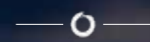


DATELINE: LONDON



LONDON IS BUZZING WITH NEW OPENINGS
RIGHT NOW, FROM LAVISH HOTELS TO
EXCITING NEW RESTAURANTS. THESE ARE THE
LATEST HOTSPOTS TO PUT ON YOUR RADAR

By Angelina Villa-Clarke

L ondon is in a buoyant mood with a slew of five-star hotels, glamorous restaurants and new experiences to soak up. The capital city may be steeped in age-old heritage, but it's also a destination that exudes the best in cutting-edge, luxury experiences. As the city segues into autumn and welcomes the crisp winter days, there's no better place to find opulent boltholes, inspiring arts events and elite shopping.

STUPENDOUS STAYS: THE BEST NEW HOTELS



It may have already welcomed its first guests, but Raffles London at **The OWO** is a hotel that keeps on giving. The powerhouse hotel, carved out of the Old War Office, is home to the first Raffles property in London and 85 super-luxe OWO Residences.

As well as three culinary experiences headed up by chef Mauro Colagreco, diners will also find outposts of two cult Milan restaurants: Paper Moon and Langosteria. Recently opened at the lauded address is Kioku by Endo, a Japanese restaurant found on the hotel's rooftop, overseen by Michelin-starred chef Endo Kazutoshi.

In keeping with the building's rich heritage, the grand interiors have been designed by the late Thierry Despont. History buffs should book The Haldane Suite, formerly the office of Winston Churchill, or one of the eight corner suites, named after notable women connected to the history of The OWO. For something spectacular, The Penthouse is the crowning glory of the private residences and is rumoured to have a price tag of £100 million.

THEOWO.LONDON



Knightsbridge's new all-suite hotel **The Emory** is the latest offering from Maybourne, the heavyweight hospitality group behind Claridge's, The Connaught and The Berkeley. The hotel sizzles with its finessed offering, which includes Hyde Park views and an impressive line-up of big-hitting names attached to it: the late architect Lord Richard Rogers designed the property; Damien Hirst's artworks are scattered around; chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten oversees the signature restaurant, while no less than six starry interior designers – think: André Fu and Pierre Yves Rochon – have designed two floors each. Discretion is a byword here, with guests able to rent out entire floors or hole up in the exclusive penthouse designed by architects Rigby & Rigby. A highlight at the hotel is Surrenne, a longevity and wellness member's club, designed by visionary Remi Tessier and curated in collaboration with tech pioneers, Virtusan. The four-floor space offers science-led treatments and a bulging book of modern rituals, plus a fitness studio by Tracy Anderson, the first of its kind in the UK.

THE-EMORY.CO.UK



Due to open in Fitzrovia this winter is **The Newman**, designed by interior design studio, Lind + Almond. It's the first hotel from Kinsfolk & Co, a sustainable hospitality management company which brings industry leaders together. Guests can expect a contemporary Art Deco aesthetic across 81 rooms, suites and apartments, a modern European brasserie and a Nordic-themed spa. The top floor of the hotel is given over to a sumptuous four-bedroom residence complete with its own roof-top terrace.

THE-NEWMAN.COM





After much anticipation, the new **Mandarin Oriental** Mayfair is finally open. Found on Hanover Square, it features 50 guestrooms and suites, 77 private residences and award-winning chef Akira Back's London restaurant debut. Designed by Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners, the hotel is the first new build in Mayfair for over a decade. Interiors have been crafted by British-based Studio Indigo, with each room reimagined as a jewellery box, with a palette of rich emerald green, regal maroon and tranquil turquoise and statement House of de Gournay hand-painted silk wallpaper. The spa, meanwhile, offers a 25m pool, biohacking treatments, reformer Pilates classes and results-driven therapies. MANDARINORIENTAL.COM



Looking ahead, **Six Senses** London is slated to open in early 2025. Carved out of the former Art Deco department store, Whiteleys, the hotel will include 110 guest rooms and 14 residences. The hotel is part of the continuing redevelopment of the Bayswater area, and will feature interiors by celebrated AvroKO with contemporary art from leading British artists throughout. At its heart will be a Six Senses Spa, in a space reminiscent of an old-fashioned London underground station. The spa journey, says the brand, "will mirror the different energies of the city life, from the sensory stimulation and movement of the street to the stillness and calm of a quiet café or park". SIXSENSES.COM



