



THE  
BAILEY'S HOTEL  
LONDON

**Discovery Guide**

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**Our main entrance**

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# Our Hotel

Inspiring British heritage, The Bailey's Hotel London Kensington is a charming spot in the heart of fashionable South Kensington. You'll feel at home in the Victorian grandeur of our redbrick townhouse, just moments away from Knightsbridge and popular attractions such as the Natural History Museum and Royal Albert Hall.

With a history as beguiling as the five-story staircase and impressive décor, this characterful South Kensington hotel will make you wish walls could talk. Authentic Singaporean dishes await you at the upscale Bugis Singapore Restaurant located on the ground floor of the hotel. If you're after an expertly crafted cocktail, take a seat at our Bailey's Bar and watch one of our skilled mixologists conjure up a cocktail to your taste.

## Why you'll love staying with us

- Chic boutique rooms with interiors that focus on British craftsmanship and heritage
- Spacious family rooms
- Unlimited, high-speed multi-device Wi-Fi
- Nearby Millennium Conference Centre for larger events
- 24-hour front desk

# Welcome

In this guide, we have highlighted some interesting places we hope will enrich your stay with us. Discover the rich history of the hotel and wider neighbourhood, spot wildlife in our Royal Parks using the wildlife section of this guide and find out what there is to experience in South Kensington. All of this being easily accessible by walking, cycling or public transport.

If you have discovered something new which you would like to share with other guests, please let our concierge know.

If you haven't had the chance to discover all of what is in this guide, please come back and stay with us again soon.



A fusion of British and Singaporean heritage in the heart of Kensington

# On Your Doorstep

Staying at The Bailey's means that you're in the heart of South Kensington, an area where it's easy to while away a whole day. As well as having three of London's most enchanting museums, there's plenty more to experience around us.

Take a look at the map on the right to see just some of what there is to do and look for the 📷 icon to see where we recommend to take the best pictures.



Two magnificent Royal Parks, **Kensington Gardens** and **Hyde Park**, border South Kensington to the north. Visit Kensington Gardens for Kensington Palace, home to Prince William and Princess Catherine. You can also see the Albert Memorial and the Serpentine Gallery.



At the **Victoria and Albert Museum**, you can see art and design from the past 3000 years, including ceramics, furniture, fashion, jewellery, photographs, sculpture, textiles and paintings.



The family-friendly **Science Museum** caters for kids of all ages. The interactive Garden area is specially designed for under fives, while the hands-on Launchpad gallery is perfect for teenagers.



London's **Natural History Museum** is where you can come face-to-face with a giant T-rex, and experience an earthquake in the Power Within zone.



Kensington's famous **Royal Albert Hall** plays host to the BBC Proms concerts each year. As well as classical concerts, you can also see rock and pop gigs, ballet, opera and even tennis here!



