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Whatever you are looking for, from restaurants to relaxation, London has the best in class. This guide will show you how to enjoy your time at WTM and inspire you to travel beyond the immediate area and venture into the beating heart of London.

Whatever you do, have a fantastic time and see you next year!

Stewart Dymock
Publishing Director, Morris Visitor Publications (MVP)
Greenwich has a magical mix of old and new, from the Cutty Sark – the last surviving tea clipper – to the capital’s only cable car, says Sarah Riches

There are few better places to be than at the top of Greenwich Park. The 183-acre space dates back to Roman times and is part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site, because it overlooks the National Maritime Museum and the Old Royal Naval College. As you look out, you can see the River Thames, Canary Wharf and the surrounding area that is steeped in history.

1 Cutty Sark
The Cutty Sark, the last surviving tea clipper, first set sail in 1869. A year later, laden with wine, spirits and beer, she made her maiden voyage to China – the first of eight trips – before returning with a cargo of tea. Reaching speeds of 17 knots (20mph), she visited every major port, trading coal, jute and wool. Hop on board the 85m ship and see her 47m mast up close. The ship is raised above ground, so you can explore underneath it. Look out for regular events on board, too.

The O2
Up to 20,000 fans regularly pile into this entertainment venue, which has hosted stars including Beyoncé. Highlights include UK dance act Above & Beyond (4 Nov) and comedian Jimmy Carr (11 Nov). You can also catch My Name Is Prince, an exhibition on the legendary singer. Sign up for Up at The O2, where you can climb the dome to a viewing platform. There’s a cinema, bars and restaurants, too.

Emirates Air Line
London’s only cable car connects The O2 in Greenwich on the south bank of the river with the Emirates Royal Docks on the north. It takes 10 minutes to cross the river and on your journey you will see The O2, Canary Wharf and the Thames Barrier, which was built in 1982 to prevent London from flooding.

Royal Observatory
Founded by Charles II in 1675, the Royal Observatory is home to the Meridian Line, making it the official starting point for each new day, year, century and millennium. Walk across an oversized world map, stargaze in the capital’s only planetarium, see the UK’s largest refracting telescope and admire Lord Admiral Nelson’s uniform. Outside, you can also stand on either side of the Meridian – which means you’ll be in the eastern and western hemispheres at the same time.
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LONDONPLANNER.COM
If you arrive early for World Travel Market, you certainly won’t be bored. Here are some suggestions for a day around Greenwich – get ready to eat, drink and explore.

**10am: The O2**

The King is back. Catch *Elvis on Tour* at The O2, one of London’s most recognisable venues. There are more than 200 artefacts from the Graceland archives on display, detailing the legend’s impact on popular culture. Peninsula Square, SE10 0DX. T: 020-8463 2000. www.theo2.co.uk

**NOON: CRAFT LONDON**

Best known for its acclaimed restaurant, Craft London also has a café on the ground floor which is perfect for lunch. Try its roasted coffee, oven-baked sourdough bread or salad. If you have time, pop next door to the NOW Gallery to see free, temporary exhibitions of contemporary art, photography and design. Peninsula Square, SE10 0SQ. T: 020-8465 5910. www.craft-london.co.uk

**2pm: QUEEN’S HOUSE**

Set on the fringes of gorgeous Greenwich Park, this former royal residence and Britain’s first Classical building displays artwork by English greats such as Hogarth, Gainsborough and LS Lowry. The Great Hall features Turner Prize-winner Richard Wright’s magnificent gold-leaf ceiling design. Romney Rd, SE10 9NF. T: 020-8858 4422. www.rmg.co.uk/queens-house

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**ITINERARY**

- **10am: The O2**
- **NOON: CRAFT LONDON**
- **2pm: QUEEN’S HOUSE**
If you arrive early for World Travel Market, you certainly won’t be bored. Here are some suggestions for a day around Greenwich – get ready to eat, drink and explore.

**This traditional pub – which has been a staple Greenwich boozer since the early 1920s – serves wines, craft beers and ales in a cosy setting decorated with antiques, vintage photos and colourful furniture.**

52-54 Royal Hill, SE10 8RT.

T: 020-8692 2996.

www.richardthefirst.co.uk

**Greenwich Park is one of the capital’s eight Royal Parks, spanning 183 acres. Set over a hill, with views of the River Thames, it is home to the Royal Observatory, attractive flower gardens and a small herd of deer.**

SE10 8XJ. T: 030-0061 2380. www.royalparks.org.uk

**6pm: THE OLD BREWERY**

A stone’s throw from the Cutty Sark clipper ship, The Old Brewery serves seasonal British dishes such as poached rainbow trout, Lancashire hot pot and lamb medallions. The historic pub is set within the grounds of the Old Royal Naval College.

The Pepys Building, Old Royal Naval College, SE10 9LW.

T: 020-3437 2222. www.oldbrewerygreenwich.com

**8pm: THE RICHARD 1ST**

This traditional pub – which has been a staple Greenwich boozer since the early 1920s – serves wines, craft beers and ales in a cosy setting decorated with antiques, vintage photos and colourful furniture.

52-54 Royal Hill, SE10 8RT.

T: 020-8692 2996.

www.richardthefirst.co.uk

**Greenwich**
Fancy a break from all that business? There’s a lot to do around ExCeL London

**BIG HITTER**

Fancy smashing a ball towards one of Canary Wharf’s iconic skyscrapers? **Greenwich Peninsula Golf Driving Range**, on the River Thames next to The O2, is central London’s only golf range. After a busy day of networking, the range is the perfect way to de-stress. It boasts a floodlit, 274m AstroTurf field and 60 bays, which are open from early morning until late – book online. Balls and clubs can be hired. You can also have a 50-minute session with one of the range’s seasoned pros, as well as an evaluation class, which will identify your strengths and weaknesses.

265 Tunnel Ave, SE10 0QE. T: 020-8293 9592. www.greenwichpeninsulagolfrange.com

**SHOP ‘TIL YOU DROP**

**Westfield Stratford City** is the largest urban shopping and leisure destination in Europe. Inside, there are 250 shops and more than 65 cafés and restaurants, should you need a breather from all that shopping. You’ll also have access to a Vue Cinema, an All Star Lanes bowling alley and Aspers Casino, which offers a variety of poker tournaments as well as the chance to listen to live music on Fridays in the Sky Bar.

Olympic Park, Montfichet Rd, E20 1EJ. T: 020-8221 7300. www.uk.westfield.com/stratfordcity ➔ DLR Stratford

**LOST AT SEA**

Ship lovers can browse art, manuscripts, models and cartography at the **National Maritime Museum**, which covers major events such as the Battle of Trafalgar and the role of the navy in World War I. Don’t miss the **Death in the Ice: The Shocking Story of Franklin’s Final Expedition** gallery. The exhibition contains recently recovered artefacts from Sir John Franklin’s Arctic voyage in 1845, when the entire crew and ships mysteriously vanished. There is also a gallery dedicated to Horatio Nelson (his uniform is pictured, right) and the history of the Royal Navy and British people. If you need a break from the exhibitions, head to the museum’s brasserie, which has views of Greenwich Park. The Royal Observatory and Cutty Sark are also close by.

Park Row, SE10 9NF. T: 020-8312 6608. www.rmg.co.uk ➔ DLR Greenwich

For suggestions on where to eat and drink around ExCeL, turn to the page after p. 114
A big welcome to London this November

On 5th November we celebrate Bonfire Night, which marks Guy Fawkes’ ill-fated gunpowder plot on the Houses of Parliament in 1605. There are loads of spectacular firework events lined up – top displays include Battersea, Southwark and Victoria Park.

As a world capital of music and creativity, I’m delighted that for the first time in 21 years, the MTV EMAs return to London, featuring unforgettable events and culminating in the much-anticipated awards ceremony at SSE Arena Wembley on 12th November. During MTV Music Week, the city hosts top international music acts alongside visitors from around the world.

The festive season begins as Winter Wonderland returns to Hyde Park for six weeks. The festival is the perfect place to celebrate the run-up to Christmas – with rides, shops, bars and restaurants to enjoy. It’s near Oxford Street, the famous shopping district, where you can start your Christmas shopping early.

I hope you have a great time in our city!

Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London
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November 2017

CONTENTS

03 Mayor’s welcome
Sadiq Khan welcomes you to London

06 Top 10 free attractions
The most popular places to visit

08 Give thanks in London
As Thanksgiving takes place, read our guide to American culture

14 Angels of the North
A look at how Northern England influences the world

20 Discover
A guide to leafy Hampstead

98 Beyond London
Have a blast! Enjoy fireworks across the country

114 London in numbers
Why London is number one

WHAT’S ON

26 Sightseeing
52 Museums & Galleries
64 Entertainment
78 Sport
80 Shopping
86 Eating Out
94 Nightlife
102 Essential Information

MAPS

76 Theatreland
106 Central London
109 River services
110 London buses
112 London Underground

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FREE ATTRACTIONS

London’s most popular free attractions compiled according to the latest available visitor numbers from www.visitlondon.com

1 The British Museum
The famous museum houses treasures including the Rosetta Stone and Egyptian mummies.

2 The National Gallery
Priceless European art belonging to the nation, with works by Botticelli, da Vinci, van Gogh and more.

3 Tate Modern
This former power station in Bankside, now with a new wing, houses a modern art collection.

4 Natural History Museum
Explore the natural world, including prehistoric fossils, dinosaurs and taxidermy.

5 Southbank Centre
Opened in 1951, this arts centre hosts music, dance, art and spoken word events.

6 Somerset House
Somerset House is home to Embankment Galleries, and The Courtauld Gallery with its Old Masters.

7 Science Museum
Interactive scientific fun for kids and grown-ups, boasting everything from rockets to steam engines.

8 Victoria and Albert Museum
Incredible historic artefacts that span more than 3,000 years and include art, sculpture and fashion.

9 Royal Museums Greenwich
Discover maritime history and world-class art in this Unesco World Heritage Site.

10 National Portrait Gallery
This gallery houses a collection of portraits of historically important and famous British people.
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This month we fly the Stars and Stripes to celebrate Thanksgiving (23 Nov), the most important American holiday of the year. It marks the first harvest festival of the English and Dutch settlers in America – the first pilgrims to land in the New World in 1620.

On another note, November also sees the one-year anniversary of the election victory of President Donald Trump and, love him or loathe him, his win goes down as one of the biggest shocks in US election history.

The groundbreaking Broadway show Hamilton (from 6 Dec), which received a Pulitzer Prize for drama and 11 Tony Awards, is expected to take London by storm when it arrives in the West End next month. The show incurred the wrath of Trump when its racially diverse cast made an onstage public statement to Vice President Mike Pence, expressing their concerns at the Trump administration. Pence was booed by the audience, and the President demanded an apology from the cast for the ‘harassment’ they created.

The controversy certainly made the show even more newsworthy and popular. This hugely successful hip-hop musical tells the story of the little-known American founding father Alexander Hamilton, from his upbringing as an impoverished orphan in the Caribbean to his arrival in New York, and his subsequent tangles in the American Revolution.

Theatre aficionados – and those lucky enough to have bought a ticket for the performance in London – are eager to see if the West End show will lead to a similar slew of awards. Its cast of predominantly British black, Asian and Middle Eastern actors is set to be joined by the show’s original creator, Lin-Manuel Miranda, at some point in the West End.

