

Notting Hill Area Guide

<p>NOTTING HILL W1, W2</p>	 <p>5</p> <p>PARKS / OPEN SPACES</p>	 <p>7</p> <p>5* OFSTED-RATED PRIMARY SCHOOLS</p>
 <p>1</p> <p>5* OFSTED-RATED SECONDARY SCHOOLS</p>	 <p>TRAVEL: 26 MIN DRIVE TO CENTRAL LONDON</p>	 <p>5</p> <p>NEARBY STATIONS CLOSEST TUBE: NOTTING HILL GATE CLOSEST OVERGROUND: SHEPHERD'S BUSH</p>
 <p>WHO LIVES THERE: FAMILIES / PROFESSIONALS / RETIRED / YOUNG COUPLES</p>	 <p>3</p> <p>MICHELIN STARRED RESTAURANTS</p>	 <p>AREA GOOD FOR: LOCATION / SCHOOLS / FAMILIES / TRANSPORT</p>

Overview

- Part of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, the Notting Hill area has been transformed over the last 50 years. Now one of London's most fashionable districts Notting Hill was developed in the 19th Century to provide housing for the growing London middle classes; influenced by the fashion of the time, the area has been laid out in elegant squares and crescents, many with communal gardens, providing excellent family housing.
- Community and a village atmosphere is so rare in London, but Notting Hill has this in abundance. Residents are attracted to the 'bohemian-meets-cool' atmosphere of the area and the diverse mix of people, from the idyllic garden squares, to the boutiques and café culture of Westbourne Grove and the hustle and bustle of the world re-known Portobello Road.

Living in Notting Hill

- Located in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Notting Hill has been transformed over the last 30 years from the once poor neighbour to Chelsea and Kensington, into one of London's most fashionable districts, filled with peaceful residential squares and stunning communal gardens.

Did You Know

- The name for Portobello Road actually comes from the 'War of Jenkins' Ear', when Admiral Edward Vernon captured the Panamanian town of Puerto Bello from the Spanish. Nearby Vernon Yard also honors the admiral.
- The famous Blue Door from the iconic movie Notting Hill was written into the film by Richard Curtis as he once lived at that location. The original door was sold at an auction and the current owners painted the new door blue to capitalise on the film's popularity.
- The Ladbrooke family owned much of the land in Notting Hill in the 19th Century. As such, several streets and locations in the district are named after the family.
- Notting Hill as an area has always been an inspiration to musicians, artists and actors. Jimi Hendrix wrote his ever famous Purple Haze here; Withnail & I was filmed in the area, and recently some of the film 'Paddington' was shot on Portobello Road.
- Notting Hill Carnival is the largest street festival in Europe celebrated each August Bank Holiday. There is a strong Caribbean theme to the carnival with hundreds of performers and floats along the parade route, attracting some 2 million people every year over the two days.

Architecture & Property

- A mix of Georgian, Edwardian, Victorian and modern architecture line the leafy streets of W11. St Peter's, the landmark church on Kensington Park Road, was designed by Thomas Allom in 1855 along with the surrounding housing in Kensington Park Gardens, Stanley Crescent and Stanley Gardens.
- Sweeping crescents retaining original features give the area its character with its white stucco facades and in some streets houses painted in a variety of colours. Some of the desirable crescents include Lansdowne, Stanley, Elgin and Blenheim Crescent.
- Mews houses are also very popular, for example, Pembridge Mews, St Luke's Mews, and Horbury Mews, as are the numerous hidden gems in the area.
- With a consistent demand for property here, the area is seeing more and more new developments providing more diverse architecture and revitalising ageing estates.

Who Lives There

- Notting Hill attracts a wide mixture of people from celebrities, media, bankers to professionals, who predominantly work in the City of London, the West End, Canary Wharf and Mayfair. The highly prized communal gardens offer rare tranquility in our modern world – arguably country living in London. It is largely home to many families and has excellent access to world class schools. These include Wetherby, Notting Hill Prep and Pembridge Hall.

Where to Eat

Splash the Cash

- The Ledbury – Michelin star restaurant where Chef Brett Graham offers innovative cooking, paired with fine wines in a smart, modern setting.
- Assaggi – a restaurant offering a colourful dining room with a fireplace, floor-to-ceiling windows and high end regional Italian cuisine.

Fancy a cup of coffee?

- Gail's Bakery on Portobello Road
- Grocer on Elgin
- Mr Christian's Deli

Lunch/Breakfast

- Mr Christian's
- Uli – Asian cuisine
- Dalesford – organic shop and café
- Farm Girls – Vegetarian
- Farmacy – Vegan

Dinner

- The Gold – Oysters and a Pint
- Beach Blanket Babylon
- Farmacy
- A drink and a dance?
- The Ladbroke Arms, Cock and Bottle, Earl of Lonsdale, The Mitre – all lovely pubs to go for a drink
- Portobello Star – unique gin bar, known for its famous Portobello Road gin and you can also do a gin tour in the distillery to see it made
- Rum Kitchen – good for all three: food, drink and a boogie
- E&O on Blenheim Crescent

Transport

- **Underground:** Notting Hill Gate (Zone1/2) Central, District & Circle lines. Ladbroke Grove (Zone 2) Hammersmith & City line, Holland Park (Zone 2) Central line and Westbourne Park Station (Zone 2) Circle, Hammersmith & City lines. The Central line gives direct access to Bond Street and on to the City of London.
- **Overground:** Shepherd's Bush station runs to Richmond, Clapham Junction and Stratford to the east.
- **Buses:** Notting Hill boasts one of the best bus hubs in central London with links to all points of the compass – north, south, east, west.
- **Car:** The Westway (A40) the M40, M4 and M3 all provide access out of London and access to the M25 – the London Orbital motorway.

Culture

- Notting Hill is full of diverse culture. There are three theatres: the Tabernacle, The Gate Theatre and The Coronet. There are two traditional and quite famous cinemas: The Gate and The Electric where you can book a sofa to watch your movie and eat beforehand. If you fancy some art, the West Bank Gallery on Westbourne Grove will provide it. Rough Trade record store is one of the oldest vinyl record shops in the world located just off Portobello Road.

Parks & Green Space

- Apart from the private communal gardens scattered around the area, there are wide open spaces of Holland Park, Kensington Gardens and Hyde Park also nearby with facilities such as the Serpentine Lake and Gallery, Albert Memorial, and the Italian Gardens.

Sports & Leisure

- Gyms are well represented in the area: Bodyism and Body West Works. There is a Virgin Active on Lancaster Road. There are pilates studios scattered around the area such as Form Studios and Heartcore.

Shopping

- Portobello Road Market attracts an enormous number of tourists to its diverse shops and market stalls at weekends throughout the year. Westbourne Grove with its exclusive clothes boutiques and interior designer shops is in contrast to this. Good delicatessens and butchers such as Lidgates, Provenance and George's fishery are all nearby.

Schools & Education

Nursery

- Strawberry Fields, Kidsunlimited Ladbroke Grove Nursery, Acorn Nursery

Nursery

- Notting Hill Prep School, Wetherby School, Pembridge Hall School, Southbank, Norland Place

Local Authority

- Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea