

Quirky Shopping Guide

London Eastside



Introduction

Do you ever feel that shopping nowadays can sometimes seem a little, well, bland? With high streets everywhere being dominated by the same big chains, finding something unique or out of the ordinary can be a real challenge. If edgy and original are more your thing than the humdrum and everyday, then browsing through East London's exciting selection of vibrant street markets and independent, one-of-a-kind shops should be right up your street.



London Eastside has long been a hotbed of creativity and innovation. The area was originally settled by successive waves of immigrants, from French silk-makers and Irish weavers to Jewish traders and Bangladeshi garment-factory workers – each of whom brought their own skills, traditions and flair to create a dynamic, multifarious mix. This is still very much in evidence and today's eclectic range of designers, artists, jewellers, milliners, haberdashers, tailors, booksellers and others make this one of the city's most lively and diverse places to visit, eat and shop.

Whether you prefer the banter and commotion of the famously colourful street markets; the style and panache of an independent boutique or design studio; or the air-conditioned comfort of Canary Wharf's indoor mall, you'll find a world of temptations and must-have creations throughout London Eastside. And no matter if you're looking for a vintage frock, a new hair style, organic groceries, a designer sofa or even the latest cutting-edge fashions, you're sure to find whatever you're looking for – and more – with the help of the Quirky Shopping Guide.

How to use the Quirky Shopping Guide

With so many tempting shopping opportunities to be found within the Quirky Shopping Guide, it's difficult to know where to start! So, to help you better plan your retail blitz, we've included some handy street maps of London Eastside's main shopping areas. You'll find these maps by folding out the inside back cover.

To make it easier for you to locate the shops you're particularly interested in, we've given each one a reference number. This is clearly displayed in the coloured dot to the right of each shop's name, along with a corresponding map number on which you'll find the shop's physical location. Simply turn to the map in question, find the numbered dot... and away you go.

To make the maps more user-friendly, each dot is colour coordinated to reflect the section in which the listing appears – so if the shop you're trying to locate on the map is a fashion store, you'll know to only look for the bright pink dots. Simple!

WORDS: JAMES LITSTON

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Fashion



With options ranging from cutting-edge and experimental to ethnic, bespoke and big-name brands, you'll never be stuck for something to wear.

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MAP 1 **1**

Who says fashion has to come at a price? By carefully sourcing items from both past and present collections, this stylish boutique makes haute couture accessible to any budget. Expect to find ready-to-wear and accessories from such edgy designers as Ann Demeulemeester, Balenciaga and Collection Privée.

Address: 127 Brick Lane, E1 6SB
Tel: 020 7729 6320
Open: 11am-7pm, Tue-Sun

Aarong

MAP 1 **2**



If you're shopping in the heart of Banglatown, you might as well dress for the occasion! Aarong is the most prestigious clothing brand in Bangladesh, offering cotton and silk saris, salwar-kameez and other Bengali garments in a dazzling kaleidoscope of bold, bright colours.

Address: 69 Vallance Road, E1 5BS
Tel: 020 7247 7727
Web: www.aaronglondon.com
Open: 10.30am-7pm, Mon-Sat
10.30am-6pm, Sun

Alexander Boyd

MAP 1 **3**

Fly in the face of throwaway fashion and go for the bespoke look instead. Tailored shirts come with Australian mother-of-pearl buttons, the finest Italian and Swiss fabrics and a choice of cuffs and collars. There's also an off-the-peg selection, plus accessories including hand-made ties and shoes.

Address: 52-54 Artillery Passage, E1 7LS
Tel: 020 7377 8755
Web: www.alexanderboyd.co.uk
Open: 8.30am-7.30pm, Mon-Fri
Saturdays by appointment

Behave

MAP 1 **4**

Want to nail that distinctive Shoreditch 'look'? Then head to this super-cool boutique for its eclectic mix of retro-inspired and cutting-edge men's and women's fashions. Behave specialises in designer denims and lines from Nordic and other hard-to-find international brands like Acne, Eley Kishimoto and April 77.

Address: 17 Lamb Street, E1 6EA
Tel: 020 7375 1617
Open: 11am-7pm, daily

Bodas

MAP 1 **5**

Girls: head here for simple, practical underwear that's both understated and sexy in equal measure. Staple lines and seasonal styles come in high-quality silk, cotton and lace – though don't miss the ever-popular, barely-there Sheer Mesh collection that combines invisibility and unrivalled support to spectacular effect.



Address: 43 Brushfield Street, E1 6AA
Tel: 020 7655 0958
Web: www.bodas.co.uk
Open: 10.30am-6.30pm, Mon-Fri
10.30am-6pm, Sat
11am-5pm, Sun

Buckler

MAP 1 **6**

Having made it big in the USA, British designer Andrew Buckler has returned to his roots with this, his first store on home turf. Specialising in 'classic menswear with a twist', the Buckler brand encompasses suits, shirts, jumpers, jeans and the exclusive Sexy Bastard underwear.