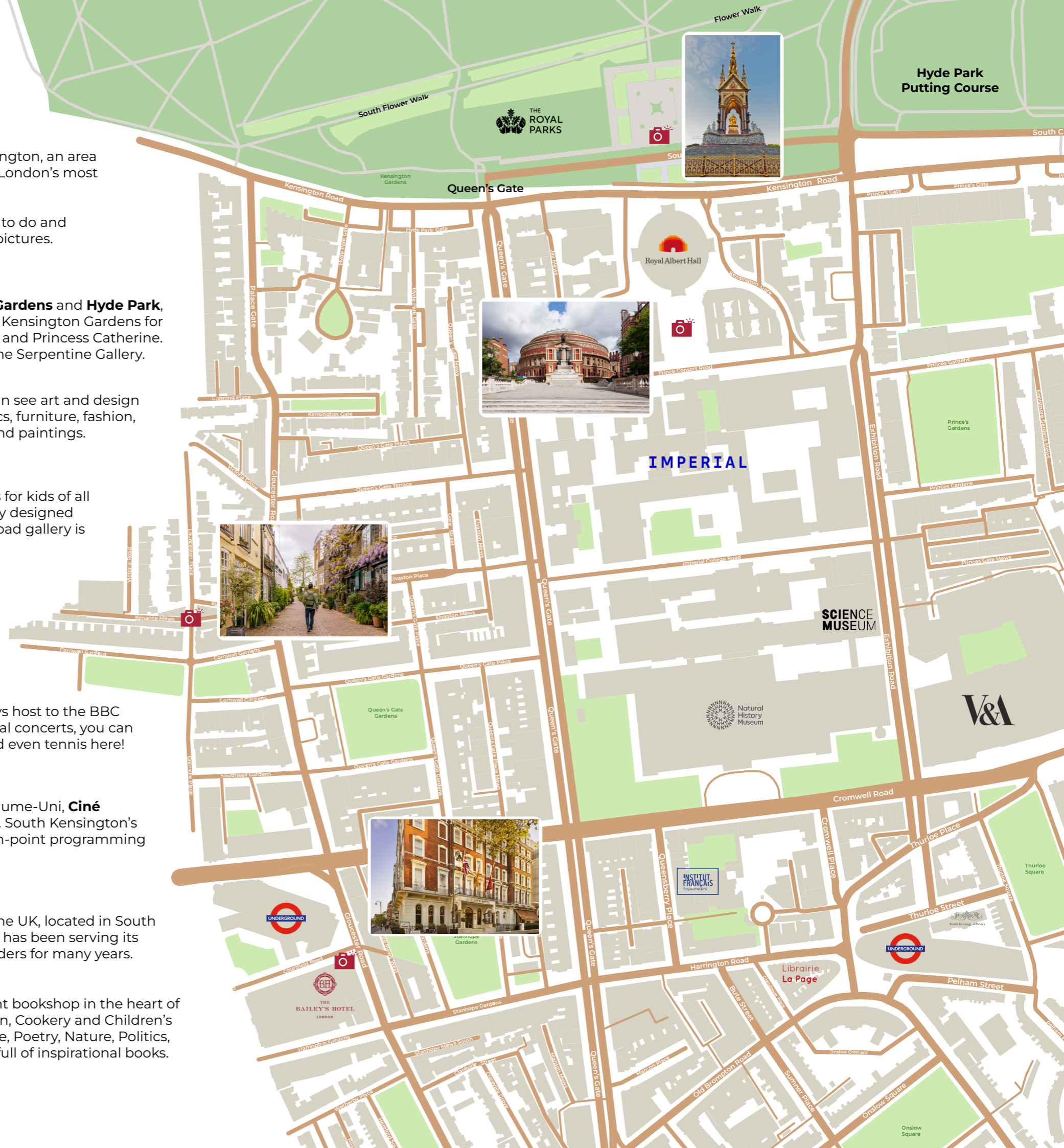
Located within the Institut français du Royaume-Uni, **Ciné Lumière** is a mecca for Europhile filmgoers. South Kensington's Franco-centric, two-screen cinema offers on-point programming in super-chic surroundings.



**La Page** is the oldest French bookstore in the UK, located in South Kensington opposite the French Lycée, and has been serving its local community of French schools and readers for many years.



**South Kensington Books** is an independent bookshop in the heart of the area. A great range of Art, History, Fiction, Cookery and Children's along with sections on Fashion, Architecture, Poetry, Nature, Politics, Science and Music. A small intimate space full of inspirational books.





The area around us is adorned with blue plaques

# Heritage

London's famous blue plaques link the people of the past with the buildings of the present. Across the capital 1,000 plaques, on buildings humble and grand, honour the notable women and men who have lived or worked in them. Browse the map on the right to discover the location of some of these plaques and a little about the person honoured.

If you decide to walk to Hyde Park via Queen's Gate or Exhibition Road (both parallel to Gloucester Road), you will be walking by the Natural History Museum, the Science Museum and Imperial College London. The Royal College of Music is also nearby.

