

What's new in London Spring 2018



LONDON
CONVENTION BUREAU



Contents

01	Introduction	3
<hr/>		
02	New Venues New venue openings in London in 2018 and beyond	4
<hr/>		
03	New Hotels New hotel openings in London in 2018 and beyond	12
<hr/>		
04	New Restaurants Selection of restaurant openings in London in 2018	19
<hr/>		
05	Team Building and Incentives Make your meeting in London more exciting	24
<hr/>		
06	London News and Tips Advice for planning your event in London	28

Introduction

London & Partners is the home of the official convention bureau for London.

As part of the Mayor of London's official promotional agency, our team can help you access the widest range of venues, hotels and support services available in this vibrant world city.

We are a not-for-profit public private partnership, funded by the Mayor of London and our network of commercial partners. This means that our experts can share their entire wealth of knowledge and contacts with you, providing free and impartial advice and assistance.

conventionbureau.london

conventionbureau@londonandpartners.com

@London_CVB

New Venues 2018



LONDON
CONVENTION BUREAU

SCIENCE GALLERY LONDON



The Science Gallery London will open in the spring of 2018 and with a modern and creative feel that mixes art and science, this is definitely one to watch out for!

Set over three floors, you will find everything you need including cafes, courtyards, a terrace, theatre and galleries, demonstrating that the space has the potential to accommodate an array of events with lots of flexible space right at your fingertips.

The venue capacity is from 20 - 750 with an in-house chef brigade to cater to your every need.

THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE WALKWAY

Is this the ultimate loft clear out?

For the first time ever over 700 years, these galleries located 70 feet above the Westminster Abbey's floor in the Abbey's medieval triforium, will open to the public.

Not only will the Walkway give amazing views of the Palace of Westminster, but a collection of treasures will be on display about the building history, the monarchy and the national memory. The refurbishment cost over £23 million and it will open in June 2018.



HACKNEY ART CENTRE

It is incredible that you still make discoveries such as these in London.

The team behind popular East London venue Village Underground has unveiled ambitious plans to reopen the dilapidated Hackney Arts Centre in London as a multipurpose arts space.

The art deco building in Stoke Newington was opened in 1936 but has since laid empty for the last 30 years.

Village Underground wants to reopen the space as a new music venue that would offer space for music, theatre, performance art, lectures, talks and events.

PAVILION AT KENSINGTON PALACE



Historic Royal Palaces has announced that a brand new events venue is to be installed in the beautiful gardens of Kensington Palace in 2018. The Kensington Palace Pavilion, a glass fronted building overlooking the palace's famous Sunken Garden, will replace the Orangery at Kensington Palace for three years. Flooded with light and situated in the heart of the palace grounds, it will be available for hire from March 2018.

The new venue is a purpose-built, one of a kind building, offering a flexible space for a range of events, with a unique terrace overlooking the stunning gardens and East façade of the historic Georgian royal home.

The Pavilion will feature two main event spaces, with capacity for an impressive 800 guests for a standing reception across both rooms, and 300 for a seated dinner. The venue will also benefit from a covered terrace area, making it ideal for receptions in all seasons and a first for Kensington Palace. The area around the Sunken Garden can also be utilised alongside the terrace for larger events.

THE LONDON MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHY

A Swedish gallery is set to open a center for photography in London in the second half of 2018.

Fotografiska, who runs the world renowned photography museum in Stockholm has announced that it has pre-let premises at Whitechapel, where it is to house the London Museum of Photography.

The gallery has been searching for suitable location for museum in the capital, which they believe is one of the world's most dynamic cities when it comes to photography.

If the London Museum of Photography is going to be anything like its Swedish counterpart then we should expect it to house a cafe, restaurant, a well-stocked store and gallery of photographs for sale. Facilities may be rented out for conferences and events, while talks by artists as well as concerts are expected to take place.



BOROUGH COBBLED COURTYARD

Situated on Southwark Street in the trendy Borough Market area, just a stone's throw from London Bridge Station, is a funky courtyard offering a versatile blank canvas for events.

As a dry hire venue all equipment, furniture and production is hired in, giving you the opportunity to completely tailor your event. Standing reception up to 400 guests.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS 250TH BIRTHDAY EXTENSION



Designed by acclaimed architect Sir David Chipperfield, the two acre site will link the Grade II-listed Burlington House with Burlington Gardens for the first time.