Address: 35 Artillery Lane, E1 7LP
Tel: 020 7377 2767
Web: www.andrewbuckler.com
Open: 11am-6.30pm, Mon-Fri
11am-6pm, Sat
12pm-5pm, Sun

A Butcher of Distinction

MAP 1 **7**

The unusual butcher's-shop theme (think tiled walls, livestock prints and clothes displayed on meat-hooks) sets a quirky tone to this diverse menswear boutique. Timeless classics for the 'country gent' look sit side-by-side with trendy, high-end jeans from niche brands like Sugar Cane and Studio D'Artisan.

Address: 11 Dray Walk, Old Truman Brewery, E1 6QL
Tel: 020 7770 6111
Open: 10am-7pm, daily

Chica

MAP 1 **8**

Unleash your inner princess at this gorgeous and utterly girly boutique, where the emphasis is on bright colours, fantastic fabrics and dressing to impress. Make the ultimate style statement with Chica's beautifully feminine designs in daring bubblegum shades – rounded off with some seriously show-stopping accessories.

Address: 14 Market Street, E1 6DT
Tel: 020 7247 9700
Web: www.chicaboutiqueonline.com
Open: 11am-7pm, Mon-Fri
10am-6pm, Sat-Sun

Dragana Perisic

MAP 1 **9**

Serbian-born Dragana designs and creates beautifully-crafted, timeless clothes known for their individuality, obsessive detailing and extreme versatility – making every item a work of art. Look out for the Suffolk puffs (a Dragana trademark) that adorn most pieces, plus her fabulous range of hand-made, silk and silver jewellery.

Address: 30 Cheshire Street,
E2 6EH

Tel: 020 7739 4484

Web: www.draganaperisic.com

Open: 11am-6pm, Wed-Sun



Finesse Lifestyle

MAP 4 **10**

Fair-trade fashions feature heavily at this Scandinavian boutique, which stocks dresses, jackets and knits from ethical brands like People Tree, Bohemia and Jackpot, plus Finnish favourite Marimekko. There's also a great range of Marimekko bags and kitchenware, plus designer 'iittala' glassware and Moomin mugs.

Address: 453 Roman Road, E3 5LX

Tel: 020 8983 9286

Web: www.finesselifestyle.com

Open: 9.30am-6pm, Mon-Sat



Future Vintage

MAP 2 11

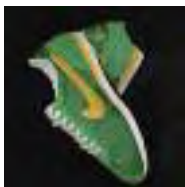
Unlike other second-hand stores and their retrospectives of decades gone by, Future Vintage specialises in current classics – the ‘vintage of tomorrow’. Stock is always seasonal and replenished on a weekly basis, with pieces by Jil Sander, Marc Jacobs and other top designers being in high demand.

Address: 98 Columbia Road, E2 7QB
Tel: 020 7729 2197
Web: www.future-vintage.co.uk
Open: 12pm-4pm, Sat
9.30am-3pm, Sun

Gloria's Trainers

MAP 1 12

London's last truly independent trainer shop specialises in mainstream and lesser-known footwear brands with a particular focus on rare, limited edition and hard-to-find colour combinations and styles. Expect to find stock from Adidas, Nike and Vans alongside niche brands like Obey, Sixpack and Mishka.



Address: 6 Dray Walk, Old Truman Brewery, E1 6RF
Tel: 020 7770 6222
Web: www.superdeluxe.net
Open: 12pm-7pm, Mon
11am-7pm, Tue-Sun

Jakks

MAP 4 13

Make yours the best-dressed kids in town! Jakks stocks high-end designer children's clothes, including well-known brands like Armani, Diesel and DKNY. From Burberry baby-grows to mini Juicy Couture tracksuits, Jakks caters for kids of all ages – from newborns to even the most fashion-conscious teens.

Address: 469 Roman Road, E3 5LX
Tel: 020 8981 2233
Web: www.jakss.co.uk
Open: 10am-5.30pm, Tue-Sat

Junky Styling

MAP 1 14

Recycling has never been this creative. Junky Styling gives old clothes a whole new lease of life, turning men's jackets into corset dresses and suit sleeves into scarves. The design ethic may be slightly wacky, but the results are original, inspired and utterly wearable.



Address: 12 Dray Walk, Old Truman Brewery,
E1 6RF

Tel: 020 7247 1883

Web: www.junkystyling.co.uk

Open: 10.30am-6.30pm, daily

The King and Queen of Bethnal Green

MAP 1 15

Browsing is a joy in this eccentric boutique, which offers a varied mix of one-off pieces from around the world. Last season's couture classics sit alongside vintage frocks, ethnic items, hand-made jewellery and leather handbags, with menswear ranging from military jackets to country tweeds.