As Thanksgiving takes place, Emma Levine finds out how you can celebrate American culture.
Every Thanksgiving, the American President ‘pardons’ at least one turkey.

A HOUSE WITH HISTORY

One man who would probably have loved to have got his hands on an elusive Hamilton ticket is Benjamin Franklin. Apart from being a Founding Father, he was also a scientist, diplomat and philosopher. At Benjamin Franklin House, the unassuming 1730s townhouse where he lived from 1757 to 1775, you can get a more conventional overview of America’s birth.

A keen musician, Franklin wrote a string quartet, and also invented a glass ‘armonica’ – also called a glass harmonica – for which the likes of Mozart composed music specially.

THE PLAY’S THE THING

You can dig further into the stormy social history of America’s Deep South at the Young Vic’s performance of Yellowman (from 22 Nov). Set in poverty-stricken South Carolina in the turbulent 1970s, it focuses on childhood friends Alma and Eugene, whose relationship develops into something deeper as they grow up. Yet their different racial backgrounds (the lighter-skinned Eugene is teased for being a ‘high yella’) leads to powerful tensions and internal racial prejudice within the black community.
There’s a large American expat community in London – many of whom head to Sir Christopher Wren’s masterpiece, St Paul’s Cathedral, each year for its US Thanksgiving Day service. This year’s service is likely to be attended by America’s new ambassador to the UK, Woody Johnson, a billionaire investor and now owner of the New York Jets American football team. Prayers are led by an American pastor, and an American choir leads the hymns. Representatives from the Marine Corps bear flags at the service – and there may even be a message from the President.

A THANKSGIVING FEAST

Much like Christmas Day over here, the focus of Thanksgiving is the huge family feast at home, which is usually made up of roast turkey, sweet potatoes and pumpkin pie – similar to what the Founding Fathers would have eaten. But for Americans visiting London, or anyone wanting to experience how it’s done across the pond, it’s easy to get a taste of it here.

For a contemporary spin, Red Rooster puts a dollop of style on cuisine from the US of A – complete with its own house gospel band every Sunday. The new restaurant is a taste of Harlem, brought to Shoreditch by hot New York chef and restaurateur Marcus Samuelsson. In a brash, stylish interior – part of the new Curtain hotel – you can enjoy authentic soul food. Its deep-fried, buttermilk-soaked chicken is the star, and the cornbread, served with honey-whipped butter and chilli jam, is chewy and succulent. No wonder Samuelsson is a favourite chef of the Obamas, having cooked for them at the White House.

At the vast Rail House Café in Victoria – one of a flurry of new venues in this revamped area – there’s a sharing theme for a special Thanksgiving dinner, with all the classic dishes such as slow-roast turkey in herb butter, cornbread, maple-butter roast potatoes and creamed corn casserole. Your hearty meal ends, of course, with an indulgent piece of pecan pie – a stalwart of every Thanksgiving dinner.

Long-standing favourite Planet Hollywood can always be relied upon for a fun feast. Amid the movie-inspired memorabilia and décor, choose from its two- or three-course menu for lunch or dinner, starting with pumpkin soup, followed by roast turkey with mashed potatoes and parsnips, and white chocolate bread pudding with bourbon sauce for dessert.

More than 50 million turkeys are served upon Thanksgiving in the US each year.
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Jasper Johns helped make the Stars and Stripes an icon. The American’s famous 1958 work, *Flag*, is a version of the US flag made from pigment and molten wax, complete with lumps and smears, on to strips of newspaper. Johns said it is something ‘the mind already knows’. See this, and more of his works, at *Jasper Johns: Something Resembling Truth* at the Royal Academy of Arts (to 10 Dec).

Representing the underbelly of US culture, the late Jean-Michel Basquiat was a prodigy of the 1980s’ New York art scene. *Basquiat: Boom for Real* at Barbican Art Gallery (to 28 Jan) displays more than 100 of his works. He was homeless and unemployed before becoming known for his art, and died of a heroin overdose aged 27. Earlier this year his *Untitled* work became the most expensive American painting sold at auction.

While at home we might watch the Queen’s Speech after Christmas dinner, and continue to slouch in front of the TV watching a film as the evening progresses, the equivalent in the States is to watch the ball game.

Traditionally, three NFL games (American football) take place consecutively, starting in the afternoon. Plug into London’s growing NFL scene – and give a nod to our new US ambassador, owner of the New York Jets. Try heading to a bar showing live coverage of the matches, such as Rileys Sports Bar, which knows how to get the party started.

If you want to treat yourself to a tipple at a plush bar, the American Bar at the Stafford Hotel is festooned with memorabilia on its walls and ceilings, from gridiron helmets to signed celebrity photos. It’s the ideal spot for a classic cocktail – a Manhattan, Old Fashioned or a Sidecar – in environs that will whisk you back to the golden age of the first transatlantic cruises, and the elegance of the 1930s. Bottoms up!

The whisky cocktail known as the Manhattan was first mixed in New York in 1874

Both images: The American Bar at The Stafford

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The whisky cocktail known as the Manhattan was first mixed in New York in 1874

Both images: The American Bar at The Stafford
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What do Paul Smith, Agyness Deyn and Karen Elson have in common? They are all talent from the North of England that have gone on to influence the world, says Alex Wellington.

Some visitors to London are surprised by what they find. After watching TV programmes such as Downton Abbey and The Young Victoria, they somehow expect it to be all royal palaces and cups of tea. This, if you like, is the ‘idea’ of Britain. And though there is truth in the cliché, London also has skyscrapers like The Shard, multi-ethnic communities such as Brixton, and a lively nightlife scene.

And there is an ‘idea’ of the North of England as a dark, industrial landscape where the men wear flat caps and drink their lives away with little joy – but that is far from the reality.

Inside Somerset House’s exhibition North: Fashioning Identity (from 8 Nov) is a new exhibition at Somerset House (which, admittedly, is a building as grand as a stately home, where you can get a jolly good cup of tea) that aims to investigate and explode this ‘idea’ of the North.

‘The show is trying to unpick ideas of what the North is really about,’ says Claire Catterall, the director of exhibitions. ‘The idea of the North is incredibly interesting as a concept: it has a distinct and romantic identity. Some of it is built on cliché, and some of it on truth. We’re trying to explore what’s truthful, and how clichés are used and why.’
What is ‘the North’?

The idea of the North became cemented in Victorian times, when the North became industrialised and working class: red-brick buildings blackened with soot, cloth caps and whippet dogs, Wigan Pier, Gracie Fields, TV’s Coronation Street, and recently Joy Division and ‘Madchester’ and those bare-legged coatless women out on the lash [getting drunk] in freezing January,’ Catterall continues.

The exhibition is largely photographic but there are videos, artworks and clothes by designers such as Nottingham-born Sir Paul Smith. Northern designers speak about their roots, too. ‘When people talk about their experiences of growing up in the North and what it has meant to them and their work, you get a great feeling of it as being very diverse,’ Catterall says. ‘Some came from leafy suburbs, some from beautiful seaside towns or rural areas. Not everyone was working class, and there are all sexualities and genders.’

‘One of the stereotypical ideas of the North is that it’s quite masculine and heteronormative [an assumption that everyone is heterosexual].

Tom Wood, whose Liverpool street photography is represented in the exhibition, is represented in the exhibition, says that there is no such entity as ‘the North’ at all. ‘Liverpool is like a different place from the rest of the North, a different country altogether,’ he says. ‘Preston and Sheffield always seemed much more like “the North” to me: chimneys, ironworks, mills. There’s a big gap even between Liverpool and Manchester, even though it’s only a short train ride away.

‘There’s a huge Irish influence in Liverpool, but also a lot of Welsh, and Polish, and people from Africa. Women have always traditionally been very strong in Liverpool, and given a lot of respect. Manchester is more gritty, aggressive,'
“LIVERPOOL IS LIKE A DIFFERENT COUNTRY”
— TOM WOOD, PHOTOGRAPHER

a man’s town. Liverpool is softened by different races and by the sea. There’s a sense of humour that is particular to Liverpool, and which I miss since I have moved away.’

That warmth and sense of humour is evident in the reaction to his work. Wood says that although he took photographs in all sorts of places, including markets where only women would go, and football matches where the male aggression and energy were off the scale, he seldom got hassled. In fact, locals took him to their hearts, calling him ‘the photie man’.

One thing is for sure. If London doesn’t quite disabuse visitors of the notion that Britain is all stately homes and cups of tea, North: Fashioning Identity definitely will.

SHIRLEY BAKER

Shirley Baker is best known for her street photography of Greater Manchester. She trained as a photographer and shot professionally for magazines and newspapers before becoming a lecturer at Salford College of Art in 1960. But it was for her passion project that she is best known.

For 15 years, inspired by Henri Cartier-Bresson, she documented her city. Though the surroundings were grim, depicting families and children in extreme poverty during a time of massive slum clearance, her subjects were anything but: the warmth, joy and sense of community shine through.

Catterall says of Baker: ‘She just took photos of everyday life – men loitering on streets, kids playing – but they really capture the essence of life up North. They are also absolutely beautiful.’

PETER SAVILLE

You could count all the famous graphic designers in the UK on the fingers of a cartoon character’s hand. One of them is Peter Saville. As a director of Factory Records, he defined the aesthetic of Manchester bands at a time when the city was the epicentre of the music universe.

The Joy Division cover for Unknown Pleasures that spawned a thousand T-shirts? That was Saville’s. The die-cut cover for New Order’s Blue Monday (above) that became the best-selling 12-inch single of all time, but was so expensive to print that the label lost 5p with each sale? Saville’s too.

SHOWstudio editor-at-large Lou Stoppard, who co-curated North: Fashioning Identity, says: ‘The North of England has not only produced myriad cultural moments and creative talents, but it also serves as an inspiration to those who live far beyond England. Raf Simons [chief creative officer at Calvin Klein] finds beauty and inspiration in the ‘Madchester’-born graphics of Peter Saville.’

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Sir Paul Smith

Few fashion designers are more closely associated with London than Sir Paul Smith. He learned his trade on Savile Row, and opened a shop in Covent Garden before it was trendy. The Design Museum in London has devoted two exhibitions to him, in 1995 and 2013, and his flagship store is at 9 Albemarle Street in the heart of Mayfair.

Yet Sir Paul Smith is, in fact, a proud son of the North – he grew up in Nottingham and opened his first tiny store there in 1970.

North: Fashioning Identity features unseen garments from a Paul Smith range available only in Japan. New Bold is inspired by Manchester and its music scene, as Catterall says: ‘For an idea of Manchester to translate all the way to Tokyo speaks volumes.’

Paul Smith is a proud son of the North – he grew up in Nottingham and opened his first tiny store there in 1970.

Agniness Deyn

Agniness Deyn was, for a few years in the late Noughties, London’s most famous young model, the heir to Kate Moss. Not a day would go by without her appearing in the gossip pages of the Evening Standard or Metro, let alone in ad campaigns and fashion magazines. Yet she began her working life in a fish and chip shop up North.

