

WELCOME TO LONDON

Get ready to amp-up your stay and bounce into spring this month! Whether you're visiting for work or play, I've got you covered with the best locals-only tips to maximize your stay.



WOW: THE WOMEN OF THE WORLD FESTIVAL SouthBank Centre, Belvedere Road SE1 8XX southbankcentre.co.uk

The Women of the World festival features a killer line-up that champions everything good and great going on in the world of women. Expect a programme of discussion, debate, performances and activism, all of which celebrate female achievements. From #MeToo and No Grey Area, to Time's Up and the Golden Globes protest, the world has seen a historical shift in women standing together against marginalisation, to say 'no more'. In the 100th anniversary year since the first British women won the right to vote, Southbank Centre's eighth WOW festival is not one to miss. Famous female artists, writers and activists including Munroe Bergdorf, Afua Hirsch, Sandi Toksvig, Patrisse Khan-Cullors and Laura Bates are uniting to call for solutions to modern societal challenges - and what lies ahead - for women. Day passes (£30) and three-day weekend passes (£80) that admit visitors to all daytime events are available alongside tickets for individual events, including some free ones. Visit the WOW site to see the full programme of events and to book.

9 - 11 March



SOMNAI 2 Pear Tree Street EC1V 3SB dotdot.london

Want to be more successful? Richer. Healthier. Happier. Welcome to SOMNAI, a brand new "lucid dreaming" experience located over two floors of a 20,000 square feet warehouse which promises to help you master your subconscious mind, by controlling your dreams. Brought to you by Dot-DotDot, the experience - which is to be enjoyed within groups of six - mixes live performance with multi-sensory elements and immersive technologies to embed you in SOMNAI's world, where anything is possible. On joining your group, you'll be asked to change into pyjamas before being introduced to a dream guide that'll act as your map through the world of lucid dreaming. You'll then disappear into a series of "dream worlds" built from virtual and augmented reality, all spread across two floors and brought to life before being confronted by a moral dilemma which will determine the course of your ongoing journey. After the whole thing finishes, you'll be reunited with your friends for a celebratory cocktail inside a bar which combines a morphing set with spatial augmented reality and drinks that transform as you consume them. Totally dreamy.

Until 6 May



PUBLIC Plumstead Road SE18 7BZ streetfeast.com/visit-us/public

First came the street food stalls. Then the street food markets. And now, we see the dawn of the street food stadium. It's called Public, and it comes to us from the people at Street Feast (of Hawker House & Giant Robot fame). You can expect vendors like Henhaus (roasting rotisserie chickens), Yumplings (serving pork dumplings), Salt Shed (with their butterflied lamb steaks) and Lava Bar with molten cookie dough doughnuts.

Opens 2 March

Fridays from 5pm until late

Saturdays from 12pm until late

INSIDER ACCESS TO WHAT'S NEW/NEXT IN LONDON W London Leicester Square, 10 Wardour Street, London W1D 6QF jamie rowsell@whotels.com

Jamie Rowsell







TYPE Hang-Up Gallery, 81 Stoke Newington Road N16 8AD

hanguppictures.com/exhibition/type

TYPE is a collection of rare and never before seen works from British artists, all with two common themes: witty text and classic British humour. This will take over Hang-Up Gallery, "portraying the incredibly persuasive power of language and British humour in the current art world". All four artists – Banksy, Miller, Shrigley and the Connor Brothers show exactly how wit and deadpan humour can be used to make a statement, or to shift the viewer's perspective on the world.

16 March until 6 May



SECRET CINEMA secretcinema.org

It's Secret Cinema's 10 year anniversary show, and they're taking you to a dystopian urban landscape being taken over by artificial intelligence. As always it will be a secret location (hence the name), and they'll be transforming it into LA 2019, as envisioned by Ridley Scott in his cyberpunk classic, Blade Runner. Not a huge amount is known about the screenings, understandably, but they claim that you'll be able to get "a new identity", some "hyperreal memories", and if you go for the VIP tickets – a dedicated host, a secret meal and a pair of bespoke cocktails. It is time to enter their most epic dream yet.

21 March until 10 June



SCULLY 4 St. James's Market SE1Y 4QU scullyrestaurant.com

Scully started work in the kitchens at Ottolenghi, going on to become the creative force behind much of the menu as head chef of NOPI when it opened back in 2011. And, with this St. James's Market spot (boasting neighbours like West African fine dining spot Ikoyi and Nordic eatery Aquavit), now he's the one whose name is above the door. Walk in, and you'll be instantly struck by the illuminated wall of house-jarred preserves, spice mixes, syrups, pickles, and steeped fruit, none of them is purely decorative either: you'll frequently see chefs pop out from behind the open kitchen to grab something. That open kitchen is surrounded by a marble-topped bar, which in turn is surrounded by a dozen or so sleek wooden tables and leather-backed chairs. The food on offer doesn't really subscribe to any particular culinary tradition, but rather draws from Scully's own family heritage, which stretches from Ireland to Bali with a constantly evolving menu. Sitting opposite that marble dining bar there's an actual bar from which they're making cocktails, frequently with ingredients used in the kitchen (so as to reduce waste and create a good flavour-pairing with the dishes on the menu). You can expect the likes of their turmeric & pandan 'Light & Stormy', made with white rum, or their zingy Bloody Shiraz Gin Negroni.

Opens 1 March



HOLI HOUSE AT CINNAMON KITCHEN 9 Devonshire Square EC2M 4YL cinnamon-kitchen.com/whats-on

Holi moley. This is going to be a hell of a party. You'll head down to the Cinnamon Kitchen, slap on an all-white protective suit, and step into the allwhite holi chamber, upon which you'll start hurling brightly coloured paint powder at anyone in your eye-line. Afterwards, you can retire to the pop up bar for an appropriately colourful cocktail.

Until 10th March

AT W LONDON

W DINING SERIES

We launch our exclusive all-Vegan menu by one of London's hottest tastemakers, Ravinder Bhogal. Vegan or not, these lip smacking flavours will leave you wanting more.

Served daily 6pm - 11pm from 5 March in W Lounge





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