children's story of the little 'boy who never grew up' and the friends he takes with him to Neverland will delight the whole family (rsc.org.uk).

90 mins from
King's Cross

WHITTLESEA

2 hours from
Euston

MANCHESTER

2 hours from
Marylebone

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

LOOKING AHEAD

FEBRUARY

20-23

Feel like a true fashionista at *London Fashion Weekend* at Somerset House. londonfashionweekend.co.uk.



MARCH

From

8

Enjoy previews of the new stage thriller *Fatal Attraction* at Theatre Royal Haymarket. It's based on the 1987 film. trh.co.uk.

APRIL

Join the runners or just cheer them on at the *Virgin Money London Marathon*. virginmoneylondonmarathon.com.

13



MAY

From

3

Catch the return of *Miss Saigon* at the Prince Edward Theatre. It's also the musical's 25th anniversary. delfontmackintosh.co.uk.

JUNE

20-28

Watch free street theatre at *Greenwich + Docklands International Festival*. festival.org.



JULY

From

18

Listen to live classical music during the *BBC Proms* at venues including the Royal Albert Hall. bbc.co.uk/proms.



AUGUST

9-10

Spectate or participate in the bike-tastic *Prudential RideLondon*. prudentialridelondon.co.uk.

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Useful things to know – from booking a place to stay, to getting around



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KEY INFORMATION

Map: refers to the grid coordinates on the Central London Map in our centre pages.

Transport symbols: See Contents for a key to the transport symbols.

Prices quoted are for single journeys. All fares and journey times are correct at the time of going to press but can change, so make sure you check before your journey at tfl.gov.uk

VISITOR INFORMATION

For the most up-to-date, detailed information on planning your trip, and to register for special offers, go to London's official visitor website visitlondon.com.

You can download the free *London Official City Guide* at visitlondon.com/app.

Tourist Information Centres (TICs) are situated at key points across the capital (see visitlondon.com/welcome), and these include:

CITY OF LONDON INFORMATION

CENTRE Mon-Sat 9.30am-5.30pm; Sun 10am-4pm. *St. Paul's Churchyard, EC4M 8BX.* *St. Paul's. Map B7.*

HOLBORN INFORMATION KIOSK Mon-Fri 8am-6pm. *Outside Holborn Tube station, Kingsway, WC2B 6BG.* *Holborn. Map B6.*

GREENWICH TOURIST INFORMATION

CENTRE Daily 10am-5pm. *Pepys House, 2 Cutty Sark Gardens, SE10 9LW.*

Greenwich. Map inset.

THE ORIGINAL LONDON VISITOR CENTRE

Offers services such as booking theatre tickets, days out, entry into attractions, car hire, hotels, airport transfers, coach tickets, tours and cruises. Mon-Sat 8.30am-7pm; Sun 9am-5.30pm. *17-19 Cockspur Street, SW1Y 5BL. theoriginaltour.com* *Charing Cross. Map C6.*

SIGHTSEEING PASSES

The London Pass (londonpass.com) offers free entry, discounts and fast-track queuing at many top London attractions, including the Tower Of London, plus special offers. An adult one-day pass costs from £45, child from £29. Passes are available for up to six days.

VisitBritain the national tourism agency, offers various discount cards including the Three Palace Royal Pass, £35.50. visitbritainshop.com.

AIRPORT TRANSPORT

GATWICK AIRPORT 0844 892 0322. gatwickairport.com. First Capital Connect Direct to and from  London Bridge and  St. Pancras International, up to four times an hour. Journey time is 30 mins to London Bridge, and 45 mins to St. Pancras International in King's Cross. Fares from £8.50. Gatwick Express Direct to and from  Victoria every 15 mins. Journey 30 mins. Fares from £15.95. National Express Airport To and from Victoria Coach Station, up to two coaches an hour. Journey one hour and 20 mins. Fares from £8. Southern Railway To and from  Victoria, every 15 mins. Journey 40 mins. Fares from £12.50.

HEATHROW AIRPORT 0844 335 1801. heathrowairport.com. The airport is served by London Underground's  Piccadilly line, which runs between central London and Heathrow Terminals 1-4 and 5, every four to five mins between 5am and 11.54pm (Sun 5.46am-10.37pm). Journey 60 mins. Fares from £3.10 with an Oyster card. **Heathrow Connect** To and from  Paddington, stopping at Hayes, Southall, Hanwell, West Ealing and Ealing Broadway, two trains per hour. For Terminals 4 and 5, change at Terminals 1, 2 or 3. Journey 25 mins. Fares from £8.50.

