

London

Next big thing

Little Creatures

Aussie craft-beer brewery Little Creatures has just opened its first UK outpost: a sprawling 557m² site beside Lewis Cubitt Park featuring a taproom, restaurant and microbrewery. Dishes include black pudding croquettes and spiced crab cakes – all best washed down with the brand's signature pale ale. littlecreatures.co.uk

King's Cross, a former seedy industrial hinterland, is now one of the hottest neighborhoods in the Big Smoke



Word on the Water

London's only floating bookshop is housed on a 1920s Dutch barge at Granary Square. On board, visitors can browse fiction and non-fiction tomes and unwind to live jazz and free poetry events. The boat used to dock at different locations along Regent's Canal every two weeks – but the redevelopment of King's Cross has led to a permanent spot there. [fb.com/wordonthewater](https://www.facebook.com/wordonthewater)



The Standard, London

Set in the former Camden Town Hall Annexe, this new 266-room hotel is the first UK outpost of the American hospitality brand. The interiors are decorated in 42 different styles and the makeover also includes the wood-and-mosaic bar Double Standard; its sister restaurant, Isla; a rooftop restaurant and a recording studio that hosts weekly live music and talks. standardhotels.com



House of Illustration

As its name suggests, this public gallery is devoted to the art of illustration – from cartoons to scientific diagrams and fashion sketches. It was opened in 2014 by Quentin Blake, who donated over 4,000 of his own works. The art on display is complemented by an extensive calendar of events, including talks and workshops. houseofillustration.org.uk





Coal Drops Yard

A pair of long Victorian cast-iron and brick sheds have been reimagined as a thriving dining and retail destination. The project is led by renowned architect Thomas Heatherwick, whose eponymous studio is behind the curated selection of 55 design-forward tenants such as a café and chocolaterie by celebrity chef Alain Ducasse. coaldropsyard.com



Kerb King's Cross

A favorite lunchtime location of hungry Londoners, Kerb – a platform that supports fledgling food businesses – has been a neighborhood fixture for almost seven years. The market, which has four other branches across London, offers a diverse range of street food from a cluster of 10 stalls selling bites like Trinidadian dhal puri roti wraps. kerbfood.com



Chapel Down Gin Works

Kent-based winemaker Chapel Down has diversified into gin, opening a fancy microdistillery, restaurant and bar in a sleek two-story building overlooking Regent's Canal. The brand's Bacchus gin – made from grape skins – is the star of the show, but there are also seasonal British plates such as grilled lamb rump with aubergine, to be had. chapeldown.com



Happy Face Pizza

At this 130-seater, two-level restaurant, diners can tuck into wood-fired Neapolitan pizzas in classic flavors like margherita and funghi, amid cheery retro-inspired surrounds. Downstairs, vermouth-led cocktail bar Supermax dazzles with an overtly old-school vibe: think a Europop-heavy soundtrack, velvet wall hangings and even a glittering disco ball. happyface.pizza

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