The 5 best **ASIAN** restaurants

26 **BAO**

53 Lexington St W₁F₉AS Soho ① baolondon.com

This Taiwanese street food-inspired joint has quickly earned a cult following. The speciality is the bao, a steamed bun, served with a variety of delicious fillings such as braised pork and peanut powder. All dishes are xiao chi (small eats) and incredibly tasty, fresh and innovative. A must-try, even if you have to queue across the street to get in.

27 ESARN KHEAW

314 Uxbridge Road W12 7LI West (7)

+44 (0)20 8743 8930 esarnkheaw.com

28 SUSHINDEN

E17QR East (3) +44 (0)20 3645 6734

sushinoen.com

This family-run locals' favourite in Shepherd's Bush is known for its super authentic North Eastern Thai cuisine. The occasionally eccentric service and slightly tired traditional decor only add to the charm. The flavours here are unusual, fresh and deeply satisfying.

This stylish and modern Japanese **2 White Church Lane** restaurant is a great find. The sushi is technically spot-on, a mixture of classic and modern fusion options. The sashimi and noodle, rice and grilled dishes are also of high quality. The basement houses a karaoke room.

29 **JOY KING LAU**

3 Leicester St WC2H 7BL Soho (1) +44 (0)20 7437 1132 joykinglau.com

With Joy King Lau you're in reliably good hands in this cosy yet unassuminglooking room on the third floor. The speciality here is the freshly made dim sum, steamed or fried, which are only served before 5 pm. The rest of the menu is on-point too though, and good value. If you've room left then try the deep fried custard bun for dessert.

30 SHILPA

206 King St W6 oRA West (7) +44 (0)20 8741 3127 shilparestaurant.co.uk This Indian in Hammersmith is a neighbourhood favourite that's worth making a trip for. Family run and incredibly friendly, the Keralan food here is authentic yet modern. Freshly cooked dishes such as Avial, Sea Bass Thengapal Roast and Aattirachi Varattigathu (spiced lamb) reveal a mastery of spicing with their wonderful flavours.



40



5 shops for BRITISH DESIGN

166 CUBITTS

37 Marshall St W₁F₇EZ Soho ① +44 (0)20 7129 8128 cubitts.co.uk

167 UNTO THIS LAST

230 Brick Lane E2 7EB East (3) +44 (0)20 7613 0882 www.untothislast.co.uk

Cubitts make elegant handmade spectacles and sunglasses for men and women. All the models are named after London streets such as Judd, Brunswick, Calthorpe and Marchmont. The glasses are modestly priced given their quality and the 50 separate design processes involved.

An innovative and forward-thinking contemporary furniture maker, named after a John Ruskin essay that advocated a return to local craftsmanship in the industrial age. This Brick Lane workshop is also a shop window for their plywood designs. They offer the convenience and skill of a local workshop at affordable prices.

168 JASPER MORRISON SHOP

24-B Kingsland Road **E2 8DA** East (3)

jaspermorrisonshop.com

Industrial designer Jasper Morrison is known for his every-day, useful designs of household products. This discreetly located small showroom in Shoreditch brings together his designs for leading international manufacturers with similarly elegant and utile products from other designers.

169 TIMOROUS BEASTIES

46 Amwell St EC1R 1XS Clerkenwell (2)

+44 (0)20 7833 5010

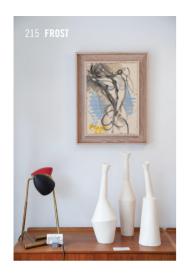
timorousbeasties.com

Founded by a pair of Glasgow School of Art students and named after a poem by Robert Burns, this tiny and homely store stocks an entire collection of wallpapers, printed fabrics, cushions and ceramic designs. Contemporary subversions of Victorian period tropes, they range from traditional scenes of nature to Rorschachian psychedelia and pure abstraction and pattern.

170 DAVID MELLOR

4 Sloane Square SW₁W 8EE South West (6) +44 (0)20 7730 4259 davidmellordesign.com This Chelsea kitchenware shop is a showcase for the designs of the late David Mellor and his son Corin. The cutlery, ceramics, glass and accessories are all produced in their Derbyshire factory and share an elegant simplicity. The shop also sells pottery and woodcrafted pieces from a variety of British studios and kindred European designers.

