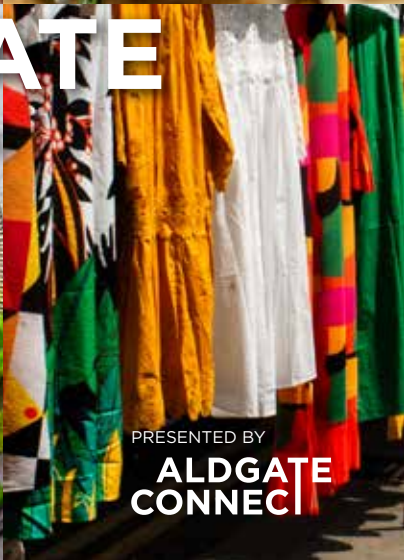




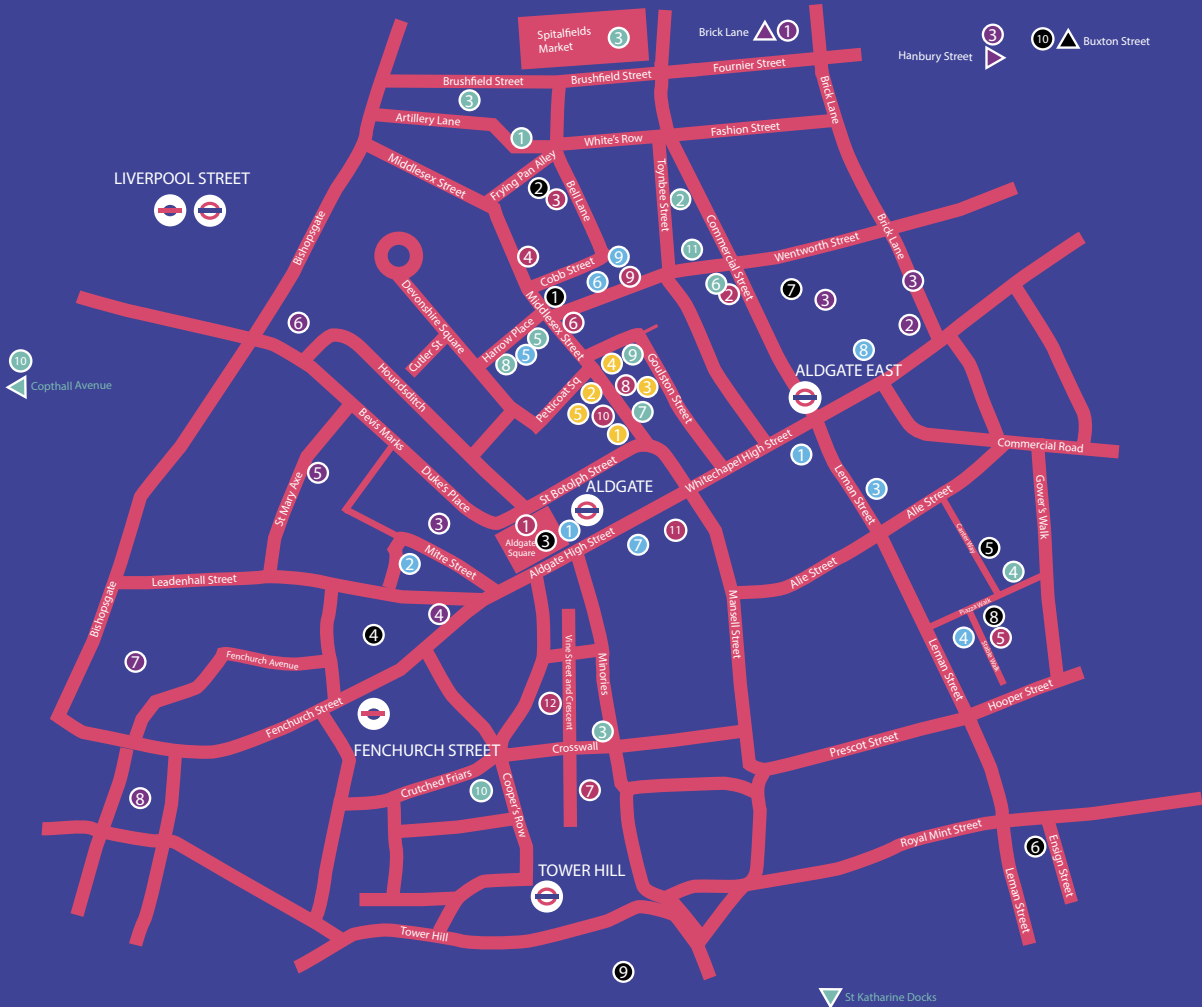
EXPERIENCE ALD GATE

FOOD. DRINK. FUN.



PRESENTED BY

**ALD GATE
CONNEX**



HOW TO FIND THEM

THE BIG BREAKFAST

1. BLACK SHEEP COFFEE
2. OZONE COFFEE
3. SHAMAN COFFEE
4. PASTRY PARLOUR
5. FAZENDA
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3. ALDGATE SQUARE
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5. AIM ESCAPE ROOMS
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WELCOME TO ALDGATE



WALKING THE STREETS OF ALDGATE IS WALKING THROUGH HISTORY, WITH A RICH HERITAGE THAT ENCOMPASSES EVERYTHING FROM ARCHITECTURE, ART, FOOD, FASHION AND INDUSTRY. A DESTINATION IN ITSELF, ALDGATE HAS SOMETHING TO OFFER EVERYONE FROM RESIDENTS TO WORKERS AND VISITORS.



THERE ARE FEW AREAS OF LONDON WITH A MORE ECLECTIC HISTORY THAN ALDGATE – a fascinating concoction of migration, commerce, industry, plague and murder. Historically, Aldgate was the easternmost of the seven gates that formed a defensive wall around the City of London, with its name probably deriving from the Old English “Est Gate” or “Aeld Gate”. Despite its defensive intentions, Aldgate has always attracted waves of migration and the European and international migrants seeking refuge have made Aldgate the fascinating place that it is today. From Irish weavers to Huguenots who arrived as refugees to escape persecution in France, to Jewish settlers fleeing the pogroms

in Europe and the Russian Empire, and the Bengali community who settled through links with the East India Company and imperial trade routes. Symbolically, the start of the East End of London is the Aldgate Pump, and from this landmark, many high-profile historical events took place, from the terror of the infamous Jack the Ripper to pubs frequented by The Kray Twins and the execution of Anne Boleyn at the Tower of London. Led by German immigrants, Aldgate then transformed into the centre of the sugar refining industry from the 17th century. These were very different times which saw the transatlantic slave trade and the sugar islands of the West Indies, bring wealth to Britain – at a price in human suffering that is still being counted. It was in the same century that the Great Plague of London swept through the city, and Crossrail work carried out in 2013 unearthed a huge plague pit at Gower’s Walk Pest Field, where it is believed thousands of victims were buried and is now occupied by warehouse apartment conversions. Today, a large portion of Aldgate is dominated by high buildings and offices, being home to Aldgate Tower and nearby 30 St Mary Axe. In and amongst the financial institutions there lies the bustling Petticoat Lane Market, a vintage shopping mecca around Brick Lane, as well as a flurry of culinary landmarks and a burgeoning art scene.



