



Kobe Jones in Great Russell Street delivers top-notch modern Japanese cuisine suffused with the influences of Californian dining

KENSINGTON PLACE 201 Kensington Church Street, ☎ (020) 7727 3184. www.egami.co.uk. Decently priced unpretentious food and speciality fish dishes at this bustling Notting Hill dining room popular with celebs. ☉ Notting Hill.

THE LOFT 1 Leicester Square, WC2. ☎ (020) 7734 0900. www.loftkitchen.co.uk. High rise dining in the heart of the West End where elegant modern cuisine is matched by fabulous views across the city. ☉ Covent Garden. Map: G5.

PAPAGENO 29-31 Wellington Street, WC2. ☎ (020) 7836 4444. www.papagenorestaurant.com. Flamboyant dining room with a vibrant theatrical atmosphere and excellent mediterranean cuisine. ☉ Covent Garden. Map: G5.

OXO TOWER Oxo Tower Wharf, Barge House Street, SE1. ☎ (020) 7803 3888. www.harveynichols.com. High rise restaurant with spectacular views to accompany the modern European cuisine. ☉ Covent Garden. Map: G5.

RAINFOREST CAFE 20 Shaftesbury Avenue, W1. ☎ (020) 7434 3111. www.therainforestcafe.co.uk. International restaurant recreates the tropical rainforest with animated wildlife and tropical special effects to entertain all the family along with its accessible wide-ranging menu. ☉ Piccadilly Circus. Map: F5.

THE REAL GREEK SOUVLAKI 2A Southwark Bridge Road, SE1. ☎ (020) 7620 0162. www.therealgreek.co.uk. Mediterranean diner serving authentic mezedes, upmarket souvlaki and tasty Greek pastries. ☉ Southwark. Map: I4.

SAHARAWEEEN 3 Panton Street, SW1. ☎ (020) 7930 2777. Opulently decorated North African & Moroccan dining and tea rooms featuring tasty traditional tagines and some dangerously indulgent desserts. ☉ Leicester Square. Map: F5.

SARASTRO 126 Drury Lane, WC2. ☎ (020) 7836 0101. www.sarastro-restaurant.com. Replicating the sights and sounds of the opera with live opera to accompany your Mediterranean cuisine. ☉ Covent Garden. Map: G5.

SKYLON Southbank Centre, SE1. ☎ (020) 7654 7800. www.skylonrestaurant.co.uk. Located within the Royal Festival Hall, a modern European dining room and informal grill with a spectacular panorama of London's skyline. ☉ Covent Garden. Map: G5.

ORIENTAL

AWANA 85 Sloane Avenue, SW3. ☎ (020) 7584 8880. www.awana.co.uk. Inspired by the traditional teak houses of Malaysia, this is a stylish home to innovative and traditional oriental dining. ☉ Sloane Square. Map: B2.

BENIHANA 37 Sackville Street, W1. ☎ (020) 494 2525. www.benihana.com. A unique dining experience as the chefs prepare and cook your Japanese food in front of you at your Teppan Table. ☉ Piccadilly Circus. Map: E5.

BLUE ELEPHANT 4-6 Fulham Broadway, SW6. ☎ (020) 7385 6595. www.blueelephant.com. Ornate restaurant features the best in Thai cuisine so grab your waterside table by the pond of koi fish and palms. ☉ Fulham Broadway.

GILGAMESH The Stables Camden Market, Chalk Farm Road, NW1. ☎ (020) 7482 5757. www.gilgameshbar.com. Lavish ornate restaurant, bar and oriental tearoom featuring top-quality contemporary pan-Asian cuisine. ☉ Camden.

HAKKASAN 8 Hanway Place, W1. ☎ (020) 7927 7000. www.hakkasan.com. London's most glamorous Chinese restaurant offering great cocktails and fabulous super-stylish oriental delicacies and ample celebrity spotting opportunities. ☉ Tottenham Court Road. Map: F6.

ITSU 118 Draycott Avenue, SW3. ☎ (020) 7590 2400. www.itsu.com. Top notch sushi paraded before you on conveyor belts as well as nicely priced takeaway boxes at this busy Japanese eatery. ☉ South Kensington.

KOBE JONES St Giles Hotel, 112 Great Russell Street, WC1. ☎ (020) 7300 3250. www.kobejones.co.uk. Chic California-influenced modern Japanese fusion dining and indulgent cocktails. ☉ Tottenham Court Road. Map: E2.

ROYAL CHINA 24-26 Baker Street, W1. ☎ (020) 7487 4688. www.royalchinagroup.com. Large, glossy restaurant with a massive, quality menu and terrific dim sum which is amongst London's best. ☉ Baker Street. Map: C7.

SHANGHAI BLUES 193-197 High Holborn, WC1. ☎ (020) 7404 1668. www.shanghaiblues.co.uk. In a listed building that housed St Giles Library this is a stunning, feng-shui designed Chinese restaurant and bar. ☉ Holborn. Map: G6.

SO 3-4 Warwick Street, W1. ☎ (020) 7292 0767. www.sorestaurant.com. Modern Japanese dining meets European influences, wallet-friendly lunch sets, exclusive Japanese teas and lethal sake cocktails. ☉ Piccadilly Circus. Map: E5.

YAKITORIA 25 Sheldon Square, W2. ☎ (020) 3214 3000. www.yakitoria.co.uk. Stylish modern canal-side restaurant serving classic Japanese dishes and superb sushi fused with luxurious European ingredients. ☉ Paddington. Map: A6.

YAUATCHA 5 Broadwick Street, W1. ☎ 08707 808265. www.yauatcha.com. Designer Chinese restaurant and tea room serving patisseries. Top quality oriental cuisine and excellent dim sum. ☉ Piccadilly Circus. Map: F5.