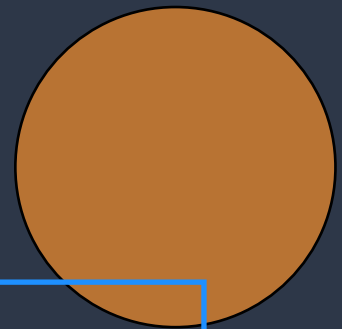


NORTH & CENTRAL · EC1 / N1



HOXTON & CLERKENWELL

creative.



Where watchmakers became designers,
where the gastropub was invented,
where galleries outnumber galleries.

A Eat & Drink

B Create

C The Scene

D Practicals

Eat & Drink

A

From gastropub pioneers to Michelin stars. Vietnamese street food to refined French.



■ COFFEE & BRUNCH

01

Workshop Coffee

1 Old Street Yard, EC1Y 8AF

Specialty roasters. Perfect coffee every time. Fortitude Bakehouse pastries. Serious but not pretentious.

02

The Breakfast Club Hoxton

2-4 Rufus Street, N1 6PE

Queue on weekends but worth it. American diner vibes, massive portions, cutesy interiors. Instagram famous.

03

Caravan Exmouth Market

11-13 Exmouth Market, EC1R 4QD

All-day brunch pioneers. Global menu, excellent coffee, always packed. The chorizo hash is legendary.

04

Towpath Café

Regent's Canal Towpath, N1 5SB

Tiny canal-side gem. Seasonal menu, natural wine, sun-trap terrace. Cash only. Closes at 5pm.



VIETNAMESE KINGSLAND ROAD

01

Viet Grill

[58 Kingsland Road, E2 8DP](#)

Authentic Vietnamese. Generous portions, fantastic prices. The pho is some of London's best. Always busy.

02

Sông Quê

[134 Kingsland Road, E2 8DY](#)

Vietnamese stalwart. Seafood specialist. Stir-fried mussels with ginger, scallops with black bean sauce.

HOXTON ORIGINALS

01

Cocotte

[8 Hoxton Square, N1 6NU](#)

French rotisserie chicken. Simple, perfect. Nice brunch too. The sides are as good as the bird.

02

Via Emilia

[37a Hoxton Square, N1 6NN](#)

Northern Italian. Homemade pasta from Emilia-Romagna. The gnoccho fritto is gorgeous. Warm, affordable.



■ CLERKENWELL DINING

THE LEGENDS

01

The Eagle

159 Farringdon Road, EC1R 3AL

Where the gastropub was invented (1991). Still going strong. Seasonal menu, steak sandwiches, proper pub.

02

Moro

34-36 Exmouth Market, EC1R 4QE

Spanish/North African. Open since 1997. Still packed every day. The bar staff are implausibly good looking.

03

St John

26 St John Street, EC1M 4AY

Nose-to-tail British. Fergus Henderson's original. Bone marrow, eccles cakes, offal done right. A London icon.

MICHELIN STARS

01

Luca

88 St John Street, EC1M 4EH

Michelin-starred Italian using British produce. Casual café front, formal dining back. Beautiful courtyard.

02

Club Gascon

57 West Smithfield, EC1A 9DS

French fine dining. Southwest France focus. Held a Michelin star for over 20 years. Foie gras heaven.



Create

B

Galleries, design showrooms, Clerkenwell Design Week, Museum of the Home.



■ GALLERIES & CULTURE

01

White Cube Hoxton Square

[48 Hoxton Square, N1 6PB](#)

Major contemporary art gallery. Jay Jopling's empire. Tracey Emin, Damien Hirst have shown here. Always free.

02

Museum of the Home

[136 Kingsland Road, E2 8EA](#)

Interior design through the ages. Beautiful almshouse buildings. Excellent café. The period room displays are brilliant.

03

Design showrooms

[Clerkenwell](#)

Highest concentration of architects in the world. Clerkenwell Design Week every May. Showroom-dense streets.

04

Sadler's Wells

[Rosebery Avenue, EC1R 4TN](#)

World-leading dance venue. Three centuries of theatrical heritage. Ballet to flamenco. Stunning performances.



The Scene

C

Watchmakers to designers. Artists to architects. Edge meets elegance.



HOXTON

Edgy Creative

Artists moved here in the 1980s when it was cheap industrial lofts. Galleries, raves, clubs followed. Gentrified now but kept the edge. Council estates meet contemporary art. Vietnamese food scene on Kingsland Road. Queen of Hoxton for nightlife. Grittier than Shoreditch.