Heathrow Express: to and from  Paddington, four trains per hour. Direct service. Journey 15-20 mins. Fares from £18.

National Express Airport: to and from Victoria Coach Station, three coaches per hour. Journey time from 40 mins. Fares from £5.

CITY AIRPORT 020 7646 0000. londoncityairport.com.  DLR London City Airport. Trains to and from  Canary Wharf (change at  Poplar),  Canning Town,  Bank and other stations, every seven mins. Journey from eight to 22 mins. Fares from £2.70.



Journey times to Central London?

20 Mins Heathrow to Paddington

by Heathrow Express

30 Mins Gatwick to Victoria

by Gatwick Express

22 Mins City Airport to Bank

by Docklands Light Railway

45 Mins Stansted to Liverpool St

by Stansted Express

STANSTED AIRPORT 0844 335 1803. stanstedairport.com. The **Stansted Express** runs to and from  Liverpool Street station, up to four trains per hour. Journey time from 45 mins. Fares from £23.40. The **National Express Airport** coach service runs to and from Victoria Coach Station and other destinations, three coaches per hour. Journey time 80 mins. Fares from £10.

GETTING AROUND

For 24-hour London travel information, including by bus, Tube, river, rail, coach, cycle, tram, car and on foot, plus accessibility, assisted travel and more, visit the Transport for London (TfL) website tfl.gov.uk/gettingaround or call 0843 222 1234. Also useful is visitlondon.com/travel or visit **Travel Information Centres** in person at the following train stations:

 Victoria,  Euston,  King's Cross,  St. Pancras,  Liverpool Street,  Piccadilly Circus,  Heathrow Terminals 1-3.

LONDON OVERGROUND

 tfl.gov.uk. See our London Underground Map. Services run Mon-Sat 5am-12am, and Sun 7am-11.30pm on most routes.

DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAILWAY  020 7363 9700. Trains run approximately every three-and-a-half to 10 mins. Mon-Sat 5.30am-

IMAGE © GETTY IMAGES/DESIGN PICS RF



Enjoy London with a Visitor Oyster Card. The easiest way to travel around.

For more information or to pre-purchase, go to visitorshop.tfl.gov.uk

MAYOR OF LONDON

Transport for London



12.30am; Sun 7am-11pm. Useful for visiting Docklands and Greenwich, the network has fantastic views of the city.

LONDON BUSES London buses run 5am to 12.30am. Night buses (12am-4.30am) operate on many major routes, and several services are 24-hour. Bus passengers in Zone 1 must have a valid ticket or Oyster card before boarding.

RIVER SERVICES  tfl.gov.uk/river.

KPMG Thames Clippers 0870 781 5049. thamesclippers.com. High-speed catamarans leave major piers every 20 mins. Services between Waterloo Pier and The O₂ (North Greenwich Pier) and on to Royal Arsenal Woolwich Pier have scheduled stops including Embankment, Bankside, Tower Pier, London Bridge, Canary Wharf and Greenwich.

The adult single fare is £6.50 (£5.85 with an Oyster card; £4.30 with a Travelcard). Alternatively, a River Roamer day pass allows unlimited hop-on, hop-off travel on the river from £15 per adult (see Sightseeing).

TRAINS  There are 11 main stations in London:

 **Paddington** serves the West Country, Wales and the South Midlands.

 **Liverpool Street** and

 **Fenchurch Street** serve East Anglia and Essex.

 **Euston**,  **King's Cross St. Pancras**,

 **Marylebone** and

 **St. Pancras International** serve north and central Britain.  **Charing Cross**,

 **London Bridge**,

 **Waterloo** and

 **Victoria** serve southern England.

For timetables and tickets visit nationalrail.co.uk or call 0845 748 4950 (UK only)/020 7278 5240.

Eurostar uses  **St. Pancras International**. eurostar.com or 0843 218 6186 (UK only)/01233 617 575.

8000+
bikes are
available via the
**Barclays Cycle
Hire Scheme**

TAXIS Hail one of London's iconic black cabs in the street (they now come in a range of colours). Fares increase after 8pm.

