

# What's New 2019



**LONDON**  
CONVENTION BUREAU

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**The London  
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official promotional agency.**

Get free, impartial advice and assistance from our experts who will help you unlock the city and access the best venues, hotels and support services.

For more information, contact us at [conventionbureau@londonandpartners.com](mailto:conventionbureau@londonandpartners.com)

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# New venues

**London's unrivalled range of venues makes it one of the best destinations to host an event.**



National Gallery Garden and Jubilee Walk

## TRAFALGAR SQUARE

### National Gallery Garden and Jubilee Walk

The National Gallery is one of the most visited and best loved art galleries in the world, housing works by artists including Van Gogh and Titian.

Accessed by a secret door directly from the London landmark, the National Gallery Gardens are a hidden courtyard surrounded by fragrant jasmine bushes and with a view of the National Gallery façade. The Garden is ideal for drinks reception, intimate alfresco dining for up to 60 guests.

The Jubilee Walk is nestled between the two sides of the Gallery, creating an architectural backdrop like no other. It is ideal for creating bespoke event settings up to 420 guests.



Etc Venues 133 Houndsditch



Magazine London

## GREENWICH

### Magazine London

Magazine London is a new event space for the capital. This purpose-built, 24,179 sq m destination is the largest of its kind in London, offering a striking blank canvas for culture and commerce; it is a unique opportunity for brands and businesses to interact with global and local audiences.

The venue is defined by simple architectural form, offering clean and functional spaces that provide a means for large-scale creative expression. Magazine London boasts a versatile interior space for up to 3,000 people and can extend to accommodate a further 7,000 people across the venue's outdoor showground.

Located in the heart of Greenwich Peninsula, with breath-taking views of Canary Wharf, the venue is easily accessible by the Underground, road and river.

## CITY OF LONDON

### Etc Venues 133 Houndsditch

etc.venues 133 Houndsditch is a conference, exhibition and event venue that boasts a fantastic location just minutes away from Liverpool Street and Bank Underground stations. The largest room can accommodate up to 700 people seated, while an open plan galleria offers more than 15,000 sq ft of flexible exhibition and event space with an additional seven breakout rooms, each with a capacity of 100. Benefit from multiple media walls for digital signage opportunities, in addition to cutting-edge audio-visual technology.

**The new etc.venues 133 Houndsditch offers 33000 sq ft of event space across one easy-to-use floor and our largest room for 700 theatre or 500 cabaret.**



The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Galleries

## WESTMINSTER

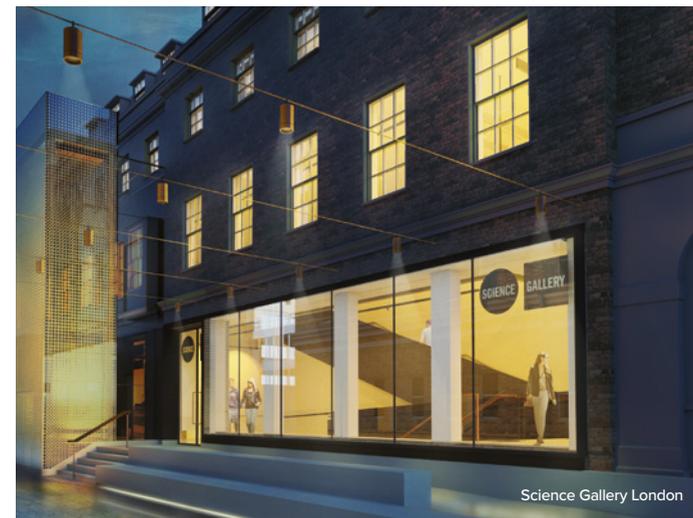
### The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Galleries

Accessible to the public for the first time, these galleries are located 52ft above Westminster Abbey and provide fantastic views over the city. The galleries tell the 1000-year story of Westminster Abbey through the display of a 300-strong collection of treasures. The exhibition covers themes such as the building of the Abbey, worship, and the building's relationship to the monarchy.

