
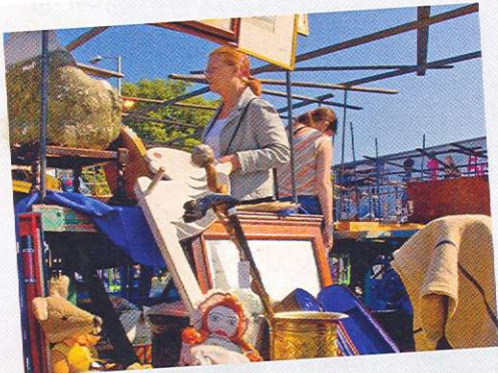


thehotlist

13 must-do's for the month ahead.
Simply pick, tick – and go 



1 Cross...

the Thames. Thanks (maybe) to ex-Mayor Ken, London's South Bank has been swinging again for some time, and the route along the river from the National Theatre to the Tate Modern is busy with promenading trendies. It's no surprise then that neighbouring Bermondsey – hitherto most notable as the place where Bill Sykes met his maker in *Oliver Twist* – is having a fashionable moment. This month, The Bermondsey Square Hotel (www.bermondseysquare.co.uk), sister to posh members' club Home House, opens with a tick-off list of all things desirably cool: deli, wine shop, roof garden and incredibly British bar-and-restaurant (Alfie's). It's part of a complex that also includes an art-house cinema and some intimidating apartments. Vestiges of the old Square remain, though – get up early on Friday and you can browse the stalls of the weekly antiques markets, open from 4am to 1pm.

Meanwhile, nearby Bermondsey Street is turning into a Shoreditch impersonator, with all the prerequisite boutiques and pubs, including New York-style bar and diner Village East (www.villageeast.co.uk) and scarily named menswear purveyor Cockfighter (020 7357 6482, below). Rag-hag types will love Zandra Rhodes's Fashion and Textile Museum (www.ftmlondon.org), which is painted in similar hues to her hair. But if you want traditional, don't miss Manzes (020 7407 2985) at the other end of the street – it's keeping it real with pies and eel.

