

SOUTH BANK · SE1



SOUTHWARK

cultural.



Where Borough Market feeds London,
where Shakespeare's Globe performs the Bard,
where Tate Modern meets Thames riverside.

CUI
CITY & URBAN INTERNATIONAL

A Eat & Drink

B Culture

C Active

D Practicals

Eat & Drink

A

Borough Market foodie paradise. Railway arch dining. Michelin stars to market stalls. Eat everything.



■ BOROUGH MARKET

THE MARKET

1,000 years history (literally millennium). Last 30 years became culinary institution. Best cheese, meat, fish, fresh produce UK + beyond. Mecca of food/drink shopping. Even Ottolenghi would struggle to list something not found here. Wed-Thurs 10am-5pm, Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 8am-5pm, closed Sun-Tues. Traders created cafes/bars/restaurants to sample their wares. Brindisa Spanish olives/cheeses since 1988 (responsible for Perello olive obsession). Monmouth Coffee early marker of foodie hub emergence.

MARKET HIGHLIGHTS

Neal's Yard Dairy (cheese heaven). Bread Ahead (crème brûlée donut ruins you - blowtorched caramelized sugar, unfair). Mei Mei (Singapore/Indonesia/Malaysia kopi tiam coffee shops). Shuk (Israeli pitas, lamb soffrito, fish tagine). Joli (Malaysian clay pot cooking since 2009, coconut rice). Monmouth Coffee (cult following, queue always). Brindisa (Spanish tapas, started market food revolution). Tacos Padre (chewy corn tortillas, slow-cooked meat). International street food stalls endless variety.

THE VIBE

Tourists, locals, chefs sourcing. Saturday busiest (8am-5pm chaos, good kind). Weekdays more manageable. Smell of fresh bread, cheese, coffee hits immediately. Tastings everywhere (try everything). Borough Yards new development adjacent - restaurants, bars, shops. Millennium Bridge 5-min walk. Southwark Cathedral shadow (literally). Easy spend 1-2 hours here.

■ FINE DINING

01

Trivet

36 Snowfields, SE1

2 Michelin stars 2024. Chef Jonny Lake + Sommelier Isa Bal. Exceptional wine list. Finely tuned refined dishes, dose originality. Warm natural service.

02

Roast

Floral Hall, Stoney Street, SE1 1TL

Elevated British dining above Borough Market. Floor-ceiling windows overlook market. Sunday roasts legendary. Pre-theatre favorite. Special occasions.

03

Camille

Stoney Street, Borough Market, SE1

Regional France reflection. Head chef Elliot Hashtroudi. Simple approach, rustic energy. Intimate bistro, daily specials board. Ducksoup/Little Duck team natural wines.

04

Bancone

39 William IV Street, SE1

Beautiful pasta in beautiful setting. Borough Yards location. Silky handmade pastas. Open kitchen theatre. Reservations essential, always packed.



RAILWAY ARCHES & CASUAL

01

Flat Iron

Unit 4, Dirty Lane, SE1 9PA

Steak for tenner (almost). Simple menu, quality beef. Queue system, no bookings. Fast turnover, worth wait. Borough Market location.

02

Padella

6 Southwark Street, SE1 1TQ

Fresh pasta institution. Queue always (no reservations). £6-10 dishes. Pici cacio e pepe legendary. Arrive 5:30pm opening or wait hour+.

03

Bala Baya

5-7 Southwark Street, SE1 1RQ

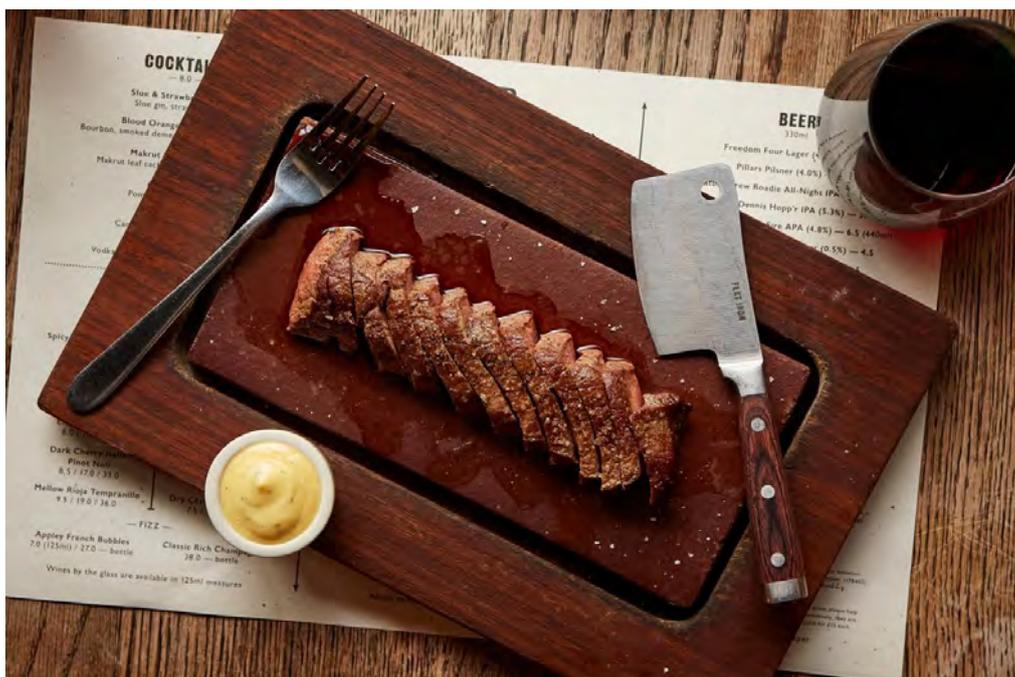
Israeli spot, shawarma-spiced Jerusalem artichoke. Middle Eastern flavors. Mezze, pita, hummus. Fancy-ish but accessible. Southwark handy.

04

Arabica Bar & Kitchen

3 Rochester Walk, SE1 9AF

Middle Eastern/Mediterranean. Railway arch Bauhaus-inspired interior. Balanced fresh dishes, original twist. Brunch weekends. Fun atmosphere.



INTERNATIONAL & DIVERSE

01

Oma

14 Bedale Street, SE1 9AL

Greek contemporary. David Carter (Manteca) fish-focused, island-inspired. Big flame-cooked flavors. Fresh ingredients robustly prepared. Borough Yards.

02

Agora

14 Bedale Street (underneath Oma)

Rustic Athens street food. 2-metre charcoal rotisserie visible from cobbled Bedale Street. Market-style hatches. Casual window shopping vibe.

03

Plaza Khao Gaeng

35 Southwark Street, SE1 1RU

Thai canteen. Railway arch 78 covers. Buzzing strip lights, full-on flavors. Rowdy roomy dining areas. Nowhere-to-hide taste authenticity.

04

Casa do Frango

32 Southwark Street, SE1 1TU

Portuguese piri piri chicken. Oregano, lemon & garlic glazes. Fresh salads, grilled prawns, African chorizo rice. Big gatherings, crowd-pleasing.



■ PUBS & BARS

01

Anchor & Hope

36 The Cut, SE1 8LP

One of London's best gastropubs. Proper menu changes daily. No reservations, queue worth it. British seasonal cooking perfection.

02

Seabird

40 Blackfriars Road, SE1 8PB

Arguably London's prettiest rooftop. Best oyster experience city. Mediterranean sea-to-table. Sprawling city views. Cocktails essential.

03

The Market Porter

9 Stoney Street, SE1 9AA

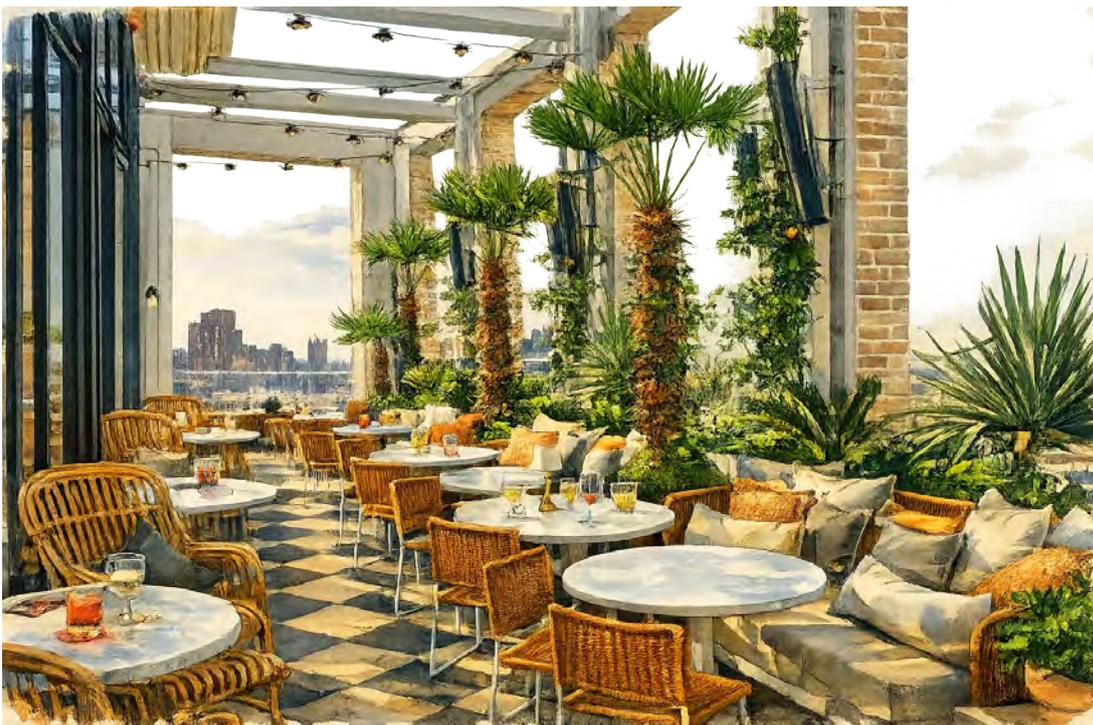
Historic Borough Market pub. Real ales, proper atmosphere. Opens 6am market days. Traders, locals, tourists mix. Always busy, always good.