There is even a wealth of heritage within the hotel itself. Built in the 1870s with an ornate Victorian design, there are lots of clues in the hotel about its historical past.

- The hotel itself inspired the name of the alcoholic drink Bailey's in the 1970s, as the hotel was visible from the office of the drinks company.
- In the reception of the hotel, you may notice a clock from the 1860s which is wound up every morning.
- The Bailey's hotel was one of the first in London to have a lift.
- Our meeting room, 'The Rear Window', is named after the film by legendary director Alfred Hitchcock who frequented the hotel on many occasions.
- The hotel also managed to survive through both World Wars, despite being hit by incendiary bombs in 1941.



## Wildlife nearby

Proudly situated in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and the City of Westminster, The Bailey's Hotel London Kensington is just a 16-minute walk from Kensington Gardens. Once there, an additional 5-minute stroll will take you to Hyde Park, a perfect spot to enjoy beautiful wildlife.

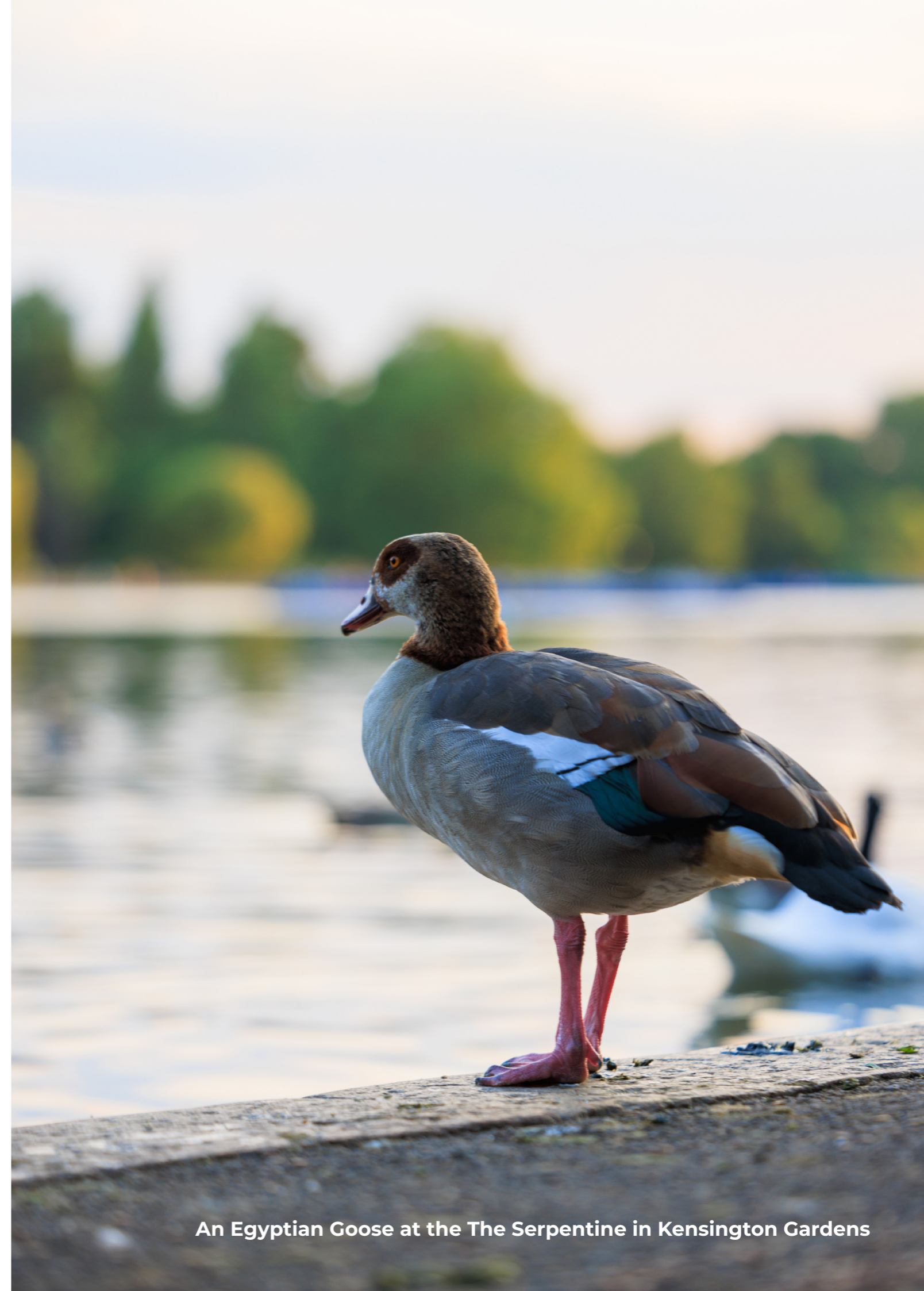
Alternatively, you can catch bus 49 (towards White City) from Gloucester Road. After three stops, you'll arrive at Palace Gate, just across the road from Kensington Gardens. This journey takes approximately 6 minutes.