Address: 41 Temple Street, E2 6QQ

Web: www.kq-bg.com

Open: 11am-7pm, Fri-Sun

The Laden Showroom

MAP 1 16

Definitely one for the fashionista, this extensive showroom carries stock from more than fifty emerging design talents, both from Britain and around the world. Shop here for cutting-edge clothing, jewellery and accessories from such up-and-coming designers as Dahlia, Orion and Emily & Fin.

Address: 103 Brick Lane, E1 6SE

Tel: 020 7247 2431

Web: www.laden.co.uk

Open: 11am-6.30pm, Mon-Fri

11am-7pm, Sat

10.30am-6pm, Sun

The Lazy Ones

MAP 1 17

Get a uniquely London 'look' at this funky womenswear boutique. The shop stocks clothing and knitwear from local designers alongside an eclectic selection of party frocks, tunic-style dresses and other one-off designs under its own Des Moines label. There's also a small collection of vintage classics.

Address: 102 Sclater Street, E1 6HR
Tel: 07812 957 276
Web: www.thelazyones.co.uk
Open: 11am-7pm, Wed-Sun



lik + neon

MAP 1 18

More of a micro department store than a shop, LIK+NEON bills itself as 'a one-stop shop for originals and music', featuring limited edition clothing, jewellery, accessories and more. Don't miss the own-designed LIK+NEON bags and FFP jewellery, plus experimental electronic music on CD and vinyl.

Address: 106 Sclater Street,
E1 6HR
Tel: 020 7729 4650
Web: www.likneon.com
Open: 12pm-7pm, Mon
11am-7pm, Tue-Sat
11am-6.30pm, Sun



Photo credit: SUK-JU RYU

Lulu and Lush

MAP 1 19

Underwear comes with guaranteed va-va-voom at this seriously sexy boutique. From silk camisoles and saucy robes to designer lingerie and beautifully-made, burlesque-style corsets, every item in this decadent shop exudes sex appeal by the bucket-load. There's also a great selection of gorgeous, glamorous eveningwear.

Address: 15 Lamb Street, E1 6EA
Tel: 020 7377 0370
Web: www.luluandlush.com
Open: 11am-6pm, Tue-Sat
11am-5pm, Sun

Luna & Curious

MAP 1 20

More than just another fashion boutique, Luna & Curious showcases a very personal selection of unique, beautifully finished and utterly individual jewellery, ceramics and both vintage and contemporary clothing – with a strong emphasis on British-made goods designed by the store's six creators.



Address: 198 Brick Lane, E1 6SA
Tel: 020 7033 4411
Web: www.lunaandcurious.com
Open: 12pm-6pm, Thu-Sun

Mags & Pye Boutique

MAP 1 21

Drawing on the local area for their inspiration, the five designers behind this independent womenswear boutique create inspiring and innovative clothes that are glamorous, feminine and fun. There's also a great collection of bangles, belts and bags, plus killer heels from own-label Duke & Duchess.



Address: 164 Brick Lane, E1 6RU
Tel: 020 7247 9220
Open: 12pm-7pm, Mon-Fri
11am-7pm, Sat-Sun

Mendoza

MAP 1 22

Specialising in reproduction vintage menswear, Mendoza is the place to come for Fred Perry-style polo's, button-down shirts and collarless monkey jackets. The individual range is a celebration of 1960's mod culture, with a selection of genuine vintage articles to perfectly complete the collection.

Address: 158 Brick Lane, E1 6RU
Tel: 020 7377 5263
Open: 11am-6pm daily

The Menu

MAP 1 23



'Smart casual' menswear is what's on the menu at this stylish boutique. Jeans, scarves, jackets and polo shirts are cherry-picked from a range of British and international designers (including Paul Smith, Nicole Farhi, John Smedley and Fred Perry) to provide a classic, very wearable selection.

Address: 45 Brushfield Street, E1 6AA

Tel: 020 7539 9269

Web: www.shopmenu.co.uk

Open: 11am-7pm, Mon-Fri
11am-6pm, Sat-Sun

Nicolerenee

MAP 1 24

Be a million dollar bride in a made-to-measure couture gown from this renowned mother-and-daughter team. Either choose (or adapt) a dress from their range of unique designs; or create a one-off masterpiece to your own specifications. Sumptuous fabrics, beautiful beading and stylish accessories complete the look.

Address: 4 Puma Court, E1 6QG

Tel: 07961 180 949

Web: www.nicolerenee.co.uk

Open: by appointment only

Oh Baby London

MAP 1 25



Fashion's not just for grown-ups! Oh Baby's fabulously anarchic children's wear epitomises Brick Lane's counter-culture spirit. Playsuits, T-shirts and hoodies come in funky designs and colours (think camouflage for boys, lipstick-pink for girls) and splashed with too-cute slogans like the signature 'Been Inside For 9 Months'.

