

This is a time of considerable investment in King's Cross. This investment builds on the strengths of the area - adding to renowned cultural institutions, a wide range of shops and restaurants, pockets of green space and a diverse and dynamic community. It brings new services and amenities creating more choice for those already here but also attracting new visitors, residents and workers.

CULTURAL SCENE

King's Cross possesses an array of cultural gems. These include the Wellcome Collection, a unique mix of galleries and events focusing upon what it means to be human. While the British Library holds fragile treasures of extraordinary antiquity, beauty and of vital historic importance.

Contemporary art lovers can head for the Gagolian Gallery and Sartorial Contemporary Art, while there are further galleries at Kings Place, including the Pangolin Art Gallery.

Kings Place also boasts two world-class orchestras, the London Sinfonietta and the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, showcasing the best in both classical and contemporary music.

There's art house cinema at the Renoir, dance at The Place, while the legendary live music, club and arts venue The Scala satisfies the alternative arts scene.

The newly opened Platform Theatre in the Granary Building is part of the University of the Arts London. The theatre regularly showcases performances that experiment with design and theatrical technique.

And what's more, due to King's Cross' central location, you are only a short walk away from the Brunei Gallery and British Museum near Russell Square and the Petrie, Pollock Toy and Jewish Museums of Camden.



The King's Library. Usage rights courtesy of the British Library.

Kings Place also boasts two world-class orchestras, the London Sinfonietta and the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment.



Kings Place © Sine Davidson



Battlebridge Basin © John Sturrock



Great Northern Hotel between King's Cross Station and St Pancras International © John Sturrock



Scala © C. Talbot

AN EXCEPTIONAL TRANSPORT HUB

King's Cross St Pancras links six London underground lines with two national mainline train stations - just 500 yards away - and you have a point of unrivalled connectivity. King's Cross St Pancras is also London's only station with a direct line to Europe. It is home to the hugely successful Eurostar, which will be joined in the next few years by the German 'ICE' high speed service. After a long journey, the range of hotels in the area serve as excellent resting stops - including the delightfully original Rough Luxe, and the colourful Meagro Hotel. There's also the sumptuous St Pancras Renaissance Hotel, truly a Gothic revival, and the splendid Great Northern Hotel.

Two of Britain's most celebrated Victorian structures are here: the St Pancras train shed and



St Pancras Renaissance London Hotel © Bharadwaj/Alamy

in 1868 - at the time it was the largest single-span structure ever built. The hotel across the front of the station was built in 1877 to a design by Sir George Gilbert Scott. It was heralded at the time as a 'grand' destination for the thrilling age of steam, and the striking termination of the Midland Railway's new route. King's Cross was Britain's first intermodal transport hub, combining rail, road and canal, and today it remains an outstanding focal point for transport.

the Midland Grand Hotel - now St Pancras Renaissance. The train shed was designed and engineered by William Barlow and completed



St Pancras International © John Sturrock

EXPLORING THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

Set in one of London's most historic and culturally exciting villages, the Grade II listed Brunswick Centre allows you to shop, eat and meet in the glorious surroundings of Bloomsbury.

You can indulge in some serious retail therapy browsing the eclectic offering of fashion and home stores and later catch your favourite film at the famous Renoir art house cinema.

Next to the Brunswick Centre is Coram's Fields, a seven-acre oasis of green - a children's playground and park with its very own city farm. No adult can enter without accompanying a child. Adjacent is The Foundling Museum, originally a home for abandoned children established by 18th Century campaigning philanthropist, Captain Thomas Coram.

Further north into Bloomsbury is Woburn Walk, an attractive, peaceful pedestrian street. Its beautifully preserved bow-fronted buildings were designed by architect Thomas Cubitt in 1822. A plaque on one of the buildings marks the house of W B Yeats, who lived here between 1895 and 1919. The small street is home to restaurants, bookshops, and galleries, and offers a pleasant retreat from the noise and traffic of nearby Euston Road.



Brunswick Centre © Cive Sawyer



Brunswick Centre © Alex Segra/Alamy

The Grade II listed Brunswick Centre allows you to shop, eat and meet in glorious surroundings.

Speciality shops - small and unique
The buzz of the market, the bustle of the high street
Restaurants and bars - somewhere to eat, Museums and Galleries - somewhere to meet.

aroundabout

For further information:

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A RICH PAST

King's Cross has a fascinating history - from warrior Queen Boudicca's final battle with the Roman legions to the marshalling yards of the industrial revolution. If you want to delve into the history of King's Cross, visit the churchyard of the largely Victorian St Pancras Old Church, built upon what is thought to be one of the oldest sites of Christian worship in Northern Europe. The restful churchyard features architect Sir John Soane's Mausoleum, inspiration for the iconic red telephone box.

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The other side of the nearby railway tracks reveals another instant antidote to the hustle and bustle of the metropolis which also gives a nod to the past: the London Wildlife Trust's Camley Street Natural Park, a delightful oasis for birds, butterflies, amphibians and plant life, created from an old coal yard in 1984.



Dishoom Godown © John Sturrock

EATING, DRINKING, SHOPPING

King's Cross is fast establishing itself as an exciting food destination. There are plenty of eateries to suit the pocket and the palette - from the casual to the elegant - and everything in between.