The extension, which cost £50m in total, will create more exhibition and display space across the Royal Academy, allowing many artworks to be brought out of storage.

Key features include a double-height lecture theatre with over 260 seats, a new learning center and a bridge connecting the house and gardens, creating a central route from Piccadilly to Mayfair.

TRINITY BUOY WHARF

Located in the heart of Docklands on the banks of the river Thames, this historical wharf is now a thriving center for the arts and creative industries.

Situated east of Canary Wharf, Trinity Buoy Wharf has all the charm, character and space of a former buoy manufacturing site, in an exclusive London location.

Boasting unrivalled views of the river Thames, O2 Arena and Docklands skyline, this 3 acre site has 24,850 square feet of unique spaces.



Suitable for corporate hospitality, banqueting, launches, conferences, filming, photoshoots and dinner/dances.

Trinity Buoy Wharf Jubilee Pier offers unique river access to central and southern locations, whilst being a scenic and fast way to transport clients or guests.

GLAZIERS HALL

The Glaziers Hall has undergone a sensitive restoration of their Grade II listed building including the installation of front facade featuring 7.5 meter Crittal glass windows.

More space has been created including two new riverside spaces ideal for receptions, dinners and meetings.

The restoration was sensitive to capture the heritage structure of Hibernia Wharf.

Featuring the exposed Sir John Rennie's London Bridge, the newly created spaces showcase three restored Georgian brick arches, original York stone floor and a bespoke wine cellar as a backdrop.



DESIGN MUSEUM

The stunningly refurbished 1960's building is the only public building designed by John Pawson, and features an incredible hyperbolic paraboloid roof.



Located in Kensington, this refurbished building is available for conferences, dinners, drinks receptions and meetings.

The Helene and Johannes Huth Gallery features:

- 3,400 square feet of space, with a retractable wall system which allows the room to be divided into two sections
- capacity for dining for 200 guests

The Atrium features 3,380 square feet of space, plus space on the mezzanine and 1st floor landing levels; capacity for dining for 150 guests seated or 270 standing receptions and cutting edge technical facilities.

The Bakala auditorium is a 202-seat theatre style space with state-of-the-art AV facilities.

NATIONAL THEATRE ROOFTOP

The Deck is now closed to allow for the installation of a brand new, contemporary rooftop venue at the National Theatre.

The new venue will be a fresh, open space that will meet the growing demand for a more creative and high tech venue for corporate entertaining, VIP events and private parties on the South Bank.



THE OLD FINSBURY TOWN HALL



The Town Hall is a stunning Grade II listed building, meaning a building of great historical significance.

This versatile and unique event space exudes opulence, with its Art Nouveau vintage décor and chic ambience that event organisers find magical.

The venue has another purpose in mind. All profits generated from events held at the Old Finsbury Town Hall go towards bursaries for the Urdang Art Academy.

The Urdang Academy lovingly restored the building in 2007 honouring its rich heritage, now the space can hold banquets and events again, continuing a hundred year tradition.

LEAKE STREET ARCHES



24 million people visit the South Bank and the demand for new restaurant and bar space in the area is especially high.

To complement the regeneration, Leake Street Arches beneath Waterloo Station are being converted into 25,000 square foot of space, predominantly for cafes, bars and restaurants.

Leake Street Arches will be a celebration of urban art, dining and entertainment at Waterloo London.

Eight former railway arches next to the famous Graffiti Tunnel have been brought back to life to provide a curated collection of independent restaurants, bars that capture the essence of urban culture.

TEMPERATE HOUSE, KEW GARDENS



As of May 2018, Kew's breath-taking Temperate House, the largest Victorian glasshouse in the world, will open after a five year closure.

The entire framework of the building has been painstakingly repaired, and its thousands of panes of glass replaced, along with its intricate ironwork and expansive paved flooring. The result is a glistening cathedral housing 10,000 plants, making it one of the most unique venues in London.

The impressive glasshouse can host large evening dinners and standing receptions of up to 300 guests amongst 10,000 species of rare and endangered plants.

