



nileGUIDE

ALL YOU NEED TO PLAN YOUR PERFECT TRIP



Rene Ehrhardt

Things to Do near the SharePoint Evolution Conference

London, 3 Days

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Guide Description

AUTHOR NOTE: Pubs, restaurants and some local attractions near the SharePoint Evolution conference.

www.sharepointevolutionconference.com

My List

contact:

tel: +44 20 7935 2361

fax: +44 20 7487 2759

<http://www.mostynhotel.co.uk/>

<http://www.bestwestern.co.uk/Hotels/Mostyn-Hotel-London-83611/Hotel-Info/Default.aspx>

location:

4 Bryanston Street
London England W1H 8DE

1 Mostyn

DESCRIPTION: The three-star, family-run Mostyn Hotel was originally built as a private residence for one of George II's ladies in waiting. Although the building has been fully refurbished, and the only original decor is in the conference rooms and restaurant, the hotel has retained an air of elegance, with a large airy reception and subtle pastel shades. Ideally placed for the shops and theatres of the West End, this isn't a quiet hotel, although its location down a small side street means that noise from traffic shouldn't be a problem. Most of the clientele are corporate business people, but with such a wide selection of rooms, there should be something tailored to your requirements. The Texture restaurant serves good quality French food, and there is a bar in the lobby. The hotel is close to Paddington rail station for express trains to Heathrow Airport. For reservations call +0845 776 7676 or visit their website. © wcities.com



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contact:

tel: +44 20 7479 5050

<http://www.carbonbar.co.uk/>

location:

Old Quebec Street
London W1C 1LZ

hours:

Fr to Sa from 12:00 PM to 03:00 AM, Su from 12:00 PM to 11:00 PM

2 Carbon

DESCRIPTION: If you like industrial chic, well healed fellow drinkers, bare polished concrete and a rack after rack of champagne bottles, then Carbon, the bar of the Cumberland Hotel is for you. Tucked behind the craziness of Oxford Street and Edgware Road, you can sip cocktails or champagne in a chain walled room or the exclusive Champagne balcony area after hitting the shops, while the guest DJ in his wall mounted booth gets the party going. The place is open seven days a week, however it opens at 4p from Monday to Thursday and the closing time may vary. © wcities.com



wcities

contact:

tel: 44 20 7723 0773

fax: 4420 7723 3161

<http://www.maroush.com/>

location:

21 Edgware Road
London England W2 2JE

hours:

Daily noon-2a

3 Maroush I

DESCRIPTION: This Lebanese restaurant started as a small business about a couple of decades ago. Now a part of a burgeoning chain of restaurants, this, the original, nevertheless retains its charm. Popular for its good food and pretty belly dancers, the restaurant serves traditional cuisine with a flourish. Freshness is the hallmark of the joint—all the food is prepared on the premises and served piping hot. Private parties of up to 150 people are entertained here as well. Come and watch some impossibly flexible gyrating hips, as your own add a few inches quite unobtrusively! © wcities.com

contact:

tel: 44 20 7723 2229

fax: 4420 7258 7743

<http://www.cafequebec.co.uk/>

location:

25 New Quebec Street
London England W1H 7SF

4 Cafe Quebec Indian Restaurant

DESCRIPTION: Although the decor may be nothing worth remembering, the food at Cafe Quebec Indian Restaurant definitely is. Located at Marble Arch in Central London, close to Oxford Street, this eatery prides itself on its gracious service and quality Indian cuisine. Traditional north Indian recipes from Rajasthan and Punjab compete for your attention with newer fusion fare, all cooked with low-fat oil and fine ingredients. The spices, flavors and aromas of India beckon—dig in! © wcities.com

hours:

Lunch: daily noon-2:30p,
Dinner: Su-Th 5:30p-11:30p,
F-Sa 5:30p-midnight

contact:

tel: 44 20 7224 0055
fax: 44 20 7224 1144
<http://www.blueelephant.com/pi/london/>

location:

32 Bryanston Street
London England W1H 7EG

hours:

Lunch: noon-2:30p M-F & noon-3p Su, Dinner:
7p-11:30p M-Sa & 6p-10:30p Su

5 Porte Des Indes (La)

DESCRIPTION: Just north of Oxford Street lies this gem of a French-Indian restaurant. The sister restaurant of the Blue Elephant, it keeps the haute ethnic theme but tones down the jungle decor in favour of a simpler, colonial feel with only a few palm trees and wicker chairs scattered here and there. Once an Edwardian ballroom, this building was the wartime headquarters of MI5 - a strange fact to contemplate while feasting on your Chicken Tikka. The blend of cuisines, while slightly bizarre, works wonderfully and the food is exquisite and unusual, with dishes such as Poulet Rouge and Demoiselle de Pondicherry revealing the French influences that set this upmarket Indian apart. © wcities.com

contact:

tel: +44 (0)20 7298 2100
<http://www.royalparks.gov.uk/>

location:

West Carriage Drive
London London W2 2UH

6 Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens

DESCRIPTION: An oasis of tranquillity in central London, Hyde Park, together with Kensington Gardens to the west, is the largest of the three royal parks. On the north-east side is Speaker's Corner, a traditional haven of free speech. It is also famous for the Serpentine boating lake, complete with a designated swimming area, and the Serpentine Gallery. Lesser known is the Dogs' Cemetery at the northern end of the park. The graves commemorate more than 200 pooches who enjoyed the park in their day. © wcities.com



contact:

tel: +44 20 7 493 5464
fax: +44 20 7 499 3136
<http://www.eskenazi.co.uk/>

location:

10 Clifford Street
London W1S 2LJ

hours:

M-F 9:30a-5:30p, Sa 10a-1p

7 Eskenazi

DESCRIPTION: If you are fascinated with art from the far east, Eskenazi is a great place to check out in London. The gallery showcases a variety of Chinese and Japanese sculptures, pottery and other artifacts. Some of striking collections include Chinese Buddhist figures, Ancient Chinese bronzes, Chinese Ceramics, Sculptures from the Shang dynasty to the Ming dynasty. There are various exhibitions held at Eskenazi as well. Some of the previously held ones were Landscape paintings by Li Huayi, Song Chinese Ceramics from the 10th to the 13th century. A must-visit for art lovers who would like a glimpse of oriental art through the ages. © wcities.com



Photo courtesy of Eskenazi Ltd

contact:

tel: +44 (0)20 7409 2001
fax: +44 (0)20 7409 2003
<http://www.the-refinery.com/>

location:

60 Brook Street
London London W1K 5DU

hours:

M-Tu 10a-7p, W-F 10a-9p, Sa
9a-6p, Su 11a-5p

8 Refinery (The)

DESCRIPTION: Who says only women need to look good? If you're a man and understand the need for being "refined", head here. Professionals at the Refinery will take care of the pimples on your back, unwanted hair, large pores and calloused feet. Your face and body are in expert hands once you enter this spa. So, stop waiting for your wedding day to arrive. You don't have to be a groom to start grooming yourself! © wcities.com

contact:

tel: +44 20 7629 5116
fax: +44 20 7491 9454
<http://www.faslondon.com/>

location:

148 New Bond Street
London London W1S 2JT

hours:

9:30a-5:30p M-F, 10a-1p Sa

9 Fine Art Society

DESCRIPTION: Still in its original building, the Fine Art Society has been one of London's leading dealers in Victorian and 20th century art since 1876, and over the last few years, it has branched out to include Japanese and American works. Set over three floors, the galleries display a distinctive mix of pictures, sculpture, architect-designed furniture, glass, ceramics, silver and textiles, and include work by Pugin, Dresser, Whistler, De Morgan, Morris and Mackintosh. So, if you're looking to purchase fine art and antiques, then this is the place to visit. And for those with slimmer wallets, it's worth coming just to browse the many beautiful pieces on display in the permanent exhibition. © wcities.com



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London Snapshot

Local Info

Often quoted yet eloquently perfect, Dr. Samuel Johnson once said, "When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life; for there is in London all that life can afford". Whether in town for a weekend or a few months, London and its diversity is sure to amuse, entertain and enlighten. London is a city of numerous neighborhoods or villages, each with its own flavor and attractions. London has defied fires, plagues, wars and more to become a truly modern metropolis.