‘People have mythologised where she was discovered,’ says Catterall, explaining the inclusion of Deyn in the exhibition. ‘Alasdair McLellan did a photo spread on her in i-D magazine called So Much to Answer for [from a lyric by Manchester band The Smiths]. Tim Walker’s shoot covered post-war stereotypes in a Vogue spread, Angel of the North, which had a moody-looking Deyn standing next to a line of washing.’
THE VIEW
FROM THE TOP OF THE SHARD

seen by Olly and Claire, from Dulwich

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London Bridge
The Mayor of London’s #SeeMoreLondon campaign encourages you to visit different neighbourhoods. Julie Falconer shares her favourite spots

North London’s Hampstead is a little village nestled next to Hampstead Heath, one of the city’s largest and wildest green spaces. Full of charming streets and literary history, the neighbourhood is a great place to wander and soak up the atmosphere.

Hampstead is just a 20-minute Tube ride from central London on the Northern line, making it easy to reach for an afternoon out. Here’s why you should visit this lovely place.

1. **Shopping**
   Hampstead High Street, just outside Hampstead Tube station, is at the heart of village life. Full of shops, restaurants, cafés and boutiques, it’s a great place for retail therapy. Don’t forget to explore the little side streets, which are full of delicatessens, galleries and other treasures.

2. **Hampstead Heath**
   The best things about Hampstead are the little streets that give the neighbourhood its charm. From skinny pathway Mansfield Place to the colourful doors on Holly Walk, it’s worth getting lost here. But the big draw is Hampstead Heath. Perfect for rambling, strolling or enjoying a picnic on a sunny day, Hampstead Heath is one of the capital’s best parks. From the panoramic views of the city from the top of Parliament Hill to its idyllic trails through woodland, the Heath is a perfect antidote to the bustling streets of central London.

3. **Café**
   Hampstead isn’t short of refreshment stops. You’re spoilt for choice, but Ginger & White has gluten-free dishes, including all-day breakfast, brunch and lunch. Try its delicious hot chocolate.
Burgh House
In the heart of Hampstead Village, Grade-I listed Burgh House is home to a small museum and pretty café. Visitors can learn about the area and its history, then sit at an outdoor table on the leafy terrace to enjoy a cup of tea and cake.

Kenwood
At the north end of Hampstead Heath, Kenwood is a former stately home that is now a lovely museum. Visitors can explore the house and its stunning art collection before strolling through the magnificent gardens. Make sure you visit its café, too.

The Holly Bush
One of Hampstead’s most beloved pubs, the 18th-century Holly Bush is a must-visit pub. With a maze of little wood-panelled rooms and cosy fires in winter, it’s a quintessential London establishment. If you’re in the village on a Sunday, don’t miss its roast served with all the ‘trimmings’.

Hampstead Antique & Craft Emporium
This hidden gem has a warren of stalls full of treasures. It’s a great place to browse vintage items, from silverware, ceramics, glassware, furniture and paintings.

You can read Julie Falconer’s blog, A Lady in London, at www.aladyinlondon.com. For more information about London areas, please visit www.visitlondon.com/areas

Images clockwise from left: Burgh House; view from Parliament Hill; Kenwood; inside Burgh House; Ginger & White café; inside Kenwood
Together the V&A and the Royal Opera House create a landmark exhibition presenting a vivid story of opera from its origins in late-Renaissance Italy up to the present day. Told through the lens of seven premieres in seven European cities, this immersive exhibition takes you on a journey through nearly 400 years, culminating in the international explosion of opera in the 20th and 21st centuries.

The exhibition reveals how the creation of a new opera can reflect the social, political, artistic and economic conversations that define cities, and reveals the process of making opera from libretto to score, from design to performance.

The cities and premieres explored are:
- Venice and Monteverdi’s *L’incoronazione di Poppea*, 1642;
- London and Handel’s *Rinaldo*, 1711;
- Vienna and Mozart’s *Le nozze di Figaro*, 1786;
- Milan and Verdi’s *Nabucco*, 1842;
- Paris and Wagner’s *Tannhäuser* in its revised version, 1861;
- Dresden and Richard Strauss’s *Salome*, 1905; and
- St Petersburg and Shostakovich’s *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*, 1934.

This is the inaugural exhibition in the V&A’s new Sainsbury Gallery, a new purpose-built subterranean gallery opening as part of the V&A’s Exhibition Road Quarter, and one of the largest temporary exhibition spaces in the UK.

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BIRTHDAY SALUTE

Celebrate the Prince of Wales’s birthday – he will turn 69 – by watching a gun salute (14 Nov). The Honourable Artillery Company will fire 62 rounds from three guns at 1pm on Tower Wharf facing the River Thames by the Tower of London (p. 38).

LEST WE FORGET

Remembrance Day (11 Nov) commemorates the end of hostilities in the First World War. There’s a ticketed service at Westminster Abbey on 9 Nov, and a two-minute silence outside the Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre. www.visitlondon.com

START YOUR ENGINES!

Petrol heads won’t want to miss the Regent Street Motor Show, a display of veteran, vintage, classic and modern-day cars (4 Nov). Stunt bike displays and car-themed live music make it a fantastic free family day out. www.regentstreetmotorshow.com

LIGHT UP THE SKY

The British tradition of Bonfire Night falls on a Sunday this year, which means most firework displays will be a weekend family affair. The custom dates back to 1605, when a Catholic conspirator, Guy Fawkes, attempted to blow up King James I and the Houses of Parliament with barrels of gunpowder – and was caught. His capture has been celebrated across the country on the 5th of November ever since. Alexandra Palace is going all-out (3-4 Nov). DJ Yoda curates a soundtrack to accompany the firework and laser show, and there is a parade of characters telling the story of the Phoenix’s rebirth from the flames – expect motorised animatronics, aerialists, fire breathers, giant puppets, drummers and dancers. The family zone has a bonfire, kids’ funfair and roaming performers. You can also ice skate indoors and listen to DJs and live music headlined by Jazzy B from Soul II Soul. Bonfires are a rarity these days, so the fire at Battersea Park (4 Nov; above) is special. The park also has food stalls, mulled wine and live entertainment. Brockwell Park’s display (4 Nov) returns for the first time since 2014 – and it’s back with a bang (and band). As this year’s theme is Night at the Movies, a 20-minute mix of tracks from family-friendly blockbusters accompany the fireworks, and up-and-coming London-based talent perform on a stage before and after the fireworks. Victoria Park’s fireworks (5 Nov) are accompanied by a soundtrack and food and drink stalls. Blackheath’s festivities (4 Nov), meanwhile, attract 80,000. With a funfair, it’s one of the city’s biggest free displays.

– Sarah Riches
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London’s oldest botanic garden was founded in 1673 as the Apothecaries’ Garden. Adult £10.50; child £6.95. Check for times. 66 Royal Hospital Rd, SW3 4HS. T: 020-7352 5646. www.chelseaphysicgarden.co.uk. Station: Sloane Square. Off map.

CUTTY SARK

DENNIS SEVERS’ HOUSE
The home of the late artist Dennis Severs has 10 rooms illustrating the life of a family of Huguenot silk weavers. Please check for tour dates and times. Tickets £5-£15. 18 Folgate St, E1 6BX. T: 020-7247 4013. www.dennissevershouse.co.uk. Station: Liverpool Street. D11.

INFO
To dial the UK, remove the first 0 and add 44. Map: refers to the grid coordinates on our Central London map. Prices listed here are for tickets bought in person – reductions may be available online. Admission prices and opening hours can change.

WALK THIS WAY

ZSL London Zoo is known for its crazy events, from naked runs to silent discos, but it’s going one bigger with Walk of Fire and Ice (9 Nov; p. 32). Now in its sixth year, the fundraising event helps protect wildlife around the world. Anyone over the age of 18 can walk barefoot across a 3m path of red-hot embers, which takes about four steps to complete. Last year, 60 people braved the 1,200°F coals – and most managed it more than once. A Nothing is Impossible seminar teaches you to face your fears. You’ll then make sure your feet are clean before stepping out. Buckets of cold water are on hand – just in case...

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The site of Parliament since 1265 and still a royal palace, the current building including Big Ben was built in the 19th century. Tours every Sat in Nov. Advance audio tour adult £18.50, child £7.50 (first child free); guided tour adult £25.50, child £11. On the day audio tour adult £20.50, child £8.50 (first child free); guided tour adult £28, child £12. Palace of Westminster, Parliament Square, SW1A 0AA. T: 020-7219 4114. www.parliament.uk/visit. Station: Westminster. F8.

THE JEWEL TOWER
Built around 1365 to house Edward III’s treasures, this is one of only two buildings left from the medieval Palace of Westminster after an 1834 fire. Check for prices and times. Abingdon St, SW1P 3JX. T: 020-7222 2219. www.english-heritage.org.uk. Station: Westminster. F8.

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At this 1,700-year-old London Bridge site, special effects and actors bring this spine-tingling attraction to life. Tickets include the London Tombs, which are in a former plague pit. Check for times and prices. 2-4 Tooley St, SE1 2SY. T: 020-7403 6333. www.thelondonbridgeexperience.com. Station: London Bridge. E10.

THE LONDON DUNGEON
This thrilling attraction will whisk you back to the capital’s most perilous past. See, hear and feel the characters of the ‘bad old days’ as they come

Winter evenings may be dark but Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew’s 1,000,000 lights at Christmas at Kew (from 22 Nov; p. 34) will lift your mood. A trail of illuminations guides you around the grounds as you keep warm with mulled wine and hot chocolate. Stroll through a tunnel of lights, candlelit woodland, a scented fire garden and glittering floral installations. Along the way, you can listen to festive songs and hop on a merry-go-round. The highlight is the Palm House, which is illuminated at a 20-minute laser show.
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**ZSL London Zoo**

**Family** The world’s oldest scientific zoo, with more than 750 species. Visit the Land of the Lions enclosure with Asiatic lions – designed to resemble an Indian National Park. **9 Nov:** Walk of Fire and Ice (p. 28). Daily 10am-4pm. Adult £22.73; child £17.73. Regent’s Park, NW1 4RY. T: 020-7722 3333. www.zsl.org. Station: Camden Town. C6.

**Madame Tussauds**


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ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS

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For a group night out, Skate at Somerset House (from 15 Nov; p. 60) has an ice rink in its courtyard, dwarfed by a 12m-high Christmas tree. Visit for Skate Lates and whizz around to tunes by DJs. The ice rink outside the Natural History Museum (to 7 Jan; p. 56; above) is best for a date, as you can cuddle up over Hotel Chocolat hot chocolate in the indoor viewing balcony. Hyde Park Winter Wonderland’s rink (from 17 Nov; p. 40) is set around a Victorian bandstand and is ideal for families.
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**LEGACY CELEBRATED**

The Household Cavalry Museum (p. 54) celebrates its 10th birthday with a year of themed events, partnering with living legends and skilled servicemen associated with the regiment. This season it’s all about music and literature, where you can meet World War II veterans, learn more about the Battle of Passchendaele (10 Nov) and watch the Lord Mayor’s Show (11 Nov).

**START YOUR ENGINES**

The sleek car with the trademark dancing horse celebrates 70 years since its first vehicle was made, with the exhibition Ferrari: Under the Skin at The Design Museum (from 15 Nov; p. 54). The brand was the brainchild of Enzo Ferrari, after he watched motor racing as a boy, leading to his development of the luxury racing car in 1947. The Ferrari soon became a luxury status symbol around the world.

**PHOTO OPPORTUNITY**

The annual Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize announces its winners on 14 Nov, two days before the exhibition opens at the National Portrait Gallery (p. 62). See the finalists, who are of all ages and from across the world, and see if you would have reached the same decision as the judges.