CLERKENWELL

Refined Creative

Medieval monks, then watchmakers, then designers. Highest concentration of architects in the world. Clerkenwell Design Week is huge. Exmouth Market is buzzing. Gastropub was invented here (The Eagle, 1991). More expensive, more polished than Hoxton.

SHARED DNA

Craft Heritage

Both were industrial. Both became creative hubs. Hoxton had furniture makers (Curtain Road), Clerkenwell had watchmakers and printers. Both have design DNA. Both gentrified but community persists. Different vibes, same creative spirit.

THE TRUTH

Two Neighbors

Hoxton is younger, louder, cheaper. Clerkenwell is older, quieter, pricier. Hoxton has galleries and nightclubs. Clerkenwell has Michelin stars and showrooms. Both are full of creative professionals. You can live in one, work in the other, drink in both.

WEEKDAYS

Design & Work

Clerkenwell: Architects in showrooms, long lunches at Moro, coffee at Workshop. Serious work vibe. Hoxton: Freelancers in cafés, gallery openings, early drinks. More relaxed. Both full of creative professionals on Macs.

WEEKENDS

Night vs Brunch

Hoxton Saturday night: Queen of Hoxton, XOYO, late-night Vietnamese. Sunday: Hoxton Street Market, brunch queues, canal walks. Clerkenwell: Quieter. Exmouth Market for food, then home. Not a party area.

WHO LIVES HERE

Creatives & Professionals

Hoxton: Younger creatives, artists (fewer now), design studio workers, people who want edge. Mix of council estates and new builds. Clerkenwell: Architects, older creatives, well-paid professionals. Expensive loft conversions in Victorian warehouses.

Practicals

D

Transport, commutes, where to live, what you need to know.



■ Transport



YOUR STATIONS

Old Street

Northern Line

The hub. Northern Line to Bank, City, West End.

Farringdon

Circle/Met/Elizabeth/Thameslink

Major interchange. Thameslink to Gatwick/Luton. Elizabeth Line game-changer.

Angel

Northern Line

10-min walk from Clerkenwell. Quick to King's Cross, Bank, West End.

Hoxton

London Overground

Serves Hoxton proper. North to Highbury, south to Shoreditch High Street.

■ GETTING AROUND

Very walkable. Hoxton to Clerkenwell is 15 minutes on foot.

Cycling is huge; dedicated lanes on City Road and Old Street.

Car? Unnecessary.

Parking is nightmare (CPZ), permits expensive. Most residents don't bother.

■■ COMMUTE TIMES

Bank

10 min

Northern from Old Street. Direct and fast.

King's Cross

15 min

Northern from Old Street or Angel. One change max.

Liverpool Street

10-15 min

Walk, cycle, or Northern via Moorgate.

Shoreditch

10 min walk

Straight down Old Street. Overground from Hoxton.

Canary Wharf

25 min

Elizabeth Line from Farringdon (once open). Currently Northern + DLR.

West End

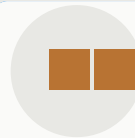
20 min

Northern to Tottenham Court Road or Leicester Square.



Creative DNA

Highest concentration of architects in the world (Clerkenwell). Galleries, design showrooms, Clerkenwell Design Week. Hoxton was artists before cool. Both areas breathe creativity — you can feel it walking around.



Food Scene

Clerkenwell invented the gastropub (The Eagle, 1991). Michelin stars, Exmouth Market buzz. Hoxton has Vietnamese street food heaven on Kingsland Road. Range from £8 pho to £80 tasting menus. All quality.



Heritage Meets Now

Medieval monks (Clerkenwell), Victorian furniture makers (Hoxton), watchmakers, printers. Industrial past, creative present. Loft conversions in old warehouses. History you can see and touch. Not preserved — evolved.



The Reality

Not cheap. Studios from £1,400/month in Hoxton, £1,600+ in Clerkenwell. Hoxton cheaper, younger, edgier. Clerkenwell pricier, older, more refined. Both popular with creatives who can afford them. Busy, dense, vibrant.

Where craft meets creative.

Explore Hoxton & Clerkenwell.

[HOMES FOR SALE](#)

[HOMES TO RENT](#)

[GET A VALUATION](#)

[ASK OMAR](#)

CUI

CITY & URBAN INTERNATIONAL