THE BIG BREAKFAST



FROM A FULL ENGLISH TO SMASHED AVOCADO OR A CINNAMON ROLL, THERE IS A BREAKFAST TO SATISFY ANYONE'S MORNING CRAVINGS.

WHY NOT START BY GRABBING SOMETHING ON THE GO at the well-established **BLACK SHEEP COFFEE**, easy to locate near Aldgate and Aldgate East stations, before heading to work or an excursion around the area. Their Black Hoof coffee is a must-try with espresso, organic coconut oil, cinnamon, milk and micro foam that will keep you going all day. However, if you're someone who thinks of themselves as a bean aficionado, you should take a trip to **OZONE COFFEE**, 10-12 Crechurch Lane. Their sustainable dining menu has something for everyone with a toast menu and bites from the kitchen, with seasonal, freshly

roasted coffee. Now roasting their coffee in London, **URBAN BARISTAS**, 95 Middlesex Street, has brought their Aussie coffee culture to the City, with four roasts to enjoy alongside some of today's breakfast favourites - smashed avo on toast or a brekkie pot. **SHAMAN COFFEE**, 15 Leman Street, a great co-working space, has a couple of must-try pastries - pain aux mango and Bantu cinnamon bun - and for those who want some calm with their coffee, there's the Shamanic Signature - coffee and CBD oil. Nowadays the caffeine-free revolution is gaining momentum, so for those who are still after a hot wake-up drink with a difference, **SENZO CITY**

are a sustainable coffee shop based in the City Wall at Vine Street, which showcases the Roman Wall and is now open to visitors. Anyone with a bit more time on their hands should head down to the **PASTRY PARLOUR**, 8 Piazza Walk, an independent patisserie, with freshly baked pastries and cakes - try their almond croissants! **FAZENDA**, 9

Harrow Place, offering wood-roasted coffee since 1981, with sacks of coffee lining the floor, is a great spot for the art lover as it is housed in an art gallery with delicious Italian food or freshly made cakes to enjoy alongside. Sometimes a Full English is the only thing that will satisfy an early morning hunger, and that's where **SIZZLES**, 14 Wentworth Street, comes in with a classic Set Breakfast menu, served with toast and tea or coffee - they can even do you an American version with pancakes. Similarly, **PETER'S CAFÉ**, 73 Aldgate High Street, has a great Set Breakfast, which includes a vegetarian breakfast offering. Independent family coffee shop in the heart of Aldgate East and run by Nouredine Boukhari, **DULCE**

DID YOU KNOW?

In Dicken's *Oliver Twist*, Fagin is believed to be based on a notorious 'fence' named Ikey Soloman (1785-1850) who operated around Petticoat Lane.

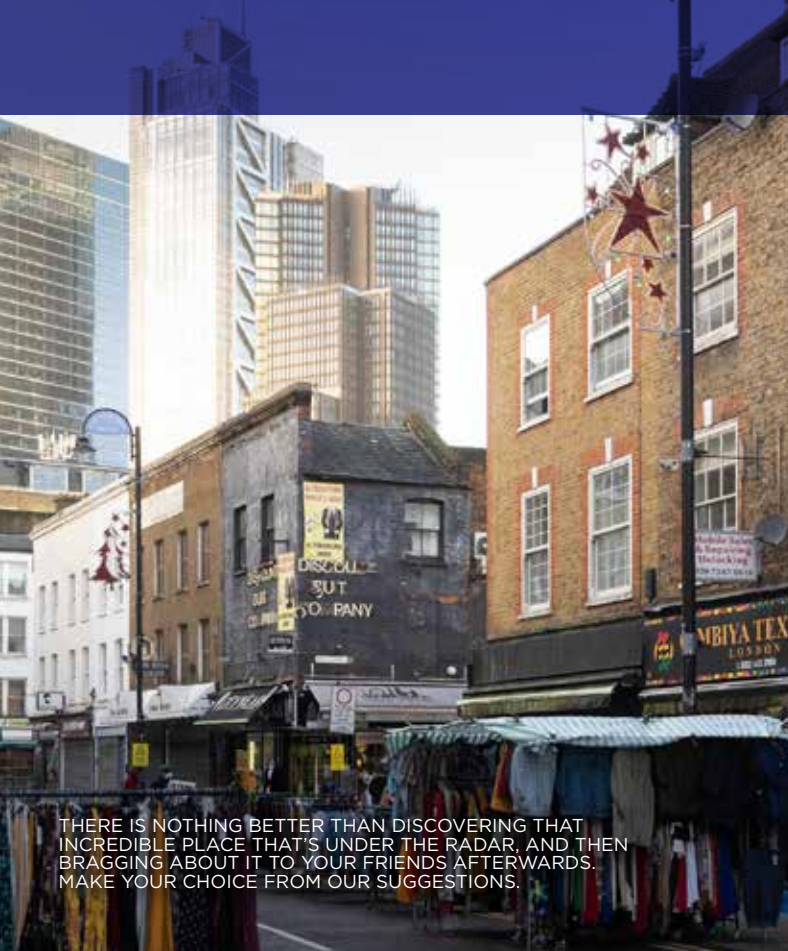


COFFEE & KITCHEN, 86 Whitechapel High Street, is known for its hearty vegan breakfasts. Then there's **NILLY'S CAFÉ**, 16 Bell Lane, specialising in Mediterranean cuisine, which offers a set meat or veggie breakfast, but also a shakshouka for the veteran breakfasters among us, as well as a Mediterranean Breakfast, which includes egg, sucuk, halloumi, mushroom, tomato, cucumber, olives, honey and marmalade.



WHITECHAPELGRIND

HIDDEN GEMS



THERE IS NOTHING BETTER THAN DISCOVERING THAT INCREDIBLE PLACE THAT'S UNDER THE RADAR, AND THEN BRAGGING ABOUT IT TO YOUR FRIENDS AFTERWARDS. MAKE YOUR CHOICE FROM OUR SUGGESTIONS.

WHEN THINKING ABOUT WHAT CONSTITUTES A HIDDEN GEM, it has to be something that's off the beaten track.

XI'AN BIANG BIANG NOODLES, 62 Wentworth Street, serves some of the best hand-pulled noodles you'll have outside of the homeland. You'll be going back for X'ian Biang Biang in special sauce, beef and cumin lamb as they all have to be sampled. **NOODLE AND BEER**, 31 Bell Lane, also serves Chongqing Xiaomian but there are a few authentic Chinese dishes on the menu that you can't find in many places - pig ear salad, century eggs, and deep-fried sticky rice cake. Adding to the Chinese hidden gems offerings is food from Sichuan. The first of these is **MY OLD PLACE**, 88-90 Middlesex Street. Loved for its no-frills old-school Sichuan dining, the extensive menu contains some classic dumpling dishes, as well as some things you might not have tried before, such as some of the chef's specialities - dry pot with pork intestines in spicy sauce and squirrel fish.