**A CAPITAL IMPRESSION**

Leaving your home to escape war has gone on for centuries, and can have bittersweet results. Consider Claude Monet’s reaction on arriving in London to avoid conscription, along with many other artists who escaped France during the Franco-Prussian War almost 150 years ago.

Unable to find British buyers, Monet was miserable, poor, couldn’t speak the language and complained about London’s changeable weather – especially its fog. This is according to Dr Caroline Corbeau-Parson, curator of Tate Britain’s exhibition, Impressionists in London, French Artists in Exile (1870-1904) (from 2 Nov; p. 63).

The exhibition brings together more than 100 works by prominent painters including Monet, Pissarro and Tissot. Among the highlights are six of Monet’s famous paintings of the Houses of Parliament – ghostly works (above) that pick out the distinguished outline amid a blue-grey hazy mist, which he painted from his room on the top floor of the Savoy hotel.

The exhibition casts an unusual perspective on the way these ‘outsider’ French artists perceived the city and its culture, from a fascination with our famous fog, to the parks – a sharp contrast to the sunny café culture they were used to depicting back home. In fact they were astonished to see how people were allowed to walk on the grass, in contrast to the formal lawns of Parisian gardens where treading on them was forbidden. Pissarro’s 1892 oil painting of Kew Green shows the pointillist’s vibrant depiction of figures enjoying the open green space, which has never before been shown in Britain. These paintings certainly make an impression.

– Emma Levine
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IT TAKES TWO
The artistic pairing of Gilbert & George is part of the very fabric of Britain’s art scene; their work is anti-establishment, and even anti-art. At White Cube, *Gilbert & George: The Beard Pictures and their Fuckosophy* (from 22 Nov) celebrates 50 years since the duo met at Saint Martins School of Art and started producing large prints with absurd themes. The artists often appear in their own works with blank stares peering out above surreal beards. 144-152 Bermondsey St, SE1 3TQ. 020-7930 5373. www.whitecube.com
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**IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM (IWM LONDON)**


**JACK THE RIPPER MUSEUM**


**LEIGHTON HOUSE MUSEUM**

The restored former home of Lord Leighton is a museum of his life and work. Daily 10am-5.30pm, closed Tue. Adult £14; child £12. 12 Holland Park Rd, W14 8LZ. T: 020-7602 3316. www.leightonhouse.co.uk. Station: Kensington Olympia. Off map.

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The story of London’s transport system, including a train carriage from the 1890s. Daily 10am-6pm; Fri 11am-6pm. Adult £17.50; child free. Covent Garden Piazza, WC2E 7BB. T: 020-7379 6344. www.ltmuseum.co.uk. Station: Covent Garden. E8.

**MUSEUM OF LONDON**

The world’s largest urban history museum has thousands of exhibits that transport you through the capital’s history. Check for family events. Daily 10am-6pm. Admission free; charges for special exhibitions and walking tours. 150 London Wall, EC2Y 5HN. T: 020-7701 9844. www.museumoflondon.org.uk. Station: Barbican. D10.

**NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM**


**NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM**

**FAMILY** Amazing exhibits ranging from fossils to dinosaur skeletons, plus an ice rink during winter (p. 42). Wildlife Photographer of the Year. The 100 best images. **To 28 Feb:** Whales: Beneath the Surface. Exhibition exploring the lives of whales, dolphins and porpoises. Daily 10am-5.50pm. Admission free; charges for special exhibitions. Cromwell Rd, SW7 5BD. T: 020-7942 5000. www.nhm.ac.uk. Station: South Kensington. F4.

**THE POSTAL MUSEUM**

This museum tells the story of the first ‘social network’, with exhibits exploring postal history, including old post boxes, delivery bikes and uniforms, plus weapons used to protect the delivery service. Take a ride on the Mail Rail, the train in the underground tunnels that have been unearthed after 75 years. Daily 10am-5pm. Mail Rail & exhibitions adult £14.50; child £7.25. Exhibitions only adult £10; child free. 15-20 Phoenix Place, WC1X 0DA. T: 020-8858 4422. www.postalmuseum.org. Station: Russell Square. C8.

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**IN FOCUS**

Get a rare insight into the prolific German filmmaker Wim Wenders at **Instant Stories: Wim Wenders’ Polaroids** (to 11 Feb; p. 62) at The Photographers’ Gallery. Best known for his award-winning big-screen works, including Wings of Desire and Paris, Texas, this shows off more than 200 of his Polaroid photographs taken of street photo scenes, landscapes, still lives and cast and crew. The exhibition forms a diary-like impression of Europe and America, including Wenders’ first trip to New York, where he took photos from rooftops – the highest up he had ever been.
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Tour through 2000 years of history of one of the most famous bridges in the world, encountering Queen Boudica and the Icini tribes as they go to war with the Romans. See how London became the capital city of England and the fate that became those who dared to commit treason against the crown – William Wallace style.

Cross the burning bridge during the great fire of 1666 taking in the sights, smells and feeling of what the residents would have endured during these times. An encounter with that old rogue Jack in the Star Inn and the stories of Ben Crouch the body snatcher will leave everyone running for the vortex taking them back to current days.

Then enter [if you dare] in to the haunted site of London Tombs, a heart-pumping scare maze welcoming only the bravest of scare-fans. Tremble your way through a maze of sheer horror in the vaults of the bridge: take in the Spider Nest, survive the Big Squeeze, laugh at the crazed clown and escape the Bloody Butcher, the Tombs force thrill-seekers to face their fears.

TheLondonBridgeExperience.com
The London Bridge Experience, 2-4 Tooley Street, London Bridge, London SE1 2SY
QUEEN'S HOUSE

ROYAL AIR FORCE MUSEUM

SCIENCE MUSEUM

SIR JOHN SOANE'S MUSEUM

SOMERSET HOUSE

TWININGS MUSEUM
The flagship store of Twinings the teamaker has a tiny exhibition reflecting the company’s history. Check for times. Admission free. 216 Strand, WC2R 1AP. T: 020-7353 3511. www.twinings.co.uk. Station: Temple. D9.

VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM

V&A MUSEUM OF CHILDHOOD

THE WALLACE COLLECTION

WELLCOME COLLECTION
Artefacts relating to health and the body. NEW From 16 Nov: Ayurvedic Man: Encounters with Indian Medicine. The movement of medical knowledge across the continents. Tue-Wed & Fri-Sat 10am-6pm; Thur 10am-10pm; Sun 11am-6pm. Admission free. 183 Euston Rd, NW1 2BE. T: 020-7611 2222. www.wellcomecollection.org. Station: Euston. C7.

MARVELLOUS MEDICINE
In an era when we are more attuned to less conventional remedies, the Wellcome Collection’s Ayurvedic Man: Encounters with Indian Medicine (from 16 Nov) is timely. It centres on the venue’s 18th-century painting Ayurvedic Man, a drawing of the human body displaying its internal organs (ayurveda means ‘the knowledge of life’). See centuries-old Sanskrit and Tibetan medical manuscripts, erotic manuals and surgical tools to depict this ancient form of healing, which is still relevant in the world today.
Want to feel the weight of the Championships trophies? Keen to cast your eyes over Andy Murray’s title-winning whites?

Then step inside the multi-dimensional Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum. With complimentary audio guides in 10 languages, learn about the story of tennis, see the Championship trophies and the amazing new Virtual Reality experience. You may also take a tour of the grounds including Centre Court, for a truly inspirational visit.

Open Daily: 10:00am until 5:00pm
Nearest Underground: Southfields
The Museum Building,
The All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club,
Church Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 5AE
T: 020 8946 6131 | wimbledon.com/museum

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experience
**BARBICAN ART GALLERY**

**GUILDHALL ART GALLERY**
Paintings collected by the City of London since the 17th century, including pre-Raphaelite masterpieces. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm; Sun noon-4pm. Admission free; charges for special exhibitions. Guildhall Yard, off Gresham St, EC2V 5AE. T: 020-7332 3700. www.cityoflondon.gov.uk. Station: St Paul’s/Bank. D10.

**THE NATIONAL GALLERY**
One of the world’s greatest galleries, with works by Western European masters. Regular guided tours, talks and workshops. **To 7 May:** Drawn in Colour: Degas from the Burrell. Stunning paintings, pastels and drawings by the leading French Impressionist. **To 2 Apr:** Reflections: Van Eyck and the Pre-Raphaelites. How the Arnolfini Portrait was so influential in the genre. Sat-Thur 10am-6pm; Fri 10am-9pm. Admission free; charges for special exhibitions. Trafalgar Square, WC2N 5DN. T: 020-7747 2885. www.nationalgallery.org.uk. Station: Charing Cross. E7.

**NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY**
One of the nation’s most prominent galleries, with works depicting famous British people in paintings, drawings and photographs. **From 16 Nov:** Taylor Wessing Photographic Portrait Prize. See the finalists of this annual competition (p. 52). **To 11 Feb:** Cézanne’s Portraits. More than 50 works, some of which have never previously been displayed in the UK. Sat-Wed 10am-6pm; Thur & Fri 10am-9pm. Admission free; charges for special exhibitions. St Martin’s Place, WC2H 0HE. T: 020-7312 2463. www.npg.org.uk. Station: Leicester Square. E7.

**THE PHOTOGRAPHERS’ GALLERY**
London’s largest gallery devoted to photography. **To 11 Feb:** Instant Stories: Wim Wenders’ Polaroids. The Oscar-nominated filmmaker’s Polaroid photos (p. 56). Mon-Sat 10am-6pm; Thur 10am-8pm; Sun 11am-6pm. Admission free before noon, then £4.16-18 Ramillies St, W1F 7LW. T: 020-7087 9300. www.thephotojournalists.org.uk. Station: Oxford Circus. D7.

**STATE OF THE NATION**
London continues to mark the Russian Revolution, a century on. Taking place at the Saatchi Gallery, Art Riot: Post-Soviet Actionism (from 16 Nov; p. 63) reflects the past 25 years of protest in post-Communist Russia, from Ukrainian-born performance artist Oleg Kulik, famed for his ‘mad dog’ persona, to feminist punk band Pussy Riot – two of whose members have been jailed for their protests. Soviet artists of the time are the focus of Red Star Over Russia at Tate Modern (above; from 8 Nov; p. 63), with art from the October Revolution to the death of Stalin in 1953. See propaganda posters and graphics by artists such as El Lissitzky.
ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS

SAATCHI GALLERY

TATE BRITAIN

TATE MODERN
World-class collection of international modern art in the transformed Bankside Power Station. **NEW From 8 Nov:** Red Star Over Russia: A Revolution in Visual Culture 1905-55. A visual depiction of the period until the death of Stalin, by photographers, artists and designers (p. 62). **NEW From 23 Nov:** Modigliani. Retrospective of the 20th-century artist, with the nudes that were banned a century ago. Sun-Thur 10am-6pm; Fri & Sat 10am-10pm. Admission free; charges for special exhibitions. Bankside, SE1 9TG. T: 020-7887 8888. www.tate.org.uk. Station: Southwark. E9.
Sixteen-year-old Jamie lives on a council estate in Sheffield. His dad has left and he’s about to take his GCSE exams. He also has a big secret – which, with the support of his mum, he’s willing to share. That secret became a documentary, then a musical at Sheffield’s Crucible Theatre – and now the coming-of-age story Everybody’s Talking About Jamie has transferred to the Apollo Theatre in the West End (from 6 Nov; p. 65).