Private hire or minicabs are different from black cabs (taxis): you cannot hail them in the street and must book them in advance. We advise against using any vehicle that approaches you in the street. See tfl.gov.uk/pco for details of local licensed operators.



LONDON UNDERGROUND (THE TUBE)

tfl.gov.uk. See the London Underground Map. Services run Mon-Sat 5am-12.30am and Sun 7.30am-11.30pm on most routes. Fares vary; single Zone 1 adult journeys cost £4.50. With an Oyster card the same journey is £2.10.

OYSTER CARDS & TRAVELCARDS

Travelcards are valid for one or seven days, plus monthly or seasonal periods. A **Visitor Oyster card** (an electronic smartcard) can be bought in increments of a week or more (plus a £5 deposit). It can carry a cash value for pay-as-you-go journeys and offers cheaper fares. The system is divided into nine zones. Zone 1 is the central London area. Travelcards and Oyster cards are valid on Underground, Overground, bus, London National Rail services, Docklands Light Railway (DLR), the Emirates Air Line cable car and tram journeys, and offer river service discounts. Visitors can buy Travelcards and Oyster cards from Tourist Information Centres, TfL outlets or at VisitBritain's online store, visitbritainshop.com.

Seven day or longer period travelcards are only available on Oyster at TfL operated London Overground ticket offices.

Further info at visitlondon.com/travel.

COACHES London's main coach services use **Victoria Coach Station**, SW1W 9TP. 020 7027 2520. tfl.gov.uk/coaches.  **Victoria**. Map D4.

EMIRATES AIR LINE A cable car across the River Thames between The O₂ and the ExCel London exhibition centre. emiratesairline.co.uk.

BARCLAYS CYCLE HIRE More than 8,000 bicycles are available to hire from 15,000 docking points throughout central London. Visitors can access the scheme using the 'Casual Use' option, and pay at the docking terminal, online, or by phone. Charges, which include

an access fee and timed usage charges, vary, though they are inexpensive. For more info, visit tfl.gov.uk/cycling.

CAR HIRE Please make sure your driving licence is valid for the UK and see Congestion Charge details below. **Hertz** 0870 844 8844. hertz.co.uk. **Kendall Cars Ltd.** 020 8542 0403. kendallcars.com. **Enterprise Rent-A-Car** 0800 800 227. enterprise.co.uk.

LOOK OUT
for Legible
London's street
maps

CONGESTION CHARGE There is a £10 congestion charge to drive into central London, Mon-Fri 7am-6pm. This must be paid in advance or on the day of travel. Pay Next Day allows drivers to pay the charge the following day, but the fee rises to £12. 0845 900 1234/020 7649 9122 (UK only). cclondon.com.

ON FOOT It's often quicker to get around London by walking. Legible London is a scheme to help pedestrians find their way around the capital more easily. Look out for their blue and yellow street maps on tall narrow monoliths in key areas. tfl.gov.uk/legiblelondon.

ACCESSIBLE LONDON To find out more about London for deaf and disabled travellers, including independently assessed attraction and accommodation information from DisabledGo, handy maps, useful tips, links and resources, and more, please go to visitlondon.com/access and for information on Britain see openbritain.net.

ACCOMMODATION

There is a vast range of accommodation in London. Stay in famous hotels, B&Bs (bed and breakfast), guesthouses, self-catering apartments or hostels, such as YHA London. yha.org.uk.

ACCOMMODATION – BOOKING We advise booking your accommodation before you arrive. visitlondon.com, offers online booking for hotels, B&Bs and hostels, plus great deals on hotels. You can also call the official London accommodation line on 0870 156 6366 to book by credit card.

ACCOMMODATION – RATINGS Star ratings are the quality official mark awarded to accommodation by VisitEngland and the AA. Standards of service, hospitality, cleanliness etc, are checked annually by trained, impartial

assessors. Participants are awarded between one and five stars (five stars being the top).

CONTACTS

To dial the UK, remove the first 0 and add 44.

EMBASSIES AND CONSULATES For emergencies (that are no fault of your own, and where local help has been exhausted), your embassy might assist you.

Australia 020 7379 4334.

Belgium 020 7470 3700.

Canada 020 7258 6600.

China 020 7299 4049.

France 020 7073 1000.

Germany 020 7824 1300.

India 020 7836 8484.

Ireland 020 7235 2171.

Italy 020 7312 2200.