For others Sichuan lovers, **DANDAN NOODLE**, 9 Stable Walk, offers great handmade noodles with meat, fish and vegetarian dishes, as well as special dishes including

DID YOU KNOW?

Aldgate is also known occasionally by the epithet 'Gardeners' Corner', in honour of a long-disappeared department store.



Sichuan Mao-Cai - a traditional Chengdu spicy hotpot where you can choose any eight items for your meal. Heading over to Vietnam, **HOHAKI**, 68 Middlesex Street, was founded by two friends, one of whom used to work in the City, who had the idea to add something new and exciting as a

lunch. Offering grilled meat baguettes in the form of a Banh mi and soups made with their 10-hour simmered Pho broth, Hohaki is a satisfying pick-me-up lunch.

Tucked away at 19 Vine Street



(under the bridge) is **DEVINE RESTAURANT COFFEE BAR**, a tremendously popular café offering counter-served classics for breakfast and lunch.

BIFE, 40-42 Middlesex Street, family-run steak house with free-range, wet-aged ethical Argentinian beef. That's not all, try their family recipe empanadas and their lomitós sandwiches - from Cordoba - which they serve with fries.

Flying under the radar is a cocktail bar - **DISCOUNT SUIT COMPANY** in a former suit tailor's store room at 29A Wentworth Steet. It shakes and stirs classically-inspired cocktails to the hot sounds of Northern Soul and Rock n Roll.

A list of hidden gems can't go without an Italian or two and **MATERELLO BOLOGNESE**, 3 Middlesex Street, making Bologna's world-famous handmade pasta,



with gluten-free options. You can watch the Sfoglia being made in front of you before enjoying some of their dishes, including the must-try tagliatelle made with chestnut flour, served with crispy bacon, leeks and pecorino. **SATYRIO**, 49 Aldgate High Street, also offers hearty Italian food and a fabulous selection of fine wines, and, during spring and summer, opens its secret garden area for al fresco dining, which is a real hidden gem.

FOOTSTEPS IN TIME



LEADENHALL MARKET

START AT THE BLUE PLAQUE of the anti-slavery campaigner and social reformer Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, **91 BRICK LANE**, who lived and worked here from 1786 to 1845. Walk down Brick Lane and turn right onto Whitechapel High Street to find the **ISAAC ROSENBERG BLUE PLAQUE**, 77 Whitechapel High Street, where the poet and painter lived and studied between 1890 and 1918. It also so happens that four Jack the Ripper victim locations are in such proximity to each other that you can visit them all in one go - **OSBORNE STREET, GUNTHORPE STREET, HANBURY STREET AND MITRE SQUARE**. Head back onto the High Street to spot the site of the Gate of Aldgate, demolished in 1760, at 88 Aldgate High Street. Continue walking right until you reach the famous **ALDGATE PUMP** (known as the official starting point of the East End), at 65-68 Leadenhall




THE WOLF OF THE ALDGATE PUMP

Street, then right on to **ST MARY AXE**, once a Medieval parish - look out for the blue plaque. Number 30 St Mary Axe is now known as The Gherkin, one of the most distinctive architectural buildings in the whole of London. Turning left then right onto Bishopsgate is another distinctive building, the **HERON TOWER**, 110 Bishopsgate, the fifth tallest building in London. For a spot of shopping, head southwest onto Bishopsgate until you reach the historic Victorian indoor market **LEADENHALL MARKET**, Gracechurch Street, where you can find well-known fashion brands and also events such as guided walks celebrating the well-known figures from the area. Finish with the best views of the city in London's highest public garden, the **SKY GARDEN**, at 20 Fenchurch Street, on the top floor of the building more commonly known as the Walkie-Talkie.



HAPPY FAMILIES



SPENDING QUALITY TIME WITH LOVED ONES IS PRICELESS, AND ALDGATE IS PACKED WITH THINGS TO DO FOR YOUNGER AND OLDER FAMILIES, FROM IMMERSIVE DAYS TO GOING OUT FOR SWEET TREATS, THERE ARE SO MANY WAYS TO KEEP THE FAMILY STIMULATED, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, HAVING FUN.



A FAMILY TRIP TO ALDGATE should start with a morning shopping trip to **PETTICOAT LANE MARKET** on Wentworth Street and Goulston Street during the week, as well as Middlesex Street on Sundays, where there is always a bargain to be had, and will make the kids happy with a new toy or pair of shoes. (See Petticoat Lane – page 22 – for opening times). The next stop would be a bite at **HUMMINGBIRD BAKERY**, 11 Frying Pan Alley, where the rainbow and piñata cakes, cookies and brownies (with vegan and gluten-free options) are bound to be a big hit, no matter how fussy the kids are. For the summer months, bring a picnic to **ALDGATE SQUARE** and play in the fountains. Those with older children need not worry, if you want to impress them, why not take them to **THE WAR OF THE WORLDS: THE IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE**, 56 Leadenhall Street. Suitable for everyone ages 10 and above, this is the only place in London to experience a real Martian invasion, through a mix of live-action and multisensory





SPITALFIELDS CITY FARM



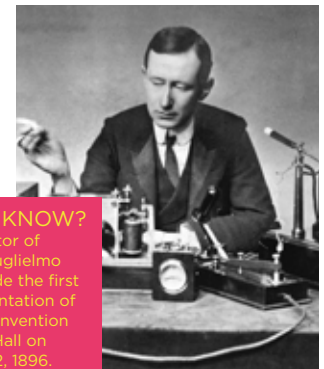
effects in an hour and 50 minutes. The 24 interactive scenes will allow you to visit the Horsell Common's Royal Observatory, escape London by boat and reach Mars in a hot air balloon. In a similar vein, there is also **AIM ESCAPE ROOMS**, 8 Canter Way, with different games designed to test your physical abilities and intellect. There are five games to choose from as well as the Outdoor City Experience. For thrill-seekers of the horror kind, there is also the **JACK THE RIPPER MUSEUM**, 12 Cable Street. Choose between either a walk or a museum tour

and walk to discover everything that is known about the Ripper and his victims, the details of each murder on the walls. You never know, you might even be able to uncover something that no one has noticed before.

TOYNBEE HALL AND MALLON GARDENS, 28 Commercial Street, helps those facing poverty and injustice but regularly stages exhibitions that are thought provoking. Finish the day with a trip to **ZIA LUCIA**, 12 Piazza Walk. The kids will love choosing their dough from a selection of four, including the must-try vegetable charcoal dough, and then toppings before watching the chefs cook in the large hand-crafted oven.