The uplifting show features a band on stage playing new songs by The Feeling’s lead singer-songwriter, Dan Gillespie Sells, and Tom MacRae. John McCrea reprises his role of Jamie, who’s intent on beating the bullies and letting the real Jamie shine.

The Young Vic’s How to Win Against History (from 30 Nov; p. 66) is a comical costume drama based on the true tale of Henry Cyril Paget, a flamboyant aristocrat born in the late 1800s. Against his family’s wishes, the fifth Marquis of Anglesey spent all of his inheritance on lavish parties and productions in which he starred as the lead – before he became bankrupt. Dubbed the dancing marquis because of his penchant for snake-like dances, Cyril loved wearing elaborate costumes of fur, jewellery and high heels. Born about 150 years too early, no doubt Cyril would have loved the footwear in Kinky Boots (p. 66). Also based on a true story, the musical follows a struggling shoe factory which turns its fortunes around once crossdresser Lola, played by Simon-Anthony Rhoden, helps it to realise there’s a market for stiletto boots for men. The show features music by Cyndi Lauper, and, like the boots, it’s a glittering performance.

— Sarah Riches
**ANSWERS**

**MUSICALS & PERFORMANCES**

**ALADDIN**
This Broadway and West End hit has a stellar cast led by director and choreographer Casey Nicholaw (*The Book of Mormon*). Expect tunes such as *A Whole New World* and *Friend Like Me* with lyrics by Tim Rice, and a real magic carpet. Just how do they do that? Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Thur & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £37.50–£97.50. **Prince Edward Theatre, Old Compton St, W1D 4HS. T: 0844-482 5110. www.aladdinthemusical.co.uk. Station: Tottenham Court Road. D7.**

**AN AMERICAN IN PARIS**
Originally a jazz number written in 1928 by the American composer George Gershwin, and then an Oscar-winning film, the show follows an American World War II veteran who falls for a woman in a bar in 1940s Paris. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Wed & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £19.50–£125. **Savoy Theatre, Strand, WC2R 0ET. T: 0844-871 7687. www.savoytheatre.org. Station: Covent Garden. E8.**

**BIG FISH THE MUSICAL**
From 1 Nov: Edward Bloom has always told his son tall tales but when the boy confronts him about what is truth and what is fiction, they go on a life-affirming journey that will change them forever. Tickets £27.50–£35. **The Other Palace, 12 Palace St, SW1E 5JA. T: 0844-264 2140. www.theotherpalace.co.uk. Station: St James’s Park/Victoria. F7.**

**THE BOOK OF MORMON**
This controversial satire, from the writers of TV’s *South Park*, follows the exploits of two hapless missionaries from the Church of Latter Day Saints. Winner of four Olivier Awards, including best new musical. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Wed & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £32–£200. **Prince of Wales Theatre, Coventry St, W1D 6AS. T: 0844-482 5110. www.bookofmormonlondon.com. Station: Leicester Square/Piccadilly Circus. E7.**

**DREAMGIRLS**
Glee TV star Amber Riley plays Effie White in this musical about the tumultuous journey of a young female singing trio from Chicago. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Wed & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £15–£175. **Savoy Theatre, Strand, WC2R 0ET. T: 0844-871 7687. www.savoytheatre.org. Station: Covent Garden. E8.**

**EVERYBODY’S TALKING ABOUT JAMIE**
From 6 Nov: A new musical (p. 64) based on a true story about a 16-year-old boy with a secret who lives on a council estate in Sheffield. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; some Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £25–£85. **Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Ave, W1D 7ES. T: 0330-333 4809. www.apollotheatre london.co.uk. Station: Piccadilly Circus. E7.**

**ANNIE**
Revival of the popular story set in the Great Depression of the 1930s about Annie, a girl in an orphanage who gets a chance to spend Christmas with a millionaire. But evil manager Hannigan (Craig Revel Horwood most nights) has other ideas. Mon & Wed-Sat 7.30pm; Thur, Sat & Sun 3pm. Tickets £20–£110. **Dominion Theatre, 268-269 Tottenham Court Rd, W1T 7AQ. T: 0845-200 7982. www.an americaninparisthemusical.co.uk. Station: Tottenham Court Road. D7.**

Kelsey Grammer – better known as Fraser from the TV comedy series – is making his UK stage debut in *Big Fish the Musical* at The Other Palace (from 1 Nov). It’s not the first time he’s been in a musical, as he also starred in Broadway’s *La Cage aux Folles*. While John August and Andrew Lippa’s musical is based on a novel of the same name – which also spawned a 2003 film by Tim Burton and a 2013 Broadway show – the plots differ somewhat. However, each portray Edward Bloom (here played by Grammer) as a travelling salesman, who tells imaginative stories to his son Will.

**INFO**
To dial the UK, remove the first 0 and add 44. Key: refers to numbers on our Theatreland map. Map: refers to the grid coordinates on our Central London Map. Please check for venue’s complete listings.
THE EXORCIST
The cult classic horror story receives its West End premiere. It’s based on the 1971 novel and William Friedkin’s 1973 film of the same name. Mon-Thu & Sat 8pm; Fri 6pm & 9pm; Sat 4pm. Tickets £31.30-£93.80. Phoenix Theatre, 110 Charing Cross Rd, WC2H 0JQ. T: 0843-316 1082. www.phoenixtheatrelondon.co.uk. Station: Tottenham Court Road. E7.

42ND STREET
Directed by Mark Bramble, this romantic comedy musical follows an authoritarian director who is staging a musical during the Great Depression. When the leading lady Dorothy Brock (Sheena Easton) gets injured, small-town girl Peggy has a shot at stardom. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Wed & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £15-£125. Theatre Royal Drury Lane, Catherine St, WC2B 5JF. T: 0844-858 8877. www.42ndstreetmusical.co.uk. Station: Covent Garden. E8.

HOW TO WIN AGAINST HISTORY

KINKY BOOTS
Fun musical (p. 64) about a shoe factory that reinvigorates its business after the new owner decides to produce boots for drag queens. With music by Cyndi Lauper. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Wed & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £25-£125. Adelphi Theatre, 409-412 Strand, WC2R 0NS. T: 0844-579 0094. www.kinkybootsthemusical.co.uk. Station: Charing Cross. E8.

LES MISÉRABLES

DISNEY’S THE LION KING
Wonderful adaptation of the popular Disney film with ingenious costumes and puppetry (p. 70). Tue-Sat 7.30pm; Wed, Sat & Sun 2.30pm. Tickets £47.70-£167.50. Lyceum Theatre, 21 Wellington St, WC2E 7RQ. T: 0844-871 3000. www.thelionking.co.uk. Station: Covent Garden. E8.

MAMMA MIA!

MATILDA THE MUSICAL
Fantastic show based on Roald Dahl’s children’s book about a girl with magic powers. You’ll love the scene on the swings. Tue 7pm; Wed-Sat 7.30pm; Wed & Sat 2.30pm; Sun 3pm. Tickets £25-£122.50. Cambridge Theatre, 32-34 Earlham St, WC2H 9HU. T: 0844-412 4652. www.matildatemusical.com. Station: Covent Garden. D8.

JAZZ HANDS
Jazz legend Herbie Hancock, a big band and trumpeter Hugh Masekela are all set to play at EFG London Jazz Festival (10-19 Nov; p. 72), which turns 25 this year. International and British legends, as well as emerging stars, come together for a packed programme of events at Cadogan Hall, Ronnie Scott’s and the Barbican, among other top venues. There’s also a film screening of Chasing Trane, John Scheinfeld’s 2016 film on the life and career of John Coltrane (pictured). With jazz for toddlers, a show by the National Youth Jazz Collective and a family concert, all ages will be tapping their feet to the beat.
DREAMGIRLS

BOOK AND LYRICS BY TOM EYEN
MUSIC BY HENRY KRIEGER

ORIGINAL BROADWAY PRODUCTION DIRECTED AND CHOREOGRAPHED BY MICHAEL BENNETT

DIRECTED AND CHOREOGRAPHED BY CASEY NICHOLAW

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THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

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THE SNOWMAN

STOMP
An award-winning fusion of theatre, dance, comedy and rhythmic percussion. Mon & Thur-Sat 8pm; Thur & Sat-Sun 3pm; Sun 6pm; occasional Weds. Tickets £26-£57.50. Ambassadors Theatre, West St, WC2H 9ND. T: 020-7395 5405. www.stomplondon.co.uk. Station: Leicester Square. D7.

THRILLER LIVE

THE WEDDING RECEPTION
24-25 Nov: Will and Kate dreamed of having an intimate wedding reception – but their family had other ideas. As a guest, you’ll enjoy a three-course dinner and a hilarious improvised show where everything goes wrong. 7.30pm-10pm. Tickets £48.50. Kingsway Hall Hotel, 66 Great Queen St, WC2B 5BX. T: 0844-5154 4145. www.interactive theatre.com.au. Station: Holborn. D8.

WICKED

PLAYS
A CHRISTMAS CAROL

A WAR OF WORDS
Shakespeare fans are in for a treat this month as the Barbican hosts the Royal Shakespeare Company’s Rome Season (from 6 Nov; p. 72). Take your pick from Coriolanus, Julius Caesar, Antony & Cleopatra and Titus Andronicus. Angus Jackson – who directs Coriolanus (above) – says: ‘Shakespeare’s four Rome plays are a wonderful concoction of stories about power: physical power, sexual power and intellectual power. These plays are so relevant to today’s political and personality-led world that they don’t need to make a claim for their currency.’
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

HER MAJESTY’S THEATRE
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A WOMAN OF NO IMPORTANCE

APOLOGIA

THE COMEDY ABOUT A BANK ROBBERY

MOTHER COURAGE AND HER CHILDREN
New From 2 Nov: In a land ravaged by battle, Mother Courage (Josie Lawrence) follows the army with her cart, trading with soldiers and attempting to profit from the war. Bertolt Brecht’s play is widely considered to be one of the greatest of the 20th century. 3pm & 7.30pm. Tickets £12-£20. Southwark Playhouse, 77-85 Newington Causeway, SE1 6BD. T: 020-7407 0234. www.southwarkplayhouse.co.uk. Station: Elephant and Castle. Off map.

FAULTY TOWERS: THE DINING EXPERIENCE

THE FERRYMAN
The Carney household is preparing a harvest feast when a visitor interrupts proceedings, in Jez Butterworth’s hit drama. Mon-Sat 7pm; Sat 1.30pm. Tickets £12-£94.50. Gielgud Theatre, Shaftesbury Ave, W1D 6AR. T: 0844-482 5130. www.delfontmackintosh.co.uk. Station: Piccadilly Circus/Leicester Square. E7.

FISHSKIN TROUSERS

HARRY POTTER AND THE CURSED CHILD
Father-of-three Harry now works for the Ministry of Magic, but his youngest son grapples with the legacy he never really wanted. This is the latest installation of JK Rowling’s fictional universe. Most tickets sold out for both Part I and II; please check for returns and times. Palace Theatre, 113 Shaftesbury Ave, W1D 5AY. T: 0300-333 4813. www.harrypottertheplay.com. Station: Charing Cross.