The Netherlands 020 7590 3200.

New Zealand 020 7930 8422.

South Africa 020 7451 7299.

Spain 020 7589 8989.

US 020 7499 9000.

LONDON PLANNER

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020 7242 5222. london.planner@morrisvisitorpub.com.

Twitter: @LondonPlannerMag Facebook: LondonPlannerMag

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London Planner Volume 28, Issue 34. Printed in Great Britain.

Over 125,000 monthly copies distributed worldwide by VisitBritain.

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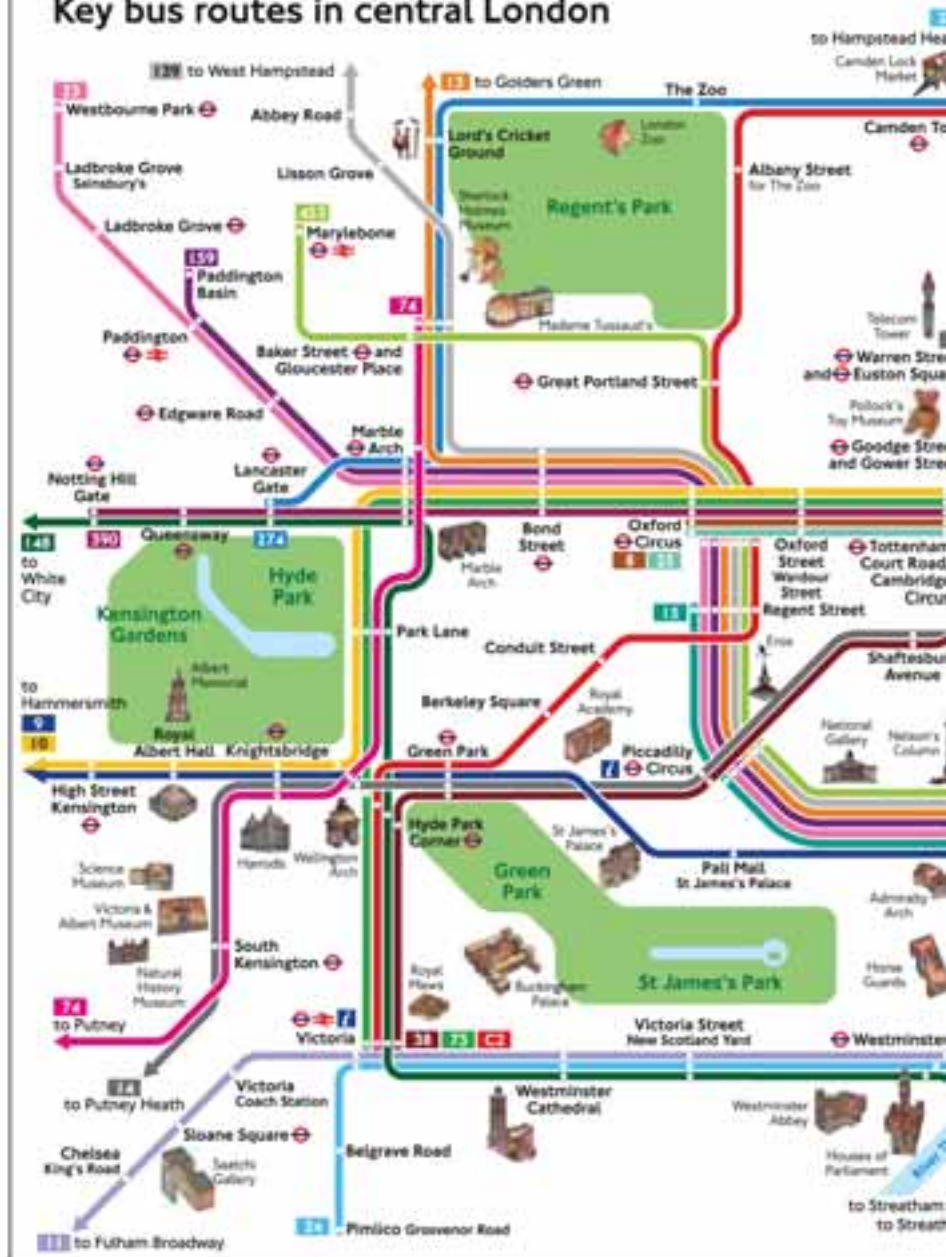


