

 SOHO HOUSE CITY GUIDES

LONDON

DON

 A guide by members, for members to all the best places to eat, drink, shop, party and meet. Discover the Soho House side of the city.

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FOR THOSE WHO TRAVEL OFTEN. SINCE 1914.

An insider's guide to London

WELCOME

Welcome to London – Soho House's home city, the place where it all began. Now that you've arrived, it's time to settle in at one of our nine London Houses, grab a Picante (or two) and plan for your trip in the UK's capital, the city where founder Nick Jones laid the foundation for Soho House 28 years ago.

The first Soho House opened on London's Greek Street in 1995, when Jones was offered the space above his restaurant, Cafe Boheme. Since then, we've grown not only across the capital with Houses in Mayfair, Shoreditch and Balham, but also expanded around the world with 42 global Houses, and counting. Plus, we have restaurants in London, including Cecconi's and Kettner's, as well as two Soho Home retail stores.

Whether you want to take in a show in and around Theatreland, browse the galleries and vintage shops of east London, or plan on eating and drinking your way around Soho, there's so much to discover.

So, consider this – our first-ever printed London city guide, created in partnership with our friends at Antler and featuring all the hottest tips from our members in the know – your ultimate companion to making the very best of your trip.

Velma Simmons, Soho House UK Membership & Communications Director

Head to the member benefits section of the Soho House app to enjoy 20% off Antler suitcases



All about London's coolest areas

NEIGHBOURHOODS

Soho

Once London's red-light district, Soho is our spiritual home and the birthplace of our original location on **40 Greek Street** – above Cafe Boheme, which Nick Jones opened in 1992 – later to be joined by **Soho House 76 Dean Street**, Kettner's and Dean Street Townhouse.

Shepherd's Bush

Situated in a former BBC headquarters nearby, **White City House** (opposite) joins other well-known local landmarks, such as the music venue Shepherd's Bush Empire and multi-ethnic Shepherd's Bush Market, to help make it one of the most diverse areas in London.



Shoreditch

Home to a cluster of tech startups, design studios, art galleries, music studios, and media and PR agencies, this part of London is as much a geographic location as it is a creative state of mind. And, of course, it's where you'll find **Shoreditch House** (opposite) in the Tea Building.

Mayfair

Little House Mayfair is located close to the international designer brands and art dealers on Bond Street, as well as the world-famous tailors on Savile Row and Jermyn Street.



NEIGHBOURHOODS

Strand

The home of many historic buildings, such as Somerset House, the Strand – which includes part of Theatreland and Fleet Street (famous for Britain’s newspaper industry) – is also where **180 House** (opposite) can be found.

Balham

Neither suburb nor red-hot centre of the action, Balham lies happily somewhere in between. It features all the culinary and boutique

attractions of city life, while also offering plenty of green space to breathe. The perfect location for our first club **Little House Balham** in south London, situated on leafy Bedford Hill.

Notting Hill

The west London district is home to Europe’s biggest street carnival, and also one of its liveliest markets. It’s here that you will also find **Electric House** halfway down Portobello Road, with bustling fruit and vegetable stalls on its doorstep.

The art you'll find around our London Houses

The curatorial approach to the permanent collection and commissioning of site-specific works at our clubs across London reflects the founding ethos of Soho House, which opened as a home for the burgeoning 'creative class' of the city in the 1990s.

In 2018, Soho House's Global Director of Art, Kate Bryan, refreshed the collection at the original **Soho House 40 Greek Street** with 300 works by global artists, site-specific installations and focused presentations. Installed on mirrors in the Circle Bar, 40-40-40 is a platform for young artists – 40 artists under 40 at 40 Greek Street.

At **White City House**, the building's history as a BBC studio provided the inspiration for a series of specially commissioned pieces, including Archie Proudfoot's 'Test Card Girl', as well as works by

George Henry Longly, Nathan Coley, and Sam Taylor-Johnson.

180 House has a wall that reflects recent history in London featuring more than 70 works created during lockdown in London, as well as a site-specific painting by Miranda Forrester (opposite) who went on to win a Soho House Award in 2022. Meanwhile, at **Shoreditch House**, new works have been added to the original monochromatic collection, bringing new talent such as Nick Jensen and Joy Labinjo into conversation with the likes of Damien Hirst, Tracey Emin and Fiona Banner.

High Road House has an entirely new art collection, split into three areas: still life, figuration and contemporary takes on the traditional genres of landscape. **Electric House** in Notting Hill also features a new collection – a focused look at 'outlines' with works by Charlotte Edey and Anousha Payne.

