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# Best UK Restaurants

## 2023

ESTABLISHED 1991

INDEPENDENT AND UNBIASED REVIEWS OF 3,000 RESTAURANTS

*'It will tell you what Diners actually like as opposed to mere Restaurant Critics'*

Richard Vines, Restaurant Critic, Koffmann & Vines





the remainder  
seems up in the  
dandcourses.co.uk;  
at 10.30 pm, Sun  
& Tue & Wed;

## EVENT

£90 **333**

wine list" –  
e by the glass  
age system – this  
s Parisian group  
d formula, which  
ty, modern French  
e" (with particularly  
ge"); all served in  
' setting of a stylish  
Clarendish Square.  
m expensive; and  
re is lacking". /  
vent-london.com;  
n, Tue, Sat midnight;  
Fri D, closed Sun &  
red to book.

£58 **223**

Garden (part  
es "dependable  
lian small

asparagus and truffle mayonnaise) is to be found  
on the menu at this Marylebone venue from  
the Athens-based Modern Greek Food Group.  
It has a funkier 'gastrobar' stablemate, Ino, off  
Carnaby Street. / W1U 5QL; www.opso.co.uk;  
@opso\_london; Mon-Sat 10.15 pm, Sun 9.45 pm;  
closed Sun L.

## THE ORANGE SW1

£84 **233**

37 PIMLICO RD 020 7881 9844 6-2D

This "fun" rustic-chic pub/hotel/events space  
is a magnet for an "attractive crowd" on the  
Pimlico-Chelsea border, and serves a "varied  
range" of food, from wood-fired pizza in the  
bar to more formal meals in the dining room  
upstairs. / SW1W 8NE; www.theorange.co.uk;  
@theorangepublichouse; Mon-Sat 10 pm, Sun  
9.30 pm.

## ORANGE PEKOE SW13

£40 **334**

3 WHITE HART LN 020 8876 6070 11-1A

"A neighbourhood treasure", this well-run  
tea shop near the river in Barnes serves  
"every kind of tea possible", plus "super  
cakes and sandwiches". It's "highly sought-  
after" for its afternoon teas – "you'll need to  
book for a cuppa and a slice of cake at busy  
times". More substantial meals for brunch/  
lunch can be "disappointing". / SW13 0PX;  
www.orangepekoeteas.com; @orangepekoeteas;  
Mon-Sun 5 pm; closed Mon-Sun D.

## ORASAY W

31 KENSINGTON  
020 7043 1400

"Every dish scre  
is delivering som  
in particular "inc  
(but also "wonder  
his Notting Hill  
the Hebridean is  
childhood summ  
Mull scallop in v  
many, many brill  
W11 2EU; orasay  
Thu 10 pm, Fri &  
Tue-Thu L closed

## OREN E8

89 SHACKLEW  
020 7916 6114

"I just love Oren  
of chef Oden O  
Dalston, which c  
rank of new-wav  
when it opened t  
Israeli and easte  
with wines recom  
"never disappoint  
pastrami is really  
www.orenlondon.c  
pm; closed Tue-Fri

## ORIENT LO W1

15 WARDOUR S  
020 8880



...ll rate it well all-round.  
...uca-restaurant.co.uk;  
...pm; closed Sun.

## MEIRAH OVER HOTEL

£98 **333**

0758 7250 6-1D

...the Rib Room go..."  
...alian is a sequel to the  
...tish venture that sat (in a  
...on) within the hotel for  
...redecessor, it is certainly  
...e one or two reports write  
...ointing all-round", the  
...eat. It is a "beautiful  
... with views of the  
... diners feel that Marco  
...ich puts an emphasis  
...ully very good" or even  
...p – interesting option  
...ss lunch. / SW1 9PY;  
...stay/london/  
...eirahgroup; Mon & Tue  
...m, Sun 3.30 pm; closed

## SE AT STER

£224 **232**

7629 8866 3-3A

...no doubt... but it was  
...memorable... far from  
...inly not worth 3 Michelin  
...erpriced": this has too  
...f this Mayfair dining  
...010 debut by Michelin on  
...ng the name of arguably  
...chef. To be fair, this  
...es also have its fans, for  
...Jean-Philippe Blondet's  
...innacle of modern French  
...list to match); and "a real  
...nt you are greeted at the  
...cond as you leave". But  
...f, it is concerning just how

...overlooking the curvature of Regent Street'. /  
W1W 4DY; www.hotelcaferoyal.com/alexddilling;  
@hotelcaferoyal; Fri & Sat 8 pm, Sun 4 pm.

## ALEXANDRIE W8 £74 **333**

38C KENSINGTON CHURCH STREET  
020 7937 2244 6-1A

This "impressive Kensington gem" serves  
"traditional Egyptian dishes with a sophisticated  
French influence" – "hopefully it will find  
more fans post-pandemic". Top Menu Tip  
– "mehalabya (Egyptian milk pudding) is a  
delicious way to end the meal". / W8 4BX;  
@alexandrie\_kensington; Wed-Sat 10 pm, Sun 9.30  
pm; closed Wed-Fri L, closed Mon & Tue.

## THE ALFRED TENNYSON PUB BELGRAVIA SW1 £75 **223**

10 MOTCOMB STREET  
020 7730 6074 6-1D

This smartly kitted-out pub with a "nice  
outdoor terrace" on a cobbled Belgravia street  
has a "short, simple and well-executed menu",  
providing "Sunday roast and fish 'n' chips of  
quality". / SW1X 8LA; thealfredtennyson.co.uk;  
@cubitthouse; Mon-Sat 10 pm, Sun 9.30 pm.

## ALI BABA NW1 £32 **322**

32 IVOR PL 020 7723 5805 2-1A

"A family Egyptian with unique character" –  
this unchanging venture (est 1970) occupies  
a room behind a takeaway, near the top of  
Baker Street. The affordable dishes are highly  
authentic, as is the no-frills vibe. Unlicensed  
so BYO. / NW1 6DA; alibabarestaurant.co.uk;  
@alibabarestaurantlondon; Mon-Sun 10 pm; cash  
only; booking online only.

## ALLEGRA E20 £63 **333**

THE STRATFORD, 20-22 INTERNATIONAL  
WAY 020 3973 0545 14-1D

With a chef (Patrick Powell) from the Chiltern  
Firehouse and an interior by the design team



## THE ALMA S

95 CHURCH ROAD

"A step above norma  
Yorkiston's kitchen p  
of cooking at this ca  
Victorian pub on Cr  
– a "lovely building"  
of outdoor space, an  
a shame children un  
there all the time!" /  
@TheAlmaCP; closed  
credit card only; book

## ALOO TAMA

18 GREENCOAT PL  
020 7834 9873 2-4

"This cosy little resta  
station serves tasty ho  
cuisine". It's "well hi  
dependent on word o  
it all the more impres  
"So book to avoid dis  
"welcoming and keen  
the non-standard mer  
have a lunchtime foo  
Square market in Pac  
www.alootama.com; @  
pm, Sun 9 pm; closed T

## ALTER E1

15 LEMAN STREET

"An 'alter' I'm happy  
Goodwin brings an in  
to plant-based cuisine  
dining room, near Alc  
sceptic, it's too "exhau  
for hardcore vegans"  
leaves sauces too soupy  
leads to vinegary flavor



EC2A 4NE; [www.theprincessofshoreditch.com](http://www.theprincessofshoreditch.com);  
@princessofshoreditch; Mon-Sat 10 pm, Sun 8 pm;  
no Amex; booking D only.

## THE PRINCESS ROYAL

W2

£82 333

7 HEREFORD ROAD 020 3096 6996 7-1B

It briefly traded as The Commander and then Pomona's (both RIP), but this attractive Notting Hill tavern (nowadays part of the upscale Cubitt House group) returned in February 2022 to being essentially the same pub it had been since the late 1800s. Despite punchy prices, reports are upbeat on its posh-for-a-pub menu, which includes a selection of oysters and dishes from the 'Raw Bar'. / W2 5AH; [www.cubittthouse.co.uk/the-princess-royal](http://www.cubittthouse.co.uk/the-princess-royal); @cubittthouse; Mon-Sat 11.30 pm, Sun 11 pm.

## THE PRINCESS VICTORIA

W12

£52 333

217 UXBRIDGE ROAD 020 8749 4466 8-1B

This "beautifully restored, nearly 200-years-old gin palace" on the Uxbridge Road was named at its 1829 launch after the 10-year-old princess who went on to reign as Queen Victoria. These days it serves "really good pub food" – "I've never had a bad meal here" – and stocks 100 different gins at its dramatic horseshoe bar. Top Tip – "the pizza and gin-and-tonic lunch offer is a bargain (if a slippery slope)". / W12 9DH; [www.princessvictoria.co.uk](http://www.princessvictoria.co.uk); @threecheerspubs; Mon-Thurs 11

## 17 HIGH ST

This "real local" serves "well-executed" food that never disappoints. Renzland, the chef, has been here for a decade and is an equally experienced cook. Robin Tarver, the manager, is also a chef. [www.provender.co.uk](http://www.provender.co.uk) Tue-Thu 10 pm; Mon; booking D only.

## PRUFROCK COFFEE EC1

23-25 LEATHER

"Great coffee" and limited-edition brews. Known brew store also offers pastries and bites. / EC1N 7JL; @prufrockcoffee; pm; closed Mon-Fri.

## PUNJAB W

80 NEAL ST 0

This veteran curry house in Covent Garden is providing "fine-vintage cooking". Founded by the first north Indian chef in London, it is now owned by a new generation of the family. Close to its gastro-



“Best brunch in London!” is an oft-repeated claim for Aussie celeb chef Bill Granger’s chain of “pleasant light and airy” spaces, which its army of fans see as “perfect breakfast venues, with great food, strong coffee, and a buzzy atmosphere”. The “varied” menu has the “Antipodean slant” you’d expect, but arguably “the food doesn’t quite live up to its style” and “it pays to be adventurous with your ordering: be bold and try something new! – the safe options are very... safe”. In August 2022, the group adds a fifth Marylebone site in what older readers will remember as ‘Maison Sagne’.  
/ grangerandco.com; grangerandco.

## **THE GRAZING GOAT** **W1**

**£83 333**

**6 NEW QUEBEC ST 020 7724 7243 2-2A**

Promising ‘layers of country pub’ on its website, this popular pub/restaurant (also with rooms) is tucked away in a Marylebone townhouse. Part of the posh Cubitt House group, it offers “decent upmarket pub fare with reliable cooking and service” in a buzzing setting. / W1H 7RQ; [www.thegrazinggoat.co.uk](http://www.thegrazinggoat.co.uk); @cubitthouse; Mon-Sat 9 pm, Sun 8 pm.

## **GREAT NEPALESE** **NW1**

**£42 343**

**48 EVERSHOLT ST 020 7388 6737 9-3C**

Time to kill near Euston station? Grab a bite at this “long standing, quality local” – a sweet-looking, little curry house (est 1982), still proudly displaying its Fay Maschler review from shortly after it opened. “It always delivers good dishes” – Nepalese specials are

Sun & Mon  
Mon D.

## **THE G** **THE D** **W1**

**53 PARK**

This “stun  
off the hot  
its Moorish  
currently n  
experience  
chef, Tom  
going righ  
and appro  
reflects thi  
is one of th  
is great on  
[www.dorche](http://www.dorche)  
london/the  
10 pm, Sun  
closed Mon

## **GRUME**

**35 CHURT**

This “cosy,  
celebrates i  
is proudly n  
furnishings  
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moment yo  
old-school  
by the stand  
/ SW1V 2L  
@grumblesr