Slightly further out, and a great learning excursion, is the **TOWER OF LONDON**, where the fortress, also used as a prison, that houses the Crown Jewels has many exciting and engaging tours. Learn about the many infamous people who have stayed at the Medieval castle, including Anne Boleyn and Guy Fawkes. A short walk, tube or bus ride away, for those families who are more interested in creatures, there is the much-loved **SPITALFIELDS CITY FARM**, Buxton Street. They grow fresh produce and provide an ecosystem for insects, butterflies and bees. That's not forgetting the stars of the show – the

animals – from Bayleaf the donkey to Beatrix the sheep, Holmes the pig and Hazel the goat, all the animals on the farm have their own story to tell.



DID YOU KNOW?
Italian inventor of the radio, Guglielmo Marconi made the first public presentation of his wireless invention in Toynbee Hall on December 12, 1896.

PETTICOAT LANE



WHILE ON THE HUNT FOR PETTICOAT LANE MARKET, you might be wondering why the street name doesn't exist, well you've got the Victorians to thank for that. Believing the word "petticoat" too risqué, the change to Middlesex Street came about in 1846. Nevertheless, the bustling market, which now centres around Middlesex Street and Wentworth Street, continues to sell, and be famous for, its rag trade, being the one-stop-shop for sartorial purchases from leather shoes to undergarments and everything in between.

Perhaps the most famous

former member is Lord Alan Sugar, one of the UK's 177 billionaires, who started his first business with a stall on this market, boiling and selling beetroot.

One of the oldest surviving markets in Britain is still one of the best places to find bargain fashion pieces. Petticoat Lane did originally change names once before – from Hogs Lane – after the Huguenots, from the French silk weaver cities of Lyon and Tours, settled in the area to escape religious persecution in France in the 1600s. They influenced the fashion trends of English aristocrats by helping to adopt silk

as their material of choice. Petticoat Lane, originally spelt Peticote Lane, was used as a location for Charles Dickens's *Oliver Twist*, which was run by thieves like Fagin, known as fences.

The rag trade link remains unbroken to this day. As well as clothing. With back to back stalls lining each street on Sundays, you can find not only clothing, but also a range of toys, electricals and bric-a-brac items, if you're partial to a haggle.

Today, these few streets tucked behind the big towers to the West is much more than the market; this heritage protected area has lots of quirky shops, bars, restaurants and cafes to keep you entertained.

At the southern gateway to Middlesex Street is the **PETTICOAT LANE DINING QUARTER** with a food and drink offer from all over the world. For something substantial to eat give **BIFE** a try. Parked at 40-42 Middlesex Street, it serves delicious free-range, wet-aged ethical Argentinian beef and the best empanadas outside the country!

Moving to Spain **BARCELONA TAPAS** boasts elaborate mosaic work inside, including a three-dimensional lizard! The tapas are the real deal attesting to its long 30 year history.

MUMBAI SQUARE with its sleek and chic decor and authentic cuisine is a big draw and **1947 INDIAN RESTAURANT AND BAR**



offers delicious pure vegetarian and vegan food.

MATTARELLO BOLOGNESE, is well worth the trip with its signature fresh hand-made pasta and **THE BELL** is a cool pub complete with a games room where you can even play your own music. **SO RESTAURANT** rocks with modern Japanese dining infused with European flavours and even offers dishes cooked over volcanic rocks imported from Mount Fuji.

The independent businesses that surround the market and the food, courtesy of street food vendors and restaurants from around the world, ensure that the market draws the business community during weekday lunchtimes.

Sunday market: 9am to 2pm
Weekday food market:
Monday - Friday - 10am to 2.30pm
Please check individual shops and restaurants' opening times as they may vary.

Check out petticoatlane.london for more information.

PLANT-BASED PLEASURES



WITH SO MANY PEOPLE OPTING TO EAT PLANT-BASED, THE MOVEMENT IS WELL AND TRULY UNDERWAY IN ALDGATE, WITH A PLETHORA OF EXCITING OPTIONS THAT COULD MAKE US FORGET ABOUT MEAT ALTOGETHER.

OTTOLENGHI,
SPITALFIELDS



A GREAT PLACE TO START is with the king of veg, Yotam Ottolenghi's **OTTOLENGHI SPITALFIELDS**, 50 Artillery Lane. Lunch is where the plant-based cooking comes into its own, and includes spiced fennel, vegan ricotta and barberry salsa, and lentils, tahini, almonds and crispy onions.

Another restaurant that takes its inspiration from the Middle East, inspired by the cafes of Tel Aviv and a vegetable-heavy menu, is **BUBALA**, 65 Commercial Street. Go for the Bubala Knows Best vegetarian set menu, which also has a vegan option. They also have a great selection of natural wine and a variety of homemade gazoz

- a sparkling non-alcoholic soda.

Falafel done right is the offering at **PILPEL**, 60 Alie Street, which serves the chickpea-based food with a variety of accompaniments, in a pitta or a box. For houmous lovers, you can get a pot of it to enjoy with some pitta bread. To finish our journey to the Middle East, there's **AMBER**, 21 Piazza Walk, great for healthy Mediterranean and Middle Eastern dishes where pulses and vegetables feature heavily. Try the Pides, or Turkish pizzas, particularly the Burnt Leeks.

Healthy, nutritious bowls of goodness is the offering at **GRAIN KITCHEN**, 13 Harrow Place, whether it's Mediterranean, Californian or Thai, the vegan and vegetarian options are extensive and even better because they're hot. The grain is the star of the



show and they use more unusual options such as short grain brown rice and giant couscous. Plant-based champions **UNITY DINER**, 60 Wentworth Street, has been dubbed as one of the best vegan restaurants in London, the award-winning Tofish and Chips and Heura Chorizo Burger are both a must-try. If that isn't enough to tempt you, there's even a cocktail called Piers Morgan's Tears.

We're taking a trip to India now at **1947 RESTAURANT & BAR**.

DID YOU KNOW?

Daniel Mendoza was born in 1764 to a Jewish family in Aldgate and was the author of *The Art of Boxing*. He became an English boxing champion from 1792 to 1795.

Popular for its pure vegetarian and vegan menu, this restaurant at 38 Middlesex Steet serves dosas, chaat and pizza too.

Moving to the Far East, **CURRENT CAFÉ**, 6 Harrow Place, offers rice bowls of Japanese sandwiches called Sando, with a variety of fillings including meat and vegan

options. **SATAY STREET CAFÉ**, 15 Goulston Street, first launched as a street food stall on Brick Lane. Based on Bangkok market food, and using recipes passed down from founder Som's mother, the



curry, tofu and satay dishes come either on rice, in a tortilla or with salad. **NATURAL KITCHEN**, 7 Pepys Street, focuses on serving healthy food and drinks, including Vegan Katsu Curry, Mushroom Bolognese and Green Superfood Courgetti. With a large outside area and Natural Kitchen's first bar, this is a great one for after-work dinner and drinks in the

warmer weather. Lastly, doing Scandinavian vegan food properly there is **DAUNS**, 77 Wentworth Street, the UK's first 100 per cent plant-based

Scandinavian-inspired café, bar and deli. You've got to try some Swedish classics - vegan of course - Smörrebröd meatballs or a hot dog. Then grab a classic Kanelbulle cinnamon bun to go.