For a quicker route to Hyde Park, you can take the eastbound Piccadilly Line from Gloucester Road Station, directly opposite the hotel. Travel two stops to Knightsbridge Station, cross the road, and you'll be at Hyde Park in about 11 minutes. Alternatively, continue one more stop to Hyde Park Corner for access to another area of the park.

We're fortunate to be located so close to these wonderful green spaces, and we encourage all our guests to visit and experience them firsthand. Feel free to take photos during your visit and let us know if you spot any notable wildlife.

You can also make a real contribution to science and conservation by uploading your sightings to recording communities such as [iRecord](#) or [iNaturalist](#). Every observation can contribute to biodiversity science, from the rarest butterfly to the most common backyard weed. All you have to do is observe, record and upload.

**Fun Fact:** The Serpentine was formed in Hyde Park in 1730 by the damming of the River Westbourne, which is a small tributary to the Thames, under orders of Queen Caroline to increase the aesthetic qualities of the Royal Park. Although, in 1834, the Westbourne became too polluted with sewage and the Serpentine is now supplied from water pumped from other sources.



An Egyptian Goose at the The Serpentine in Kensington Gardens



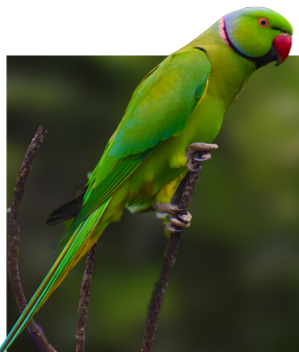
This medium-sized butterfly is common and widespread, often found in gardens and hedgerows. The males are quite distinctive, with bright orange wingtips on a white background, while the females have black wingtips. Both sexes have mottled green underwings.

The **Orange-tip butterfly** belongs to the Whites and yellows family and has a medium size, with a wing span range of 45-50mm. Its conservation status is considered low priority, and it's not threatened in Europe.



**Dragonflies** are ancient insects that have existed for around 300 million years, allowing them to develop exceptional flying and hunting abilities. With over 5,000 known species, they're found on every continent except Antarctica, and are most commonly seen around water.

These agile fliers can reach speeds of up to 30 miles per hour and have nearly 360-degree vision, thanks to their enormous compound eyes that contain 30,000 facets. Dragonflies are also expert hunters, able to catch their prey mid-air with a success rate of up to 97%. They're beneficial to humans too, helping to control populations of pest insects like mosquitoes and biting flies. In fact, a single dragonfly can eat anywhere between 30 and hundreds of mosquitoes per day.



The **Parakeet**, also known as a budgerigar or budgie, is a small, slender parrot with a long, flat tail. They are seed-eaters and are commonly kept as pets. In fact, they are the most commonly kept bird in the world!

Here's a fun fact: Did you know that a Parakeet named Puck holds the Guinness Book of World Records title with a vocabulary of 1,728 words and phrases? That's impressive for such a small bird! Parakeets are known for their vibrant colours and come in a variety of species, including the Indian ringneck parakeet and the South American quaker parakeet.