## SOUTH KENSINGTON

### Science Gallery London

Having opened in September 2018, the Science Gallery London aims to connect art, science and health, bringing together researchers, artists, students and the local community. Set over three floors, the venue features several cafes, courtyards, a terrace and a theatre, making it fit for a variety of events. The venue can accommodate up to 750 delegates and has an in-house chef brigade to cater to your every need.



Science Gallery London



The New Royal Academy of Arts



The New Royal Academy of Arts



Fotografiska London

**Elegant entertaining and blockbuster exhibitions, the Royal Academy of Arts is the oldest fine arts institution in the country. Located in the heart of London, is a place where art is made, exhibited and debated. An iconic setting for parties, dinners, wedding receptions and corporate events.**

**MAYFAIR**

**The New Royal Academy of Arts**

Celebrate the London institution's 250th anniversary by visiting its new extension. Designed by acclaimed architect Sir David Chipperfield, the two-acre site links the Grade II-listed Burlington House with Burlington Gardens for the first time. The £50m extension creates new exhibition and display spaces, allowing many artworks to be brought out of storage. Key features of the new site include a double-height lecture theatre with more than 260 seats, a new learning center and a bridge connecting the House and Gardens.

**SHOREDITCH**

**Fotografiska London**

Immerse your delegates in the world of photography with Fotografiska London, due to open in spring 2019. Fotografiska, a museum of photography originally based in Stockholm, is expanding to London with a site in Whitechapel, which aims to educate visitors about photography, both established and up-and-coming. The new London museum is expected to feature a food offering, educational facilities, art-oriented shops and event spaces.

**SOUTHBANK**

**Southbank Centre**

Following more than two years of extensive restoration, the Hayward Gallery, the Queen Elizabeth Hall and the Purcell Room reopened in early 2018.

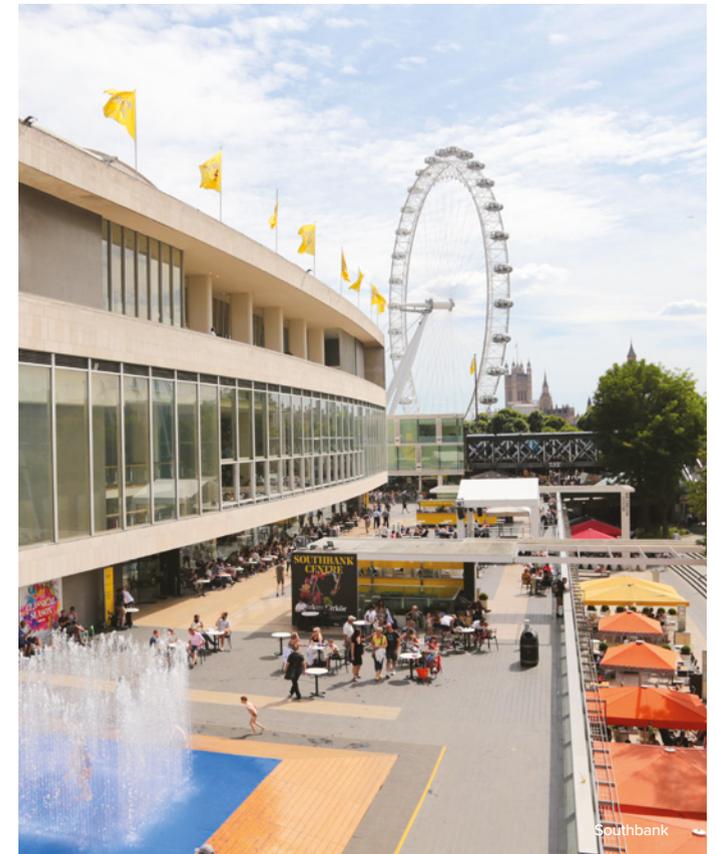
**Hayward Gallery**

The refurbishment of the Hayward Gallery's 66 iconic pyramid roof lights has contributed to the creation of bright and inviting spaces. For the first time in the Gallery's 50-year history, it is now available for event hire, allowing guests to experience the works of adventurous and influential contemporary artists from around the world.

**Queen Elizabeth Hall & Purcell Room**

The restoration of the building has focused on both auditoria, the foyer and back of house facilities. Throughout the building, restored wood and brushed concrete contribute to the brutalist aesthetic, while in the foyer, newly installed glass panelling bathes the spacious area with natural light and showcase stunning river views. The space can hold up to 900 delegates.