LOCAL CRADLE OF CULTURE

WHEN IT COMES TO CULTURE, THERE AREN'T MANY PLACES THAT INCLUDE SUCH AN ECLECTIC MIX OF CULTURAL PURSUITS. WHETHER IT'S MUSIC, ART, LITERATURE OR HISTORY, YOU CAN FIND IT IN ALDGATE AND NOT TOO FAR AWAY.



IT JUST SO HAPPENS that Aldgate has one of the best galleries in London on its patch. **WHITECHAPEL GALLERY**, 77-82 Whitechapel High Street, consistently curates some of the best exhibitions you'll find in London, many of them free, as well as hosting film screenings, debates and art education facilities for schools and young families.

Then there's **RAVEN ROW**, 56 Artillery Lane, a free art exhibition centre worth checking out every time you're in the area. The not-

to-be-missed film screenings, panel discussions, and curated exhibitions, showcase work from established international artists and those who have escaped the spotlight in the past. Aldgate and the immediate area is also very fortunate to be the home of some of the most popular art mediums in recent years - the immersive experience.

First, there is the **VAN GOGH LONDON EXHIBIT: THE IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE**, 106 Commercial Street, allowing you

to step into some of the 19th century artist's best-known works, including Café Terrace at Night, using VR (virtual reality) headsets, 360-degree digital projections, and even a light and sound show. You even have the opportunity to colour your own masterpieces and have them projected on the wall for visitors to see.

If you're more of a surrealist than an expressionist, the second of these is **DALI CYBERNETICS LONDON: THE IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE**, 152 Brick Lane, which offers a similar experience with the work of the 20th Century Catalan artist Salvador Dali. Inside the metaverse, you will be able to walk alongside the artist and see some of his famous works such as *The Persistence of Memory* in a way you will never have before.

Then there's **HOOP & GRAPES**, 47 Aldgate High Street, the oldest licensed house in the City of London. Not only this, built in 1593, it managed to escape



VAN GOGH LONDON
EXHIBIT: THE IMMERSIVE
EXPERIENCE

DID YOU KNOW?

The first poetry book by an African American author, Phillis Wheatley, was published in 1773 by Archibald Bell Booksellers, 8 Aldgate Street – Poems on Various Subjects, Religions and Moral. It was after her slave owners couldn't find a publisher in Boston, Massachusetts.

the Great Fire of London – by a margin of around 50 yards – in 1666, making it one of the few timber structures to have survived the flames.

Looking back even further the **TOWER OF LONDON** has been a place of wonder, terror and

pride for nearly a thousand years and is just a short walk away next to the much more recent (it was only opened in 1894) but equally famous **TOWER BRIDGE**.

We can't talk about culture without including one for music lovers, and for them, there is no better option than **WILTON'S MUSIC HALL**, 1 Graces Alley. Theatre and music are performed in the oldest grand music hall in the

CRADLE OF CULTURE



WILTONS, INSET: DALI CYBERNETICS LONDON: THE IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE



world. The Grade II listed building houses over 300 performances and 80 productions a year. John Wilton built the Hall as it now stands in 1859 to provide entertainment for East End working people.

SPLASH OUT SUSTAINABLY

MAKING MORE SUSTAINABLE CHOICES IS PART OF EVERYONE'S ROUTINE IN TODAY'S WORLD. LUCKILY THERE ARE THOSE BUSINESSES PUSHING SUSTAINABILITY TO THE FORE WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY OFFERING INCREDIBLE EXPERIENCES.



GUNPOWDER, 11 WHITE'S ROW, is an Indian restaurant that has adapted family recipes to give them a modern twist. The dishes are made with responsibly-sourced ingredients. Sharing plates is a great way to enjoy multiple flavours but so is the feast menu, which allows you to try some of the standout dishes including Gunpowder Chaat and Egg Curry Masala.

TOWNSEND, in Whitechapel Gallery, is the café and wine bar from Nick Gilkinson. The evolving menu by head chef Chris Shaw changes daily and showcases the highest quality British produce with many organic wines. Although the menu changes regularly, the staple bread and whipped Glastonbury butter is worth the visit in itself. Another place that does



classical cooking, focused on modern British cuisine is **THE CULPEPER FIRST FLOOR BISTRO**, 40 Commercial Street, which supports local growers, farmers and fishermen, keeping a deliberately small menu to keep ingredients local and fresh. The 800g Cote De Boeuf aux Echallotes, Pomme Anna, and Purple Sprouting Broccoli to share is a must. Finishing the sustainable British offerings is



POTTER & REID, 20-22 Toynbee Street, started by Agnes and Dani, who met while working at Allpress on Redchurch Street. Their regularly changing menu uses seasonal ingredients and locally available produce. A must-try is their cheese toastie and homemade chilli jam.

Heading to Italy now for **EMILIA'S CRAFTED PASTA**, 77 Alie Street, with



FROM TOP: GUNPOWDER, POTTER & REID.



SATYRIO

pasta made fresh every morning, where you have to try the truffled cacio e pepe. They have also joined the Sustainable Restaurant Association (SRA) to ensure that every plate of pasta is made sustainably.

The UK's first social enterprise roastery, **OLD SPIKE**, 80 Fenchurch Street, has a primary mission to reduce homelessness in the UK through training and employment, with 65 per cent of profits going back into their

DID YOU KNOW?
Brick Lane has the highest concentration of curry houses in Britain.

mission. Any of the speciality green grade coffee is worth trying but do check out Unripe Cherries from Brazil. **SATYRIO ITALIAN RESTAURANT & WINE MERCHANTS**, 49 Aldgate High Street, is an immersive wine and dine experience, with sommeliers

to pair wines with your menu. From Grana Padano Puffs appetizers to Wild Mushroom Agnolotti and Truffle Parmigiano Fondue pasta, this is a menu to just sit back, relax and indulge in.



DREAM DATE



WHETHER YOU'RE IN A NEW RELATIONSHIP OR ONE THAT'S STOOD THE TEST OF TIME, THERE IS NOTHING LIKE A DATE NIGHT. FOR YOU, THAT COULD MEAN FOOD, OR SOMETHING A BIT MORE ADVENTUROUS. WHATEVER IT MAY BE, ALDGATE HAS JUST THE THING.

CURZON ALDGATE



JIN BO LAW

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE VIEWS OF LONDON when it comes to a date night so let's start with one that will probably suit all the first, or second, dates out there - **JIN BO LAW**, on the 14th floor of Hotel Saint, 9 Aldgate High Street. Not just a great place to check out London's skyline, but there is a cocktail menu that will match the views. If this is your choice for a special occasion, then you may as well go for the Too Expensive - a

sharing cocktail experience, which uses Riga black balsam, La Fee Absinthe, cranberry juice, and winter spices served in a classic absinthe vessel. Similarly, anyone you take on a date will be thrilled with **THE SKYLINE LONDON**, 100 Minorities. An extensive drinks menu can be accompanied by sharing plates and platters and panoramic views of the iconic Tower of London & Tower Bridge to make the date more intimate. Then what about



SAVAGE GARDEN, 7 Pepys Street, with its views taken from the top of the Double Tree by Hilton with 360 views of St.Paul's, The Shard, The Gherkin and The Tower of London. Sharing plates and feasting boards accompany the Savage Signature drinks including the Koh-I-Noor and Raven Master, in honour of being in touching distance of the Tower of London's Crown Jewels. If heights make you dizzy, then head over to **WILLY'S WINE BAR**, 107 Fenchurch Street, for your date night. Grab a British Special Sharing Board, and let the team guide you through their extensive list of wines and cocktails. For those who know their date enjoys an element of surprise, there's **DISCOUNT**



DID YOU KNOW?