Address: 162 Brick Lane, E1 6RU

Tel: 020 7247 4949

Web: www.ohbabylondon.com

Open: 10am-6pm daily

Precious

MAP 1 **26**

This super-chic boutique showcases an exquisite selection of womenswear from such covetable brands as Diane von Furstenberg and McQ. Owner Kate Evans – who previously bought for Harvey Nichols – has clearly lost none of her fashion flair, hand-selecting the very best elements of each designer’s seasonal collections.

Address: 16 Artillery Passage, E1 7LJ
Tel: 020 7377 6668
Web: www.precious-london.com
Open: 11am-6.30pm, Mon-Fri
11am-5pm, Sat

Pure Labels

MAP 4 **27**

Stand out from the crowd with Pure Labels’ glamorous, look-at-me fashions from mainly Brazilian, French and Italian designers. Slinky tops and daring dresses come embellished with studs and sequins, while their funky jewellery, vertiginous heels and show-stopping, must-have handbags will ensure you’ll get yourself noticed.

Address: 430 Roman Road, E3 5LU
Tel: 020 8983 2004
Web: www.pure-labels.com
Open: 10am-6pm, Mon-Sat



Rockafella

MAP 4 28

Rather like a condensed version of Carnaby Street, this menswear boutique stocks selected streetwear from a wide range of cult brands, including Franklin Marshall sweats, Chunk printed Ts and items from Firetrap, Replay, Addict and Gsus – with a similar take on womenswear available in Blush next door.

Address: 79-81 Roman Road, E2 0QN
Tel: 020 8981 5934
Web: www.rockafella.co.uk
Open: 10am-6pm, Mon-Wed
10am-6.30pm, Thu-Sat
12pm-4pm, Sun

Second Tread

MAP 1 29

Find great savings on up-to-the-minute styles at this busy little shop specialising in seconds, returns and samples of quality men's and women's footwear. New items are added daily and the wide selection of end-of-line and clearance stock means there are always bargains to be found.

Address: 261 Hackney Road, E1 6SE
Tel: 020 7033 9862
Open: 10am-5.30pm, Mon-Sat

Shop 172

MAP 1 30

For genuinely edgy, directional fashions, look no further than this tiny boutique specialising in emerging British and Japanese designers (including several graduates from Central St Martin's). Expect geometric cardigans, stringy neckpieces and super-baggy jeans, plus a great selection of old-school plimsolls in the basement.

Address: 172 Brick Lane, E1 6RU
Tel: 020 7650 8873
Web: www.shop172.com
Open: 12.30pm-7pm, Mon-Fri
11am-7pm, Sat-Sun

Sniff

MAP 1 31

Looking for some distinctive footwear? Then check out the selection at Sniff, where you'll find a unique mix of elegant Spanish and Italian labels, streetwise urban designs and a decent range of own-designed boots, shoes and heels that you won't find anywhere else.

Address: 115 Commercial Street, E1 6BG
Tel: 020 7375 1580
Web: www.sniff.co.uk
Open: 10.30am-7pm, Mon-Sat
11am-6pm, Sun

Son of a Stag

MAP 1 32

Specialising in denim and street wear, this contemporary boutique has a particular focus on hard-to-find brands from Japan, Sweden, the Netherlands and the United States. Look out for Edwin, Takumi and True Religion jeans alongside more mainstream brands like G-Star, Wrangler and Lee.



Address: 9 Dray Walk, Old Truman Brewery,
E1 6QL
Tel: 020 7247 3333
Web: www.sonofastag.co.uk
Open: 11am-7pm, daily

Therapy

MAP 1 33

There's a definite feel of 80's revival at Therapy, an emporium of men's urban/streetwear that's big on the 'skaterboy' look. Old-school brands like Sergio Tacchini sit alongside GioGoi hoodies, Adidas trainers and super-contemporary Diesel jeans – plus there's always a clearance section offering mega-deals.

Address: 119-121 Middlesex Street, E1 7JF
Tel: 020 7377 1838
Open: 10.30am-6.30pm, Mon-Fri
11am-5pm, Sat
10.30am-3.30pm, Sun

Timberland Boot Company

MAP 1 34

Quality, authenticity and classic design are the hallmarks of this specialist shop's robust footwear, whose merchandise strikes a happy balance between modern manufacture and traditional craftsmanship. The building is an attraction in itself; an abandoned warehouse brought back to life as a unique, individual concept store.

Address: 1 Fournier Street, E1 6QE
Tel: 020 7377 6941
Web: www.timberlandbootcompany.co.uk
Open: 9.30am-6pm, Mon-Sat
11am-5pm, Sun

Traffic People

MAP 1 35



Inject some old-school glamour into your wardrobe at this dressing-up box of a shop, where elegant, feminine designs come with intricate detailing and guaranteed wow-factor. Floaty blouse dresses, gorgeous ruffle tops and knockout, box-cut shifts provide a dressy, grown-up look for the clued-up girl about town.