A magnificent bird, the **Greylag Goose** is a species of large goose in the waterfowl family Anatidae and is the type species of the genus *Anser*. It's characterised by its mottled and barred grey and white plumage, orange beak, and pink legs. A large bird, it measures between 74 and 91 centimetres in length, with an average weight of 3.3 kilograms.

They're well-renowned for the distances they travel such as Europe to Asia.



**Egyptian Geese** are fascinating creatures with unique characteristics and behaviours. They are native to Africa and have become a popular species around the world.

One of the distinctive features of Egyptian Geese is their striking appearance. They have chestnut brown feathers, distinctive eye markings, and long necks. They are medium-sized birds, with males weighing around 1.6 kg and females weighing around 1.4 kg. Their wingspan is about 1.6 metres, and their height ranges from 63 to 73 centimetres.

Egyptian Geese are fascinating birds that form strong pair bonds, with males and females staying together for their entire lives. They are monogamous, and both parents take turns incubating their eggs and caring for their young.



The **European Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*)** is a large, adaptable gull with a grey back, white head and underparts, and a distinctive loud, raucous call. Found in coastal areas, cities, and countryside, this bird is native to Europe and Asia. It's an opportunistic scavenger, feeding on a wide variety of food sources including fish, crustaceans, insects, and even garbage.

Here's a fun fact: The name seagull is actually a misnomer and is not correct; they're just called gulls and there are numerous types of them. This is because some types of gulls do not live near the sea. European Herring Gulls are notorious for their intelligence and problem-solving abilities!



The **Grey-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus)** is a medium-sized gull with a distinctive grey head, white body, and black tips on its wings. Found in coastal areas, wetlands, and grasslands, this bird is native to Africa, Asia, and Europe. It's an opportunistic feeder, scavenging for food in trash, crops, and even hunting small animals.

Fun Fact: Grey-headed Gulls are known for their cleverness and have been observed using tools to obtain food! They've been seen using rocks to crack open shells and even following tractors to feed on the insects and small animals disturbed by the machinery. Talk about being resourceful!

**European robins (Erithacus rubecula)** are small birds that live throughout Western Europe. They are very recognisable due to having an unmistakable red colouring on their chest. Due to this, they are colloquially known as the Robin redbreast in the UK.



They are quite small at only 12.5 - 14.0 cm in length and have a mass between 16 and 22 g.

Both the males and females have the famous red breast colouring with grey feathers elsewhere on their bodies. They are often confused with American robins, however this is simply a misconception. American robins share the colouration, but are much larger and are actually in the same genus as blackbirds.

Robins are curious and will approach human activity, especially if it involves disrupting soil, so that they can look for earthworms. Their diet consists of mainly insects such as worms and beetles but they will also consume fruit and seeds.



**Magpies** are intelligent, noisy birds known for their bold and curious nature. They belong to the songbird family and are recognized by their black and white feathers, with a distinctive long tail. There are several species of magpies, found in Europe, Asia, Africa, and North America. They're omnivores, eating a variety of foods, and are often seen in open grasslands and at the edges of forests.



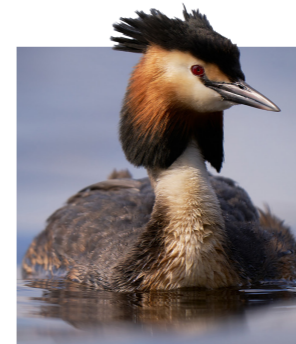
The **Grey Heron (Ardea cinerea)** is a tall bird that (as the name suggests) has grey feathers that cover its body. They have long legs that they use to stand at the edge of lakes to look for food. Their diet consists mainly of fish, however they also consume small mammals such as voles and rodents.

There are around 63,000 UK wintering Grey Herons. They stand around 100 cm tall, and have a wingspan of 190 cm.