AMBER LODGE

Boasting panoramic views of Amber lakes, Amber Lodge is a stunning venue finished to the highest standards.

The venue's large indoor space has an impeccable finish being made almost entirely of oak, giving the space a warm amber glow. The floor to ceiling windows give panoramic views of the surrounding lakes.

This venue has been designed with events in mind, 120 guests for dinner on long tables or rounds.

Drinks receptions can be enjoyed within the Lodge or on the terraces depending on the weather. For standing receptions Amber Lodge can accommodate up to 250 guests or with the addition of a marquee or tipi the capacity increases to 500.



SOUTHBANK CENTRE



Following over two years of extensive restoration and refurbishment, Hayward Gallery, Queen Elizabeth Hall and Purcell Room reopened in early 2018. Southbank Centre's iconic brutalist venues have been returned to their original glory.

Hayward Gallery

Extensive refurbishment of Hayward Gallery's 66 iconic pyramid roof lights has flooded the upper galleries with daylight, making for bright and inviting spaces. Since reopening, and for the first time in the gallery's 50-year history, it is available to hire exclusively for events. In this space, guests experience adventurous and influential contemporary artists from around the world with the works presented by the Hayward exhibition programme. Capacities vary depending on the exhibition.

Queen Elizabeth Hall & Purcell Room

The restoration of the building has focused on refurbishing both auditoria, the foyer and back of house facilities. New production infrastructure and lighting systems enhance the auditoria for events, while better access and ventilation improve guests' experience. Throughout the building, restored wood panelling and brushed concrete contribute to the brutalist aesthetic. In the foyer, newly installed glass panelling bathe the spacious area with natural light and showcase stunning river views. Capacity from 900pax.

The reopening of Hayward Gallery, Queen Elizabeth Hall and Purcell Room significantly increases the capacity for commercial events at Southbank Centre. The spaces are suitable for a range of occasions, from awards evenings and private concerts to lectures and AGMs.

PUBLIC

A brand new event space from Street Feast!

Street Feast is rapidly expanding their offerings around London and Public is their new enterprise.

An 86 year old former covered market in Woolwich has been transformed into a twinkly feasting arena, complete with fantastic food and brilliant booze.

Boasting an eight strong line up of some of London's best street food traders, five watering holes, an arched rainbow roof, two mezzanine levels and a 14,500 square foot ground floor area, Public is a versatile, 1,000 capacity events space suitable for work functions, screenings, conferences, parties.

New Hotels 2018

LONDON
CONVENTION BUREAU



KETTNER'S TOWNHOUSE

Legend has it that Auguste Kettner, who opened this Soho landmark in 1867, was the private chef of the Emperor Napoleon III.

Lovingly restored by Soho House, Kettner's reopened after a two year refurbishment in January 2018, combining a French restaurant, Champagne bar and a townhouse hotel.

The original 18th century spiral staircase remains, leading up to 33 bedrooms. Each room has been individually designed in a 1920s French boudoir style and for you to truly stay in style, book the Grade II-listed Jacobean Suite and you get large emperor bed, your own private entrance and a freestanding copper bath.



FORMER US EMBASSY TURNING INTO A ROSEWOOD HOTEL



The property developer, Qatari Diar, owner of the former US Embassy in Mayfair appointed Rosewood Hotels as operator of the new venue. Rosewood Hotels will help to transform it to another beautiful and world class hotel with 137 bedrooms.

The original building was designed by Finnish architect Eero Saarinen and became a landmark. In 2009 it gained a status of a Grade II listed building.

Last year, renowned architect David Chipperfield won planning permission, subject to the building retaining its original features, including the large gilded aluminium eagle on the roof. The plans also include enhancement to the whole of Grosvenor Square.

WHITE CITY HOUSE

Swanky private member's club Soho House turns the old BBC headquarters in White City into a 47 bedroom hotel. At the very heart of the Television Centre, in The Helios, the building's original Grade II listed central ring, are 45 bedrooms, supplemented by club space, an Electric Cinema, The Allis, a restaurant at ground floor level and a gym. Let's not forget a trademark for Soho House, a rooftop pool. The terrace and swimming pool are in a prime spot overlooking the Television Centre forecourt.