Address: 61-63 Brushfield Street, E1 6AA
Tel: 020 7247 9377
Web: www.trafficpeoplestore.com
Open: 10am-7pm, daily

Urban Species

MAP 1 36

If comic book heroes are your thing, head to this unique boutique to find your favourite emblazoned across T-shirts, hoodies and limited-edition artworks. The store is a licensee of Marvel (creator of Spider Man and the X-Men), so expect their characters to feature heavily.

Address: 14 Cheshire Street, E2 6EH
Tel: 020 7729 7733
Web: www.urbanspecies.co.uk
Open: 10.30am-7.30pm, Mon-Sat
9.30am-6.30pm, Sun

Vintage



Immerse yourself in the East End's signature 'vintage' vibe with a rummage through these treasure troves of nearly new fashions.

Absolute Vintage

MAP 1 **37**



One of the area's very first vintage emporiums, Absolute Vintage features a vast selection of previously-owned treasures – with everything colour coordinated to make shopping easier. Visit on the first Sunday of every month to browse the rails to the sounds of an all-day DJ.

Address: 15 Hanbury Street, E1 6QR
Tel: 020 7247 3883
Web: www.absolutevintage.co.uk
Open: 12pm-7pm, Mon-Sat
11am-7pm, Sun

Beyond Retro

MAP 1 **38**

London's largest vintage clothing retailer occupies a 5,000-square-foot warehouse packed with over 15,000 competitively-priced items – with hundreds more added to the shop floor each day. Stock ranges from Victorian frocks through to beaded 1920's flapper dresses, 50's prom dresses, 60's shifts and garish 70's jumpsuits.

Address: 110-112 Cheshire Street, E2 6EJ
Tel: 020 7613 3636
Web: www.beyondretro.com
Open: 10am-6pm daily

Blondie

MAP 1 39

As Absolute Vintage's smarter, dressier sister store, Blondie is the place to come for high-end designer goods from big names like Dior, Gucci, Chanel and Vuitton. In addition to beaded gowns and 1980's party frocks, look for Hermès scarves, crocodile shoes and big, big sunglasses.



Address: Unit 2, 114-118 Commercial Street, E1 6NF
Tel: 020 7247 0050
Web: www.absolutevintage.co.uk
Open: 10am-7pm, daily

The Brick Lane Thrift Store

MAP 1 40

Pop into this selective second-hand store for patterned jumpers, denim shirts, baseball jackets, fake fur coats and sparkly, beaded 1980's knits – all at extremely reasonable prices. For an even wider selection, check out much larger sister shop The East End Thrift Store over in Whitechapel.

Address: 68 Sclater Street, E1 6HR
(also Assembly Passage, E1 4UT)
Tel: 020 7739 0242
Web: www.theeastendthriftstore.com
Open: 12pm-7pm, Mon-Sat
10am-6pm, Sun

Hunky Dory

MAP 1 41

This smart vintage store carries an inspiring selection of clothes, bags and accessories from yesteryear, spanning everything from the 30's to the 1980's. Top buys include retro cycling jerseys, skinny 50's ties, tailored Teddy-Boy-style drape jackets and a strong collection of women's leather boots.

Address: 226 Brick Lane, E1 6SA
Tel: 020 7729 7387
Open: 11.30am-6.30pm, Tue-Sun

Hurwundeki

MAP 1 42

This exclusive and unusual boutique marries beautiful vintage pieces from all over the world with a personalised hair salon just around the corner. Exposed brickwork and clever fittings (including a reconditioned set of porcelain urinals) display the delicate clothing and quality accessories to spectacular effect.



Address: 98 Commercial Street, E1 6LZ
Tel: 020 7392 9194
Web: www.hurwundeki.com
Open: 11am-7.30pm, Mon-Fri
10am-7.30pm, Sat-Sun

I Dream of Wires

MAP 1 43



Revisit the decade that taste forgot at this specialist vintage store, whose focus is very firmly on the big, brash 1980's. Power-dresses, metallic tops and shell-suits in over-the-top, garish colours are staples, plus there's a fun selection of memorabilia, from retro luggage to He-Man toys.

Address: 68a Cheshire Street, E2 6EH
Tel: 020 7739 4481
Open: 11am-7pm, daily

Rokit

MAP 1 44

Such is the size of Rokit's selection of quality second-hand and vintage classics that it spreads across two neighbouring premises! Split between them is a wide range of handbags, homewares and ballgowns, plus jeans, jewellery, military and western pieces and some fun, own-design T-shirts.

Address: 101 & 107 Brick Lane, E1 6SE
Tel: 020 7375 3864
Web: www.rokit.co.uk
Open: 11am-7pm, Mon to Fri
10am-7pm, Sat-Sun

Speedie's

MAP 1 45

One of the area's newest vintage emporiums, Speedie's offers a selective range of hand-picked clothing, furniture and audio equipment in an uncluttered, welcoming environment.