While he was a customs official, from 1374 until 1386, Geoffrey Chaucer occupied apartments above the gate, where he wrote some of his poems, and also recorded a pre-existing bell-founding industry, outside the wall in the Aldgate/Whitechapel area.

SUIT COMPANY, 29A Wentworth Street. A former tailor's stockroom turned clandestine bar, they serve incredible cocktails enjoyed alongside a moreish cheeseboard. Book on the right night, and there'll even be a DJ set. They say that those who cook together, stay together, so with



that in mind, **SOZAI COOKING SCHOOL**, 5 Middlesex Street, is worth a shot. It is Europe's leading Japanese cookery school. Some of the classes available to attend on Middlesex Street are the Essential Sushi Making Class or the Nerikiri Wakashi Class. There's even a sushi roll and chotto nihongo class that includes a Japanese lesson. Enough of the food and drink, nothing says a classic date night more than a trip to the cinema, and **CURZON ALDGATE**, 2 Canter Way, is just the

place. With old and new films to please everyone, the 40s-inspired décor is just the kind of romantic vibe that's needed, cuddled up on a sofa, with pizza and some wine. Then, for the ultimate relaxing indulgence, **ADAMO SPA**, 100 Minorities. Why not book a spa treatment to enjoy with bubbles, chocolates and strawberries. Adamo offers a moment to unwind and connect within the hustle and bustle of the City.

LET'S STAY OVER



FINDING THE RIGHT PLACE TO STAY CAN SOMETIMES BE TRICKY. LET US TAKE ALL THE HASSLE AWAY FOR YOU AND SUGGEST SOME OF THE BEST PLACES TO STAY IN ALDGATE, FOR A VARIETY OF DIFFERENT SPECIFICATIONS.

CANOPY BY AIR FOR LONDON CITY

LUXURY BOUTIQUE HOTEL, **THE GATE HOTEL**, 41 White Church Lane, is the place for anyone coming to the city for a longer stay. It has 189 apartments – with fully equipped kitchens as well as state-of-the-art technology, black-out curtains, walk-in rainfall showers, Le Labo toiletries and Hypnos beds. **ROCKWELL EAST APARTHOTEL**, 99 Mansell Street, is also equipped for the longer visitor with fully-equipped kitchens with Nespresso machines and even a dishwasher, washing machine and dryer. At 100 Minories are the 5 star **TOWER SUITES BY BLUE ORCHID** which will appeal to those who wish for more than a bedroom and bathroom. They offer fully equipped kitchens and lounges and sweeping views over the Thames and Tower of London. The final apartment accommodation is **LEMAN LOCKE**, 15 Leman Street – 171 self-contained studios and



THE BUXTON

apartments, double the size of a standard hotel room, with washing facilities and kitchens – but if you don't fancy cooking the restaurant Shaman can cater for you.

For somewhere that nods to the history of the area, there's **HOTEL INDIGO**, 142 Minories, decorated with brick walls to represent the original Roman structures that stood in this area, there are four-

DID YOU KNOW? Like London's other gates, Aldgate was "fortified with portcullises and chained" in 1377 due to concerns about potential attacks by the French. The gate was finally removed in 1761.

poster beds in the rooms and murals of local landmarks, as well as rainfall showers. If your stay is for a special occasion, you need to check into the Roof Terrace



FLORATTICA ROOFTOP

room at the Edwardian Hotel and pub **THE CHAMBERLAIN HOTEL**, 132-135 Minories. There are only four of these rooms available, and especially a must for summer bookings. It is the best way to end a busy day in the city. Or check into **CANOPY BY HILTON LONDON CITY**, 11-15 Minories. With pet-friendly rooms and suites, there are even suites with Peloton bikes. The hotel bar, **FLORATTICA ROOFTOP LONDON**, should be visited as they feature ceilings adorned with floral installations inspired by the silk woven floral patterns of the 17th Century French Huguenots

who settled in Aldgate. The hotel even offers complimentary Canopy Bikes to explore the local area. At 10 New Drum Street, the **CLAYTON HOTEL CITY OF LONDON** is inspired by Victorian textile warehouses of former times and has a relaxed vibe. The 212 bedrooms and suites combined with whole-hearted service make it perfect for exploring iconic landmarks, such as the Tower of London. **THE CULPEPER**, 40 Commercial Street, offers just five exclusive rooms that are regularly booked up so make sure to book well in



THE CULPEPER

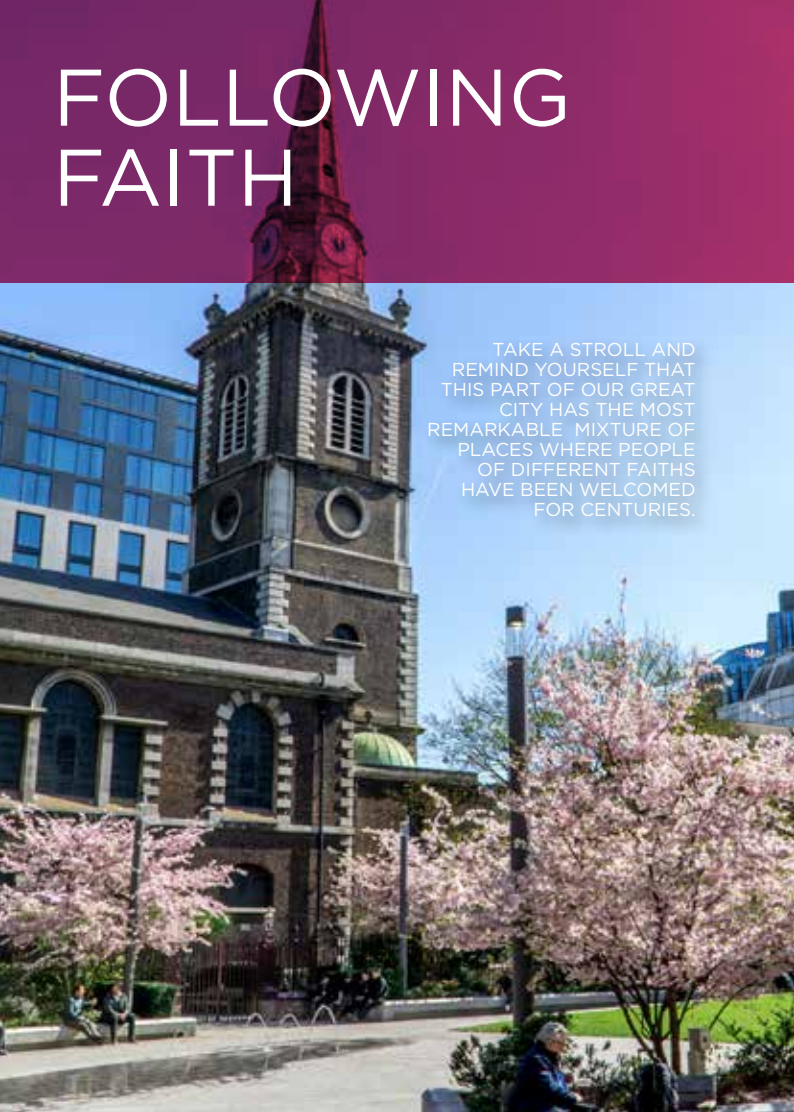
advance. Aside from the fantastic first-floor restaurant, the rooftop garden and greenhouse is one of the best places to enjoy London with a cocktail. Just down the road at **IBIS LONDON CITY - SHOREDITCH**, 5 Commercial Street, is a vibrant, economy hotel which has fun, quirky decor and stylings that nod to nearby Brick Lane.