108 109







213 THE PEANUT VENDOR

6 Gunmakers Lane E3 5GG East ③

+44 (0)20 8981 8613 thepeanutvendor.co.uk This large showroom close to Victoria Park in Bow specialises in high-end, high-quality mid and late 20th-century furniture, sourced from across Europe. It's the place to go to find eye-catching one-off pieces, objets d'art, ceramics and lighting, often from some of the most rarefied names in modern design history.

214 ATOMIC ANTIQUES

125 Shoreditch High St E1 6JE East ③ +44 (0)20 7739 5923 atomica.me.uk This small shop has a carefully selected and high-quality range of European and British pieces from the 1920s to the 1980s, with an emphasis on works from the atomic age (mid-century period). They stock period furniture (Hans Wegner, Joe Columbo, Arne Jacobsen), industrial items and decorative works including lighting, ceramics, posters and rugs.

215 **FROST**

144 Bellenden Road SE15 4RF South ③ Found at the northern end of Peckham's independent-friendly Bellenden Road, near the tiny Review bookshop, Frost is a somewhat off-the-radar vintage emporium. It contains, variously, midcentury furniture, ceramics, lighting, African masks, objets d'art, objets trouvés and contemporary art. An outdoor space at the back is home to garden furniture and reclaimed materials.

128 _______ 129

5 of the most HISTORIC PUBS

331 YE OLDE CHESHIRE CHEESE

145 Fleet St EC4A 2BU City ④

+44 (0)20 7353 6170

332 THE MAYFLOWER

117 Rotherhithe St SE16 4NF Southbank ④ +44 (0)20 7237 4088 mayflowerpub.co.uk

333 SEVEN STARS

53-54 Carey St WC2A 2JB City ④

+44 (0)20 7242 8521

This characterful pub dates back to 1538. It has numerous bars and a dozen rooms split over four levels. The dark woodpanelled walls and low lighting have attracted many literary drinkers over the years, including Dickens, Wodehouse, Chesterton, Tennyson and Conan Doyle. Look out for the remains of Polly the Parrot who held court here for 40 years.

The Mayflower was the boat chartered by the Pilgrim Fathers to sail across the Atlantic in 1620. The boat was moored outside this 16th-century Rotherhithe pub before it set sail to the New World. The pub is incredibly atmospheric and cosy with an open fire and wooden pews.

This cosy, charming and slightly eccentric pub, dating from 1602, is located on a quiet, tucked-away street behind the buildings of the Royal Courts of Justice. There are curious window displays and a pleasing interior that reflect the legal associations of the pub.

334 CITTIE OF YORKE

22 High Holborn WC1V 6BN Clerkenwell ② +44 (0)20 7242 7670 There has been a pub on this site since around 1430, and although the current interiors date from the early 20th century they have a strong medieval feel to them. The enormous main hall with its long wooden bar, high beams and cosy wooden booths has a baronial grandeur.

335 YE OLDE MITRE

1 Ely Court EC1N 6SJ Clerkenwell ② +44 (0)20 7405 4751 yeoldemitre holborn.co.uk The Mitre is probably the most secret pub in London. It dates from 1546 and the present building from 1773. There's a small outdoor courtyard area and inside it's a cosy and welcoming traditional pub. Due to a strange ecclesiastical anomaly it is considered to be a part of Cambridgeshire.



180 ______ 181

The 5 best

NEIGHBOURHOODS

to visit

371 STOKE NEWINGTON

Hackney (9)

'Stokey', as it is known to locals, has retained its London 'village' feel. Centred round the historic Church Street area there are plenty of independent and distinctive shops and restaurants. The area has a strong community character and there are plenty of green spaces to explore too.

372 GREENWICH

Greenwich has many famous historical attractions to offer, but there are plenty of other reasons to visit this lively community, including the excellent markets, the independent shops and restaurants, the Meantime Brewery, the O2 concert venue and the beautiful park.