ART



The member picks: art spots to visit

Selected by Adébayo
Bolaji, artist

1 South London Gallery

My personal practice is multidisciplinary, so I'm always looking for spaces that not only show painters like myself, but also film, photography and more. South London Gallery features emerging international artists, and I especially loved the Rene Matić exhibition. southlondongallery.org

2 Tiwani Contemporary

Exhibitions at Tiwani feature strong figurative painters, with a focus on artists from Africa and its global diaspora. It also has a new space opening in autumn 2023 on Mayfair's Cork Street – a strong move for Tiwani, which already has a gallery in Lagos, Nigeria. tiwani.co.uk

3 Phoenix Cinema

I love this cinema, which is one of the oldest in the UK. The Art

Deco interiors are stunning, and you get transported back to a time when going to see a film still felt like a novelty. phoenixcinema.co.uk

4 Copperfield Gallery

Housed in a repurposed former religious building just south of the Tate Modern (which is obviously also worth a visit), I like how this gallery shapes its own narrative. In summer 2023, it exhibited Emmanuel Awuni's show, *I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings*. copperfieldgallery.com

5 BEERS London

It makes sense to share a gallery that's shown my work. BEERS London (opposite) features artists who are making their mark, but still with craft at the forefront. It also champions those who have a good appreciation for colour. beerslondon.com





Eat and drink your way
around our London Houses

FOOD & DRINK

The food and drink offering at our Houses across London is defined by the atmosphere, interior and architecture of each location. Whether you're looking to enjoy dinner or lunch accompanied by panoramic views of the city, or want to cosy up next to a fire for a more low-key vibe, your table awaits you.

At **Soho House 40 Greek Street** (opposite), the Red and Blue Drawing Rooms – with fireplaces, velvet sofas and comfy chairs – make for a relaxed and intimate dining experience. The Courtyard Bar, a large outdoor terrace space with sliding glass doors for the warmer weather, offers a livelier atmosphere.

The highlight of **White City House** is Pen Yen, a Japanese izakaya-style restaurant specialising in dishes from the robata grill. Located on the eighth floor, its atmospheric interiors take their cues from Asian and European design.

The eighth-floor restaurant at **180 House** on the Strand – with its rich take on 1970s interiors – offers extensive views of London. On the menu, you'll find dishes such as Monkfish with samphire and Datterini tomatoes. Meanwhile, all of the Houses across the capital serve our well-loved staples from the club menu, with a rolling programme of seasonal drinks and a range of pop-ups.



The member picks:
where to eat and drink
Selected by Sally Abé, chef

FOOD & DRINK

1 Dorian

Even though this place has only been open since 2022, it's become an instant classic in Notting Hill. Expect 'blow your socks off' flavour, big cuts of meat, and wine by the glass poured from a magnum. It's the restaurant everyone is desperate to get a table at. **dorianrestaurant.com**

2 Maison François

This restaurant in St James's does classic French brasserie food to the highest standard. The Oeuf En Gelee and Pate En Croute are particular standouts, and the dessert trolley is not to be missed. **maisonfrancois.london**

3 Berenjak

This Soho restaurant has gone from strength to strength, with its home-style Persian cooking over a charcoal grill. The Lamb Adana is a particular favourite, along with the Black Chickpea

Hummus. The cocktails are imaginative and change regularly. Plus, there's a second site in Borough and they popped up at Soho House Festival in July 2023. **berenjaklondon.com**

4 Lanzhou Noodle Bar

This place is open until 3am most nights in Leicester Square and the noodles are hand pulled to order. Cosy up with other locals on the Formica chairs and make sure you try the Dan Dan Noodles.

5 Brunswick House

A little off the beaten track opposite Vauxhall Bus Station lies some of the most ingenious food money can buy. Jackson Boxer is truly one of London's best cooks. The potato bread is heaven and the wine list has some real gems at reasonable prices. The venue (opposite) is fantastic, too. **brunswickhouse.london**

Places of interest

- 1 South London Gallery
- 2 Tiwani Contemporary
- 3 Phoenix Cinema
- 4 Copperfield Gallery
- 5 BEERS London
- 6 Dorian
- 7 Maison François
- 8 Berenjak
- 9 Lanzhou Noodle Bar
- 10 Brunswick House
- 11 Soho Home
- 12 H-Town
- 13 Couverture & The Garbstore
- 14 Reformation
- 15 Rellik
- 16 Stone Nest
- 17 Koko
- 18 Hackney Empire
- 19 The Blue Posts
- 20 Colour Factory
- 21 Parkland Walk
- 22 Richmond Park
- 23 St John's Lodge Garden
- 24 Epping Forest and High Beech
- 25 Horniman Museum
- 26 Mail Rail at The Postal Museum
- 27 Gasolders apartments
- 28 Sir John Soane's Museum
- 29 Barbican
- 30 Coal Drops Yard
- SH Soho House
- Soho House restaurant