HEISENBERG: THE UNCERTAINTY PRINCIPLE

INK
‘BELIEVE THE HYPE’
NEW YORK POST

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THE MUSICAL

MatildaTheMusical.com
CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, London, WC2H 9HU
ENTERTAINMENT

LONG-RUNNING MUSICALS

Les Misérables
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The Phantom of the Opera
Andrew Lloyd Webber’s musical has been entertaining audiences for more than 30 years.

LABOUR OF LOVE

THE LADY FROM THE SEA
To 2 Dec: Kwame Kwei-Armah directs Ibsen’s moving play about a lighthouse keeper’s daughter who is trapped in her marriage and faces temptation when a former lover returns after years away. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Thur & Sat 2.30pm. Tickets £10–£40. Donmar Warehouse, 41 Earlham St, WC2H 9LX. T: 0844-871 7624. www.donmarwarehouse.com. Station: Covent Garden. D8.

THE MOUSETRAP

OSLO

THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG
Slapstick comedy about a drama society staging a murder mystery. Tue-Sat 7.30pm; Sat 2.30pm; Sun 3pm & 7pm. Tickets £22–£67.50. Duchess Theatre, 3–5 Catherine St, WC2B 5LA. T: 0844-482 9672. www.theplaythatgoeswrong.com. Station: Covent Garden. D8.

SAINT GEORGE AND THE DRAGON

VENUS IN FUR
To 9 Dec: A dark comedy about an actor who is desperate to win a part. Mon-Sat 7.30pm; Thur & Sat 3pm. Tickets £15–£90. Theatre Royal Haymarket, Haymarket, SW1Y 4HT. T: 020-7930 8800. www.trh.co.uk. Station: Piccadilly Circus. E7.

THE WOMAN IN BLACK

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

EFF LONDON JAZZ FESTIVAL
10–19 Nov: International and British legends and emerging stars come together for a packed programme of events at Kings Place, Cadogan Hall, Ronnie Scott’s and the Barbican, among other top venues, in the festival’s 25th year (p. 66). Please check for times and prices. Various locations.

ROME SEASON

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ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

CONCERTS: CLASSICAL
BARBICAN

CADOGAN HALL

ROYAL ALBERT HALL
NOVEMBER 2017 | 75

ST JAMES’S PICCADILLY
This 1676 church has free recitals every Mon, Wed & Fri at 1.10pm and concerts from 7.30pm. St James’s Piccadilly, 197 Piccadilly, W1J 9LL. T: 020-7381 0441. www.sjp.org.uk. Station: Piccadilly Circus. E7.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS CHURCH

WIGMORE HALL

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THE JAZZ CAFÉ

THE O2

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ROYAL ALBERT HALL

CHILDREN & FAMILIES
SLEEPYHEAD
NEW From 17 Nov: It’s been a long day for Dad and he can hardly keep his eyes open. All he wants is for Baby to go to sleep but Baby has other ideas. Suitable for two to five-year-olds. Please check for times. Tickets £11-£13. Little Angel Theatre, 14 Dagmar Passage, N1 2DN. T: 020-7226 1787. www.littleangeltheatre.com. Station: Angel. Off map.

Visit us at the Clocktower in Leicester Square www.TKTS.co.uk

NOVEMBER 2017 | 75

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10/10/2017 13:42
London’s major theatre and music venues can be located on the map above using the grid reference in the key below.

Visit London has a secure online booking service for all major current and forthcoming theatre productions.

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**Key to Theatres**

1. Adelphi .......................... B2
2. Ambassadors ..................... A2
3. Aldwych .......................... A3
4. Apollo Theatre ...................... B1
5. Apollo Victoria ..................... F
6. Arts .................................. B2
7. Barbican Centre ................. G
8. Cambridge ......................... A2
10. Criterion .......................... B1
11. Dominion ......................... A1
12. Donmar Warehouse .............. A2
13. Duchess .......................... A/B3
15. Fortune ............................. A2/3
16. Garrick ............................. B2
17. Gielgud ............................. A1
18. Harold Pinter ...................... B1
19. Her Majesty's ...................... B1
20. King’s Head Theatre .......... E
21. Leicester Square ..................
22. Little Angel Theatre ......... E
23. London Palladium .............. A1
24. Lyceum ............................. B3
25. Lyric ................................. B1
26. Menier Chocolate Factory ...... D
27. National Theatre ................. C3
28. New London ....................... A2
29. Noël Coward ....................... B2
30. Novello ............................. A3
31. Old Red Lion ....................... E
32. Old Vic ............................. C4
33. Palace .............................. A1
34. Phoenix ............................. A1
35. Piccadilly ......................... B1
36. Playhouse ......................... C2
37. Prince Edward ..................... A1
38. Prince of Wales .................... B1
39. Queen’s ............................ B1
40. St. Martin’s ......................... A2
41. Savoy ............................... B2
42. Shaftesbury ......................... A2
43. Shakespeare’s Globe ............. D
44. Vaudeville ......................... B3
45. Theatre Royal ...................... A3
46. Drury Lane ......................... A3
47. Haymarket ......................... E
48. Vaudeville ......................... B2
49. Victoria Palace ................. F
50. Waterloo ............................
51. Wyndham’s ......................... B2
52. Young Vic ......................... C4
53. Barbican Hall ...................... G
54. London Coliseum ................. B2
55. Peacock ............................ A3
56. Ronnie Scott’s ..................... A1
57. Royal Opera ........................
58. St. James’s Piccadilly church .......... B1
60. Sadler’s Wells ..................... E
61. Southbank Centre ................. C3

**Key to Dance, Music and Multi-arts Venues**

50. Barbican Hall ................. G
51. London Coliseum ................. B2
52. Peacock ............................ A3
53. Ronnie Scott’s ..................... A1
54. Royal Opera ........................
55. St. James’s Piccadilly church .......... B1
57. Sadler’s Wells ..................... E
58. Southbank Centre ................. C3
THE MUSICAL PHENOMENON

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Calls cost 7p per minute plus your phone company’s access charge
The Autumn Internationals (p. 79) pit the northern against southern hemisphere rugby teams, with Twickenham taking centre stage for England’s games against Argentina (11 Nov), Australia (18 Nov) and Samoa (25 Nov). With England enjoying a hugely successful year – winning the Six Nations, and beating Australia on their tour Down Under – it’s looking good for Eddie Jones’ team.

Many of tennis’s elite stars are competing at the Nitto ATP Finals (12-19 Nov; p. 79) – the world’s biggest indoor tennis tournament – held at The O2. The ATP’s best eight singles players and doubles teams compete, in front of more than 250,000 fans over the eight days of competition. So who can we expect to see? Already confirmed is six-time champion Roger Federer, the tournament’s most successful player with a record 14 straight appearances from 2002-2015.

Joining him in the elite eight-man field is Spain’s Rafael Nadal, who has made a startling recovery to the top of the rankings after a tumultuous few years of injury. Since winning the 2017 French Open and US Open, and grabbing the world’s No. 1 spot from Andy Murray, it’s a new lease of life for him.

It will go close to the wire to see who else qualifies – and will Murray recover from his hip injury to make it? – but it’s certain to be an exciting event, whoever appears at The O2.

From today’s stars to yesteryear’s heroes, the popular Champions Tennis makes a welcome return to the Royal Albert Hall (30 Nov-3 Dec). It’s a stage for ex-world No. 1s and Grand Slam champions, plus many iconic characters that brought the game to life. Among the players in action are Britain’s Tim Henman, Spain’s Juan Carlos Ferrero and Australia’s Pat Rafter.

— Emma Levine

www.sixdaylondon.com

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CYCLING

FOOTBALL
Premier League fixtures; dates subject to change


Wembley Stadium (for Tottenham).

NETBALL

RUGBY UNION
Autumn Internationals (p. 78).
4 Nov: Barbarians vs New Zealand.
11 Nov: England vs Argentina.
18 Nov: England vs Australia.

TENNIS

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LP NOV SPORT.indd   79
10/10/2017   13:51
Rings made of 3D-printed flowers, laser-cut rubber necklaces and polar bears encased in resin bangles are just some of the weird and wonderful things you’ll find at Dazzle (from 12 Nov), Europe’s largest exhibition of contemporary jewellery.

Taking place in gallery@oxo, the exhibition also features pieces made from more traditional materials such as precious metals, making this a treat for jewellery fans.

Dazzle rocked the jewellery world at its launch in Manchester in 1981, coining the term ‘contemporary jewellery’. The exhibition brings together more than 4,000 hand-made items from British and international designers, plus bags and scarves.

Established names are joined by college graduates, with many makers blending innovative and traditional technologies. Lynne MacLachlan uses digital technology to create 3D-printed pieces of nylon mesh that she then dyes by hand.

Persuading people to take a chance on unusual material can be challenging, she says, but the feel of her pieces wins customers over. It’s only then that they can ‘appreciate the lightness, tactility and vibrant colours the nylon offers’.

With prices starting at £20 and going up into the thousands, Dazzle is a good place to pick up a souvenir of your trip.

– Jo Caird
Oxo Tower Wharf, Bargehouse St, South Bank, SE1 9PH.
www.dazzle-exhibitions.co.uk

Light up your trip

Get in the festive spirit early in many of London’s shopping areas. Among them, Carnaby Street (p. 81) sees its Christmas lights switched on amid a party with drinks, DJs and discounts at more than 100 shops and restaurants (9 Nov). Register online for a free ticket. Meanwhile, in Seven Dials (16 Nov), the switch-on includes live music and one-off dishes and drinks in local bars and eateries. Free tickets get you up to 20 per cent off many brands.

www.carnaby.co.uk; www.sevendials.co.uk

All images: Lynne MacLachlan jewellery
FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD

The Food Halls at Harrods (p. 82) are justifiably renowned as one of London’s premier shopping destinations for food and drink. This autumn they’ve become even more luxurious, with the first phase of a major restoration project that sees the unveiling of a new Roastery and Bake Hall. The Roastery offers 35 loose coffees at the counter, many of them grown exclusively for Harrods and roasted in store. Tea fans will love the Tea Tailoring experience, where you can create your own blend to be kept on file for return visits. The Bake Hall specialises in long-fermentation sourdough, baked in store with novel new flavours available each month, such as walnut and raisin rye.
HARRODS
One of the world’s most famous and iconic stores. Includes top fashion labels, jewellery, accessories and lavish food halls (p. 81), as well as many high-end bars and restaurants. 87-135 Brompton Rd, SW1X 7XL. T: 020-7730 1234. www.harrods.com. Station: Knightsbridge. F5.

JOHNSON LEWIS

LIBERTY
Behind a mock-Tudor exterior, the store is known for its fashion, beauty, haberdashery and fabrics adorned with the famous Liberty print. Great Marlborough St, W1B 5AH (and Westfield Stratford City). T: 020-7734 1234. www.liberty.co.uk. Station: Oxford Circus. B5.

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BUCKINGHAM PALACE SHOP
Royal souvenirs and merchandise, including limited-edition items and commemorative china cups to corgi slippers. 7 Buckingham Palace Rd, SW1W 9PP. T: 020-7839 1377. www.royalcollectionshop.co.uk. Station: Victoria. F6.

