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TimeOut
London



WEST END DINING

YOUR GUIDE TO EATING & DRINKING IN THE WEST END





STEAK & CHICKEN

Our minds may be on budgets these days, but diners are discerning when it comes to quality, whether it's simple, well-prepared chicken dishes or sizzling steaks made from prime South American beef

Clockjack Oven £1

Free-range chickens revolve round an open flame, served with sauce or gravy.
► 14 Denman St, W1D 7HJ. 7287 5111, www.clockjackoven.com.
⊖ Piccadilly Circus.

Flat Iron £

There's only one main course at this no-reservations joint: steak (with a side salad) for £10. There's also a bar downstairs.
► 17 Beak St, Carnaby, W1F 9RW.
flatironsteak.co.uk. ⊖ Piccadilly Circus.

Gaucha Piccadilly £££

There's a fine menu of delights here, but the main draw is prime Argentinian beef.
► 25 Swallow St, W1B 4QR. 7734 4040, www.gauchorestaurants.co.uk.
⊖ Piccadilly Circus.

Heliot Steakhouse at the Hippodrome ££

British and American classics served with views over the main casino gaming floor.
► 10-14 Cranbourn St, WC2H 7JH. 7769 8844, www.hippodromecasino.com.
⊖ Leicester Square.

Marmor Grill at the Thistle Marble Arch ££

Top grill cuisine in a 1930s-themed setting.
► Thistle Marble Arch, Bryanston St, W1H 7EH. www.thistle.com. ⊖ Marble Arch.



Maze Grill at the London Marriott Grosvenor Square ££££

Gordon Ramsay's bustling New York-style steakhouse, serving up doorstep-thick prime British, USDA and Japanese cuts.
► London Marriott Grosvenor Square, 10-13 Grosvenor Square, W1K 6JP. 7495, www.gordonramsay.com. ⊖ Bond St.

Steak & Co ££

The steaks are sealed on the grill, then served rare on a hot stone, so you can have them done exactly as you like, with your choice of infused butter and sauce.
► Irving St, WC2H 0HA. 7839 8100, www.steakand.co.uk. ⊖ Leicester Square.
Also at Garrick St and St Martin's Lane.

Whyte & Brown £

Free-range chicken and eggs and craft beer.
► Kingly Court, Carnaby, W1B 5PW. 3747 9820, whyteandbrown.com.
⊖ Piccadilly Circus.

GAUCHO PICCADILLY: SCOTT WISHART



VEGETARIAN

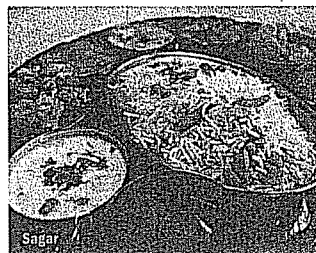
Well-loved cafés have served vegetarian and vegan delights for decades, all good restaurants now have veggie options, and global influences have deliciously stretched the veggie choices further still

Food for Thought £

For 40 years, faithful fans have headed down the narrow stairs to this cramped basement to dine on hearty café dishes like vegetable curry, quiche, soup and salad. Puddings are pleasing and generous. Take away is available, too.
► 31 Neal St, Seven Dials, WC2H 9PR. 7836 0239, foodforthought-london.co.uk. ⊖ Covent Garden.

Hummus Brothers £

It's not solely vegetarian, but has lots of good veggie options and the portions are big. The menu includes wraps and bowls of silky-smooth houmous sprinkled with paprika and olive oil (there's garlic-infused lemon juice on every table). Sides include smoky barbecued aubergine, zingy tabouleh, tortilla chips and carrot sticks.
► 88 Wardour St, W1F 0TJ. 7734 1311, www.hbros.co.uk. ⊖ Tottenham Court Rd.



Maoz Vegetarian £

Falafel-filled pittas are the star at this global fast-food mini-chain. Pockets crammed with crunchy falafel (and optional creamy houmous) are handed to you, to top off with your choice of salads and garnishes. Sides include thick, crispy Belgian fries. A good-value, friendly take away joint, with a few small tables for eating in.
► 43 Old Compton St, W1D 6HG. 7851 1586, www.maozveg.com.
⊖ Leicester Square.

Sagar £

There are myriad variations of dosa, idli and rice dishes, aromatic curries and chutneys at this sleek, relaxed South Indian spot, with lots of vegan options and great home-made desserts. The generous £5.95 set lunch is a bargain and the £3.50 take away box is exceptional value.
► 31 Catherine St, WC2B 5JS. 7631 3319, www.sagarveg.co.uk. ⊖ Covent Garden. Also at Percy St.

Tibits ££

There's outdoor seating in the Regent Street Food Quarter courtyard, and its pay-by-weight buffet is great value. Thirty-odd salads and hot dishes span the globe in their influences, including curries, samosas, gratins and pasta bakes.
► 12-14 Heddon St, W1B 4DA. 7758 4110, www.tibits.co.uk. ⊖ Oxford Circus.