LEONARDO ROYAL HOTEL LONDON TOWER BRIDGE weighs in with a massive 370 bedrooms with floor-to-ceiling windows. There is an on-site restaurant, bar and spa if you have had a tiring day and a gym and 25 metre pool if you still have some energy to burn. If you enjoy modern touches, then **HOTEL SAINT**, 9 Aldgate High Street, with 267 rooms is the choice for you. It has a 24-hour gym and restaurant too. For the best view in the house, check into one of the Deluxe Botolph City View King rooms.



THE GATE HOTEL APARTMENTS MEMBERS LOUNGE

FOLLOWING FAITH



TAKE A STROLL AND REMIND YOURSELF THAT THIS PART OF OUR GREAT CITY HAS THE MOST REMARKABLE MIXTURE OF PLACES WHERE PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT FAITHS HAVE BEEN WELCOMED FOR CENTURIES.

START AT **EAST LONDON MOSQUE**, 82-92 WHITECHAPEL ROAD, one of the largest mosques in Europe that can accommodate more than 7,000 worshippers and the first in the UK to be allowed to use a loudspeaker to transmit the adhan.

Walk down Whitechapel Road, past Altab Ali Park, renamed in 1998 after Altab Ali. Nearby is the graffitied Whitechurch Alley, then down White Church Road and right onto Alie Street, you'll find **ST GEORGE'S GERMAN LUTHERAN CHURCH**, 55 Alie Street, the oldest surviving German church in Britain. Left onto Leman Street and then right onto Prescott Street will lead you to **ENGLISH MARTYRS CHURCH**, 30 Prescott Street, a Roman Catholic parish church with ornate Gothic windows that was set up deliberately in the vicinity of the Tower of London for the local Catholic community.

Heading right, further into the City, past Portsoken Street Garden, along Crosswall, onto Lloyd's Avenue, and left onto Fenchurch Street, there is the former sight of **ST KATHERINE COLEMAN**, which was a parish church that escaped the Great Fire of London. Heading up towards Leadenhall Street there is **THE GUILD CHURCH OF ST KATHARINE CREE**, an Anglican church in the Aldgate ward of the City of London; a church has stood on this site since 1280. Left along Leadenhall Street and onto Aldgate High Street is **ST BOTOLPH WITHOUT ALDGATE**.



BEVIS MARKS SYNAGOGUE. FAR LEFT: SAINT BOTOLPH WITHOUT ALDGATE

The church survived the Great Fire of London and the Blitz and houses the oldest working church organ in the country. It is also the burial place of two Tudor noblemen – Sir Nicholas Carew and Thomas, Lord Darcy who were executed by Henry VIII for their involvement in planning a rebellion. Finishing off with an historic religious site, across Aldgate Square is **BEVIS MARKS SYNAGOGUE**, Britain's oldest Jewish place of worship which opened in 1701.

FUN EXPERIENCES



THERE'S ALWAYS TIME FOR A GOOD TIME. WHETHER IT'S WITH MUSIC OR A NEW EXPERIENCE, WITH FRIENDS, FAMILY OR COLLEAGUES, LET YOUR HAIR DOWN AND TRY SOMETHING DIFFERENT.



LEFT: LUCKY VOICE
THIS IMAGE: DABBERS

THERE'S ONE PLACE THAT GROUPS OF FRIENDS should put on their to-do list now, and that's **DABBERS SOCIAL BINGO**, 18-22 Houndsditch. It's bingo – but not quite the same as the one your nan goes to – with comedians and performers to entertain you throughout the night. If you enjoy a theme night then you should check out **THE MOONSHINE SALOON**, 28-30 Houndsditch. The Western-inspired cocktail bar is an interactive experience where you can become a bootlegger and where the resident tailor will also make sure you're dressed in Stetson hats and Western clothes. You can even assign someone a character to be fully immersed in

the experience.

SWINGERS CRAZY GOLF, 8 Brown's Buildings never fails to provide a good time for fun with colleagues. The Lighthouse and The Windmill are the two courses available at the City location, inspired by a 1920s English Countryside golf club. Keeping up with the experiential evenings, why not take a visit to **BOOM BATTLE BAR**, Goodman's Fields 19 Chaucer Gardens. There's axe throwing, beer pong, shuffleboard, augmented reality darts and crazier golf. Axes are also flying at **AXE EXPERIENCE** at 48-51 Minories. An hour of slinging axes and sinking bullseyes, includes training, a tournament and trickshots.

An escape room offer is **AIM ESCAPE** at Goodman Fields, 8 Canter Way, which has a range of experiences such as Psychopath's Den and Hangover Déjà Brew.

THE WAR OF THE WORLDS immersive experience at 56 Leadenhall Street gives you the chance to experience a Martian invasion - and 3,500 five star reviews on Trip Advisor can't be science fiction.

For dancers, **COCOCURE**, 5 Minories, is the spot. This bar and club specialises in Nigerian food and Afrobeats parties and guarantees a good night out. There is a thriving music events calendar, and in terms of food, they are known for their suya - spicy, flame-grilled skewered meats.

Another food and music combo done well is **THE ALCHEMIST**, 6 Bevis Marks, which works as



THE ALCHEMIST

the ideal spot for the transition into the weekend. With a menu consisting of some of the most dramatic, experimental cocktails you'll find anywhere. Be sure to check out The Legal One with gin, pineapple, coconut, vermouth, lime and tonic. Make sure you grab a bite to eat with these drinks as they aren't for the faint-hearted. The Karaage Cauliflower and a fillet steak with secret truffle gravy will do the trick. When the DJ comes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, they get the party started.

LUCKY VOICE KARAOKE in

Devonshire Square will make sure things stay lively - enjoy two hours of karaoke in one of their private rooms that can accommodate between 2-30 people.