LONDON UNDERGROUND MAP zone 1

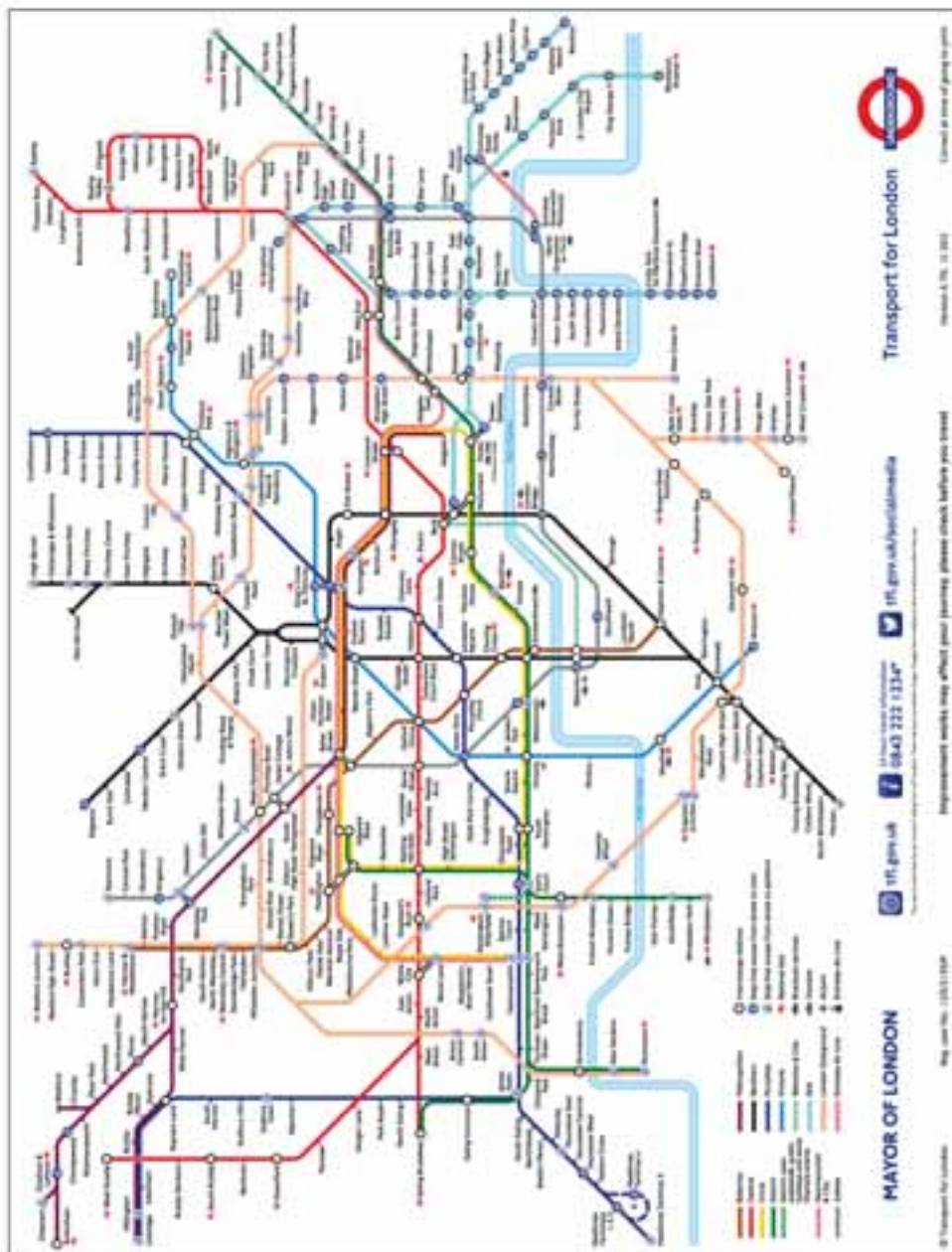


BUS MAP

Key bus routes in central London



LONDON UNDERGROUND MAP all zones



The background image shows the interior of St Pancras International station. A large, ornate clock is visible in the upper left, set against a wall of intricate stained glass windows. Below the clock, a red brick wall with arched windows is visible. In the foreground on the right, a dark statue of a man in a top hat and coat is shown from the waist up, looking towards the left. The overall atmosphere is one of historical grandeur and architectural detail.

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