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GREATER GOODS
Famed retail consultant Mary Portas has opened the latest branch of her glamorous charity shops, Mary’s Living & Giving Shop, in Bermondsey. Stocked with luxury clothing and accessories donated by brands including Vivienne Westwood and Alexander McQueen, it’s the 23rd branch to open since Portas launched the concept after working to improve a shop run by the charity Save the Children on her television series Mary, Queen of Shops in 2009. Portas realised that exciting, fashionable displays of high-end clothing could help these shops raise money for charity, so she decided to open her own. The brand has raised nearly £11 million since then. So do your bit, and get shopping! 90 Bermondsey St, SE1 3UD. T: 020-7407 3617. www.savethechildren.org.uk
**SHOPPING ESSENTIALS**

**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. Don’t forget to ask in-store for more information about tax-free shopping.

**SHIPPING COMPANIES**

If you are buying items that you don’t wish to carry home with you, here is a selection of companies in central London that can assist in delivering your goods. Please check the websites below for your most convenient branch.

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Homebase, 195 Warwick Rd, W14 8PU. T: 020-7602 5125.
www.mbe.co.uk

**PACK & SEND:**
124 North End Rd, W14 9PP. T: 020-7381 9000
417 Upper Richmond Rd, SW14 7PJ. T: 020-8392 6990.
www.packsend.co.uk

**UPS:**
Food & Wine, 20 Wellington St, WC2E 7DD. T: 0845-687 7877
Great Portland Street News, Great Portland St, W1W 5PS. T: 0845-687 7877
Londis, 77-79 Union St, SE1 1SG. T: 0845-687 7877. www.ups.com

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9 Russell Square, WC1B 5EQ
All branches: T: 0845-611 2970
www.postoffice.co.uk
The city’s foodies get their mouths watering for Taste of London – the twice-yearly event that showcases some of the capital’s greatest restaurants, chefs and food trends (16–19 Nov). This festive edition – the ‘little sister’ to the flagship summer event in Regent’s Park – kicks off the Christmas season, and sees Tobacco Dock transformed into an edible wonderland. Enjoy live demonstrations by chefs from Barrafina, Bao, Chai Wu and Bubbledogs, a hands-on baking session and, new for this year, the World Cheese Awards, where 3,000 cheeses from 30 countries vie for the coveted prizes. www.london.tastefestivals.com

Whoever thought food was a man’s game clearly hasn’t experienced London’s dining scene. There has been an increasing number of female chefs and restaurateurs demonstrating that they can stand the heat in the kitchen.

Take, for example, Sophie Bathgate, founder and director of the successful Sophie’s Steakhouse (p. 88), which has just opened its latest outlet in Soho. And it was thanks to living in Mexico and falling in love with its food that Thomasina Miers co-founded the Wahaca (p. 91) chain.

Taipei-born Erchen Chang moved to London aged 14, bringing with her a love of Taiwanese food. Along with her husband and sister-in-law, she opened Bao (named after the traditional steamed bun) in Soho and Fitzrovia. The restaurants champion her home cuisine and have won a cult following. Earlier this year she followed it up with Xu, in Soho, a smart restaurant reminiscent of 1930s Taipei, complete with two Mahjong rooms (30 Rupert St, W1D 6DL).

Saiphin Moore has brought a taste of home to London. From running a noodle stall in her village in northern Thailand aged 14, she arrived in London with her British husband – via their café in Hong Kong – and set up the first Rosa’s Thai Café in Spitalfields (‘Rosa’ was the café’s original name) in 2008. The rest is history, and other branches, including one in Soho, soon followed.

There’s always room for dessert. Hotel Café Royal’s executive pastry chef, Sarah Barber, says: ‘It was time to give desserts a temple.’ Her artistic creations include an elaborate ‘Jaffa Cake’ – a rich chocolate slice with tangy orange jelly (68 Regent St, W1B 4DY).

– Emma Levine
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CAFÉ IN THE CRYPT


SOPHIE’S STEAKHOUSE & BAR

Excellent British dishes, including burgers and steaks (p. 86). Daily L & D. ££. 2 Burleigh St, WC2E 7PX. T: 020-7346 0651. www.joeallen.co.uk

To dial the UK, remove the first 0 and add 44. Map: refers to the grid coordinates on our Central London Map. Prices shown are for a three-course meal without drinks. £: up to £20 per person. ££: £20-£40 per person. £££: £40 or more per person.

Legendary Joe Allen has relocated but lost none of its showbusiness sparkle in the move. Actors and producers have sung its praises since 1977, and they won’t be disappointed to discover that nothing has changed: the brick walls are covered with show posters and photos of Theatreland icons, and there’s still a pianist playing away. The set menu is great value; for under £20, pick from beef chilli with sour cream, fishcakes and tomato rigatoni – and see if you can spot a few stars. 2 Burleigh St, WC2E 7PX. T: 020-7346 0651. www.joeallen.co.uk
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**TERRIFIC PACIFIC**

With its counter seating and takeaway options, Kaia might be one of The Ned’s more casual offerings, but don’t think for a second that it’s skimped on the décor. Like the rest of the five-star hotel, the Asian-Pacific venue oozes glamour, with wooden panelling, acacia plants and touches of racing green. The speciality here is poké, a Hawaiian dish resembling deconstructed sushi in a bowl. Choose from ahi tuna, salmon or avocado. You can also opt for hot dishes such as black cod, which makes ordering a difficult decision. At Kaia, we promise you’ll be bowled over. 27 Poultry, EC2R 8AJ. T: 020-3828 2000. www.thened.com
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**VIETNAMESE TREATS**
There are many informal Vietnamese restaurants in the capital, but none as pretty as the new Go-Viet, from former Hakkasan chef Jeff Tan. This minimalist, neon-lit restaurant among the townhouses in South Kensington showcases Tan’s sophisticated dishes. Most head here for its speciality, pho – a traditional noodle dish with a base of 16 hour-boiled bone marrow beef broth. It’s tasty, hearty and great value at £8. 53 Old Brompton Rd, SW7 3JS. T: 020-7589 6432. www.vietnamfood.co.uk

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20% discount does not apply to Thanksgiving menus
GAME FOR A LAUGH

They say that laughter is the best medicine, so the third birthday party of Camden Comedy Club should be a cure-all (23 Nov). Held in a cosy room above the Camden Head pub, it’s now firmly on the alternative comedy circuit and has acts each night – it’s formerly hosted the likes of Harry Hill, Alan Carr and Sara Pascoe. For the party, the MC is Mae Martin, introducing Marcel Lucont and Jess Fostekew, among others.

100 Camden High St, NW1 0LU

The city excels in traditional pubs, with age-old stone walls and cosy Victorian snugs. Relax in a place where the likes of Shakespeare and Dickens supped ale. ‘Would I were in an alehouse in London! I would give all my fame for a pot of ale, and safety,’ as William Shakespeare wrote in Henry V. It’s likely he was referring to The George Inn, an inn-yard theatre close to his home in Southwark that was built in 1677.

The original inn burnt down in 1676 and was rebuilt to the one you see today. Its wood-panelled interior, oak beams and cobbled courtyard, where horses would have rested after pulling coaches, still draw in locals looking for a pint of real ale (77 Borough High St, SE1 1NH).

Glamorous and grisly history meet at The Old Bank of England. The bank traded here for 87 years until 1975, after which it was bought by a brewing company. It was also the site of the barbershop owned by Sweeney Todd – aka the Demon Barber of Fleet Street – and Mrs Lovett’s pie shop. The pub serves pies, including its safer filling of steak and ale. And below lie the original vaults, which housed some of the Crown Jewels during World War I (194 Fleet St, EC4A 2LT).

Ditch beer at Gordon’s Wine Bar (p. 96). Dating back to 1890, candles on rickety wooden tables light up the cellar. There’s a literary connection here, too: Samuel Pepys lived in the building in the 1680s.

– Emma Levine
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Wine lovers should visit Humble Grape, which is home to biodynamic and organic wines. Its founder James Dawson has sourced more than 400 wines from small, family-owned vineyards. Take a seat in this informal bar and enjoy wine by the glass or the bottle – then retire to the library to peruse wine books. Chef Kishen Raheja offers seasonal dishes, plus artisan cheeses. 11-13 Theberton St, N1 0QY (and branches). T: 020-3904 4480. www.humblegrape.co.uk
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As Bonfire Night takes place, Emma Levine finds the best displays that are lighting up the sky

S
ome time around the 5th of November, most of Britain enjoys setting fire to wood, lighting fireworks in public spaces and parading with a life-size effigy of a man – one who threatened the monarchy and democracy. The fact this dates back to 1605 makes it – to the outsider – a very strange tradition indeed. 'Remember, remember, the 5th of November,' has since been on every child's lips.

In 1605, Guy Fawkes placed 36 barrels of gunpowder under the Houses of Parliament, in a foiled plot to blow up King James I and the government. Regardless of anyone's religion (the group was Catholic, the King a Protestant) or opinions of monarchy, it seems that Bonfire Night, aka Guy Fawkes Night, transcends such matters. It brings together people of all ages on or around the 5th of November, to watch a firework display and a mesmerising bonfire.

OTTERY ST MARY, EAST DEVON

Expect to see the locals of Ottery St Mary, East Devon, carrying heavy tarred wooden barrels set on fire through the streets. The tradition originated in the 17th century as a pagan ritual to cleanse the streets of evil spirits. Weeks prior to the event, which takes place on the 5th of November, barrels are soaked with tar. Then, on the evening itself, a barrel is placed outside each Ottery pub before being set alight and hoisted on to someone's back and carried through the streets. As the night progresses, the weight and size of these barrels increases – the heaviest weighing more than 30kg. These little fires, which are often carried by families down the generations, are all a prologue for the main event: a huge bonfire lit on the banks of the River Otter, near the flashing lights of a funfair.
WHAT TO DO IN OTTERY ST MARY
Visit the parish church of St Mary’s, a scaled-down version of Exeter Cathedral, with treasures including a minstrel gallery and a 14th-century astronomical clock. Stroll to the River Otter and its circular Tumbling Weir to watch the water tumble down the ‘plughole’.

Did you know? Ottery St Mary is mentioned in the Doomsday Book of 1086.

RYE, EAST SUSSEX
Torchlit parades through the old town of Rye, East Sussex, make for a dramatic sight, and their way of marking Bonfire Night has remained unchanged for many years (11 Nov). It’s best known for a procession carrying flaming torches along a special route that heads to the bonfire site, on the Town Salts.

Rye’s bonfire celebrations here are said to be older even than Guy Fawkes himself. One theory is that when Rye was a major port in the late 14th century, separated from France by 30 miles of sea, it suffered many attacks and was even burned to the ground several times at the hands of the French. ‘Ryers’ (the locals) would set fire to their own vessels and haul them, blazing, through the streets rather than risk them being captured.

In the late 19th century, local ‘bonfire groups’ were known to take on unpopular officials and shopkeepers in annual demonstrations. The mid-1900s saw grand processions with decorated floats and lorries transformed into incredible creations. Today’s Bonfire Night festivities feature torchlight processions and locals in fancy dress.

WHAT TO DO IN RYE
Camber Sands is miles of uninterrupted sandy beach, fringed with dunes, and known as a good spot for surfing and beachcombing. A little further inland in the town, Camber Castle is a 16th-century Device Fort, built by Henry VIII to protect the Sussex coast against the French.

Did you know?
Guy Fawkes’ gunpowder is thought to have been sourced in the town of Battle, 15 miles west of Rye – where the Battle of Hastings took place.