04

The Rake

14 Winchester Walk, SE1 9AG

Tiny craft beer specialist. 10 rotating taps, hundreds bottles. Knowledgeable staff, beer geek heaven. Market location perfect, outdoor seating.



Culture

B

Shakespeare's Globe. Tate Modern. National Theatre. Southbank Centre. Cultural capital London.



■ SHAKESPEARE & THEATRES

SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE

Reconstructed 1997, original built 1599. Open-air amphitheatre, thatched roof (fire-safe now). 1,400 capacity (original 3,000). Spring-autumn season. Groundlings (standing £5 tickets) authentic experience. Sam Wanamaker Playhouse indoor candlelit theatre winter. Exhibition + guided tours year-round (45 min, historian-comedian guides). 21 New Globe Walk, SE1 9DT. Near Tate Modern, Borough Market 10-min walk. Millennium Bridge 50m away. Shakespeare's brother Edmond buried Southwark Cathedral.

OTHER THEATRES & VENUES

National Theatre (South Bank, world-class productions, three stages). Old Vic (historic venue, The Cut, diverse programming). Young Vic (The Cut, innovative contemporary). Shakespeare's Globe special because: original site nearby, authentic materials (oak/willow/brick), period construction methods, open-air summer only, standing groundling tickets tradition continues. Most pleasant thing: Southbank walk London Bridge to Southbank Centre taking in all highlights.

WHY IT MATTERS

Shakespeare's plays first performed here 1599. Lord Chamberlain's Men company. Destroyed fire 1613 (Henry VIII cannon), rebuilt 1614, demolished 1644. Southwark was seedy entertainment district then - brothels, bear-baiting, theatres banned from City. Winchester geese (prostitutes) worked Bishops of Winchester land. Sam Wanamaker campaigned 20+ years for reconstruction. Now: world-renowned cultural landmark, education centre, tourism magnet.



■ MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

01

Tate Modern

Bankside, SE1 9TG

World's leading modern/contemporary art museum. Bankside Power Station converted. Free permanent collection. Turbine Hall installations legendary. Switch House extension views. Restaurant top floor.

02

Southbank Centre

Belvedere Road, SE1 8XX

Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Hayward Gallery. Year-round cultural program. Free exhibitions, paid concerts. Book market under Waterloo Bridge. Skate park, food vendors.

