

# Notting Hill & West London

HIGH ST KENSINGTON | NOTTING HILL & WESTBOURNE GROVE | EARL'S COURT & WEST BROMPTON | MAIDA VALE | SHEPHERD'S BUSH | HAMMERSMITH | KENSINGTON HIGH ST | HAMMERSMITH & CHISWICK | ENTERTAINMENT

## Neighbourhood Top Five

**1 Portobello Road Market** (p274) Spending a Saturday afternoon browsing eclectic stalls selling street food, antiques and fashion, among other things, and putting your feet up in a local cafe or pub.

**2 Design Museum** (p273) Getting your camera out at this fabulous museum

dedicated to the importance of design in everyday life.

**3 Boat Trip** (p275) Boarding a boat for the leisurely trip between Little Venice and Camden, along Regent's Canal.

**4 Windsor Castle** (p280) Raising a pint in the garden or snug interior of this classic tavern on Campden Hill Road.

**5 Electric Cinema** (p283) Cosying up in a front-row double bed with a glass of vino at one of the UK's oldest cinemas.



For more detail of this area see Map p470 and p472 ➔

## Lonely Planet's Top Tip

To make the best of your time at Portobello Road Market, do a one-way circuit (p276) between Notting Hill Gate and Ladbroke Rd tube stations. The flow tends to go from Notting Hill to Ladbroke Grove, but either way works fine.



### Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Potli (p279)
- ➔ Ledbury (p279)
- ➔ River Cafe (p280)
- ➔ Gate (p280)
- ➔ Snaps + Rye (p278)

For reviews, see p277. ➔



### Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Troubadour (p281)
- ➔ Windsor Castle (p280)
- ➔ Scarsdale Tavern (p281)
- ➔ Dove (p282)
- ➔ Earl of Lonsdale (p280)

For reviews, see p280. ➔



### Best Guided Tours

- ➔ London Waterbus Company (p285)
- ➔ Brompton Cemetery (p275)
- ➔ 18 Stafford Terrace (p273)
- ➔ Kensal Green Cemetery (p275)

## Explore Notting Hill & West London

Most people come to West London for three reasons: for Portobello Road Market, for outstanding dining, or because they're sleeping in one of the area's choice accommodation options.

West London is sight-light, but you should allow half a day for the the Design Museum and Portobello Road Market and another half day to walk along the Grand Union Canal towards Little Venice, maybe with a pint at one of the waterside pubs en route.

Some excellent restaurant and entertainment options will save those staying in the area from legging it into the West End (although it's close enough to do so if you want). For eating, Notting Hill has a great concentration of good names, but cast your net further and land superb pickings in Hammersmith and Shepherd's Bush.

For nightlife, Notting Hill and Shepherd's Bush are the most vibrant, while Kensington is home to one of the capital's most interesting roof-top clubs. Other areas will be pretty quiet once the pubs have rung the 11pm bell.

## Local Life

➔ **Fruit and vegetable markets** Although also popular with tourists, Portobello Road Market (p274) is where many Notting Hill residents shop for their daily fruit and veg. Another good fruit and veg market is Shepherd's Bush Market (p285).

➔ **Waterside strolling** Little Venice (p275) is very popular at the weekend when families go for a walk along the canal's tow paths.

➔ **Affordable pampering** The Porchester Spa (p286) is run by Westminster Council and is cheaper than typical commercial spas.

## Getting There & Away

➔ **Tube** The west-east Central Line stops at Queensway (Bayswater), Notting Hill Gate and Shepherd's Bush. For Paddington, Westbourne Grove and the western end of Shepherd's Bush, there's the painfully slow Hammersmith & City Line. Earl's Court and Hammersmith are on the zippy Piccadilly Line.

➔ **Bicycle** Santander Cycles (p415) are useful to get from one neighbourhood to another, with docking stations across West London.