**The member picks:
cool places to shop**

Selected by Itunu Oke, stylist

1 Soho Home

Soho Home has a curated edit of vintage furniture, homeware, textiles and furnishings, and offers complimentary design consultations to help you bring the Soho House style home with you. Visit our two London shops in Notting Hill's Westbourne Grove and Duke of York Square (opposite) in Chelsea. sohohome.com

2 H-Town

This independent retail destination is home to some of the best brands out there, such as Martine Rose, Y/Project, JW Anderson, Mowalola, Ahluwalia, and Saul Nash. The offering is cool and exclusive, and you'll always walk away with something amazing. htown.co.uk

3 Couverture & The Garbstore

An important stop when you're in west London. It's full of emerging and independent fashion brands, but also some of the best homeware pieces you can get your hands on. couvertureandthegarbstore.com

4 Reformation

I fell in love with this brand and shopping experience (and it really is an experience) when I visited New York five years ago. And in 2019, they brought everything I love about it to the UK. thereformation.com

5 Rellik

With some of the best designer vintage items you can find in London, you'll be sure to leave with lots of forever pieces. relliklondon.co.uk

SHOPPING



The must-buys to take home
in your Antler suitcase

SHOPPING



1 The pyjamas

Silk Pyjamas, £300
sohohome.com

2 The sunglasses

Port Tanger
Sunglasses, £240
htown.co.uk

3 The holiday shopper

Maison Bengal Holdall, £79
couvertureandthegarbstore.com

4 The boots

Francesca Moto Boots, £498
thereformation.com

5 The trench coat

Comme des Garçons
Homme Trench Coat, £695
relliklondon.co.uk





Own the night at our London Houses

NIGHTLIFE

A rolling programme of events, parties and performances showcases not only the best of Soho House, but also the multi-faceted array of talent that this great city has to offer. Whatever you're into, a carefully curated calendar ensures that in north, south, east or west London, the fun never stops.

Enjoy some of the best DJs on the scene at **Soho House 40 Greek Street's** monthly House Parties, with guests including DJ Spoony, Sonny Fodera, David Rodigan and Tinie Tempah, alongside local heroes such as Larizzle and Storm Mollison.

For lovers of live music, keep an eye out for our Secret Sounds shows, which pop up across the Houses and have

played host to the likes of Lewis Capaldi, Little Simz, Kaytranada, Sugababes, and Arlo Parks previously. As ever, the artists are revealed on the day of the show, so check the Soho House app for more details.

For something more upbeat, discover the true stars of tomorrow at Future First, who host incredible emerging acts at **180 House** every Monday.

It's not just about live performances and dancing, though. Wine connoisseurs can join Aidy Smith, TV personality and presenter of Amazon Prime's *The Three Drinkers* series, to learn even more about their favourite drinks at **White City House**. Similarly, our Member Mixer events at **Shoreditch House** (opposite) are a great way to meet like-minded people.



The member picks:
where to dance the night away
Selected by Chris Amfo, stylist

NIGHTLIFE

1 Stone Nest

This hidden gem (opposite) is right in the middle of central London. An arts venue in a basement on Shaftesbury Avenue, it has live acts and DJs, and is a great place to go for an after-hours drink.
stonenest.org

2 Koko

This famous Camden club and live venue has had a refurb, and hosted some great nights in summer 2023. There's always something cool on there, and I like it because I've been going ever since I started clubbing.
koko.co.uk

3 Hackney Empire

I saw the soul singer Elmiene at Hackney Empire, which is

built on the bones of a music hall from 1901. It has a special intimacy that makes for a great atmosphere.
hackneyempire.co.uk

4 The Blue Posts

For me, walking into this old pub right on the end of Berwick Street in Soho is like being in an episode of *Cheers*. The crowd is a mix of local faces and people who are new to the area, and I always bump into old friends.
theblueposts.net

5 Colour Factory

A Black-owned venue that champions inclusivity and provides a safe space for various communities in London.
colourfactory.com

The member picks: stroll, run or ride your way around London

Selected by Andrew Diprose,
creative director

1 Parkland Walk

A hidden nature walk from the western end of Finsbury Park along the course of a former railway line leads to the village of Highgate. Here, you can go for a swim in the nearby Hampstead Heath Ponds, on the heath, or visit any of the charming local pubs and cafes.