**Southbank is London's cultural district, home to national centres for arts, film and performance, as well as The London Eye! Right by the Thames, in the very heart of the capital.**



Southbank



Southbank

**BATTERSEA**

**Battersea Power Station**

This iconic Grade II\*-listed building and its surrounding area are being brought back to life as one of the most exciting developments in London. The new complex, which has already welcome a number of openings, features a mix of residential spaces, shops, restaurants and bars. London's first art'otel is expected to open in the Station in 2022. Battersea Power Station will also benefit from two new Tube stations in the Nine Elms area which are due to open in 2020.



Battersea Power station



Venus Clipper

**Battersea Power Station offers several spaces for hire, including The Venue at Battersea Power Station which boasts 50,000 sq ft of flexible space.**

**VARIOUS LOCATIONS**

**Venus Clipper**

London's newest passenger ferry sailed into service earlier this year. High-speed catamaran Venus Clipper becomes the 19th vessel in MBNA Thames Clippers' fleet.

The 220 capacity boat represents a £4 million investment for London's River Bus operator. By adding flexibility across its busy network of routes, Venus Clipper is expected to help transport an extra 300,000 commuters and visitors across the 25 km river network every year while also boosting the operator's charter offering. The new boat features over 70 tabled seats, making it more adaptable for commuters and specialist charters alike.

**SOUTHBANK**

**The Deck at National Theatre**

Following a closure for refurbishment, The Deck, located on the roof of the National Theatre, has now reopened. Take advantage of the venue's interior and exterior spaces, both offering uninterrupted views over the city and across the Thames, to organise an event your delegates won't forget. Events at The Deck get access to the National Theatre's scenic artists, making it easy to transform the space to fit any aesthetic requirements, and the venue also offers on-site catering. The Deck can host events for up to 170 guests.

**ALEXANDER PALACE**

**The Theatre at Alexandra Palace**

After an 80-year closure, The Theatre at Alexandra Palace reopened in 2018 following a £26.7m restoration project. Experience this venue's fascinating history as well as its spectacular surroundings, including the 196-acre public park offering some of the best views of London. The Theatre offers several packages for event planners, including conference daily delegate rates, banqueting packages and team building rates, and can accommodate up to 1,300 delegates.



The Theatre at Alexandra Palace



Illuminate at The Science Museum

**SOUTH KENSINGTON**

**Illuminate at The Science Museum**

Host your event in one of London's most famous museums with Illuminate. Located on levels 4 and 5 of the Science Museum, Illuminate opened in February 2019. The space, which is available for hire both during the day and the evening, offers a bright setting, thanks to its panoramic window of level 5, and has a capacity of up to 450. The Science Museum provides planners with bespoke packages thanks to its collaboration with Movie Venue and White Light, the catering and AV partners.



Tottenham Hotspur New Stadium

**TOTTENHAM**

**Tottenham Hotspur New Stadium**

Tottenham Hotspur is one of the most famous football teams in the world. Discover its new stadium, which is also a home to the NFL in the UK. With more than 62,000 seats, it is a grand addition to London's stadia and has plenty to offer to event planners. Fit for small and large-scale events with a capacity of up to 1,500, you're sure to impress your delegates with an event overlooking the pitch.

**KINGS CROSS****Focus On... King's Cross for Events**

**King's Cross is one of the largest and most successful regeneration projects in London. This new cultural hub for the capital also makes for an exciting setting for events, festivals and performances.**

**The neighbourhood offers a range of inspiring spaces capable of hosting events of all sizes and, thanks to its numerous transport links, including international rail, is very easily accessible.**

**The Crossing**

An open-plan space spanning Central Saint Martins and the Granary Building, this space is a striking backdrop for fashion shows, award ceremonies, exhibitions and art installations. Glass walls at both ends flood The Crossing in natural daylight.

**King's Boulevard**

This high footfall route is a striking avenue linking the northern and southern parts of King's Cross, and is already home to KERB, one of London's most popular street food markets. As the main route to Granary Square, King's Boulevard is an ideal space to use in conjunction with large scale events on the square.

**Battle Bridge Place**

One of the highest footfall areas on the site, Battle Bridge Place is an ideal space for small events, pop-up installations and experiential activities. The open nature of this space provides great flexibility, and guests can enjoy the stunning backdrop of the multi-award-winning buildings of King's Cross and St Pancras stations.



Granary Square

**Canalside Steps**

These south-facing steps sweep down to Regent's Canal from Granary Square. A natural theatre, this space is ideal for outdoor arts, music recitals and cinema screenings, and can accommodate approximately 200 people. The connection to the canal path makes it an ideal stop-off point for canal boats, bringing a unique opportunity to incorporate the canal network into your event.

**Granary Square**

Set against the fantastic backdrop of the Granary Building, Granary Square is the epicentre of King's Cross. It is also one of the largest urban spaces of its kind in Europe. The square holds up to 4,000 people and features dramatic choreographed fountains comprising 1,080 individually lit water jets. This unique feature can be incorporated into events, or it can be covered to enable the square to hold its maximum capacity.

**West Handyside Canopy**

This unusual outdoor covered space is suitable for hosting all sorts of events, from destination attractions and art installations, to corporate events, brand showcases and more. Its location makes it a natural extension to large-scale events taking place on Granary Square. With a capacity of 1,000, it is one of the largest event spaces on the site and one of the most versatile.

**Outdoor sport area**

This area is perfect for a wide range of sporting and non-sporting events. It can also be used as part of larger-scale events, with several activities running in different spaces around the development. Floodlighting extends use into the evening and all-weather surfacing means you can use the pitch for activities, whatever the weather.



King's Cross



Granary Square

# New hotels



The Academy



The Academy

**From global hotel chains, luxurious five star hotels and budget conscious value brands to independent boutique properties, London's wealth of accommodation constantly evolves.**



White City House

## BLOOMSBURY

### The Academy

After an extensive refurbishment, YTL Hotels recently reopened The Academy, a collection of five townhouses, and a member of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World collection. The hotel has 50 guest rooms and includes several food and drink options, including The Courtyard, where guests can sample the hotel's afternoon tea. The Refectory, where breakfast is served, can accommodate informal meetings and small gatherings.

## WHITE CITY

### White City House

Private members' club Soho House has turned the old BBC headquarters in White City into its latest club and hotel in London. The property's 45 bedrooms, just like the hotel's two restaurants, are accessible to non-members, while the club's gym can be used by members and hotel guests.

The three screening rooms at the White City House's cinema, Electric, are also available to non-members for private hire.



Lincoln Plaza London



Lincoln Plaza London

**Guests can make the most of the hotel's 24-hour fitness centre, complete with a pool, sauna and steam room. With more than 465 sq m of event space across seven meeting rooms, Lincoln Plaza London is perfect for all manner of business or social gatherings. The hotel is operated under Curio: A collection by Hilton brand.**

## LEICESTER SQUARE

### The Londoner

Set in London's Leicester square, The Londoner is a new boutique hotel on a super scale and the first of its kind. As a pioneering hotel, The Londoner embraces the energy of the West End through its masterful architecture and design, sophisticated social spaces and its collection of distinctive restaurants and lounges.

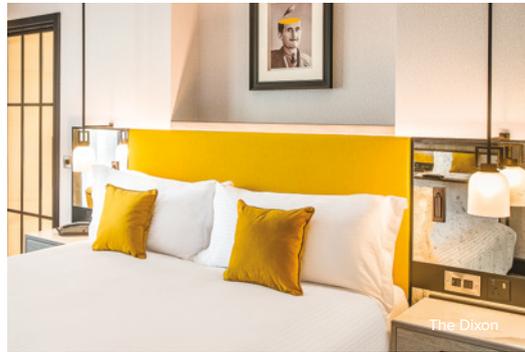
The hotel provides intuitive service alongside spectacular interior design, delivering a one of its kind premium luxury offering by inviting each visitor to curate their own experiences. An afternoon in the urban spa, an evening savouring the atmosphere of the rooftop bar or a bespoke event offering, The Londoner presents a vibrant experience for its individual guests.

Experience the 350 exquisite rooms and suites, tailored lifestyle facilities infused with London character and a variety of meeting and event spaces including a state-of-the-art grand ballroom, which can accommodate up to 864 guests.

## CANARY WHARF

### Lincoln Plaza London

Discover 129 stylish guest rooms that combine accessible luxury with a unique feel-good factor at Lincoln Plaza London. From the bespoke shelving units made of blackened steel and antique brass through to the marble rainfall showers, all elements work together to create a feeling of relaxed richness.



The Dixon



Hard Rock Hotel London

**LONDON BRIDGE**

**The Dixon**

Ideally located to explore the Bankside and South Bank areas of London, The Dixon is a new boutique hotel opened in late 2018. Located in the former Tower Bridge Magistrates Court, this Grade II-listed building contains 193 rooms and suites, a bar and a restaurant. The property also includes two event rooms suitable for small events, while nearby Tate Modern and Borough Market would make a great addition to a social programme.

**STRATFORD**

**Stratford Hotel London**

Set across six floors, The Stratford is a 145-room design hotel with interiors by Space Copenhagen, the design duo behind the legendary NOMA. The rooms feature serene pastel tones, natural timbers and elegant stone bathrooms fusing Scandinavian style with old-world opulence. From the magnificent triple-height lobby and the grand fireplace, to the dynamic all-day brasserie and six-story height central atrium, The Stratford is a hotel that does things differently.



Stratford Hotel London

**MARBLE ARCH**

**Hard Rock Hotel London**

Drawing on the legacy of the greats who stayed here in decades past - and an inspiration to those who are yet to write their own story - the Hard Rock Hotel London stands alone as a haven for music lovers and cultural explorers everywhere.

Built in one of London's most central locations - on the corner of Oxford Street and Park Lane - the hotel puts guests just steps away from the very best England's capital has to offer.

Catering to the needs of both business and leisure travellers, Hard Rock Hotel London boasts 900 stylish rooms and suites, together with two vibrant bars and a lively Hard Rock Cafe®.



Biltmore London



Bankside Hotel

**BANKSIDE**

**Bankside Hotel**

Opened in October 2018, Bankside is another hotel launching in the South Bank. In a six-storey glass structure within the One Blackfriars development, Bankside Hotel offers a sleek and modern hub close to Blackfriars Bridge. The hotel has a focus on arts and crafts, with a curated arts collection displayed across the 161 rooms and communal areas, and it also features a space permanently dedicated to crafts. For planners, the hotel offers four spaces for hire, including three meetings rooms, two of which can be combined, and the White Box, a 196 sqm space able to hold 180 guests.

**TOWER OF LONDON**

**Blue Orchid Collection**

New to 2019, a collection of four-star boutique hotels and five-star serviced apartments in the heart of London, the Blue Orchid Collection serves the most discerning guest with modern amenities, prime locations, unique venue spaces and exquisite views over the vibrant London city and its historic landmarks.

**MAYFAIR**

**Biltmore London**

The hotel, located in the heart of Mayfair on exclusive Grosvenor Square, has undergone a multi-million-pound redevelopment following its closure in June 2018. Designed by Goddard Littlefair, the hotel will offer 257 luxuriously appointed guest rooms, many with views over Grosvenor Square, as well as 51 highly-curated and beautifully designed suites, which

will reflect the property's origin as a sophisticated and elegant London private residence. Moments from Bond Street's exclusive retailers, the green spaces of Hyde Park and London's famous landmarks, Grosvenor Square has a rich history housing the capital's aristocracy since the early eighteenth century. The Biltmore, Mayfair will be the First European Hotel to join Hilton's New Luxury Collection – LXR Hotels & Resorts.

The group benefits from a variety of impressive meeting rooms all featuring state of the art technology, flexible spaces and natural daylight. Included in the selection are an elegant, period Chapel and roof top bar boasting breath-taking views over the Tower of London.



## New restaurants in London

### Darby's

Set to open in summer 2019 and located at Embassy Gardens in Nine Elms, Darby's is the latest venture by the internationally acclaimed Chef Robin Gill. Located in one of the buildings linked by the iconic Embassy Gardens Sky Pool, Darby's will consist of an oyster bar, bakery and grill. All aspects of Gill's immersive cooking techniques will be included in the new space with a bakery onsite, in-house butchery, house made charcuterie and a beautiful grill for cooking over fire. The restaurant will reflect Robin Gill's almost fanatical obsession with the highest quality ingredients, many of which are sourced from his own farm in West Sussex.

### Soutine

Corbin & King – the group behind some of the capital's most iconic restaurants, such as The Wolesley and Brasserie Zédel – is due to open bespoke restaurant Soutine on St. John's Wood High-Street, near Regent's Park and Lord's Cricket Ground. Located in an impressive period building, the front room and pavement will offer relaxed cafe and bar seating, leading to a more formal space at the rear.

### Bob Bob Cité

If you're looking for something a little quirky and memorable for your stay, venture to Bob Bob Cité, the follow-up to cult Soho restaurant Bob Bob Ricard, famed for its 'press for champagne' buttons on the tables and lavish interior. A glamorous, yet fun addition to a business trip, located at the Leadenhall Building.

### Nathan Outlaw At The Goring

The Goring in London's Belgravia is building a seafood restaurant, set to launch in summer 2019. The new restaurant will have a heavy tilt towards Cornish produce. "Some of the best seafood in the world comes from the pristine waters around Cornwall" says CEO Jeremy Goring. "We're looking forward to bringing this West Country treasure to London, with the help of Nathan Outlaw". In Nathan Outlaw, The Goring has found the perfect chef to create simple seafood dishes of understated brilliance, that showcase the best of Cornish seafood and produce.

### Caviar Kaspia

World-famous Parisian restaurant Caviar Kaspia is coming to London. The culinary landmark, lauded for its signature caviar-topped baked potato, is set to open in chic Mayfair this spring. Perfect for a luxurious dinner, the menu will feature classics, such as poached eggs with beluga caviar, as well as dishes created exclusively for the new London spot.

### Mariage Freres

Educate your delegates in the art of tea with the new Mariage Freres emporium in Covent Garden. The brand's largest branch to date takes over a Georgian townhouse and, as well as featuring the largest collection of tea in the world, includes a shop, a restaurant specialising in tea gastronomy, a tea museum and two private event spaces. The emporium can accommodate events for up to 50, with a private terrace and trade showroom.

### Allegra

Allegra is a restaurant offering east London a high-end dining experience underpinned by authentic old-school hospitality. Former Chiltern Firehouse Head Chef, Patrick Powell's menu is modern European – hyper-seasonal, product-driven dishes alongside classic cocktails and inventive small plates. A restaurant with a taste for the spectacular, the main room evokes the timeless grandeur of a Scandinavian farmhouse – featuring an open kitchen, sweeping stone bar and rich, stained oak furniture. The unique garden terrace, designed by Randle Siddeley, offers intimate dining space amongst an elevated meadow of wild flowers, pine tree canopies and a huge grill and fire pit.

### Arboretum

Launching in late spring in central London, ARBORETUM is an independent members' club like no other. Focused on sustainable development, social wellbeing and environmental stewardship, it is designed to foster the growth of ideas and collaboration. The club will feature two spacious main lounges, a work and play room, five meeting rooms and conference facilities, all with state-of-the-art equipment, plus serviced offices and owned desks available for an additional fee.

# Team building and incentives

**From historical to the modern, from creative to sports, from breakfast with a view to dining in the dark, London has all the incentive ideas you desire! A selection of the new:**



## STRATFORD

### Take to the track at London Stadium

Follow in the footsteps of the world's best athletes with this energising team activity. The London Stadium, now home to West Ham United Football Club, offers packages which include your chosen team build activity, use of the community track (where the athletes warmed up during the IAAF World Championships), food and refreshments.



## VARIOUS LOCATIONS

### Afternoon tea bus London tour

Eat your way around town with the B Bakery Afternoon Tea Bus London Tour. Sample finger sandwiches, cakes, pastries and traditional scones while driving past Big Ben, the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey and more, all from the comfort of your own private double-decker bus.

