

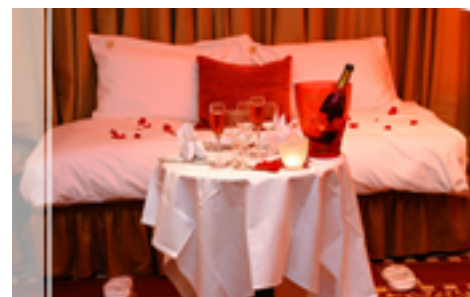


Visit London What's New Press Briefing

February 2006

[Hotels](#) | [Attractions](#) | [Exhibitions & Events](#)
[Bars & Restaurants](#) | [Theatre & Film](#) | [Shopping](#)

February is a time for romance as well as time for the family and there's no better place to celebrate Valentine's Day and Half Term than in London.



Hotels

Valentine's Day in London

Visit London has put together some ideas to make this Valentine's Day one to remember and created a [Valentine's micro-site](#), containing ideas for those overblown romantic gestures! For further information [click here](#).

Bedroom Boudoir Evenings at Sheraton Park Tower

Following the huge success of the Bedroom Boudoir Evenings at the Sheraton Park Tower in Knightsbridge, nine new dates have been confirmed for 2006. These events are based around the Supper Clubs in Amsterdam and Rome where guests book a 'bed' instead of a 'table'. During these evenings guests enjoy a laid back, bed-based setting to enjoy dinner, complete with low lighting and tranquil music (see image above). Further information from [Emma Thomas](#) on +44 (0) 20 7837 8808.

Crowne Plaza Hotel weekend breaks

The Crowne Plaza Hotel is running a weekend promotion where room rates start from £179 per night, based on two sharing and including a two course evening meal at Refettorio with a glass of Prosecco and a full breakfast in the Deli restaurant in the morning. Further information from [Rachel Holman](#).

Beauberry House re-launches

Beauberry House restaurant in West Dulwich will re-launch on February 14 following a complete refurbishment of the restaurant as well as the first floor of the building, which will be converted from living quarters into a private function area and bar. The ground level of Beauberry House will now hold a dining room seating 54 and an additional bar which will be licenced until 2am. Upstairs is a private dining function area with private bar. Further information from [Jess Bowman](#) on +44 (0) 20 7751 1000.

Red Carnation Hotels invite you to 'spring into fashion'

London Fashion Week kicks off on February 15 and is followed by London Fashion Weekend on February 23 and 24. Red Carnation Hotels are offering special rates for this period. The package includes a luxury double room, full English breakfast, £50 shopping voucher for Selfridges, Harvey Nichols or Harrods and two admission tickets to view the collections of 100 designers. This package starts at £329 based on two people sharing for one night including VAT. Further information from [Arnelle Kendall](#) on +44 (0) 20 7514 5607.

Attractions

Romantic things to see and do in London

Visit London's Valentine's micro-site gives plenty of romantic options for where to go in London with your loved one.

[Click here](#) to read more.

Celebrate Chinese New Year and discover the animals of the Zodiac at London Zoo

London Zoo is offering visitors the chance to explore the characteristics of the twelve animals of the Chinese zodiac and meet their real-life counterparts face to face. Visitors can discover how the year they were born in influences their personality, find out if they are a lucky rabbit, an eccentric dragon or a problem solving monkey. There will also be the chance for visitors to win the chance to adopt the animal of their birth sign.

Further information from [Joanna Green](#) on +44 (0) 20 7449 6236.

The aftermath of the gunpowder plot

An evening concert of music in the Chapel Royal of St. Peter ad Vincula at the Tower of London, tracing the political and religious tensions before, during and after the 1605 gunpowder plot.

Performed by the Chapel Royal Choir of St. Peter ad Vincula. 6.30-7.30pm, Friday February 10.

Tickets are £10 each.

Further information from [Natasha Wollard](#) on +44 (0) 20 7488 5662.

Highlights of Somerset House

Starting on February 4, on the first Sunday of every month, guided tours will be held of the highlights of Somerset House, including the Dead House. Tours will run from 1.30pm, 2.30pm and 3.45pm and last approximately 45 minutes.

Further information from [Kirsten Hay](#) on +44 (0) 20 7845 4644.

Exhibitions & Events

David Adjaya

Born in Ghana, David Adjaya is one of Britain's most prolific young architects. His work is generated by his own brand of culturally literate intuitive responses to context and history, and his desire for the viewer to 'fill the gaps' is one of the most engaging aspects of his practice. With five public buildings in London completing in the next three years, Adjaya will be presenting a selection of examples of his projects in the Upper Galleries of the Whitechapel Art Gallery.

Further information from [Rachel Mappelbeck](#) on +44 (0) 20 7522 7880.

Guava to perform Jamaican Jazz at Geffrye Museum

Acclaimed group Guava, an offshoot of Jazz Jamaica and fronted by founder Gary Crosby, will perform at 'A Real Sunday' - a special family day which celebrates the ways in which a traditional West Indian home comes alive on a Sunday. Guava's blend of jazz, reggae and ska will create an atmosphere for the day, which will be hosted by Michael McMillan, guest curator of the museum's current exhibition 'The West Indian Front Room'.

Further information from [Nancy Loader](#) on +44 (0) 20 7739 9893.

Passover: Journey to Freedom

A new innovative exhibition has opened at the Jewish Museum in Camden. This has been designed especially with children and families in mind, but will enchant everyone. It explores the meaning of Passover across the ages and across the globe, and looks at the ways other cultures have adopted and interpreted the Passover message of liberation from slavery.

