# A Taste of London

Wondering where to eat next? Here's a list of places based on what you're looking for. Step out of your sandwich comfort zone and enter the world of food possibilities.

### **On a Budg£t**

Hungry, but don't want to break the bank? Here are a few places you can still sit and eat at, but at a fraction of the cost.

**Franco Manca** This place boasts woodfired pizza, and is very authentic. The atmosphere is really intimate and welcoming too; off a side street in Covent Garden with exposed brick walls, it's cosy and always full. Only £6-7 for a pizza.

**Golden Hind** If this is your first time in the UK, you are almost obliged to have fish and chips at least once, and this place



offers one of the best! Located just 15 minutes from Selfridges, Golden Hind offers large portions at reasonable prices, and it's BYOB. £5-10 per person.

**Lanzhou Noodle Bar** For authentic Chinese food, Lanzhou Noodle Bar is the place to go. The hand-pulled noodles are highly recommended and are made to order.



Plus, portion sizes are great if you're feeling particularly hungry. Added perk: they are open into the early hours for that late night take-away. About £7 per person.

**Lowry and Baker** If you're looking for brunch after walking through Portobello Road Market, this is the place to go. Pretty much everything they have is good, and they serve it on mismatching plates and mugs which makes it really homey. Brunch, including a coffee, comes to about £10 per person.



### For those who don't have too much time to sit and eat but still want something healthy and filling

**Wellbeing Café** Serving Korean cuisine, Wellbeing Café has a long and diverse menu including: rice bowls, stews, sushi and sashami, and it comes to about £4-5 per person. Why not try the soondooboo jjigae, a quintessential spicy Korean soup, with chilli-hot kimchi, fresh vegetables and tofu, for only £4.90!

**Maoz Vegetarian** Pitta bread packed with falafel and your choice of garnish and toppings - much more exotic than a BLT. Located in Soho, this place is open until 1AM, making it a healthy alternative to that end-of-night kebab. £6-8 per person.

**The Good Life Eatery** Not so much a quick bite as the others on this list, but if you're looking to detox and need some fresh food, this is your place. The food is amazing and *actually* fresh, and the superfood smoothies and cold pressed juices will make you feel new again. Occasionally there is a queue outside, so don't go during peak brunching hours if you're in a rush. £10-15 for a meal and drink.

Leon serves naturally fast food that is



both nutritious and delicious. It also aims to cater to those with dietary requirements, with wheat free, gluten free, dairy free, vegetarian and vegan options. A meal will set you back £5-8.

**Borough Market** Alternatively, grab something on the go at London's most famous market. There's something here for every budget – why not make a meal out of free samples!



## For Family Visits

## *Time to show off the city you've been living in and impress the family*

**Pacata** Get loads of different dishes and share, with rice or bread for the whole table. The restaurant itself is really nice as well, it's on New Row in Covent Garden which is a really cute street. Pan-Asian street cuisine, £7-15 per person. Afterwards, why not go to La Gelateria on the same road for quite possibly the best gelato in London. They make the gelato fresh on the premises - you can even see through a glass screen looking at the lower ground level making room. The honey, rosemary and orange zest is just wow.

**Balls & Company** – constantly changing menu, quite simply it's meatballs (different meats available) served with your choice of sauce. Vegetarian options available, around £9-15 per person.

**Sarastro** – hidden behind arches of vines and flowers on Drury Lane, this place is one of the most beautiful restaurants you'll ever see. Mediterranean style food and live performances on some nights, this place is as much a restaurant as it is an experience. Be aware that some nights have set menus and this is more expensive than the normal menu which is about £20-25 per person.



**Dishoom** - delicious Indian cuisine, loads of flavours and spices to try – get a few things and share them on the table so you can all get a taste of as many things as possible. £10-15 per person.

**Nando's** This may be a chain restaurant, but it's celebrated so it belongs on this list. It's pretty much chicken paradise, and the sauces are just amazing – people usually get either just chicken with some sides, or in a burger, wrap or pitta bread. If you can't handle spice, make sure you tell the waiter/waitress because it can get pretty hot. Depending on how hungry you are, meals can be between £6-15. The vibe is very chilled so it might be ideal after a long day of sight-seeing when you just want to lounge around and eat a lot of food. Vegetarian options also available.



### For that post-lecture recovery meal

**Gino's** An Italian lunchtime takeaway with great portions and deliciously authentic food. It's also a nice change from the usual lunchtime sandwich. The Bolognese is a must have. £4-5 per person.

**Benito's Hat** Not quite on the Strand but worth the short walk to Covent Garden. This place arguably has the best burritos in London! However, if you're looking for a more standard burrito, Chipotle is the place to go – also delicious.



**Wild Food Café** Only a 10 minute walk from campus, this place is a vegetarian and vegan paradise. Lots of raw food to make you feel super energised. The desserts are also a must. About £15 per person, so maybe for a day when you feel like treating yourself.

**Siam Eatery** This place may look like a chain but it's not. Serving delicious Thai food on the go, lunch goes for about £5 per person.

**Chilango** If you're craving a burrito or

some tacos while you're at the Maughan Library and need a break, this will fill you right up for only £6-8.

**Big Easy** More of an evening out than a lunchtime spot, this place is well known for its seafood, meat, and amazing American vibe. Portions are big so maybe share a meal between you and a friend (or go on a day when you're really hungry). They also have great burgers. Prices range from £10-20 (£20 for a whole lobster, salad, and drink).





If you're more of a café person than a library person, this list might help you find your next study spot

**Fleet Street Press** offers great coffee and a cosy underground seating area. It's usually quite packed so you may find yourself not being able to find a seat/sharing a table with lots of different people during peak hours.

**Timberyard Café/TY Seven Dials** Made for studying, the brownies and pies here are perfection, ideal to keep you going through work and revision. Plus, there is lots of seating available, downstairs too.

**Benugo Café, Southbank** Very welcoming with plenty of sofas and places to sit, it's easy to work for hours and hours.

#### Foyles bookshop café (5<sup>th</sup> floor)

Near Tottenham Court Road, this café has coffee and freshly squeezed lemonade and almost everyone there is working on their laptops or reading, so it's a great atmosphere to get some work done.

**Google Campus** Seven floors of speedy wifi and a café, this is pretty much the perfect place to study. Just



sign up first at https://www.campus.co/london/en/sign-up

**Foxcroft & Ginger** The added bonus of this place is the food. Pizza starting at around £5, pastries (seriously amazing), sandwiches, toasties, salads, coffee, tea. Oh, and a nice studying place.

**Ziferblat** A different kind of coffee place where you pay for the time you spend there as opposed to what you drink. For 5 pence a minute you can lounge around in a comfy area and play board games as well as drink coffee.