



Visit London What's New Press Briefing

August 2007

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New openings detailed in this month's newsletter include Coco Latté SW5 (see image), Kombu restaurant, the Hampshire Lobby Bar and Restaurant and Wild Honey. Events include Pops in the Park, Indie rock nights at Proud and the launch of Bad Girls the Musical.



Hotels

Summer in the city package at Brown's Hotel

Brown's Hotel, situated in the heart of Mayfair, has come up with a package for the summer period. On arrival at either Heathrow or Gatwick, guests will be met by a chauffeur driven car and will be transported to the hotel. Fruit plus still and sparkling water will be in the hotel room and continental breakfast is included. The package costs from £360 plus VAT and is available for reservations of three nights or more.

For further information contact [Nina Colls](#) on +44 (0) 20 7518 4169.

Brek-A-Manger

The Spa at Chancery Court has introduced a new breakfast manicure. Brek-A-Manger is an hour long treatment consisting of a hand massage, followed by sea salt scrub, cutical treatment and the application of Essie base coat, enamel and speed dry using a colour of your choice. In addition a healthy breakfast Bento Box will be provided with chopsticks to prevent any scratches on newly polished nails. Brek-A-Manger costs £70 per person.

For further information contact [Clementine Hancox](#) on +44 (0) 20 7829 7085.

Jumeirah Carlton Tower launches Golf Widow package

The Jumeirah Carlton Tower has launched a new Golf Widow's package combining spa, shopping and an overnight stay at their property in the heart of Knightsbridge. The package costs £379 plus VAT and includes overnight accommodation for two in a luxurious room, full English breakfast, a 30 minute massage or facial for her, a £50 Harvey Nichols voucher for her, a one hour session on the hotel's new golf simulator for him, plus access to the Peak Health Club & Spa.

For further information contact [Kate Selly](#) on +44 (0) 1483 222 676.

TLC package at myhotel Chelsea

myhotel Chelsea has come up with a package to provide guests with some TLC. The package starts at £95 per person, based on two people sharing a room and includes afternoon tea, a 45 minute makeover at BECCA cosmetic specialists, including two glasses of champagne for each guest plus continental breakfast the next morning.

For further information contact [Laura Hadfield](#) on +44 (0) 20 7436 1111.

The Gore completes £3 million refurbishment

The Gore Hotel at 190 Queen's Gate has just completed a major £3 million bedroom refurbishment. The hotel's 50 guest rooms all feature antique furniture, period pictures and ornate beds, which combine with modern luxuries such as flat screen televisions and DVDs in every room. Complimentary wireless broadband access is available throughout the hotel. The hotel is offering a Champagne weekend package from £229 which includes a bottle of chilled Champagne, full English breakfast for two and VAT.

For further information contact [Alison Hull](#) on +44 (0) 20 7288 0800.

Attractions

Summer club at the Science Museum

For eight days during August the Science Museum will be throwing its doors open for a unique summer learning experience. Children will be able to get involved in a range of fun activities, including science experiments, gallery tours, make and take workshops and podcasting as well as an IMAX film. The events are for 8 to 11 year olds. Admission to the event is £25 per child and £5 for each accompanying adult.

For further information contact [Richard Purnell](#) on +44 (0) 20 7942 4357.

Indian Independence season at the Imperial War Museum

To mark the 60th anniversary of Indian Independence, there will be a series of films shown in the Imperial War Museum's cinema throughout August. The programme includes feature films, documentaries, short films and rarely seen amateur footage. Entrance is free and the programmes are screened throughout the day. Passage to India will be shown at 2pm on 4 and 11 August and Nine Hours to Rama will be shown at 2pm on 19 and 26 August. For a full programme [click here](#).

For further information contact [Diana Morley](#) on +44 (0) 20 7416 5498.

Gay Wednesdays launched at Amora

Intimate Relations, the world's first gay exhibition celebrating love, sex and relationships hosted at Amora launch Gay Wednesday promotion on 1 August. Amora, the highly interactive and futuristic fusion of sex and entertainment will change their interactive content and video material to be 80% focused for its homosexual audiences. The 'gay' overhaul of Amora's new lineup will also include the launch of its gay workshop programme for gay guys and gay girls, the inclusion of new products stocked in the boutique plus an increase in gay erotica in the art gallery and a new range of books in the library area.

For further information contact [Joseph Lloyd](#) on +44 (0) 20 7392 2677.