The styling is fabulously 1970's but the merchandise hails from the 50's all the way through to the early 80's.



Address: 81 Redchurch Street, E2 7DJ

Tel: 020 7739 4798

Open: 11am-7pm daily

The Shop

MAP 1 46

In addition to a wonderful and unique selection of quality vintage textiles and haberdashery, this eclectic showroom offers a very personal collection of well-priced womenswear – featuring everything from Victorian frocks and mink stoles to 80's mohair jumpers. There's also a separate menswear shop next door.

Address: 1-3 Cheshire Street, E2 6EH

Tel: 020 7739 5631

Open: 11am-6pm, Tue-Sat
10am-5pm, Sun

This Shop Rocks

MAP 1 47

Anyone with a penchant for the fashions of yesteryear will love this treasure trove of carefully selected womenswear from the 30's, 40's and 50's. With options ranging from glamorous gowns and frilly prom dresses to printed rayons and kitsch crepe skirts, this shop really does rock.

Address: 131 Brick Lane, E1 6SE

Tel: 020 7739 7667

Open: 11am-7pm daily

Accessories



Hand-made hats, bags, jewellery and more – these original, super-stylish accessories will bring added East End flair to any outfit.

@Work

MAP 1 48



Known as one of London's best contemporary jewellery outlets, award-winning @Work features original, well-made and surprisingly affordable jewellery for both men and women. The gallery showcases the work of many different individual designers with a strong emphasis on bright, fun and thoroughly innovative styles.

Address: 156 Brick Lane, E1 6RU
Tel: 020 7377 0597
Web: www.atworkgallery.co.uk
Open: 11am-6pm, Mon-Sat
12pm-5pm, Sun

Ally Capellino

MAP 1 49

Striking a perfect balance between timeless and modern, Ally Capellino's designs are classic, simple and unquestionably stylish. Holdalls, washbags, totes and purses come in durable waxed cotton or the softest Italian leather – fabrics that look better with age, in designs that are made to last.

Address: 9 Calvert Avenue, E2 7JP
Tel: 020 7613 3073
Web: www.allycapellino.co.uk
Open: 12pm-6pm, Wed-Fri
10am-6pm, Sat
11am-4pm, Sun



Ben Day

MAP 1 50

Exquisite gemstones and impeccable craftsmanship are the hallmarks of Ben Day's exclusive and individual jewellery. Rare and unusual stones like aquamarine, tourmaline and differently-coloured diamonds are sourced from around the world, with each piece being designed and created by hand on the premises.

Address: 18 Hanbury Street,
E1 6QR
Tel: 020 7247 9977
Web: www.benday.co.uk
Open: 11am-6pm, Tue-Fri
11am-5pm, Sat-Sun



Bernstock Speirs

MAP 1 51

Paul Bernstock and Thelma Speirs have been turning feathers and felt into fabulous yet functional hats for over 25 years. Classic trilbies and knitted bobble-hats are designed in the on-site workshop, where the eponymous milliners can be glimpsed creating the headwear trends of tomorrow.

Address: 234 Brick Lane, E2 7EB
Tel: 020 7739 7385
Web: www.bernstockspeirs.com
Open: 10.30am-6pm, Tue-Fri
11am-5pm, Sat-Sun





'Ethical and beautiful' is the mantra at Cerise, where everything is British designed and made. Top buys include stunning jewellery in 'vegetable ivory' (a rainforest nut), hand-smocked silk scarves and eye-catching handbags made from feathers, leather, antique kimono silk or immaculate snakeskin (farmed, of course).

Address: 94 Columbia Road, E2 7QB
Tel: 020 8245 4656
Web: www.ceriseuk.com
Open: 10am-3.30pm, Sun
(and by appointment)

Comfort Station

Silver chains, porcelain beads and semi-precious stones become versatile, utterly covetable works of wearable art in the hands of jewellery designer Amy Anderson. Originally known for her signature wooden handbags, Amy's jewellery collections – which take a different theme each season – have earned her a worldwide following.



Address: 22 Cheshire Street, E2 6EH
Tel: 020 7033 9099
Web: www.comfortstation.co.uk
Open: 11am-6pm, Tue-Sun

Dower & Hall

MAP 1 54

Husband-and-wife team Dan Dower and Diane Hall have created an exclusive selection of hand-crafted, easy-to-wear women's and men's jewellery in silver, gold and precious stones (plus platinum and white gold for something really special). Intricate designs and clever detailing make this an exceptional collection.