PRINCIPAL LONDON



Designed by Charles Fitzroy- Doll, who was also responsible for the design of RMS Titanic, the Principal London originally opened as a hotel in 1898 and stands out on Russell Square thanks its striking terracotta exterior.

The opening of the 334 bedroom hotel will restore the original grande dame to her former glory while administering a shot of adrenaline to the heart of London's most literary neighbourhood.

The opening of The Principal London will create a hub not only for its guests but also for Londoners who have a

passion for great food, fabulous cocktails and memorable nights in the city. It will offer a variety of spaces for drinking, dining and partying.

HOTEL INDIGO LONDON ALDGATE

Situated beside the Whitechapel Gallery, Spitalfields and Petticoat Lane, Hotel Indigo London - Aldgate brings modern, comfortable accommodation to Aldgate. The 212 bedroom hotel is modern and urban, the interior design is by Dexter Moren Associates, an architectural practice whose work includes The Curtain hotel, the Great Northern Hotel and the Shangri-La. Facilities include a restaurant where you can enjoy contemporary dishes and cocktails in a hotel which draws on the rich history of the local neighbourhood.

THE GREAT SCOTLAND YARD

The original Scotland Yard headquarters is being transformed into a luxury hotel.

The Edwardian, Grade II listed site, which was home to Scotland Yard, becomes a £100 million hotel.

The new hotel will have 236 rooms, a grand entrance foyer, winter garden lounge, restaurant, bar and a 120 seat main conference room.

The historic address, which was rebuilt in 1910, was where investigations into the likes of Jack The Ripper were centred.

Undergoing a sensitive conversion it will maintain the principle elements of the original building. Once construction has been completed it will become one of the capital's most desired hotels.



TOBACCO DOCK HOTEL

To the north of the historic Tobacco Dock, the Tobacco Dock Hotel will include 242 fully serviced hotel rooms and 63 apartments, a restaurant and cafe facing a publicly accessible piazza.

The design features a dramatic six storey entrance atrium, and its interiors also reference the docks' original use as a warehouse in the 1800s.

Pre-construction archaeology on the site revealed an even earlier history, uncovering evidence of a bath-house and other buildings built between the 2nd and 4th centuries.



THE PENINSULA LONDON



The Peninsula London is a proposed 190 room hotel on Hyde Park Corner, one of London's most celebrated addresses.

The Peninsula London is planned to cater for both hotel guests and local customers. In addition to guestrooms and a spa, the hotel will have shops, bars, restaurants and a ballroom.

A grand pedestrian entrance on Grosvenor Place will be accessed from a colonnade linking to an internal 'Palazzo-style' courtyard.

HARD ROCK HOTEL LONDON

A conversion of the existing Cumberland Hotel, once frequent host to guitar legend Jimi Hendrix, the upcoming Hard Rock Hotel London will be ideally situated in one of the city's most sought after locations, opposite Hyde Park.

Offering panoramic views over the park, the 900 room hotel is scheduled for completion in summer 2018.



STANDARD LONDON



Standard Hotels are a well-known boutique chain. The company is bringing their first new European enterprise to London.

The project involves converting a Brutalist commercial office building, previously occupied by Camden Council, into a 270 bedroom hotel, restaurant and bar with ancillary spaces.

The project cost over £20 million and it will become a beautiful five star boutique. The whole building is being upgraded but the biggest change is to the top floors.

Clad in metal and glass, the two top levels are transformed into an architectural feature and include hotel rooms and suites, public and private event spaces, a dining area, lounge and observatory with public access. An external lift whisks guests from the ground floor up to the 8th floor.

WELLINGTON HOTEL

Robert De Niro has just been given the go-ahead to open his first hotel in London (his third after New York and the Philippines).

The hotel is going to be located in Covent Garden. Expect it to be pretty big - the plans submitted to Westminster promise 83 bedrooms, a luxury spa and swimming pool, two restaurants, a deli/café and a members' club.

There will be alfresco dining opportunities as the hotel will focus around a central courtyard conservatory.

Opening in 2019.



CROWNE PLAZA LONDON ALBERT EMBANKMENT



Located on the South Bank of London, the new hotel offers breath-taking views of the Houses of Parliaments, Chelsea and the London Eye. A quiet location, but in a vicinity of the heart of London and its famous landmarks.

