

# The Knowledge

## TOP FIVE FOR KIDS

Louise Cohen



### 1 PUNK SCIENCE DAYS

Use discarded film canisters to create mini rockets in this interactive workshop. Science Museum, Exhibition Road, SW7 ([www.sciencemuseum.org.uk](http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk) 0870 8704868), Sat, Sun

### 2 HORRIBLE HISTORIES: THE TERRIBLE TUDORS

A fun history lesson, casting an eye over King Henry VIII, Elizabeth I and the Spanish Armada. Based on Terry Deary's books. Cambridge Arts Theatre, St Edwards Passage, Cambridge ([www.cambridgeartstheatre.com](http://www.cambridgeartstheatre.com) 01223 503333), Sat; The Hexagon, Queen's Walk, Reading ([www.readingarts.com/thehexagon](http://www.readingarts.com/thehexagon) 0118-960 6060), Mon-Wed

### 3 RAINBOW LIVE: ZIPPY SUPERSTAR DJ

Zippy wins a recording contract! Will he forget his Rainbow friends? Beck Theatre, Grange Road, Hayes ([www.becktheatre.org.uk](http://www.becktheatre.org.uk) 020-8561 8371), Sun

### 4 THE SELFISH GIANT

Image Musical Theatre's version of Oscar Wilde's fairytale. Suitable for over-4s. Stantonbury Campus Theatre, Purbeck Way, Stantonbury, Milton Keynes ([www.stantonbury.org.uk](http://www.stantonbury.org.uk) 01908 324422), Sat

### 5 THE TIGER WHO CAME TO TEA

David Wood's adaptation of Judith Kerr's picture book about a tiger causing tea-time chaos. Theatre Royal, New Road, Brighton ([www.theambassadors.com](http://www.theambassadors.com) 0870 0606650), Sat; Floral Hall, Compton Street, Eastbourne ([www.eastbournetheatres.co.uk](http://www.eastbournetheatres.co.uk) 01323 412000), Mon-Wed

For more kids' stuff [timesonline.co.uk/families](http://timesonline.co.uk/families)



## Top Indian restaurants

Curry favour with your friends with **Square Meal's** guide to the best Indian restaurants in the South East

### £ BOMBAY BAY

Southsea Marina, Fort Cumberland Road, Portsmouth (02392 816066), open Mon-Thur & Sun noon-11pm; Fri 3pm-midnight; Sat noon-midnight  
Seafaring artefacts chime with the restaurant's bird's-eye view of the yacht-filled marina. The modern menu offers lighter cooking and well-presented dishes.

### £££ CHUTNEY MARY

535 Kings Road, SW10 (020-7351 3113), open Sat-Sun 12.30-3pm; Mon-Sun 6.30-11.30pm (Sun -10.30pm)  
This landmark restaurant just seems to get better with age. An opulent new look, including crystal-studded silk wall hangings, is a perfect match for the vibrant cooking of the new head chef, Siddharth Krishna. Topping it off is effortlessly smooth service.

### £ IMLI

167-169 Wardour Street, W1 (020-7287 4243), open Mon-Sun noon-11pm  
Here you'll find an interesting mix of street food, modern Indian dishes and curries (not to mention afternoon tea) freshly prepared and attractively presented in tapas-sized portions. Lack of soft furnishings can make the chic, contemporary interior noisy.

### THE BIG EAT

## The Cinnamon Club

££ The Old Westminster Library, Great Smith Street, SW1 (020-7222 2555), open Mon-Fri 7.30-9.30am, noon-2.45pm; Mon-Sat 6-10.45pm

The old library provides an atmospheric backdrop for the outstanding food at any time but, unusually for an Indian restaurant, it is best for lunch, when it attracts the area's media, business and political crowd. With light set-menu options complementing the regular

à la carte, this is also when the kitchen offers the most wide-ranging choice of food — a delicate organic salmon carpaccio with onion seeds and horseradish raita, a richer tandoori duck with quince chutney, or one of the exceptional game specialities, such as curried grouse or roast saddle of venison. Alternatively, splash out with one of the tasting menus. Innovative desserts provide a memorable ending.

### £ INDIAN ZEST

21 Thames Street, Sunbury-on-Thames (01932 765000), open Mon-Sun noon-3pm, 5.30-10.45pm

This newcomer balances traditional cuisine with contemporary technique. Flavours are strong without being over-spiced and presentation is eye-catching.

### £ NAUROZ

219 Field End Road, Eastcote, Pinner, Middx (020-8868 0900), open Tues-Sun noon-midnight  
A cheerful family-run outfit

with functional decor. Noteworthy are the robust Pakistani home-style tandoori items and the house speciality, deigh lamb. Sides are equally good and desserts unmissable. With ridiculously cheap prices, too, this place is a gem.

### ££ RASA W1

6 Dering Street, W1 (020-7629 1346), open Mon-Sat noon-3pm; Mon-Sat 6-10.30pm  
This West End outpost of the famous Stoke Newington Indian restaurant continues to bang the drum for Kerala

cool and prices keen, so even if the dated pink colour scheme makes Rasa unsuitable for business dining, it's certainly great for eating with friends.

### £ ROOBUROO

21 Chapel Market, N1 (020-7278 8100), open Mon 5.30-10.45pm; Tues-Sun noon-2.30pm, 5.30-10.45pm  
It's not in the most salubrious location, but inside there's an airy, cream interior enlivened by subtle Indian art and a casual menu of pan-Indian dishes with restrained spicing and fresh, clean flavours.

### ££ TAMARIND

20 Queen Street, W1 (020-7629 3561), open Mon-Fri noon-3pm; Sun noon-2.30pm; Mon-Sun 6-11.30pm (Sun -10.30pm)  
One of London's smartest Indian restaurants, where kebabs cooked in the tandoor are a house speciality. Elsewhere are zingy salads, rich curries and superior side orders. The setting is slick and polished and the service cheerful.

### £££ VATIKA

Wickham Vineyard, Botley Road, Shedfield, Southampton (01329 830405), open Thur-Sun noon-3pm; Tues-Sat 6-10pm  
The scenic backdrop is one reason for visiting Michelin-starred chef Atul Kochhar's new restaurant; the other is the fantastic cooking, which Kochhar has described as "modern British with an Indian twist".

### PRICE GUIDE

£££ Above £45

££ £30-£45

£ Under £30

Price ranges are indicative of one two-course à la carte meal, plus half a bottle of house wine, coffee, cover charge, service and VAT. Restaurant reviews compiled specially for *The Times* by Square Meal, for 18 years the London and UK eating-out experts. Opinions are based on the experiences of the Square Meal team of inspectors and of thousands of readers, who are surveyed throughout the year. You can find more reviews and news on their website.

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