

# 25/25 London UK

Despite its often unreliable transport system, London is viewed by many as centre of the cultural and financial worlds, even now. Come 2012, let's hope that City Hall will have fulfilled a few Olympic-sized promises to transform the metropolis from lurching anachronism into rightful capital of the world.

## Essentials

- 01 London's black cabs are still the best taxis in the world.
- 02 The Nag's Head on Belgravia's Kinnerton Street is the classic English old London boozier.
- 03 For a business stay try the Andaz in the city.
- 04 Bypass Whole Foods on Kensington High Street and head instead for Borough Market near London Bridge or the Marylebone Farmers Market on a Sunday.
- 05 Grab a schwarma at the small Lebanese restaurant Diwan in Thayer Street near Bond Street tube.

## Guide/Info

### Hotels

#### Independent and easy

**Durrants Hotel**  
26-32 George Street, W1  
+ 44 20 7935 8131  
[durrantshotel.co.uk](http://durrantshotel.co.uk)

#### Dependable chain

**Durley House**  
115 Sloane Street, SW1  
+ 44 20 7235 5537  
[durleyhouse.com](http://durleyhouse.com)

#### Premium

**The Dorchester**  
Park Lane, W1  
+ 44 20 7629 8888  
[thedorchester.com](http://thedorchester.com)

### Dining

#### Fast breakfast

**Cafés in Borough High Street, SE1**  
There are many early openers and "greasy spoons" in Borough.

#### Business breakfast

**The Wolseley**  
160 Piccadilly, W1  
+ 44 20 7499 6996  
[thewolseley.com](http://thewolseley.com)

#### Mid-morning coffee

**Nordic Bakery**  
14A Golden Square, W1  
+ 44 20 3230 1077  
[nordicbakery.com](http://nordicbakery.com)

#### Working lunch with colleagues

**Barrafina**  
54 Frith Street, W1  
+ 44 20 7813 8016  
[barrafina.co.uk](http://barrafina.co.uk)

#### Need-to-impress clients lunch

**River Café**  
Thames Wharf, Rainville Road, W6  
+ 44 20 7386 4200  
[rivercafe.co.uk](http://rivercafe.co.uk)

#### Afternoon tea/drink

**Tate Modern**  
Bankside, SE1  
+ 44 20 7887 8888  
[tate.org.uk/modern](http://tate.org.uk/modern)

### Dinner on your own

**Cigala**  
54 Lamb's Conduit Street, WCI  
+ 44 20 7405 1717  
[cigala.co.uk](http://cigala.co.uk)

### Dinner with colleagues

**La Famiglia**  
7 Langton Street, Worlds End, SW10  
+ 44 20 7351 0761  
[lafamiglia.co.uk](http://lafamiglia.co.uk)

### Big dinner with partner/clients

**Roka**  
37 Charlotte Street, W1  
+ 44 20 7580 6464  
[rokarestaurant.com](http://rokarestaurant.com)

### Drink after dinner

**Claridge's Bar**  
Brook Street, W1  
+ 44 20 7629 8860  
[claridges.co.uk](http://claridges.co.uk)

### Late drinks

**Momo**  
25 Heddon Street, W1  
+ 44 20 7434 4040  
[momorestor.com](http://momorestor.com)

### On the tiles

**Cousin Jill's Karaoke Lounge**  
42 Albemarle Street, W1  
+ 44 20 7499 9969  
[cousinjills.com](http://cousinjills.com)

### Reading

#### Bookshop

**Daunt Books**  
83 Marylebone High Street, W1  
+ 44 20 7224 2295  
[dauntbooks.co.uk](http://dauntbooks.co.uk)

#### Newsagent

**Charlotte Street News**  
66 Charlotte Street, W1  
+ 44 20 7636 4270

### Thank you

#### Flowers

**Harper & Tom's**  
15 Elgin Crescent, W11  
+ 44 20 7243 8510

### Shopping

#### Something you can't get anywhere else

**Perfume by Ormonde Jayne**  
The Royal Arcade, 28 Old Bond Street, W1  
+ 44 20 7499 1100  
[ormondejayne.com](http://ormondejayne.com)

#### Lost luggage – where to buy shirts, socks and underwear

**Liberty**  
Great Marlborough Street, W1  
+ 44 20 7734 1234  
[liberty.co.uk](http://liberty.co.uk)

#### Something for the kids

**Toys from Honeyjam**  
267 Portobello Road, W11  
+ 44 20 7243 0449  
[honeyjam.co.uk](http://honeyjam.co.uk)

### Something for someone you love

**Monogrammed stationery by Smythson**  
40 New Bond Street, W1  
+ 44 20 7629 8558  
[smythson.com](http://smythson.com)

### Something for yourself

**MONOCLE Shop**  
Notebooks, clothes, scent and bags  
2A George Street, Marylebone, W1  
+ 44 20 7486 8770  
[monocle.com/shop](http://monocle.com/shop)

### Two-hour tour

- 01 **Sightseeing walk**  
Start at St Paul's tube station and walk past the cathedral, across the Millennium Bridge to Tate Modern and down to the Globe Theatre.
- 02 **Alfies Antique Market**  
13-25 Church Street, NW8  
+ 44 20 7723 6066  
[alfiesantiques.com](http://alfiesantiques.com)
- 03 **Gagosian Gallery**  
4-24 Britannia Street, WCI  
Contemporary sculpture, painting and installations.  
+ 44 20 7841 9960  
[gagosian.com](http://gagosian.com)

### Limousine/car

**Addison Lee**  
For minicabs and airport transfers  
+ 44 20 7387 8888  
[addisonlee.com](http://addisonlee.com)

### Transport

#### Buy a pass

An Oyster card will get you all across London for under a tenner a day. Although black cabs are good, if you join [citycarclub.co.uk](http://citycarclub.co.uk) you can drive off in a brand new motor from one of dozens of locations.

### Fitness

#### Good gym

**KX Gym**  
151 Draycott Avenue, SW3  
+ 44 20 7584 5333  
[kxgym.co.uk](http://kxgym.co.uk)

#### Good running route

Hyde Park but avoid the horses and rollerbladers.



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