Albert Embankment is undergoing significant regeneration and is set to become a hub for meetings, conferences and events in London.

A total of 142 guest bedrooms, 2 meetings rooms and plenty of food and beverage offerings, the Crowne Plaza hotel is certainly becoming a new London favourite.

BELMOND CADOGAN HOTEL

Belmond Cadogan Hotel is superbly located on London's prestigious Sloane Street.

This historic property, dating from 1887, opens in 2018 fully renovated and reconceptualised.

Its 54 rooms and gourmet restaurant will reflect the hotel's rich heritage, creating a stylish retreat for visitors.



VINTRY & MERCER HOTEL



Vintry & Mercer is settled in the heart of the City, among the livery halls, guilds and narrow streets that line the banks of the Thames.

With its 92 bespoke bedrooms and suites, it intersects the past and present. The inspiration is from the long standing trading guilds of the area. Vintry was the centre for wine merchants, Mercer for noble textile sellers. The local area is now a destination for the modern traveller.

THE DIXON

The Dixon, a new boutique style hotel part of Autograph Collection Hotels, opens in Autumn 2018.



Formerly the home of the Old Tower Bridge Magistrates Court, The Dixon transforms this historic building into a traditional boutique hotel.

The 193 rooms, present an artful mix of heritage design, simple brickwork, tall windows and modern furniture and modern art.

All rooms come with state of the art technology and complimentary Wi-Fi.

Cleverly reflecting the building's past as a courtroom, the

Courthouse cafe serves hotel guests and locals alike while decor repurposes pieces of furniture reclaimed from the old courthouse.

BANKSIDE HOTEL

In a six storey glass structure known as Beetham Tower, Bankside Hotel offers a sleek and modern outlook close to Blackfriars Bridge.

Serving both as a hotel, with 161 light and airy bedrooms, and a community hub, there is a focus on creativity and art.

With both the Tate Modern and the Hayward Gallery as neighbours, the hotel has its own 'white cube' gallery and a function space with capacity for 120 people, as well as a 78 cover restaurant and bar with an outdoor terrace.



New Restaurants 2018



LONDON
CONVENTION BUREAU

OLD SPITALFIELDS MARKET FOOD HUB



Old Spitalfields Market is being transformed into a destination restaurant hub marking a new chapter in the market's 200 year history.

The first phase saw ten 'kitchens' open showcasing some of London's most popular restaurants and pop-ups. All serving signature dishes unique to Old Spitalfields Market.

Over the next six months a huge variety of street traders will join the party, a total of 100 traders are promised, bringing a similar vibe to Brixton's Pop and Peckham Levels to the city.

SUSHISAMBA COVENT GARDEN

Sushisamba has opened its new restaurant in Covent Garden's famed Opera Terrace within the historic Market Building.

The global restaurant brand has long been recognized for their impressive venues around the world.

The choice of Covent Garden as the location for the new restaurant reflects the vibrant dining offering that Covent Garden Estate has successfully crafted in recent years.



BOB BOB CITE



We all love a handsome French chef with a mischievous smile. Eric Chavot, 2 Michelin Star Chef is overseeing the new restaurant.

Bob Bob Ricard's long awaited sister restaurant is finally opening this month in the Leadenhall Building.

The new venue will host 180 covers with a collection of private rooms for hire.

The 'Press for Champagne buttons' and all booth seating that made its older sibling, Soho's Bob Bob Ricard, so likeable will also feature. Expect dumplings filled with snails and chicken kiev with a brioche stuffing.

NO29 POWER STATION BATTERSEA



Power stations can give rise to a lot of rumours. If they have taught us anything- there is no smoke without fire.

So we can confirm that anything you might have heard about No. 29 Power Station West, a vast, achingly stylish all-day eating and drinking space that popped up in the new Battersea Power Station development, is completely true.

No29 Power Station Battersea is an epic, industrially styled space, with bespoke Crittall doors and workshop-style fittings nestled alongside art deco touches and decadent velvet-cloaked furniture in a nod to the Power Station's origins.

Serving up everything from brunch to dinner alongside an almost comically large selection of wines, craft beers, draught beers and seasonal cocktails.

NOBU SHOREDITCH

The Nobu restaurant seats 240 guests, including a sushi counter, lounge and bar area, and an outdoor courtyard.

Pioneered and created by Chef Nobu Matsuhisa, the iconic Nobu menu is influenced by his years of studying Japanese cuisine in Tokyo and his extensive travels. The diverse celebration of flavours formed Nobu's trademark 'Nobu Style', which is intrinsic to all Nobu menus worldwide.

Nobu has long been a favourite in London, with Shoreditch being the city's third locale. The stunning bar offers guests a great place to relax with friends and enjoy signature cocktails. Guests can escape to a garden oasis adjacent to the bar for a more intimate setting.



PROSECCO HOUSE

The Prosecco House came into fruition because the owner and founder Kristina Issa was fed up of ordering mediocre prosecco. Kristina has created a luxurious escape where everyone feels welcome, think antique tables topped with mirrored glass. During the day there is a delicious spread of Italian focaccia sandwiches, and coffees.

THE LAST TUESDAY SOCIETY

We are assuming that the last time you had a drink with a lioness in a red top hat who prefers to be addressed as Leonora...was probably never.



But the last place that happened was probably Last Tuesday. Confused? Allow us to explain.

The Last Tuesday Society is a cocktail bar-cum-curiosity museum founded by eclectic dandy 'pataphysicist, Viktor Wynd. A magpie for the freakish, macabre and wonderful, he has filled the candlelit rooms with cherished finds ranging from skulls and taxidermied animals to fine art, pinned up on the dark lacquered walls and, in the case of Leonora, even sharing your velveteen banquette.

With a formidable cocktail menu inspired by the bar's decor, this is the kind of place where a fly in your drink is probably intentional. The list is seductively dark and dangerous sounding, with concoctions like the Alchemist #88, garnished with a North American Coyote claw (to keep, not eat); or the Scorps Reviver, garnished with an edible scorpion tail.

Once your cocktail is safely in hand, you will make your way downstairs to explore Wynd's Museum of Curiosities, with crammed shelves and cabinets overflowing with the mysterious and the shocking; skeletons and scientific abnormalities, shrunken heads and exotic souvenirs. The showpiece of the museum is the Sarcophagus, a coffin shaped table with a skeletal centerpiece, around which the society hosts storytelling evenings, lectures and literary discussions, séances, private parties, petting zoos and taxidermy lessons.

BANG BANG ORIENTAL

Chinatown goes north and inside. A huge new Asian food hall with 33 kiosks and room for 450 diners.

The Bang Bang Oriental brings Pan-Asian food, shops and lots more to draw you up to Colindale.

The stands and restaurants will be dishing up food from loads of different countries; Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Indian and Vietnamese, plus some underrepresented cuisines like Malaysia, Singapore and Taiwan.



SWINGERS OXFORD STREET



Following the amazing reaction to the Swingers site in the City, the company is opening a second Swingers in February 2018 in Oxford Street.

Swingers will take crazy golf back to its seaside roots in a venue that reimagines the faded glamour of the English Riviera. You will enter through a hidden entrance, disguised as a seaside souvenir shop, before making your way up to the venue and two beautiful 9-hole crazy golf courses, the

Big Wheel Course and the Helter Skelter Course. For food and drink lovers there will be a Promenade lined with beach huts and two amazing bars will keep you hydrated whilst you play.

BOXPARK WEMBLEY

Following Shoreditch and Croydon, Boxpark's signature black and white look will be opening in Wembley later on this year.

It offers 29 food traders, shops and a programme of events within its 20,000 square foot space.

The giant shipping container can house 300 people, the first Boxpark to be fully indoors.



PUTTSHACK



London's first hi-tech indoor mini golf center is to open at Westfield London in White City in March.

The 20,000 square feet Puttshack is being billed as the world's only "super-tech" mini golf centre and will feature four courses and a 750 seater bar. A computer equipped with new tracking technology will be embedded in each ball and screens will show video highlights.

Adam Breeden CEO believes the new mini-golf experience will be the best of

its kind worldwide. Puttshack sites are also planned for in the City of London and Lakeside with details to be revealed in the coming months.

Team Building and Incentives 2018



LONDON
CONVENTION BUREAU

THE BIG LONDON BAKE

The Big London Bake is a fun baking event that's taking inspiration from one of the most popular TV shows.

Amateur bakers will be split into teams of two before following a strict recipe and battling it out with others to win the coveted first place prize. The limit is 90 minutes to bring your ideas to life!

You knead to take this seriously, immortality is just a scone's throw away.



AFTERNOON TEA BUS TOUR



Capture the heart of the city's culture, landmarks and history on the famous London Routemaster buses, whilst sipping on a lovely cup of tea accompanied with an array of tasty sandwiches and delicious cakes and pastries.

The London bus driver will take you round, showing in the city's best sights.

SECRETS OF TOWER OF LONDON- BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR

With a presence on this site for nearly 1000 years, the Tower of London has a long and colourful history and certainly has many secrets to tell.

This is an exclusive 1 hour tour, taking you into areas of the Tower normally hidden from view to access locations that show the beauty and the harshness of life in the Tower and uncover a few of its many secrets.

Since it is a secret, the route is shrouded in mystery, however to give your clients a sneak peak they will be entering out of bounds areas including Queens House, St Thomas More Crypt, Chapel Royal and entering the cells of famous prisoners who were kept at the Tower.

SILENT SOUNDS BOAT PARTY



While Silent Disco events have been around for many years now, they are still a concept that not everyone has heard of and many people still have not attended.

There is no better way to bring a team closer together than on this two storey party boat, that will see you float down the Thames, showing you the amazing sights of London, all while playing great music.

TAKE TO THE TRACK AT LONDON STADIUM



London Stadium has added to its meetings and events portfolio by launching team build packages.

The former Olympic Stadium is home to West Ham United and UK Athletics, and the packages utilise the Community Track following the IAAF World Athletics Championships.

The track was used for the elite athlete warm ups during London 2017 so delegates will tread the track where Usain Bolt, Mo Farah and world-class athletes ran.

To bring the packages to life, London Stadium has partnered with top team build events. Packages include Street Olympics, The Games and Crystal Challenge that have been styled specifically for the stadium, to reflect the legacy and history that has already been created.

Since London 2012, the stadium made a promise to remain an active part of the community and help consolidate Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park as a destination of choice for inspirational events. With a diverse range of packages and spaces available for hire, the stadium is becoming the go to venue for creative, motivational and rewarding events.

FLIGHT CLUB SHOREDITCH

Flight Club combines fun team building activities and strategic business sessions to create a unique and fully-managed away day solution.

Start your day with a welcome coffee and an opening presentation, before moving into an experience rotation which includes a cocktail masterclass, pizza making and darts tuition.



Then, bring the day to a crescendo with an epic darts tournament where people can cut loose and let their competitive side show.

AFTERMATH

Aftermath is an immersive game with a difference, it comes to you.

Perfect for an office party or team building with colleagues, the game will have you working against the clock to try and prevent the end of the world, no biggie then.

BUNKER 51



A themed decommissioned Cold War Nuclear Bunker located a stone's throw from The O2, North Greenwich, is a brand new state- of- the- art laser tag facility!

Bunker 51 is here for all your team building needs, boasting areas for paintball, airsoft, laser tag and a BBQ, come here for everything from battle royale to immersive zombie SWAT experiences.

London News and Tips 2018



LONDON
CONVENTION BUREAU

EUROSTAR LAUNCH OF AMSTERDAM ROUTE

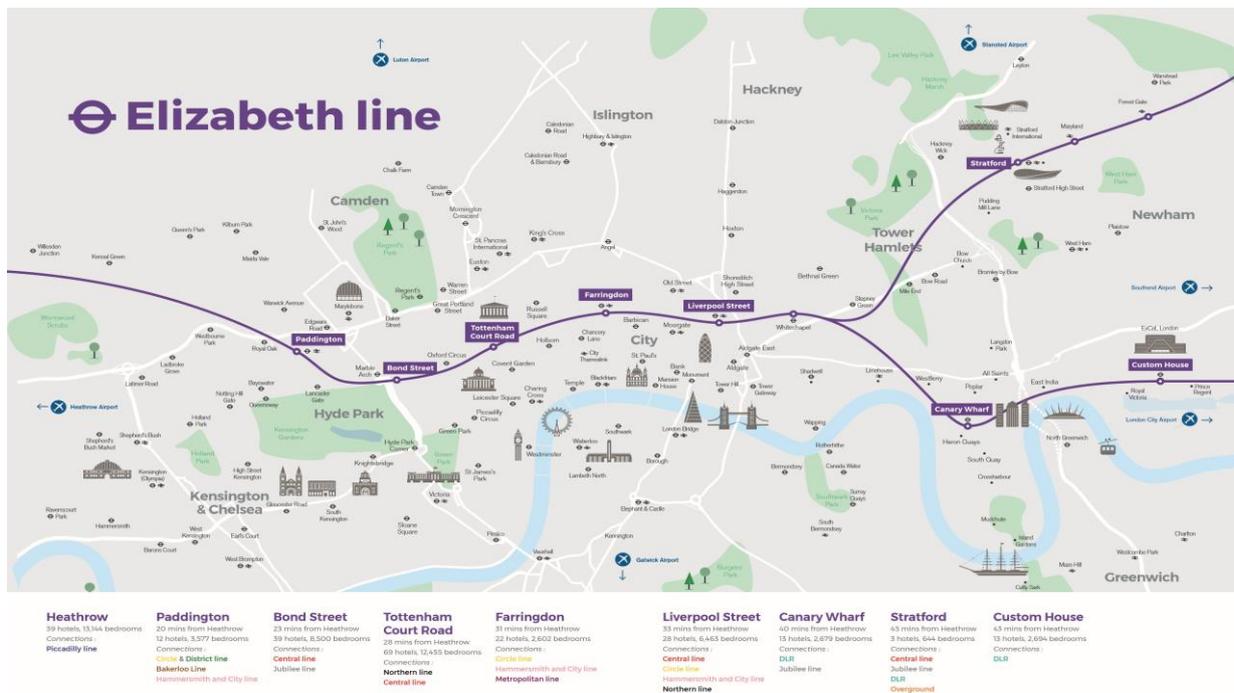


Direct high speed Eurostar rail services from London are expanding to Amsterdam, with a journey time of under four hours.

The service will compete with one of Europe's busiest air routes. The first service will leave London St Pancras station on 4th of April 2018.

The service will also call in Rotterdam.

CROSSRAIL- ELIZABETH LINE



From December 2018, the Elizabeth line will begin services from the west through central to the east of London.

Delegates travelling from Heathrow will only take 28 minutes to get to London's West End, 34 minutes to reach the City of London and just 44 minutes to travel to the capital's biggest event venues, ExCeL London and O2, located in the east of London.

Ten new stations are being built as part of the Crossrail project. Paddington, Bond Street, Tottenham Court Road and Farringdon will all be completely overhauled to cater for the 200 million passengers expected to use the Elizabeth line each year. Multiple entrances and ticket halls, more space below ground will make travelling with groups an even easier experience.

With the new Elizabeth line, London has some of the most accessible events venues in the world.

BREXIT AND LONDON

On 23rd June 2016, the United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union (EU).

Prime Minister Theresa May formally notified the EU of the UK's intention to leave on March 29th 2017. A long and complex series of negotiations is now underway over the future relationship of the UK and the EU. Until the UK formally leaves the EU in March 2019, the relationship between the two will remain unchanged. During this period, citizens of the EU, EEA and Switzerland may still enter the country without requiring a visa.

There is also no indication of immediate changes to travel regulations for visitors from outside of Europe as a result of the UK leaving the European Union.

Future travel regulations and immigration policy between the EU and the United Kingdom will be decided as part of the negotiation period. The UK government has stated that no changes to immigration policy will be made without the formal consent of parliament, in the form of an immigration bill.

CHINESE SINGLE VISA TO UK AND EUROPE

Chinese tourists and entrepreneurs can now obtain UK and European visas in a single process. FCO provides an on-demand visa service which is currently available in 59 cities.

In addition, they also operate a mobile visa service whereby a representative will go to a location of the applicants' choice, take their biometrics and check through the application form. The process takes approximately five minutes and group sizes of up to 100 can be accommodated.

London Convention Bureau

6th Floor, 2 More London Riverside

SE1 2RR

+44 (0)20 7234 5800

conventionbureau.london

conventionbureau@londonandpartners.com

@London_CVB