373 SHOREDITCH

East (3)

Shoreditch earned its reputation for creative cool in the mid-to-late 1990s. It's still the centre for much of east London's entrepreneurial and cultural activity with many fashionable independent shops, bars, clubs, coffee shops, restaurants and start-up businesses.

374 RICHMOND

An attractive historic town on the river Thames, 8 miles west of central London. There are riverside pubs and restaurants, a good range of high-street and independent shops, theatres, an indie cinema, boat trips and a wonderful urban Green. From Richmond Hill is a superb view along the river to Eel Pie Island, and beyond that lies marvellous Richmond Park.

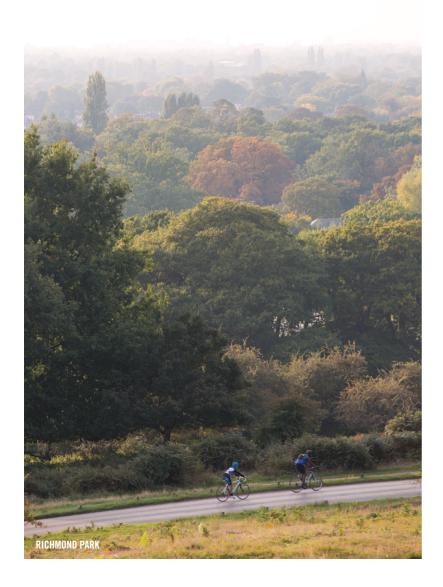
375 BRIXTON AND HERNE HILL

South (5)

Multicultural Brixton has a wealth of exciting attractions, chief among these being the must-visit Brixton Village and the excellent markets, music venues and cinema. Nearby Herne Hill has attractive Brockwell Park with its Lido and cafe, and interesting indie shops and a farmers' market near the station.



198 _______ 199



35 WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

5 places to SWIM OUTSIDE	- 230
The 5 best HIDDEN GARDENS	- 232
The 5 best BIKE RIDES	- 234
5 fun WEEKEND ESCAPES	- 236
5 ADVENTUROUS ACTIVITIES to try	- 238
5 places for SPORTS	- 240
5 QUIET PLACES for calm and relaxation —	- 242

5 CULT FILMS

set in London

486 PERFORMANCE

This complex gangster drama starring James Fox, Anita Pallenberg and Mick Jagger was filmed in 1968 and released in 1970. Much of the film is located and filmed in the Powis Square area of Notting Hill, where Jagger's eccentric rock musician character lives. It also features scenes in Richmond Park, Wandsworth, Fulham Road and Wigmore Street.

487 28 DAYS LATER

This 2002 post-apocalyptic horror film was directed by Danny Boyle and depicts the breakdown in society after a highly contagious virus is accidentally released. It features incredible shots of desolate, deserted London streets. Locations include Canary Wharf underground station, Westminster Bridge, Whitehall, Piccadilly Circus and The Royal Exchange.

488 LONDON

Patrick Keiller's 1994 film is a unique and brilliant work and a visual diary of the city. It follows Robinson and an unnamed narrator, neither of whom appears on screen, as they travel the capital meditating on the built environment. Locations include Vauxhall, Stockwell, Brixton Market, Docklands, Wembley, Arnold Circus, St Mary-le-Strand and the City.

489 WITHNAIL AND I

Bruce Robinson's 1987 film is set in the London of the late 1960s, and follows the fortunes of two unemployed actors who live in a squalid Camden Town flat. It features scenes filmed in Regent's Park, London Zoo, Camberwell and Notting Hill, which was the location for a memorably confrontational scene in the recently demolished Mother Black Cap pub.

490 PASSPORT TO PIMLICO

Set in Pimlico in post-war London, this classic Ealing comedy from 1949 was filmed on a set built on a real bomb site. The farcical plot centres on the discovery, in a bomb crater, of a document that proves Pimlico is in fact a part of Burgundy in France. Scenes were shot in Lambeth Road, Piccadilly Circus and London Zoo.

254 ______ 255