Further information from [Sara Priem](#) on +44 (0) 29 7284 1997.

Tangents

An international exhibition of contemporary glass art taking place at the London Glassblowing Workshop, SE1. Ten artists explore radically different ideas and methods to challenge common perceptions of glass as a medium of artistic self-expression. Saturday February 11 between 11am and 4pm.

For further information [click here](#).

Bars & Restaurants

A Quintessentially British restaurant in the National Gallery

The home of some of the greatest collections of European paintings in the world, the National Gallery on Trafalgar Square, will now house a quintessentially British restaurant and bakery. The opening of the National Dining Rooms will coincide with the start of the Gallery's much awaited 'Americans in Paris' exhibition, running from February 22 - May 21.

Further information from [Rochelle Cohen](#) +44 (0) 20 7436 1111.

Brunch at Roast

Roast restaurant, situated above Borough Market, has launched a new brunch menu. Introduced by Head Chef Laurence Keogh, the new menu uses seasonal produce sourced from Borough Market to create brunch favourites as well as some new dishes.

Further information from [Andy Butcher](#) on +44 (0) 20 7240 9559

Wine Evenings at Babylon

Babylon Restaurant will be hosting themed Wine Evenings every two months from February. The first evening, planned for February 28, will focus on New World Wines and is inclusive of a seven course food and wine menu with commentary from wine expert Chris Hambleton. The evening costs £85 per person.

Further information from [Sarah Capogreco](#) on +44 (0) 20 7368 3961.

Fine Burger Co. opens fifth restaurant

Fine Burger Co. has opened their fifth and biggest restaurant to date at the O2 Centre, Finchley Road. The new restaurant sees the introduction of a newly designed menu featuring a number of new burgers and meal creations.

Further information from [Siobhan Rayner](#) on +44 (0) 20 7359 3026.

Sunday Jazz and Champagne Brunch

Starting from February 5, the Savoy's River Restaurant will be offering Sunday Jazz and Champagne Brunch, where customers can enjoy unlimited food and Champagne whilst listening to live jazz. This will take place every Sunday and costs £59 per person.

Further information from [Pam Carter](#) on +44 (0) 20 7420 2329.

Cottons

Cottons, one of London's leading and longest standing Caribbean restaurants, is about to open its second branch in Exmouth Market. Opening on February 1, Cottons will combine a ground floor restaurant and bar with late night basement bar incorporating live entertainment and one of the biggest rum collections in town.

Further information from [Andy Butcher](#) on +44 (0) 20 7234 5861.

Theatre & Film

Cirque Du Soleil extends dates at the Royal Albert Hall

Cirque Du Soleil's Alegria, at the Royal Albert Hall, features an international cast of 56 performers and musicians from 13 countries. The performance showcases breathtaking acrobatics including the dramatically sensuous Synchro-Trapeze and the hi-energy Aerial High Bars, where daring aerialists fly to catchers swinging more than 40 feet in the air. Due to high ticket demand, the show is being extended until February 12.

Further information from [Paul McEntee](#) on +44 (0) 20 7404 3000.

Tropicália: A revolution in Brazilian Culture

This month the Barbican launches a major, three-month festival entitled 'Tropicália'. 'Tropicália' is a festival of art, music, theatre and dance celebrating the most significant cultural movement to have emerged from South America in the last five decades. It runs until May 22.

Further information from [Miles Evans](#) on +44 (0) 20 7382 7166.

February Half Term Festival

During the February Half Term the Theatre Museum has devised a range of activities for the whole family. These include 'Mini Musicals' - a great introduction to drama using games, movement, mime, voice and imagination and 'Kids West End' workshops giving kids the opportunity to join professional

West End artists to learn songs or dance steps from some of London's top shows.
For further information [click here](#).

The Reduced Shakespeare Company

The Reduced Shakespeare Company is back on tour with a brand new show, direct from America via the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. 'Completely Hollywood' shakes up showbiz in an epic edit of movie masterpieces. Written by Reed Martin and Austin Tichenor, this new show comes to the Hackney Empire on February 23 at 7.45pm.

Further information from [Allan Watson](#) on +44 (0) 20 8510 4505.

Diana Rigg and Martin Jarvis to star in Honour

A new production of Joanna Murrery-Smith's Honour will open at the Wyndham's Theatre on February 7. Directed by David Grindley, Honour stars Diana Rigg, Martin Jarvis, Natasha McElhone and Georgina Rich.

Further information from [Katherine Camps](#) on +44 (0) 20 7351 1555.

Shopping

Designer Sale UK

The first Designer Sale of 2006 will be taking place on February 23-26, bringing Brick Lane alive with the best of current and past seasons' samples, stock and catwalk pieces from top designers including Alexander McQueen, Frost French, Moschino, Religion and Vivienne Westwood.

Further information from the [Press Office](#) on +44 (0) 1273 470 880.

Selfridges invites you to Eat The City

Bejing-based artist Song Dong will create a city sculpture made entirely of sweets and biscuits to celebrate Chinese New Year and to be a cultural cornerstone of the China in London Festival.

Further information from [Judith Fereday](#) on +44 (0) 20 7240 1700.

Mikey

The new Mikey Emporium concept store opens on the Kings Road this February. With ornate baroque furniture and elements of iron and steel, the interior resembles an eclectic mix of vintage and contemporary design. What sets this shop apart is the fact that as well as the signature Mikey costume jewellery, the chandeliers and furniture in the shop can all be bought.

Further information from [Caroline Adams](#) on +44 (0) 20 7287 9601.



© Visit London 2006. All Rights Reserved.

[Feedback](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Become a Visit London Partner](#)