## PICCADILLY CIRCUS

### Body Worlds - London Museum Experience

Visit London's newest top tourist attraction described by many as "mind-blowing" "unforgettable" even "life-changing". Discover the beauty beneath your skin at BODY WORLDS London, a unique fusion of science, art and health education. Over 200 jaw-dropping exhibits of real human bodies tell the story of life, in the heart of the West End at 1 Piccadilly Circus. A museum experience for all ages!



## TOWER OF LONDON

### Secrets of the Tower Tour

Explore the colourful history of the Tower of London with this VIP backstage tour. This exclusive hour-long visit takes you behind-the-scenes at one of London's four UNESCO World Heritage sites, giving you access to areas normally hidden from the public, and revealing the Tower's many secrets. The route, though shrouded in mystery, takes you to buildings such as the Queens House, St Thomas More Crypt, Chapel Royal and the cells of some of the Tower's famous prisoners.



## VARIOUS LOCATIONS

### Bustronome

Bustronome is a unique concept to London. Discover the most beautiful views of London while enjoying the best of its gastronomy, whatever the weather!

Up to 38 diners can be seated on the top deck of each of our custom-built double-deckers with 360-degree views of London's top attractions. Use audio pens to touch landmarks on map menus and learn unknown facts. The experience is a great way to get to know London. Bustronome is the ideal venue for something a bit different when it comes to corporate meetings, incentives and special events.



**2BUK is a specialist DMC who can facilitate your events in London and the UK by unlocking their true potential.**

**We asked 2BUK Director Leigh Butterfield to tell us more about trends in the UK incentive market.**

**What are the current trends?**

It is all about the experience, making it personal and creating immersive journeys of discovery. Guests want to touch and feel the history, tradition and culture rather than just hear about it.

**How do you achieve this?**

By adding the 'surprise and delight' element – guests think they are doing a straightforward tour, but it is packed with experiential moments along the way. Stopping somewhere exclusive for drinks, meeting an expert, getting behind-the-scenes access or including a hands-on workshop gives the guests both a sense of exclusivity and an immersive feel.

**What experiences are popular now?**

Anything from visiting the city's top spots aboard a classic Mini and trying your hand at graffiti to standing where Churchill directed the second World War and walking the famous zebra crossing at Abbey Road.

**Is there a tour for everyone?**

Absolutely, London has a great selection, there truly is something for everyone. Tours can focus on anything from music and gentlemen's fashion to couture hat making and street art, and, of course, food!



“

**London is such a diverse city rich in culture, traditions and forward thinking people, whether it is your first or tenth time visiting you will always discover something new.**

Director Leigh Butterfield

# London news

## ELIZABETH LINE (CROSSRAIL)

The Elizabeth line is part of Crossrail, one of the most significant infrastructure projects ever undertaken in Europe. From cutting journey times to easing congestion and offering better connections, the Elizabeth line is set to provide easier, quicker and more direct travel opportunities throughout the capital.

A projected 200 million passengers will travel on the Elizabeth line annually. The line will increase central London's rail capacity by 10%, facilitating more direct journeys and better interchanges. With capacity for 1,500 passengers per train, the Elizabeth line will make travelling on London's transport network easier and less crowded.

The Elizabeth line will stop at 41 accessible stations, starting from Reading, Heathrow and Paddington in the west, through central London, and across to Shenfield and Abbey Wood in the east.

With the new line, London will have some of the most accessible events venues in the world. Delegates

travelling from Heathrow will be able to get to London's West End in 28 minutes, the City of London in 34 minutes and ExCeL London and The O2 in 44 minutes.

Ten new stations will open, while another 30 are getting upgraded as part of the project, including Paddington, Bond Street, Tottenham Court Road and Farringdon. Multiple entrances and ticket halls, more space below ground and straightforward access to the rest of the transport network will make travelling with groups an even easier experience.

## RIVER CONNECTIVITY CONTINUES TO GROW

A new pier is on schedule to open summer 2019 in the Royal Docks.

Delivered by Ballymore and Oxley to serve residents of their Royal Wharf development, Royal Wharf Pier will be served by London's River Bus, MBNA Thames Clippers. Royal Wharf Pier will be a short transfer or walk to ExCeL London, and is even a viable transport option for London City Airport, with improved linkages being explored.



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