03

BFI Southbank

Belvedere Road, SE1 8XT

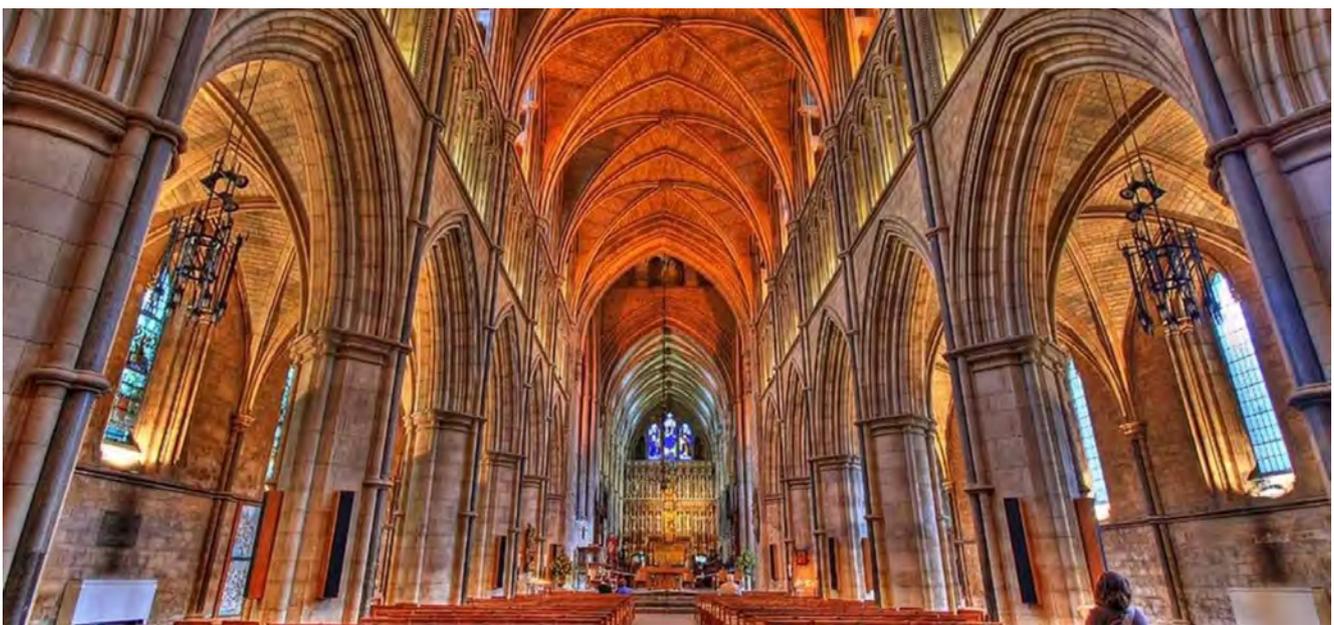
British Film Institute. Four screens, cinematheque, Mediatheque. Film festivals, classics, new releases. Cafe/bar riverside. NFT (National Film Theatre) original name.

04

Southwark Cathedral

London Bridge, SE1 9DA

900+ years history. Shakespeare connections (brother buried here). Stained glass window Shakespeare characters. Memorial statue. Gothic architecture stunning. Free entry, donations welcome.



Active C

Thames Path riverside walks. Millennium Bridge. Jubilee Gardens. Local gyms, pools, studios.



01

Thames Path

South Bank riverside

National Trail runs through Southwark. Most pleasant walk London. Westminster Bridge to Tower Bridge section iconic. Pass Globe, Tate, Southbank Centre, Borough Market.

02

Millennium Bridge

Connects Bankside to City

Pedestrian suspension bridge. Opens 2000 (wobbly, fixed). Links Tate Modern to St Paul's Cathedral. Views both directions spectacular. Busy but beautiful, especially sunset.

03

Jubilee Gardens

Belvedere Road, SE1 8XX

Green space South Bank. London Eye adjacent. Fountains, playground, lawn. Picnics, events, summer lounging. Refurbished 2012 Diamond Jubilee. Tourist hub but locals use too.

04

Potters Fields Park

Tooley Street, SE1 2AA

Tower Bridge views. Lawn, benches, paths. Summer screenings, events. HMS Belfast visible. City Hall (Norman Foster's egg) nearby. Less touristy than Jubilee.



■ GYMS & FITNESS

01

The Gym Group Southwark

205-211 Blackfriars Road, SE1 8NL

Budget chain, 24/7 access. Weights, cardio, classes. £20-30/month. No-frills functional. Near Southwark station, convenient commuters.

02

Nuffield Health London Bridge

27 St Thomas Street, SE1 9RY

Premium gym + pool + spa. Personal training, physio, health assessments. £80-100/month. Near Shard/London Bridge. Business crowd.

03

Better Gym Elephant & Castle

22 Elephant & Castle, SE1 6SD

Council-run leisure centre. Pool, gym, classes. Affordable, accessible. Community vibe. Good value families/locals.

04

Frame Southwark

Various pop-ups + studios

Boutique fitness classes. Dance cardio, yoga, barre. Instagram-friendly, millennial magnet. Check website locations, rotate.

