

Culture

# What to Do in London This Weekend (and Beyond)

From exhibitions to new restaurants, we've got you covered

**E** By The Esquire Editors UPDATED: 14 MARCH 2024



Hayward Gallery

Winter provides plenty of opportunities for Nice Long Walks. But these walks will become much longer, and much less nice, once you realise that every vaguely interesting cultural event taking place in London – every exhibition, every hyped pop-up, you'd take a ball-pit bar if it meant you could finally have a breather – has been booked up until 2025. Because having a good time in London really is a matter of military-grade preparation, and you should start the process as soon as possible. To help you out on your mission, we've rounded up the most exciting dates on the capital's cultural calendar.

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## Hunker down by The Walmer Castle's fireplace



Helen Cathcart

The Walmer Castle has the best position on Ledbury Road but the pub's fortunes have never quite lived up to its potential. Things look much more hopeful now, following a considered restoration by Jack and Poppy Greenall, who run Chelsea's much-loved pub, The Surprise. The first thing to note is just how nice it is to be here. It's English but not parochial: Cornelia Parker prints frame the fireplace, furniture from Rupert Bevan adds a sophisticated, unfussy touch. The food? Also very good. Start with bar snacks – think Provençal olives rather than pork scratchings – and move onto the venison carpaccio. We tucked into a tender lamb shoulder and steak, and there are reliable favourites (servings of fish and chips seemed to flow from the kitchen all night). An extensive wine list and cocktails (truly the best addition to pubs over the last decade) should see you through the night.

*The Walmer Castle, 58 Ledbury Rd, London W11 2AJ*

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