GLASGOW, SCOTLAND
Edinburgh might get the plaudits for its famous, summer-long festival, but Glasgow has a raw charm of its own, and is an increasingly popular place to visit. It’s also the venue for Scotland’s biggest fireworks display at Glasgow Green, a huge park on the banks of the River Clyde, which attracts tens of thousands of locals.

Although there’s no actual bonfire – which is often the case in recent years, on health and safety grounds – there is no shortage of fun: the 30-minute firework display is preceded by entertainment, music and a funfair, plus food and drink stalls.

WHAT TO DO IN GLASGOW
In Scotland’s largest city, make sure you visit Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum, an impressive 120-year-old treasure trove of Victorian architecture. Inside, see everything from Scottish art, a Spitfire plane and Dalí’s Christ of St John of the Cross. Younger visitors will love Glasgow Science Centre, an ultra-modern structure in polished curved steel on the Clyde, with an observation tower, planetarium and interactive exhibits. In addition to that, Glasgow is also famed for its shopping, so get set for a spot of retail therapy.

Did you know?
The world’s first international football match was played in 1872 in Partick, a district of Glasgow, between England and Scotland.
CAERPHILLY, WALES
Castles around Britain make popular backdrops for firework displays – their dramatic silhouettes standing dark against the flashes of colour. Located in South Wales, 13th-century Caerphilly Castle is the second-largest castle in Britain – a medieval stronghold famed for its series of moats and a tower that has leaned 3m since 1648.

With such a dramatic location – which has been used as a filming location for TV series including Doctor Who and Merlin – it’s no surprise that its firework display (4 Nov) is such a draw. From 7pm, the castle’s turrets and ramparts are the backdrop for the display.

WHAT TO DO IN CAERPHILLY
Caerphilly Castle is the main draw, with its well-restored Great Hall, and displays inside about the castle’s history, plus medieval weapons. Climb to the top of Caerphilly Mountain with green trails and views over the town.

Did you know?
The famous white, crumbly Caerphilly cheese was first made here from the early 19th century. It was known as the Welsh miners’ cheese because it was taken down the mines and eaten like cake.

SHEFFIELD, SOUTH YORKSHIRE
Known as the ‘Steel City’, Sheffield in South Yorkshire has an industrial past, and is now a vibrant city with plenty of culture. Billed as the county’s biggest Bonfire Night event, Don Valley Bowl (next to Sheffield Arena) hosts the After Dark Firework Spectacular (3 Nov). It’s hosted by presenters from the local radio station, Hallam FM, and in addition to its legendary firework display set to music, there’s also a giant bonfire (from 7.30pm). The venue opens at 5.30pm, with the fireworks from 9pm. Plus, there are food stalls to keep you going.

WHAT TO DO IN SHEFFIELD
See thousands of species of plants at Sheffield Botanical Gardens in its 19 acres or stay warm in the Winter Garden, with its huge temperate glasshouses. You can learn about the city’s steel heritage at Kelham Island Museum, and don’t forget a night out seeing today’s (or tomorrow’s) music stars at The Leadmill venue for live bands.

Did you know?
Sheffield is the birthplace of pop bands including Arctic Monkeys, Pulp and The Human League.
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An Oyster card also gives you a 25 per cent discount on Emirates Air Line (London’s cable car) and discounts on single journeys on all MBNA Thames Clippers river buses. For more information, visit www.visitorshop.tfl.gov.uk

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

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For 24-hour travel info, visit Transport for London’s (TfL) website www.tfl.gov.uk/visitinglondon or call T: 0343-222 1234.

LONDON UNDERGROUND (THE TUBE)
See London Underground Map (p. 112-113). Services run Mon-Sat 5am-12.30am and Sun 7.30am-11.30pm on most routes. Night Tube runs all night Fri & Sat on the Victoria and Jubilee lines, and most of the Central, Northern and Piccadilly lines. Fares vary; a Zone 1 adult fare is £4.90 (£2.40 Oyster).

LONDON BUSES
London buses run from 5am-12.30am. Night buses (midnight-4.30am) operate on main routes. Several services run 24 hours a day. You cannot pay for a London bus fare with cash, so use a Visitor Oyster card, Oyster card, Travelcard or UK-issued contactless payment debit card. For further information, visit www.tfl.gov.uk/buses. Single fare is £1.50 with an Oyster card or UK-issued contactless card.

LONDON OVERGROUND
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DOCKLANDS LIGHT RAILWAY
See London Underground Map (p. 112-113). Trains run Mon-Sat 5.30am-12.30am; Sun 7am-11pm.

TAXIS
Fares increase after 8pm. Don’t use vehicles that approach you, except for licensed black cabs. Visit www.tfl.gov.uk.

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- Paddington serves the West Country, Wales and the South Midlands.
- Liverpool Street and Fenchurch Street serve East Anglia and Essex.
- Euston and King’s Cross St Pancras
- Marylebone and St Pancras International (connects to King’s Cross St Pancras) serve north and central Britain, and southeast England.
- Charing Cross and Victoria serve southern England.
- T: 0845-748 4950. www.nationalrail.co.uk.

CAR HIRE

Make sure your driving licence is valid for the UK and see ‘Congestion Charge’ (p. 104).


TRANSPORT CYCLES HIRE

Bicycles are for hire from docking stations across central London. £2 for 24 hours. First 30 minutes are free. Visit www.tfl.gov.uk/santandercycles or call T: 0343-222 6666.

AIRPORTS

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GATWICK AIRPORT

T: 0844-892 0322. www.gatwickairport.com. Thameslink: Direct trains to/from London Bridge and St Pancras International (connects to King’s Cross St Pancras). Up to four trains per hour. Gatwick Express: Direct trains to/from Victoria every 15 minutes. The journey takes about 30 minutes. Southern Railway: Direct trains to/from Victoria every 15 minutes. The journey takes 30 minutes. National Express: Direct coaches to/from Victoria Coach Station, up to two coaches per hour. Journey times are one hour 20 minutes.

CITY AIRPORT


STANSTED AIRPORT


LUTON AIRPORT

T: 01582-405 100. www.london-luton.co.uk. First Capital Connect: There are up to six trains per hour to/from St Pancras International (connects to King’s Cross St Pancras).

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Daily
RB5
North Greenwich to Woolwich Royal Arsenal
Weekends only
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London’s foodie scene is as international as ExCeL this week, so why stick to just one cuisine when you can sample the world on your plate? Here are our favourites

**COMFORT CLASSICS**

Based in the heart of Canary Wharf’s business district, Tom’s Kitchen Canary Wharf is part of a chain founded by the double Michelin-starred British chef Tom Aikens. This industrial-chic branch serves British comfort food and seasonal dishes, and is known for its weekend brunch menu, which features truffle eggs Benedict and berry pancakes. You can also take advantage of its delicatessen takeaway service (Mon-Fri 6.30am-6.30pm).

11 Westferry Circus, E14 4HD. T: 020-3011 1555. www.tomskitchen.co.uk/canary-wharf

**NEED THE DOUGH**

Signorelli is an artisan bakery and coffee shop in Queen Elizabeth Park which serves avocado on toast, scrambled egg brunches and focaccia sandwiches alongside Mediterranean dishes, organic Italian wines and Prosecco cocktails. You can watch the baker at work as he prepares your food. On Thursday evenings, the venue has classes to teach you how to bake sourdough and Italian bread. The hip, modern décor attracts a stylish crowd.

7 Victory Parade, East Village, E20 1FS. T: 020-8534 4972. www.signorelli.co.uk

**FRENCH FANCY**

Located on the fourth floor of Canada Place in Canary Wharf, and with wonderful views of the surrounding glass skyscrapers, Plateau serves elegant French classics, courtesy of head chef Jeremy Trehout. You can opt to dine in the restaurant or the slightly less formal grill, which has à la carte, Saturday brunch and set menus. The restaurant features an impressive six-course menu gourmand, with Cornish crab and duck liver ballotine among the highlights. The bar cocktail menu is well thought out, with a generous selection of gin, whisky, rum and seasonal cocktails.

Fourth Floor, Canada Place, E14 5ER. T: 020-7715 7100. www.plateau-restaurant.co.uk
**A PASSAGE TO INDIA**

Chai Ki serves Indian dishes such as butter chicken, Goan prawns and vegetable kofta. Meanwhile, the Toddy Shop Bar has a breakfast and all-day menu made up of experimental Indian bar plates including Himalayan ribs. It also offers a selection of contemporary Indian small plates, which are ideal for sharing if there’s a group of you. The restaurant’s swanky, modern interior, with lighting made from moped headlights, is also a perfect spot for sharing cocktails with your colleagues.

*Crossrail Place, E14 5AR.*
*T: 020-7408 7630.*
*www.chai-ki.com*

**MAMMA MIA!**

Bella Cosa’s menu features contemporary food prepared with traditional Italian ingredients. The food is inspired by chef Kentaro Torii’s travels across Italy, with some unusual Japanese flourishes thrown in for good measure. Its bar food menu includes raw fish and Italian charcuterie. The dishes are highly decorative, with incredible attention to detail. Despite the business setting, the restaurant draws a diverse crowd from across London and beyond. There is also a stylish wine room that’s available to hire for business lunches and private dinners.

*Drewry House, 213 Marsh Wall, E14 9FJ.*
*T: 020-7132 1212.*
*www.bellacosarestaurant.com*

**VINTAGE GRAPES**

The Grapes dates back to around 1720, making it one of London’s oldest pubs. The building is referenced in Charles Dickens’ novel *Our Mutual Friend,* and it’s co-owned by the actor Sir Ian McKellen. The riverside location and wood-panelled interior, which is decorated with oil paintings, add character to this popular hangout. Pub grub is available in the downstairs bar, so you can try British staples such as Sunday roasts and bangers and mash. The food upstairs is more upmarket, while the heated riverside deck is a great space to drink until closing time.

*76 Narrow St, E14 8BP.*
*T: 020-7987 4396.*
*www.thegrapes.co.uk*

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**UP IN THE SKY**

**Bōkan,** a rooftop restaurant bar near Canary Wharf, has nearly 360-degree views of the River Thames, The O2 and The Shard – and it provides telescopes for you to take an even closer look. Inside, reclaimed wood, distressed leather seats and Middle Eastern rugs make it cozy, but if you can brave the chill, relax on banquette seating on the outdoor deck on the 39th floor. Go for cocktails, and try the charcuterie, cheese boards and modern European dishes by head chef Aurélie Altemaire.

40 Marsh Wall, E14 9TP. T: 020-3530 0550. www.bokanlondon.co.uk.

**ALL THAT JAZZ**

**Oliver’s Jazz Bar** is a haven for jazz lovers. The cavernous underground setting hosts internationally acclaimed artists as well as up-and-coming UK bands. You can watch live jazz every night from 9pm (5pm on Sundays). There is a range of whiskies and wines on offer. The low lighting and worn-in feel attract artsy, bohemian types.

9 Nevada St, SE10 9JL. T: 020-8858 3693. www.facebook.com/olivers.jazzbar
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To visit The O2: Prince Regent DLR, two stops to Royal Victoria DLR, then Emirates Air Line.

To visit Canary Wharf: Prince Regent DLR, then three stops to Canning Town, then two stops on the Jubilee line to Canary Wharf, then six stops to Cutty Sark DLR.

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