At Granary Square, popular favourites Caravan and Grain Store have recently been joined by Dishoom, while on

York Way the Greek Larder brings a taste of the Mediterranean to King's Cross. Vinoteca has taken a prime spot at Battle Bridge Place or for a touch of continental glamour, head to Plum + Spilt Milk and GNH bar at the Great Northern Hotel. Beyond, the local area offers up everything from Valencian paella at Camino to canal-side dining at Rotunda in King's Place. And of course KERB continues to rustle up some of London's best street food week day lunchtimes at Granary Square.

Caledonian Road and the Regent Quarter
Caledonian Road - affectionately known as the Cally Road - which leads on to Regent Quarter, has an invigorating mix of refurbished

Georgian and Victorian buildings and state of the art new constructions. This colourful area has a selection of diverse, often trendy shops, as well as an exciting range of restaurants, cafés and bars to tickle anyone's taste buds. For sustenance, try the boutique gastropub The Driver, and Canal 125, where you can chill out on the terrace overlooking the canal, enjoying live music and DJs.

St Pancras International
The sleek new home of Eurostar isn't just for travellers. A range of retailers offer fashion, beauty, stationary, books and gifts - this is station shopping, but not as you know it. There's a superb selection of popular food chains like Benugo, Starbucks and YO! Sushi and you can also drop in on less familiar outlets, like Le Pain Quotidien, Peyton and Byrne and Fineburger Co.

St Pancras also boasts the longest champagne bar in Europe, and the glamorous Searcys at St Pancras Grand. And if that wasn't enough, one of Britain's most celebrated chefs, Marcus Wareing, runs the new Gilbert Scott Restaurant at the St Pancras Renaissance Hotel.

The sleek new home of Eurostar isn't just for travellers... St Pancras boasts the longest champagne bar in Europe.



Regent Quarter © John Sturrock

King's Cross Station

The beautifully refurbished King's Cross Station hosts numerous delights including Giraffe, Leon and Pret a Manger as well as The Parcel Yard Bar and the elegant bar and restaurant in the Great Northern Hotel. While shirt makers TM Lewin, trendy American Apparel, Oliver Bonas and the fine cosmetics at Kiehl's will keep you looking (and smelling) your best.

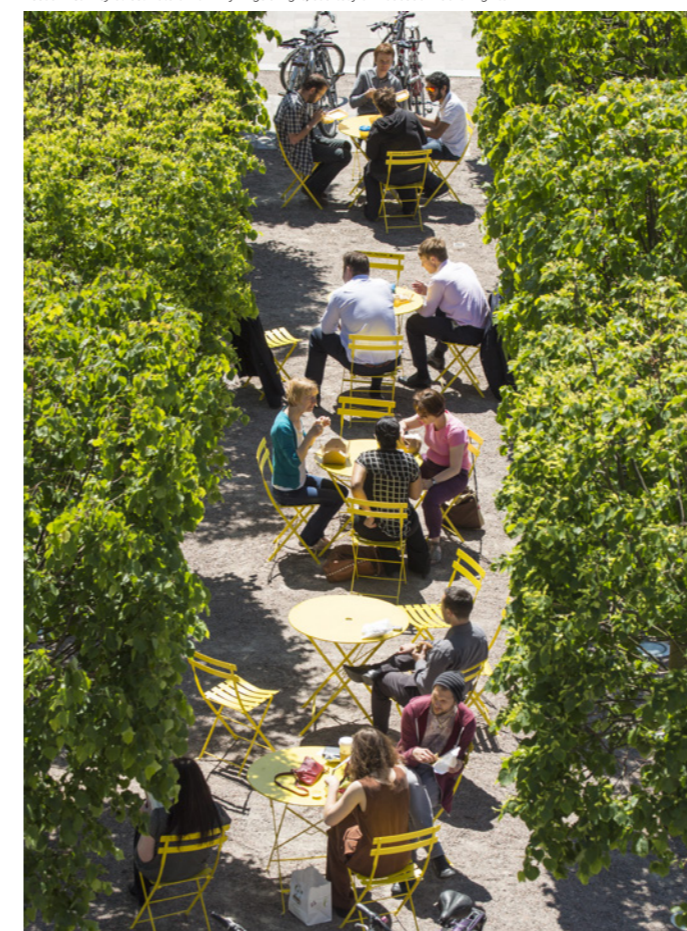
There is plenty of scope to trawl the street markets, such as Chilton Street and its array of stalls with cut-price fashion and other goods or popular Camden Market - just a mile away. Over the next few years many more shops and restaurants will appear, from high street shopping on King's Boulevard to the quirky mix of specialist and independent retailers at the Coal Drops.



St Pancras Grand Brasserie, Oyster and Champagne Bar Usage rights courtesy of Searcys



Views in Camley Street Natural Park. By Angela Inglis, courtesy of Troubadour Publishing Ltd



Eating Lunch in Granary Square © John Sturrock



Regent's Canal © John Sturrock

Ambling along the towpath

The Regent's Canal flows past Camley Street Natural Park. For more than 100 years, it has cut through the northern section of the King's Cross estate.

If exploration is what you crave, then try a walk along the Regent's Canal towpath. Once strictly for business only, the charming waterway with its colourful narrow boats and rich bird life can now be enjoyed by everyone.

The fantastic central location of King's Cross means that you are never far from other enticing London locations. For example, a mile west and you reach ever popular Camden Lock; while a mile east takes you to buzzing Islington and its exceptional restaurants, theatres and shops.



Wildlife on Regent's Canal © John Sturrock

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Granary Square © John Sturrock



St Pancras Old Church © Sine Davidson



Sir John Soane's Mausoleum © Sine Davidson