Address: 39 Brushfield Street, E1 6AA
Tel: 020 7377 5544
Web: www.dowerandhall.com
Open: 10am-6.15pm, Mon-Fri
11am-5pm, Sat-Sun

Fred Bare

MAP 2 55

Known for their highly individual range of men's and women's headgear, the team at Fred Bare create trilbies, berets, cloches and peaked bakers' caps – all hand-made in the UK, then personalised through the application of embroidery, beads, crystals, buttons and eye-catching swatches of vintage fabrics.

Address: 118 Columbia Road, E2 7RG
Tel: 020 7729 6962
Web: www.fredbare.co.uk
Open: 12pm-4pm, Sat
9.30am-3pm, Sun

Glitterati

MAP 2 56



Delve into this fabulous collection of vintage costume jewellery, with items ranging from heavy 19th Century brooches to over-the-top 1970's cufflinks (including many items by noted designers of their day). There's also a good selection of vintage bags, scarves, hats and other accessories.

Address: 148 Columbia Road, E2 7RG
Open: 9am-3pm, Sun

Mimi

MAP 1 57

For the very best in designer luggage, purses, holdalls, bags and classic travel accessories, look no further than Mimi Berry's fantastic shop-cum-studio in Cheshire Street. All designs are created in-house, then hand-crafted from colourful, top quality Italian leather in a workshop just down the street.

Address: 40 Cheshire Street, E2 6EH

Tel: 020 7729 6699

Web: www.mimiberry.co.uk

Open: 10am-6pm, Tue-Thu
10.30am-6pm, Fri-Sat
11am-6pm, Sun



L'Orangerie

MAP 2 58

Prepare to be dazzled by a riot of colour. Beautiful costume jewellery (in glass, agate, ceramic and resin) drips from potted bay trees or lies scattered seductively across mosaic tables. Discover necklaces, bracelets and brooches in every colour of the rainbow – and a few more besides!

Address: 162 Columbia Road, E2 7RG

Tel: 020 8983 7873

Web: www.orangerieshop.com

Open: 11am-4pm, Sat
9am-4.30pm, Sun

Revlis

MAP 1 59



An inspiring and eclectic collection of designer men's and women's jewellery awaits within this shop's sexy black-and-white interior.

Unusual gemstones like ametrine and aragonite are married with silver, leather and natural horn to

create distinctive statement pieces that are as individual as they are beautiful.

Address: 4 Hanbury Street, E1 6QR

Tel: 020 7426 0122

Web: www.revlis.co.uk

Open: 12pm-7pm, Mon-Sat
11.30am-6pm, Sun

Samantha Salmons

MAP 4 **60**

Looking for a really unique piece of jewellery? Then why not have something created especially for you? Samantha Salmons designs on commission, working closely with every customer to devise their perfect ring, necklace or other irresistible adornment in gold, diamonds and other precious stones.

Address: 207 Falcon Works, 8 Copperfield Road,
E3 4RT
Tel: 07768 867 883
Web: www.samanthasalmons.com
Open: by appointment only

Source

MAP 1 **61**

Essentially a lifestyle boutique for the girl about town, Source offers up-to-the-minute fashions, sparkly jewellery, scented candles, gloves and purses, hand-made handbags – even pretty, practical accessories like umbrellas and diaries – making it a one-stop shop for all of life's little necessities.

Address: 6 Market Street, E1 6DT
Tel: 020 7377 6382
Web: www.sourcelifestyle.com
Open: 10.30am-6pm, Mon-Fri
11am-6pm, Sat
11am-5pm, Sun

Tatty Devine

MAP 1 **62**

Bold, clever and utterly original jewellery in wood and acrylic are the staples at this fun and creative Brick Lane original. Favourite designs are always available in the perennial 'Best Of' collection, with rotating art displays on the shop's exhibition wall adding to the fun.

Address: 236 Brick Lane, E2 7EB
Tel: 020 7739 9191
Web: www.tattydevine.com
Open: 11am-6pm, Tue-Sun



Furniture, homewares and design



Update your living space with anything from original antiques, reconditioned classics, contemporary designs and locally-made soft furnishings and accessories.

Alma Leather

MAP 1 **63**



Give your home a contemporary feel with Alma's chic, slick and modern designs. Sofas, day-beds, coffee tables and more come in a variety of leather, suede and sheepskin finishes, plus there's an excellent range of cushions, throws and rugs – all designed and made on the premises.

Address: 12-14 Greatorex Street, E1 5NF
Tel: 020 7377 0762
Web: www.almahome.co.uk
Open: 9am-6pm, Mon-Fri
11am-4pm, Sun

Bahasa

MAP 2 **64**

There's a major focus on all things Indonesian at this ethnic homewares shop – so much so that it's even named after the country's official language. Come here for traditional carved figurines, wooden bowls, rattan lampshades and woven baskets (including a range made from recycled chocolate wrappers).

