

Jose's London



*The Milestone
Hotel*

MARCH/ APRIL 2013

This is a time when once more London starts to blossom and we can begin to enjoy some of the many green spaces and views that make the city one of the most lush and beautiful in the World. Below are a few recommendations I have for your stay with us, including the very best of events happening across London this spring.

My team and I are here 24 hours a day at the Concierge desk ready and willing to assist you in any way we can, please feel free to pay us a visit, I very much look forward to meeting you.

Jose Pauco
Head Concierge

EVENTS AND ATTRACTIONS

THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Every second day throughout March and April



The 'Changing of the Guard' is an event dating back to the early 1600's whereby the Queen's guards change shifts accompanied by lots of pomp and ceremony. The handover is escorted by a guard's band that plays an array of Military tunes through to modern show tunes!

TIP: The change starts at 11.30am but be sure to get there by 11.00am to get a good spot. I would recommend standing on the Mall, more towards St James Palace as the crowd tends to gather at the Buckingham Palace end.

THE BOAT RACE 2013

31st March 2013



If you are looking to see something that portrays everything that Britain and its people have to offer then this traditional annual event is perfect. The Universities of Cambridge and Oxford have been racing down the River Thames since the early 1800's to win the coveted title. Supporting their chosen team, the crowd create one of the best atmospheres I have seen. I have always found a good spot in Bishop's Park with a bottle of Champagne or a lovely glass of Pimms, see us at the concierge desk and we can show you the best spots to catch the action.

THE VIEW FROM THE SHARD

London Bridge: Open daily



This year sees the opening of the tallest building in Europe and one of the most striking new features of the London skyline. For the best view of London you can get, head to the top. The view is incredible! I personally wouldn't recommend that you use the telescopes as the information they give you isn't the most interesting for the extra money you have to pay to use them, a common guide book can be more accurate. Be sure to look West and wave to The Milestone!

THE ROYAL SALUTE

Green Park, 21st April

Gun salutes are given to mark Royal anniversaries, this April a 41 gun salute will take place to mark Her Royal Highness, Queen Elizabeth II's birthday. Specifically 41 shots are fired as 21 marks the occasion and the rest for the fact that it is in a Royal Park/Palace. This is a very patriotic that is a must see. The Salute starts from 12.00pm.

THE BELL FOUNDRY MUSEUM

Open daily

The Guinness Book of Records states that this bell foundry in Whitechapel is Britain's oldest manufacturing company. The foundry is however more famously known as the makers of the Liberty Bell currently displayed in Philadelphia, USA and Big Ben, here in London. There is no better place in the UK to explore Britain's historical link to the USA.

ART, MUSEUMS AND EXHIBITIONS

David Bowie Exhibition

Victoria and Albert Museum, from 23rd March

This exhibition will be the first of its kind across the world. The V & A has been given unprecedented access to previously unseen archives in order to put together this music lover's exhibition. Included in the showcase will be examples of hand-written lyrics, iconic costumes, photography and Bowie's own Instruments. There is a lot of talk about this showing so I would get in quickly to pre-buy tickets. Ask at the concierge desk for assistance.



LEIGHTON HOUSE MUSEUM

Open daily except Tuesdays, 10.00am - 5.30pm

This local museum is a perfect preservation of a wealthy Lord's Victorian London home. I have never seen anything quite like its Arab Hall with over a thousand tiles bought back from Damascus, a truly stunning show of the era's wealth. The house is an ambassador of a time where trade with the East was at its highest. The museum is a short walk to the end of Kensington High Street and if you have time, go over to its near neighbour, 15 Stafford Terrace. In my opinion this museum is not as impressive but still worth a quick look.

THEATRE

THE AUDIENCE

The Gielgud Theatre

Since her ascension to the throne Queen Elizabeth II has had a weekly meeting with the British Prime Minister, a conversation that has remained a secret....until now. Helen Mirren excellently portrays Her Majesty in this epic drama that tells a tale of some of the most influential people in history.

I thought that the cast in this play were astounding and keep you captivated throughout the whole performance. It felt like a true honour to be watching one of the World's most accomplished actresses.



BILLY ELLIOT THE MUSICAL

The Victoria Palace Theatre

One of the most emotive stories I have seen at the theatre. Billy Elliot takes you through the life of a boy trapped within the expectations of his Northern working class background where he discovers a talent for the ballet that inspires his family and community to change his life forever. Throughout the musical I was led to tears of joy and laughter as this is a real emotional rollercoaster with some of the best child stars around. Seats half way up the stalls are best for this one as too far back and you might miss the details - head for rows C to M.

LES MISERABLE'S

Queen's Theatre



One of the world's longest running theatre productions....ever. Les Mis' is the tale of the imprisoned Jean Valjean and his journey to freedom. One of the reasons that this stands as one of my favourite musicals of all time is that entwined in the story is many other tales of tragedy, love and rebellion. This musical has to go on your theatrical bucket list.

RESTAURANTS

CHENESTON'S AT THE MILESTONE HOTEL

BRITISH STYLE

Our very own, intimate restaurant. Offering the finest modern British cuisine. Our new menu features the very best of seasonal produce sourced from around the UK. I highly recommend the Kensington Grouse Pasty.

Chabrot

French Bistro

A cosy Parisian Bistro tucked down a Knightsbridge alleyway. The food here is second to none and goes hand in hand with the quaint back street atmosphere. The restaurant serves an exquisite saddle of Rabbit Rossini. Take a table in the window downstairs and spend the afternoon in good company watching the world go by in true French fashion.

BODO SCHLOSS

Austrian

Our local Austrian eatery is one of the best fun restaurants in London. Bodo Schloss serves some of the best traditional Austrian cuisine outside of Austria. This place is great for anyone wanting to let their hair down and experience something out of the ordinary.