OUTDOOR FITNESS

Thames Path running (flat, scenic, popular). Millennium Bridge to Tower Bridge loop ~5km. South Bank outdoor yoga summer. Jubilee Gardens free fitness classes. Potters Fields bootcamps. Cycling infrastructure improving (quietways). Borough Market early morning quiet (before 9am run).

Practicals

D

Transport, character, South Bank story. Where culture meets commerce, history meets modernity.

HISTORIC SOUTHWARK

Seedy to Cultural

Shakespeare's time: seedy entertainment district. Theatres, brothels, bear-baiting banned from City. Winchester geese (prostitutes) Bishops' land. Borough Market 1,000 years (millennium history). Southwark Cathedral 900 years. Victorian warehouses, wharves, industry. Post-war decline, derelict docklands. 1951: Festival of Britain, Royal Festival Hall spark. 1990s: Tate Modern (2000), Globe (1997) transformation began.

CULTURAL CAPITAL

World-Class Institutions

Shakespeare's Globe 1997 reconstruction. Tate Modern 2000 Bankside Power Station. National Theatre, Southbank Centre complex. BFI Southbank film mecca. Hayward Gallery, Queen Elizabeth Hall. More cultural institutions per square mile than most cities entire. Free exhibitions (Tate, Southbank). Ticketed performances world-renowned. Cultural tourism economic engine.

FOODIE PARADISE

Borough Market Mecca

Borough Market last 30 years culinary revolution. Traders created restaurant empire. Neal's Yard Dairy, Monmouth Coffee, Brindisa legends. Padella queues, Roast views, Bancone pasta. Railway arch dining explosion. International diversity staggering. Market Wed-Sat (Sat busiest 8am-5pm). Chefs source here. Tourists pilgrimage. Locals actually shop (weekday mornings).

TODAY'S SOUTHWARK

Mix Everything

Tourism heavy (Shakespeare, Tate, Borough Market). Office workers (Bankside developments, More London). Residents (new builds, conversions, council estates). Students (nearby universities). Theatre-goers (Globe, National, Old Vic seasons). Commuters (London Bridge/Southwark/Waterloo). Mix creates energy. Never dead, always busy. Weekends tourist chaos. Weekdays office lunch rush. Cultural all week.

WEEKDAYS

Office & Culture

Office workers descend lunch (Borough Market, Pret, chains). Southbank Centre daytime events. Tate Modern tourists constant. Globe tours 10am-5pm. Riverside walks commuters/tourists. 6pm: bars fill (Anchor & Hope, Seabird). Theatre evenings (7:30pm curtains). Late-night quieter except bars/restaurants.

WEEKENDS

Tourist Central

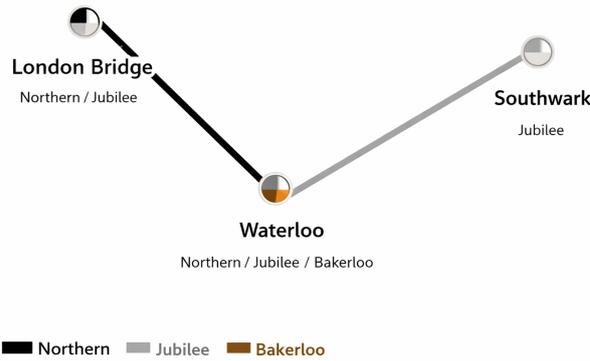
Saturday: Borough Market 8am-5pm chaos. Families, tourists, locals, chefs. Globe performances (spring-autumn season). Tate Modern busiest. Southbank street performers, book market. Sunday: Market quieter (closed officially but area busy). Roast Sunday lunch bookings. Riverside walks packed good weather. Museums/galleries busy but manageable.

WHO LIVES HERE

Mixed Bag

Young professionals (new builds, warehouse conversions). £1,800-2,500 rent 1-bed (waterfront more). £500k-800k buy 1-bed. Council estates remain (Elephant, Bermondsey borders). Students (nearby LSE, King's College). Commuters (excellent transport). Creative industries (media, arts). More transient than residential neighborhoods. Living here = trading residential calm for cultural access 24/7.

■ Transport



YOUR STATIONS

London Bridge

Northern/Jubilee

Major interchange. 2 stops to Bank (5 min). Thameslink to everywhere. Borough Market adjacent. The Shard. Busiest.

Southwark

Jubilee Line

Quieter than London Bridge. Direct Westminster 2 stops. Near Tate Modern/Globe. Young Vic theatre. Less crowded.

Waterloo

Northern/Jubilee/Bakerloo

Mega station. National Rail hub. Southbank Centre adjacent. 5-min walk Southwark attractions. Multiple line options golden.