With a 24-hour eating and drinks license, **VQ ALDGATE**, on the ground floor of Hotel Saint, 9 Aldgate High Street, is ideal for a nightcap - and there is nothing like knowing you can have a Full English any time of the day or night. For the party planners, **PATCH EAST**, 80 Leadenhall Street, can cater receptions for up to 400 guests. With one of the best-known Happy Hours in town, make sure you don't miss out.



THE WAR OF THE WORLDS
IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE

CONNECTING ALDGATE



THIS GUIDE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY ALDGATE CONNECT BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BID).

Aldgate lies in between two boroughs – the City of London and London Borough of Tower Hamlets. Working collaboratively with stakeholders, businesses and communities, Aldgate Connect BID works to champion local businesses and the local diverse communities to support Aldgate as a thriving area to live, work and visit. For more information and to discover upcoming events and

the latest news for Aldgate, visit: aldgateconnect.london

Download the **In the City App** for exclusive offers & discounts at your favourite local venues. Find out more at inthecityapp.com.

Or treat your colleagues & friends to the **City Gift Card** and encourage them to spend locally, whilst trying exploring new venues!

Find out more at citygiftcard.london.

Tag yourself at your favourite bar, restaurant or café on Twitter or Instagram @AldgateConnect

HOW TO FIND THEM

LOCAL CRADLE OF CULTURE

1. WHITECHAPEL GALLERY
2. RAVEN ROW
3. VAN GOGH LONDON EXHIBIT: IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE
4. DALI CYBERNETICS LONDON: IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE
5. HOOP & GRAPES
6. TOWER OF LONDON
7. TOWER BRIDGE
8. WILTON'S MUSIC HALL

SPLASH OUT SUSTAINABLY

1. GUNPOWDER
2. TOWNSEND
3. THE CULPEPER FIRST FLOOR BISTRO
4. POTTER & REID
5. EMILIA'S CRAFTED PASTA
6. OLD SPIKE
7. SATYRIO ITALIAN RESTAURANT & WINE MERCHANTS

DREAM DATE

1. JIN BO LAW
2. THE SKYLINE LONDON
3. SAVAGE GARDEN
4. WILLY'S WINE BAR
5. DISCOUNT SUIT CO
6. SOZAI COOKING SCHOOL
7. CURZON ALDGATE
8. ADAMO SPA

LET'S STAY OVER

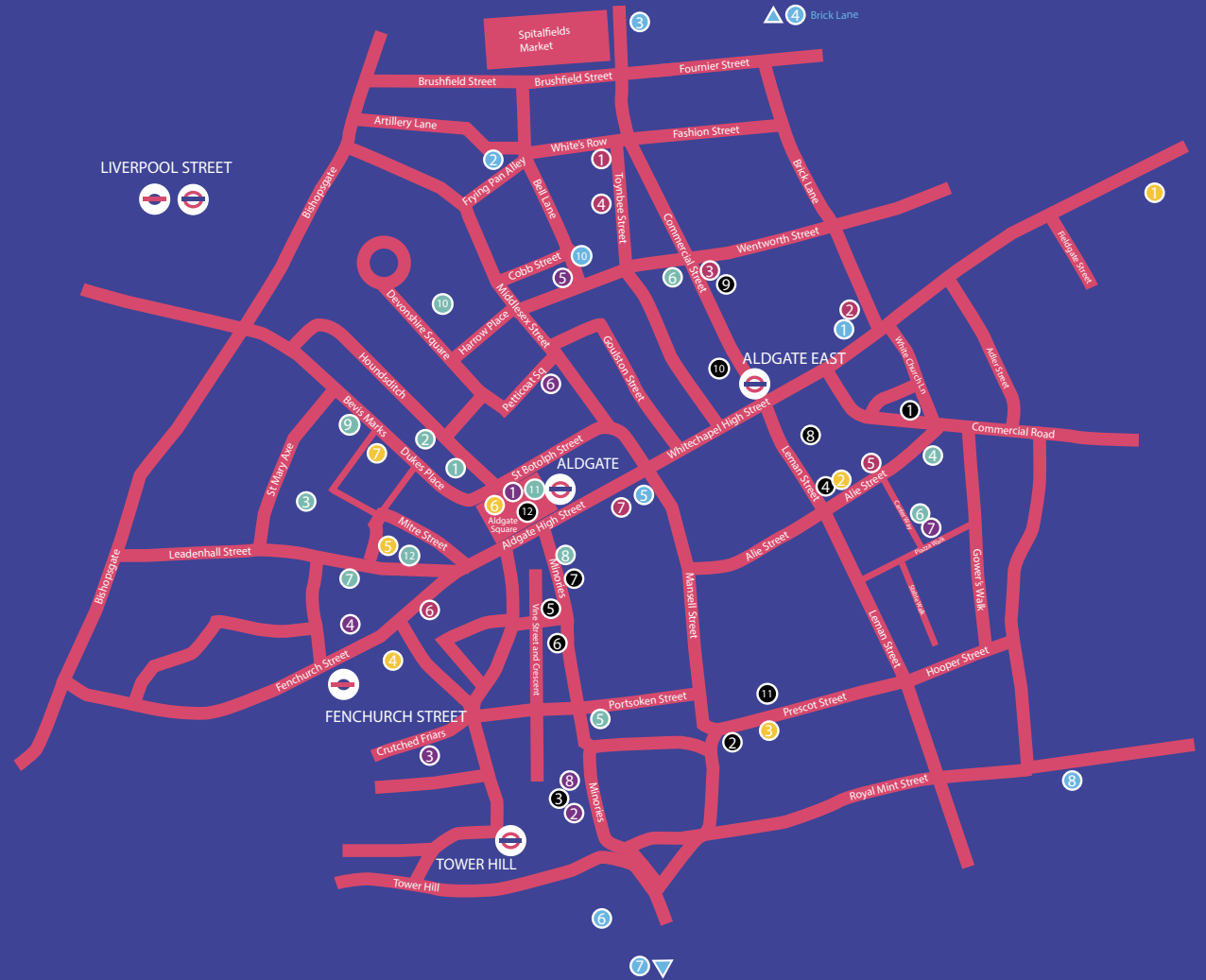
1. THE GATE HOTEL
2. ROCKWELL EAST APARTHOTEL
3. TOWER SUITES BY BLUE ORCHID
4. LEMAN LOCKE
5. HOTEL INDIGO
6. THE CHAMBERLAIN HOTEL
7. CANOPY BY HILTON LONDON CITY
8. CLAYTON HOTEL CITY OF LONDON
9. THE CULPEPER
10. IBIS LONDON CITY - SHOREDITCH
11. LEONARDO ROYAL HOTEL LONDON TOWER BRIDGE
12. HOTEL SAINT

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8. COCOCURE
9. THE ALCHEMIST
10. LUCKY VOICE KARAOKE
11. VQ ALDGATE
12. PATCH EAST





EXPERIENCE ALDGATE

FOOD. DRINK. FUN.

PRESENTED BY

**ALDGATE
CONNECT**