Family activities at the Churchill Museum and Cabinet War Rooms

The Churchill Museum and Cabinet War Rooms will be running a series of family activities as part of its Dig for Victory allotment project from 11am to 4pm on 27-31 August as part of their Healthy Living Week. Guests can take part in arts and crafts activities for families and make their own cookbook. All activities are free.

For further information contact [John McPherson](#) on +44 (0) 20 7766 0152.

Rock and Roll Museum

The Vaults is London's only rock and roll museum. Situated beneath Hard Rock Cafe's Rock Shop on Old Park Lane, The Vault houses some of Hard Rocks' most valued memorabilia and tours are free! Guests can see Jimmi Hendricks Flying V, Elvis's Karate Suit or John Lennon's lyrics to Imagine. The Vaults has just introduced a professional picture taking service where guests can have their picture taken with with some of the rarest and most expensive rock artifacts in the world. Pictures cost £10 each.

For further information contact [Marc Carey](#) on +44 (0) 20 7514 1718.

Summer Family events at the Geffrye Museum

On Thursday 2 August guests can enjoy a summer family evening with lots on for all ages including a garden-themed craft workshop and quizzes for children plus musical entertainment by soprano Clare Graydon-James. This event is free, takes place from 5pm-8pm and is part of the 'First

Thursdays' initiative to keep arts organisations open late one evening per month.
For further information contact [Nancy Loader](#) on +44 (0) 20 7739 9893.

Exhibitions

Impressionists by the sea

Impressionists by the Sea is an exhibition taking place at the Sackler Wing of Galleries at the Royal Academy of Arts that celebrates 19th century representations of the northern coastline of France. The exhibition, which consists of sixty paintings, explores the origins and development of the scenes of the newly fashionable seaside from the early 1860s to the early 1870s, in the work of Eugene Boudin, Manet and Monet. Admission is £8, £6 for students, £3 for 12-18 year olds and under 7's are free.

For further information contact [Johanna Bennett](#) on +44 (0) 20 7300 5614.

Crafting beauty in modern Japan

The British Museum is holding an exhibition celebrating the best of the last fifty years of the annual Japan Traditional Art Crafts Exhibition, with each of the 112 works created by a different leading artist, past and present. The works represent some of the best art crafts, both traditional and ultra-modern, to have been produced in Japan during the past half century, since the annual exhibition began in 1954. Entry is free.

For further information contact [Hannah Boulton](#) on +44 (0) 20 7323 8522.

Warhol Vs Banksy at The Hospital Gallery

From 7 August to 1 September The Hospital Gallery presents Warhol Vs Banksy, the first exhibition to the world's two hottest artists today. Highlights include the UK premiere of Warhol's four drawings of the Beatles and Banksy's massive Winston Churchill painting with green Mohawk. Entrance is free.

For further information contact [Stuart Bell](#) on +44 (0) 20 7436 3633.

Events

Pops in the Park

Every weekend during August, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra will be performing a series of popular classical events and hosting a selection of pop extravaganzas in the Crystal Palace Bowl. The concerts commence on 4 August with Open Gala, an evening featuring much-loved music from the finest operas ever written. Tickets for the concerts start from £19.50.

For further information contact [Chris Evans](#) on +44 (0) 20 7608 8836.

Paco Peña - A Compàs! To the Rhythm

On Sunday 7 August legendary flamenco guitarist Paco Peña and his world famous company return with A Compàs! To The Rhythm at Sadlers Wells. The show unites groups of artists; guitarists, singers, dancers and percussionists from the three elements of flamenco - song, dance and music. The show runs from 7 to 12 August with tickets costing £10 to £35.

For further information contact [Ciaran McKenna](#) on +44 (0) 20 7863 8114.

Exclusive indie rock performances held at Proud

'Five Decades, Twelve Sundays' is a weekly event that is taking place at Proud in Camden. The events run every Sunday until 26 August and feature intimate, exclusive performances by some of Britain's biggest indie rock bands and artists. The events are free and run from 3pm to 1am.

For further information contact [Oliver Drew](#) on +44 (0) 20 7749 6850.

Tai Chi-Qi in Hyde Park

Throughout August the Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park will resume offering guests and local residents the opportunity to experience Tai Chi-Qi Gong under expert tutelage in Hyde Park. Every Tuesday

morning in August, between 7.30 and 8.30am, Thurd Duam Master Tony Ulatowski will lead the sessions, taking attendees through the philosophy of Tai Chi whilst incorporating the breathing structures of Qi Gong

For further information contact [Rosanna Crawley](#) on +44 (0) 20 7201 3609.

Cookery School

On 7 August, Cookery School at Little Portland Street is offering a cookery masterclass for kids where they will be able to get creative in the kitchen, play with ingredients and make their own food. This is a great opportunity for kids to learn essential cooking skills and good eating habits, they will be using fresh ingredients with no additives or preservatives and get to taste their own work. The class is aimed at 11-14 year olds, takes place from 11am to 2pm and costs £100 per child.

For further information contact [Rochelle Cohen](#) on +44 (0) 20 7436 1111.

Bars & Restaurants

Coco Latté SW5

Coco Latté SW5 (see image), a sophisticated new lounge, bar and nightclub has recently opened on Earls Court Road. The venue was built on the decade long history of the Coco Latté name, considered by some to be one of the most stylish gay clubbing brands in the UK. The new Coco Latté SW5 has been designed to bring London's elite clubber together - gay, straight, male or female and the emphasis is on lounging, dancing and drinking in supreme comfort.

For further information contact [Chantel Stephen](#) on +44 (0) 20 7462 2907.

Life's a beach at Prism

Throughout August, Prism restaurant on Leadenhall Street, will be recreating a different holiday destination with a host of gastronomic treats, from cocktails to authentic bar food from each of the host countries. There will also be various masterclasses and tutorials for guests that would like to learn a little bit about wine and cocktails from the different destinations. Australia, France, South East Asia and the Caribbean are all featured.

For further information contact [Belinda Jarman](#) on +44 (0) 20 7256 3875.

Hampshire lobby bar and restaurant

Following a £3 million refurbishment to the property, the Hampshire Hotel, in the heart of Leicester Square, has unveiled a new-look ground floor bar and restaurant which offers a list of bespoke cocktails and bar food menu as well as an a la carte menu. There is also a 100 square foot al fresco terrace with setting for 120 and its own grazing menu.

For further information contact [Laura Farrand](#) on +44 (0) 845 0941 007.

The Nancy Lam menu now at Mahiki

Mahiki bar in Mayfair has announced a new partnership with celebrity chef Nancy Lam, who has come up with a menu that incorporates influences from Singapore, Indonesia, China, Thailand and India. All bar food is made fresh on the premises with sauces and dips made from scratch. Sample dishes include chicken and mango spring rolls, BBQ prawns and prawn won ton parcels. Food is served from 5.30pm to 3am Monday to Friday and 7pm to 3.30am on Saturday.

For further information contact [Nick House](#) on +44 (0) 870 743 3710.

Masala Zone to launch new branch

Masala Zone is launching a new restaurant on Floral Street in Covent Garden, next to the Royal Opera House. The colourful restaurant will be decorated with vintage Indian puppets fitting with the theatrical surrounds. Masala Zone Covent Garden will serve the home-style dishes that the Masala Zone chain has become famous for, from thalis to noodles, masala burgers to curry and rice plates.

For further information contact [Alison Driver](#) on +44 (0)20 7724 2525.

Charlotte's Place Restaurant

Charlotte's Place restaurant on St Matthew's Road in Ealing, is stepping into summer with new menus and an al fresco seating area overlooking Ealing Common in addition to the two bright, refurbished dining rooms. The modern European menu includes starters such as seared Yellow Fin

tuna loin, tapenade, green bean and caper vinaigrette and quail egg, and main courses such as braised pork belly with apple puff pastry tartlet and sweet potato batons.
For further information contact [Gaby Riley](#) on +44 (0) 20 7722 5466.

Kombu opening in the Docklands

Kombu restaurant and bar is opening on 6 August next to the Excel Centre in one of the former dock warehouses in the Docklands. Kombu will be open 7 days a week serving a modern Japanese menu which includes small plates such as tempura sea urchin with creamy plumb sauce and dishes from the grill such as rib eye beef with asparagus, hijiki seaweed and garlic coriander. Kombu special dishes include Chilean sea bass with kobo and yuzu truffle sauce and sushi, sushi rolls, sashimi and soups are also available.

For further information contact [Gaby Riley](#) on +44 (0) 20 7722 5466.

Learn how to mix cocktails

Harvey Nichols' Fifth Floor Bar offers guests the opportunity to learn how to mix and shake classic cocktails like a true professional. From £55 per person, attendees will be tutored through a 1 1/2 hour class by the Fifth Floor Bar team who will lead guests through the creation and appreciation of the ultimate cocktails before enjoying a lunch in the Fifth Floor Restaurant. The theme of August's event is Tuty Fruity and it will take place on Saturday 11 August.