■ GETTING AROUND

Extremely walkable. Everything connected riverside path. London Bridge to Westminster 25-min walk (passing everything).

Buses: 1, 12, 45, 63, 148, 381, RV1 (extensive).

Cycling improving (Cycle Superhighway 3/7).

Taxis/Ubbers abundant (tourist area).

Cars pointless - walking faster, parking impossible.

River Bus (Thames Clipper) fun option.

■ PRO TIPS

Borough Market: arrive before 10am Saturday (less insane) or Thursday (locals day). Globe tickets: £5 groundling standing (authentic experience). Tate Modern Friday nights late opening (until 10pm, less crowded). Riverside walk best sunset. London Bridge station confusing (signage terrible). Jubilee Line faster than Northern often.

■ ■ COMMUTE TIMES

Bank/City

5 min

Northern Line from London Bridge. 2 stops direct. Financial district easy.

Westminster

5 min

Jubilee Line from Southwark. 2 stops direct. West End/government offices.

Canary Wharf

10 min

Jubilee Line direct. Major business hub. Fast commute, popular professionals.

King's Cross

12 min

Northern Line from London Bridge. No changes. Eurostar connections.

Oxford Circus

15 min

Jubilee/Northern changes. Shopping/West End. Doable commute.

Shoreditch

15 min

Walk to London Bridge, Overground. Or bus. Tech scene accessible.

■ ■ Best Streets & Areas

South Bank

Riverside Cultural Strip

Thames Path Westminster to Tower Bridge. Southbank Centre, Royal Festival Hall, BFI, National Theatre. Book market under Waterloo Bridge. Street performers, food vendors. Touristy but deservedly. Walk half joy.

Borough Market Area

Stoney Street, Bedale Street

Market itself + surrounding streets. Permanent restaurants: Roast, Bancone, Padella, Oma/Agora. Railway arches dining. Southwark Cathedral shadow. Cobbled streets, Victorian warehouses converted. Tourist central weekends, quieter weekdays.

Bankside

Globe to Tate Modern

Shakespeare's Globe, Tate Modern, Millennium Bridge. Clink Street (prison museum), Golden Hinde ship replica. Sam Wanamaker Playhouse. Waterfront dining. Mix old/new architecture. Culture concentrated.

Borough Yards

New Development

Modern development near market. Bancone pasta, restaurants, bars, shops. Designed pedestrian spaces. Less character than old warehouses but cleaner, newer. Mixed reception locals (gentrification debates).

The Cut

Theatre District

Young Vic, Old Vic. Lower Marsh Market (weekday lunch, vintage). Residential/commercial mix. Anchor & Hope gastropub. Students, theatre-goers. Less touristy than riverside. Real London vibe.

Bermondsey Street

Antiques to Gastropubs

Just east Southwark proper. Antiques shops, vintage, independent cafes/restaurants. Jose tapas bar. White Cube gallery. Bermondsey Street Festival. Maltby Street Market weekends. Worth exploring.



Cultural Density

Shakespeare's Globe + Tate Modern + National Theatre + Southbank Centre + BFI = unmatched cultural institutions per square mile. Free exhibitions (Tate, Southbank). World-class performances. Royal Festival Hall, Hayward Gallery. Walking distance everything. Cultural tourism economic engine. This is London's cultural capital.



Borough Market

1,000 years history (millennium literally). Last 30 years culinary institution. Neal's Yard Dairy, Monmouth Coffee legends. Chefs source here. International street food. Bread Ahead donuts, Brindisa olives responsible for UK obsessions. Wed-Sat (Sat busiest 8am-5pm). Foodie pilgrimage essential.



Thames Riverside

South Bank riverside walk most pleasant thing London. Westminster to Tower Bridge iconic stretch. Millennium Bridge pedestrian link City. Views: London Eye, Big Ben, St Paul's, Shard, Tower Bridge. Sunset magical. Never boring, always beautiful. Half joy journey.



Old Meets New

Shakespeare 1599 meets Tate Modern 2000. Southwark Cathedral 900 years meets Borough Yards 2024. Victorian warehouses converted railway arch restaurants. History preserved, modernity embraced. Bankside Power Station now art mecca. Contradiction creates character. Past/present coexist beautifully.

Where culture lives.
Where food thrives.

Explore Southwark & South Bank.

[HOMES FOR SALE](#)

[HOMES TO RENT](#)

[GET A VALUATION](#)

[ASK OMAR](#)

CUI

CITY & URBAN INTERNATIONAL