Fun fact: Despite the height and large wingspan, they only have a mass of 1.5 - 2 kg! They also fly at speeds reaching around 25 mph!

These Grey Herons can be spotted near Serpentine Lake in Hyde Park, where they have their nests near the boathouses. They can also be seen perching on the edge of the lake.

**Great Crested Grebe (Podiceps cristatus)** have white and grey feathers covering most of their body, but have unmistakable head plumes in black and brown. These plumes were so impressive that the UK population at one point was almost hunted to extinction for their feathers.



They have a length of around 46-51 cm and have a mass of anywhere between 500g and 1500g. Great Crested Grebes also boast a 90 cm wingspan. Great Crested Grebes subsist off of a diet of mainly fish, which they catch by diving into the water of lakes.

There are over 4900 breeding pairs in the UK currently. You can find them near vegetation by freshwater lakes (such as Serpentine Lake in Hyde Park). The species as a whole can be found across Europe in mainly lowland areas. When looking for a mate, they engage in an impressive dance on the surface of the water in order to try to attract a partner. This usually occurs in February, so if you are in the area, why not check it out?







**Walking and Cycling:**

There are many different walking routes and cycling routes in Hyde Park that you can enjoy.

For example, you can do a **4.79 km loop** (highlighted in red on the map) around the park which is suitable for people riding bicycles, running or walking. You can try to spot wildlife as you go, with the route taking you past trees, fields, flowers and over the river meaning that you pass many different habitats.

**Fun Fact:** King Henry VIII confiscated the Park from the monks of Westminster Abbey in the year 1536. He then made it into a royal hunting ground. The park was opened for public access in the year 1637 by King Charles I and in no time, it became one of the most popular places for Parades and Public Demonstrations.

Help protect and conserve the park and its wildlife today for future generations.

**Litter:** Take litter home with you or dispose of it in bins as it can kill wildlife.

**Fires:** Please do not light barbecues or fires; fire damages greenland, trees and other wildlife.

**Disturbances:** Please do not disturb the wildlife or take plants, fruits, fungi or wood; it deprives wildlife of food and harms biodiversity.

**Feeding Squirrels:** Please do not feed the squirrels as it attracts an unnaturally high numbers into the park. Grey squirrels cause extensive damage to trees by stripping bark from the main trunk. Some of the damaged trees die or can succumb to infection.



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# Restaurant and Bar

## Bailey's Bar:

Open everyday 7am-11pm.

For a classic cocktail in a timeless bar, Bailey's Bar in South Kensington is an ideal choice whether it's to raise a glass to a successful business meeting or a quiet drink with a friend. You can watch one of our skilled mixologists conjure up a cocktail to your taste from a bar stool or watch the world go by over a wine or beer from a cosy table by the windows.

The high ceilings, chandeliers and panelled wood contribute to the sophisticated space. Treat yourself to our signature cocktail 'The Bailey's' which is every bit as indulgent as you might imagine.

## The Bugis Singapore Restaurant:

Open everyday 12pm-11pm.

Bugis Street, one of Singapore's most popular shopping districts, was named after the legendary seafaring merchants from the island of Sulawesi. These maritime people were regarded as master shipbuilders who travelled across the seas of the Indonesian archipelago collecting everything from sandalwood to spices, exotic feathers and even gold, to sell at faraway lands such as Singapore.

Following a flamboyant history, Bugis Street was transformed in the mid '90s with widened streets, modern shopping centres and conserved colonial shop houses. Nowadays, it is still frequented by tourists and locals alike. Visitors revel in its street lined stalls featuring traditional and contemporary artefacts, and eclectic street food. This thriving marketplace, with the history of the Bugis spice trade, influences the aromatic and specialized dishes prepared at Bugis Street Brasserie.

Over the years, its popularity and reputation grew. In 2021 it moved to its new location at The Bailey's Hotel London and as of July 2023, the restaurant has now re-branded as The Bugis Singapore Restaurant.





## Contact

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