TURNING TABLES: THE HOTTEST RESTAURANTS



Found in the heart of Soho, and a first for the UK, is the new **Kanpai Classic**. The restaurant – which offers a take on Japanese yakiniku (a style of cooking bite-size meat over a charcoal flame) – is the first in London from the Kanpai Group, which oversees nine original restaurant brands across Taiwan and China. Presided over by executive chef Nicolo Bolognesi, formerly of Nobu Hotel Portman Square, Kanpai Classic's two-floor London outpost will focus on wagyu beef, which is expertly grilled by one of the chefs on odourless, charcoal grillers fitted to each table. KANPAICLASSIC.CO.UK

Meanwhile, bringing Thai flavours to Grosvenor Square is restaurateur Samyukta Nair who has launched **KOYN** Thai with chef Rose Chalalai Singh. Tucked away below Nair's KOYN Japanese restaurant, KOYN Thai will focus on home-style recipes that chef Singh grew up with. Having grown up in Bangkok and opened her own restaurant in Paris, the chef will fuse homestyle Thai dishes with Parisian style. KOYNRESTAURANTS.COM

The first restaurant venture from nightlife mavericks, Strongarm Hospitality Group, **PIRAÑA**, on St. James's Street, offers sophisticated Nikkei cuisine, paired with an extensive selection of signature cocktails, and a dedicated espresso martini menu. The dramatic interiors have been designed by LXA and feature an immersive, floating 12-seat private dining room with views over the main restaurant. STRONGARMHOSPITALITY.COM

FROM TOP: KANPAI CLASSIC.
KYON THAI IN GROSVENOR SQUARE.
NIKKEI CUISINE AND SIGNATURE COCKTAILS AT PIRANA.



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FROM TOP: A TASTE
OF THE CARIBBEAN
AT FENCHURCH.
MIMOSA AT THE
LANGHAM.



Found on the 37th floor of London's iconic **Sky Garden**, Fenchurch Restaurant, overseen by executive chef Kerth Gumbs, has been revamped to offer a new Caribbean tasting menu and counter dining experience. The new interiors feature botanical-inspired lighting and tropical accents, while the new menu captures the flavours of the chef's childhood home of Anguilla – think: jerk salmon with yuzu ponzu sauce and seabass with a smoked oyster and Scotch Bonnet emulsion. Don't miss out on the Rum Soul cocktail, featuring rum, Lillet Blanc and lime juice.
SKY GARDEN . LONDON



Finally, **Mimosa** at The Langham will transport diners to the shores of the French Riviera. Found within the dining room formally occupied by Roux at the Landau, the new concept has been overseen by the Momo Group. Acclaimed French designer Dorothée Delays (renowned for her projects on Coco Chanel's apartment in The Hôtel Sookie) has given her French flair with glimmering mirrors, high palm chandeliers, rattan fixtures and ceramic wall lights. At the heart of the dining room is a central fig tree, while elements of Riva wood and deep mahogany complement the coral carpet and pops of vibrant shades. As well as seafood, fresh pasta dishes and seasonal Mediterranean vegetables, the original Mimosa restaurant – which is found in Paris – is known for its signature devilled eggs, which come with a variety of toppings, and which can be sampled at the London Mimosa bar.

LANGHAMHOTELS.COM





Found on Albermarle Street in Mayfair is a new London outpost from **Lugano**, the high jewellery and diamond house from California. Fashioned to feel like a luxurious private home, the salon features furniture by Ceccotti Collezioni and Porada, while Idit Ferder, COO and co-founder of Lugano, has commissioned a central piece by lighting supremo Andreea Braescu as well as adding artworks by Jorge Pardo, Nihura Montiel, and Yinka Shonibare CBE RA.