For further information contact [Mary Richards](#) on +44 (0) 20 7201 8732.

One-O-One relaunches

The renowned Knightsbridge seafood restaurant One-O-One has recently been relaunched. The restaurant has a capacity for 50, with tables accommodating between two and six covers, the bar accommodated 33 covers and the private dining area holds. The new menu features a new concept; 'petits plats' - an assortment of small plates, created so diners can sample a wider selection of the menu and experiment with new flavours.

For further information contact [Chloe Green](#) on +44 (0) 20 7751 1000.

Al fresco at Mimosa

Mimosa Bar and Restaurant at the Jumeirah Lowndes Hotel has extended its stylish al fresco area in time for summer and the smoking ban. The new look terrace seats approximately 40 people and will accommodate the style-savvy with contemporary furniture by Kettal and modern foliage.

For further information contact [Beth Cooper](#) on +44 (0) 1483 222 676.

Wild Honey

The team behind Arbutus restaurant in Soho have launched their second site - Wild Honey at the former site of Drones Club at 12 George Street in Mayfair. Typical dishes include Cornish pollock with gnocchetti, tomato and anchovy; Brisket corned beef with toast and green vegetables; Shin of Lomousin veal with gratin of cavolo nero and wild honey ice cream with crushed honeycomb. A la carte prices will range from £6.95 to £9.95 for starters, from £13.50 - £18.95 for main courses; and all deserts will be £5.95.

For further information contact [Maureen Mills](#) on +44 +44 (0)20 8947 4474.

Bincho Yakitor launches on Southbank

Bincho Yakitori is an 120 seat informal Japanese restaurant with 6 open grills fronted by a 20-seat eating bar as well as a Sake bar. The restaurant is located on the second floor of OXO Tower Wharf and is open from 12 to 3pm and 5 to 11.30pm from Monday to Friday and 12 to 11.30pm on Saturday, 12 to 10.30pm on Sunday. There are around 100 items on the menu and it is suggested that each guest chooses from 5-8 items.

For further information contact [Jessica Dillon](#) on +44 (0) 20 8947 4474.

Bitter sweet offerings from Sartoria

The newly refurbished bar at Sartoria, the Italian restaurant in Mayfair, has announced the addition of a new range of 'amari' (the Italian for bitters) from August. Ten varieties of amari are currently available and these represent the well-known examples which visitors to Italy will recognise.

For further information contact [Alpana Deshmukh](#) on +44 (0) 20 7716 7893.

Theatre & Film

V&A screen

Throughout August the V&A will present a programme of Friday night film screenings followed by second screenings and curator-led discussions on Saturday afternoons. The films selected span the last 50 years and will include Darren Afonofsky's Pi, Chris Marker's La Jette, and Sofia Coppola's The Virgin Suicides. Topics of discussion will pick up on central themes in each film such as typography and cinema and the use of the city as cinematic object. Discussion sessions cost £7.50 and take place at 7.30pm on 3,10,17 and 24 August and 1pm on 4,11,18 and 25 August. For further information contact the [press office](#) on +44 (0) 20 7942 2502.

The bad girls break out into the West End

Bad Girls the musical is coming to the Garrick Theatre from 13 August. Written by the creators of the award-winning TV series Bad Girls - The Musical features many of the original characters including Hum Fenner, Bodybag, Shell Dockley, the Two Julies and Wing Governor Helen Stewart. Bad Girls The Musical will feature David Burt, Sally Dexter, Nicole Faraday and Helen Fraser. Tickets cost from £25 to £55.

For further information contact [Katherine Camps](#) on +44 7351 1555.

Harry Potter at the BFI IMAX

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix will be playing at the BFI IMAX on 3 August, with the explosive finale featured in IMAX 3D - the most immersive cinematic 3D in the world. Tickets cost £12 for adults and £8 for children.

For further information contact [Jill Reading](#) on +44 (0) 20 7957 4759.

Stomp

Stomp has announced a new booking period at Vaudeville Theatre covering performances from 16 Oct 2007 to 10 Feb 2008. This award winning show has previously played at The Roundhouse and Sadler's Wells and has toured throughout the UK. Opening at the Vaudeville Theatre in Sep 2002, marked its first foray to the heart of the West End.

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