2 Richmond Park

A haven for runners, riders and nature lovers in south-west London, the largest of the capital's Royal Parks is an oasis for wildlife. Join the often busy peloton of riders on the famous seven-mile (10.9km) loop, run the scenic gravel trails, or get up close and personal with the deer.

3 St John's Lodge Garden

Regent's Park (and neighbouring Primrose Hill) is worth a visit alone for its zoo, boating lake,

rose gardens, and views of the city. A small path just off the central ring of the park leads to the hidden gardens at St John's Lodge (opposite), a manicured oasis of tranquillity in the middle of the hustle and bustle.

4 Epping Forest and High Beech

With more than 6,000 acres of ancient forest in Greater London, this is one of the largest open spaces in London. The village of High Beech is a good base to start exploring the paths, with lots of pubs and tea huts for coffee and cake.

5 Horniman Museum

This museum in Forest Hill boasts some of the best views of London, a beautiful conservatory and community garden, and houses a world-famous collection of anthropological wonders.





Behind the design of our London Houses

DESIGN

The original **Soho House** **40 Greek Street** location – a warren of rooms above founder Nick Jones's Cafe Boheme restaurant – was named Soho House because the building was just that: an empty townhouse in the heart of Soho. The logo reflects the layout of that first space – three floors across three interconnecting houses in a Grade II-listed building. Today, while a rooftop terrace and circular bar have opened things up inside, it remains accessible to members only via a discreet door at 40 Greek Street. Our original House retains the warmth and intimacy of the day it first opened to 500 members in 1995.

Meanwhile, newer additions in London always aim to respect

the history, architecture and function of the buildings in which they live. Opened in 2018, **White City House** occupies the Grade II-listed, iconic doughnut-shaped Helios ring, a former BBC headquarters. The use of wood and mid-century furniture evokes the building's 1960s heyday.

Situated in a Brutalist building at the intersection where the Strand meets Fleet Street, **180 House** features a rooftop pool (opposite), shag-pile rugs, polished mirror tabletops, and bold geometric patterns. At **Shoreditch House**, located inside a former warehouse called the Tea Building, Tom Dixon created a free-flowing space that's both grand yet intimate and inviting.

**The member picks:
all of London's hottest
architecture spots**

Selected by Thomas
Heatherwick, designer
and Alfred Tong, writer

**1 Mail Rail at The
Postal Museum**

‘As a child I watched a TV programme about the miniature underground railway in London that transported four million letters every day, which I found astonishing,’ says Heatherwick. ‘It stopped working a few decades ago, but has now opened up again.’

2 Gasholders apartments

‘The unusual appearance of these apartments in King’s Cross comes from having been made with the outer cast-iron structure of Victorian gas containers,’ says Heatherwick. ‘I remember reading about how grease and horsehair were used to make the seals that stopped gas leaking out.’

3 Sir John Soane's Museum

If architecture was a mood-altering drug, then this place

would be ayahuasca – mind-boggling and somewhat unhinged. But rest your eyes on any surface inside and you’ll see something inspirational.

4 Barbican

A stroll around the Barbican (opposite) is like wandering onto the set of a Stanley Kubrick film. Yet while it is indeed an icon of Brutalist architecture, the surprisingly lush conservatory and gardens help to break up all the concrete.

5 Coal Drops Yard

It’s hard to imagine that this once desolate collection of warehouses is now home to Coal Drops Yard in King’s Cross. It has some of the best restaurants in the city, including Barraфина, and fashion brands such as A.P.C. and MHL. by Margaret Howell.



DESIGN

Still on the hunt for more London must-dos?

Visit the 'Travel Tips' section of the Connect feed in the Soho House app to find other members for city-break gold.



Contributors: Sally Abé, Laolu Akerle, Chris Amfo, Adébayo Bolaji, Kate Bryan, Andrew Diprose, Thomas Heatherwick, Itunu Oke, Velma Simmons. Writer: Alfred Tong. Photographers: Feruza Afewerki, Simon Brown, Mark Anthony Fox, Adam Fussell, Tom Griffiths, Gina Soden, Rich Stapleton. Illustrators: Chiara Brazzale, Mike Lemanski.

ANTLER



FOR THOSE WHO TRAVEL OFTEN. SINCE 1914.

Explore all of our Houses in London



40 Greek Street



76 Dean Street



180 House



Electric House



High Road House



Little House Balham



Little House Mayfair



Shoreditch House



White City House