Lugano is known for its celebrated precious jewellery which features rare gemstones collected across decades, with each piece crafted by artisans into unique, flowing designs. Every jewel is elevated around a frame of complex materials, from tech-based carbonium and sports-car-grade titanium to prestige rubber and bright ceramics. Natural elements, such as ebony and other woods, are also incorporated. At the heart of each are gems, such as sparkling pink and blue diamonds and spectacular emeralds, crafted into fluid twisting and looping designs unique to the house.

"We were driven to offer something different right from the start of Lugano," says co-founder Moti Ferder, who is an accomplished diamond cutter. "We know the stones, we were excited at the potential that new materials bring, but ultimately, we wanted to design jewellery that breaks free of the rigidity and exalted presence that can often define classic styles."

Established in Newport Beach, California in 2004, Lugano's founders are also passionate philanthropists and are active in arts, education, health, and wellness initiatives that serve wider social benefits.

LUGANODIAMONDS.COM



FROM TOP:
CELEBRATING 175
YEARS OF HARRODS.
SWEET TREATS
ARRIVE AT FORTNUM
& MASON.

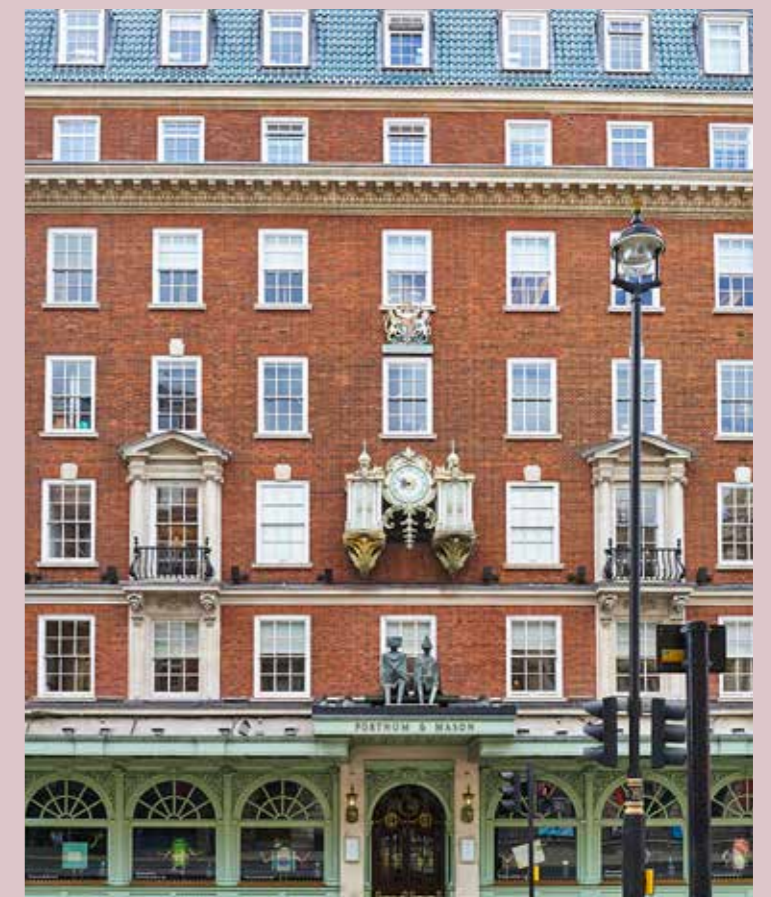
Elsewhere, putting a spotlight on one of the most famous stores in the world is **Harrods'** 175th anniversary celebrations. As well as a new light show illuminating its iconic exterior, the store is rolling out commemorative products, events and experiences until Christmas, to commemorate its milestone anniversary. The famous Harrods bear takes centre stage, with new collections dropping throughout the year. The limited edition ranges of only 175 bears each, have been created in collaboration with luxury brands such as Burberry, Valentino and Charlotte Tilbury. The year will finish with a special luxury collaboration, which is yet to be revealed.

HARRODS.COM



Meanwhile, calling in shoppers to London's oldest department store, **Fortnum & Mason**, are the pineapple and pepper notes of the shop's new fragrance, 1707 Topaze Eau de Parfum. The scent is the latest from Fortnum's own perfume label and has been designed by Parfum Micallef and crafted in Grasse – renowned as the world's perfume capital. Dating back to 1707, Fortnum & Mason is also renowned for its glorious food halls and, this season, its polished floors will see a new 'Fortnums Favourites' selection of chocolates arrive at its confectionary counters. The selection will bring together classic Fortnum's flavours presented in a tempting box made for sharing.