Beyond the streets of Westminster where iconic Big Ben shines over the Houses of Parliament and the River Thames lies a city begging to be explored. Most of the major tourist attractions can be accessed by foot although traveling via Tube, red double decker bus or black cab equally adds to the atmosphere.

Royal enthusiasts will bee-line for Buckingham Palace and catch a glimpse of the Changing of the Guard or walk the aisle Princess Diana did on her wedding day at St. Paul's Cathedral. Exploring Kensington Palace and the Tower of London provide an experience into the life of former English monarchs.

London boasts over 300 museums with many offering free admission. From the must see Egyptian mummies and Rosetta Stone at the British Museum to the Rembrandt's and Monet's in the National Gallery, famous works and artifacts come alive from our history lessons. Marvel at masterpieces at the quiet British Library then navigate the Tate Modern's Turbine Hall. And even if dinosaurs and Darwin are not of interest, at least skip by the Natural History Museum and check out one of the most impressive buildings in London.

No matter the weather, Londoners adore and fill their green spaces such as centrally located Hyde Park and Regent's Park. Just outside of the city limits, yet easily reached, lies the Royal Botanical Gardens of Kew, one of the world's most captivating gardens. When it is damp or the grey skies become too much, then stop for a pint in a pub or a cup of tea in... well, anywhere!

And let us not forget that London is also a shopper's paradise. Roaming the food halls of Harrod's or bartering for bargains in many of the city's markets is part of London's charm. Quintessentially British and perfect for snatching up luxurious fashion and unique souvenirs are found in shops along the streets of Regent & Oxford such as Liberty and Selfridges or in Covent Garden area.

So, put on those walking shoes, grab an umbrella and prepare to be dazzled by the city of London.

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Fun Facts

1. Interesting Fact: Big Ben is actually the nickname of the Great Bell located inside the St. Stephen's Clock Tower not the tower or clock itself as commonly thought.

2. Curious Fact: The world's smallest police station is located in the southwest corner of Trafalgar Square, carved out of the base of a lamp post circa 1930. Today the station has sadly been converted into a cleaning storage cupboard.

3. Fun Fact: London was originally named Londinium and began as a small colony just about where London Bridge sits around 43AD.

4. Cool Fact: London's Tube stations sheltered Londoners from the Blitz during

WWII, one night a record 177,500 were counted sleeping in the underground transport system.

5. Odd Fact: The Monument was erected to commemorate The Great Fire of 1666 and is 202 feet tall, the same distance to the start of the fire on Pudding Lane.

6. Random Fact: Tower Bridge is often mistakenly called London Bridge and it the only draw bridge over the River Thames.

7. Bizarre Fact: From the 15th to the 19th centuries when the Thames River was much wider and slower, it often froze over in winter and Frost Fairs were held on the ice.

8. Freaky Fact: A sign on the traffic island marks the Tyburn Tree at the intersection of Marble Arch and Edgeware Road where between 40,000 and 60,000 people were executed from 1196 to 1783.

Weird Fact: Covent Garden should be called Convent Garden named after the Westminster Convent garden, it was misspelled.

10. Quirky Fact: Only two of the 260 Tube stations use all five vowels in their name: Mansion House and South Ealing.

11. Funky Fact: Legendary guitarist Jimi Hendrix and composer George Fredric Handel were neighbors, only 200 years apart. They lived in adjacent houses at 23 and 25 Brook Street now a combined unit which houses the Handel House Museum

12. Wacky Fact: Her Majesty the Queen is forbidden from enter the House of Commons in Parliament as she is not a member.

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