FORTNUMANDMASON.COM





Offering more than just retail therapy, **Selfridges** continues to focus on destination experiences under its roof, from its luxury cinema, which offers curated showings of blockbuster and independent films, to skateboarding at its Skate Bowl. Recently revamped after a 12-month renovation, the Beauty Halls feature some 300 beauty brands as well as a beauty concierge, who can arrange beauty bag makeovers, grooming sessions and skincare consultations. Described as 'future-proofed' by the retailer, the revamped space features sustainably made counters, and special LED lighting, so that product shades and skin codes can be correctly viewed, yet it remains true to the hall's Beaux Arts architecture.

[SELFRIDGES.COM](https://www.selfridges.com)



One for the diaries is the opening of **RH England's** London outpost, slated to open in 2025. While details remain firmly under wraps, fans of the top-tier US interiors label, once known as Restoration Hardware, can take a drive out of London to view its upscale furniture collections in situ at the stunning 17th century stately home, Aynho Park in Oxfordshire. Spread across more than 60 rooms, the gallery-come-store is a destination in itself set against architecture designed by Sir John Soane. Restaurants, bars and a dedicated design and concierge service offer a shopping experience like no other. RH England is renowned for taking over historic properties to showcase its collections – such as the reimagination of the Natural History Museum in Boston and the former Bethlehem Steel Building in Boston – so Londoners can expect something spectacular in the same vein.

[R H . C O M](https://www.rh.com)



TOP TICKETS: WHAT TO BOOK NOW

Featuring a thought-provoking selection of exhibitions, **Serpentine** is focusing on artists who are looking towards the future by blending art and activism. On at Serpentine South, until 1 September 2024, is a solo exhibition by Yinka Shonibare CBE RA. Through his signature use of batik fabric, Shonibare comments on the tangled interrelationship between Africa and Europe. Opening in October 2024 to January 2025, LA-based artist Lauren Halsey's exhibition calls on her roots of South Central Los Angeles. Meanwhile, artists Holly Herndon and Mat Dryhurst explore what it means to be an artist in the age of AI.

[SERPENTINEGALLERIES.ORG](https://www.serpentinegalleries.org)

Set to be the latest West End blockbuster is the new **Hello, Dolly!** musical, featuring four-time Olivier Award winner, Imelda Staunton. The brand-new production at the London Palladium is rumoured to have a limited run until 14 September, so grab your tickets while you can. It reunites Imelda with director Dominic Cooke, following their critically acclaimed production of Stephen Sondheim's *Follies* at the National Theatre.

[HELLODOLLYLDN.COM](https://www.hellodollyldn.com)



FROM TOP: YINKA SHONIBARE AT SERPENTINE.
IMELDA STAUNTON STARS IN *HELLO DOLLY*.





FROM TOP: ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND REIMAGINED.

THE TALES OF HOFFMAN AT THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.

THE GREAT MUGHALS: ART, ARCHITECTURE AND OPULENCE.

The Royal Ballet's reimagination of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (28 September – 1 November 2024), on the main stage at the Royal Opera House, sees Lewis Carroll's beloved children's story brought to life in Christopher Wheeldon's unique theatrical interpretation. While The Royal Opera's new production by Jaques Offenbach The Tales of Hoffman (7 November – 1 December 2024) conjures a surreal world where fantasy and reality collide.

ROH.ORG.UK

Finally, the V&A's The Great Mughals: Art, Architecture and Opulence (9 November 2024 – 5 May 2025) is a major new exhibition which will explore the monumental artistic achievements of the 'Golden Age' of the Mughal court (c. 1560–1660). The exhibition will celebrate the extraordinary creative output and internationalist culture of Mughal Hindustan during the age of its greatest emperors and will include both famous and little-seen objects from the V&A, as well as loans from museums across the world.

VAM.AC.UK



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