Address: 114-116 Columbia Road, E2 7RG
Tel: 020 7613 1933
Open: 9.30am-2.30pm, Sun

Ben Southgate

MAP 2 65

Redundant furniture and fittings are gathered from across Europe and restored to a pristine state in Ben's own workshop. The main focus is on tables, leather chairs, gleaming metal medical cabinets and the odd curiosity, with most items hailing from the 1900's to the 1950's.

Address: 4 The Courtyard, Ezra Street, E2 7RH

Tel: 07905 960 792

Web: www.bsouthgate.co.uk

Open: 9am-2.30pm, Sun

Bilan Design Shop

MAP 4 66

This shop sells arts and craftwork made by marginalised Somali women and children (many of them refugees) living in London. Expect to find beautifully-made pottery, cushions, embroidered throws and much more, with all profits being ploughed back into this wonderful initiative.

Address: 29 Old Ford Road, E2 9LP

Tel: 020 8981 6312

Web: www.b2bsomali.org

Open: 10am-2:30pm, Mon-Thu
10am-5pm, Fri-Sat

Bohemia

MAP 1 67



1960's tiled coffee tables, 70's rosewood sideboards, fibreglass Eames chairs, Hans Wegner plank armchairs... if it's an original designer classic, the chances are you'll find it in this

wonderful celebration of 20th Century furniture – alongside a few religious icons and genuine antiques for good measure.

Address: 55 Brushfield Street, E1 6AA

Tel: 020 7375 3283

Web: www.retrotrading.co.uk

Open: 11am-5pm, Mon-Sat
10am-6pm, Sun



This eclectic boutique stocks a thrilling mixture of old and new pieces for the home and to wear. Reconditioned, 1940's-style steel fittings are stacked with brightly-painted desk lamps, ceramic money-boxes and super-kitsch decorative plates. Check out their fabulous recycled silk dresses and bizarre-but-cute singing birds!

Address: 3 Redchurch Street, E2 7DJ

Tel: 020 7033 3532

Web: www.caravanstyle.com

Open: 11am-7pm, Mon-Fri
1pm-6pm, Sat-Sun

Elemental

Old furniture is given a new lease of life at Elemental, where retro seating, cabinets, light fixtures and more are reconditioned and restored to their former glory. The shop also stocks some interesting vintage and contemporary home accessories, plus unusual and distinctive Moroccan mosaic tables.



Address: 67 Brushfield Street, E1 6AA

Tel: 020 7247 7588

Web: www.elemental.uk.com

Open: 11am-6pm, Tue-Sat
9am-6pm, Sun

Ella Doran

MAP 1 70



Fantastic photographs printed onto a full range of home accessories are the order of the day at Ella Doran. Flowers, leaves and stunning retro images are artfully emblazoned across mugs, placemats, cushions, wallpaper and made-to-measure blinds – or beautifully displayed as box-mounted prints.

Address: 46 Cheshire Street, E2 6EH
Tel: 020 7613 0782
Web: www.elladoran.co.uk
Open: by appointment, Mon-Wed
10am-6pm, Thu-Fri
12pm-5pm, Sat
11am-5pm, Sun

Far

MAP 2 71

Shopkeeper and inveterate traveller Marc Snell has amassed a fabulous collection of exotic artefacts from his journeys around the world. This tiny gallery showcases reclaimed architectural features like 'Jali' screen doors and antique carved mirrors, plus African tribal masks and a small selection of ethnic jewellery.

Address: 124 Columbia Road, E2 7RG
Tel: 07931 151 663
Web: www.farglobal.co.uk
Open: 9am-4pm, Sun (and by appointment)



Handmade Interiors

MAP 1 72

Proof that ethics and style can go hand-in-hand, this bijou shop sells luxurious, fairly-traded homewares like beautiful, hand-made cushions and block-printed quilts from India; organic cotton towels and copper bowls from Turkey; and a good range of unusual ceramics by up-and-coming British designers.



Address: 10 Cheshire Street, E2 6EH
Tel: 020 7613 5200
Web: www.handmade-interiors.co.uk
Open: 11am-6pm, Thu-Sun

In Spitalfields

MAP 1 73

Focusing on funky yet functional furniture and retro homewares, this shop is a must for those with eclectic tastes. Solid wood tables and plush velvet sofas sit side-by-side with contemporary lampshades, 1960's-style telephones, rugs, mugs, cake-stands and all manner of other gifts and accessories.

Address: 69 Brushfield Street, E1 6AA
Tel: 020 7247 2477
Web: www.inspitalfields.com
Open: 10am-6pm, daily

Jimmie Martin

MAP 1 74

Award-winning design duo Jimmie Martin have a distinctively urban take on classic design, creating customised, one-off pieces of furniture that are as fabulous as they are functional. Their range encompasses sofas, sideboards, and baroque-style beds, though they're best known for their unique, hand-painted carver chairs.



Address: 5a Redchurch Street, E2 7DJ
Tel: 020 7033 9507
Web: www.jimmiemartin.co.uk
Open: by appointment only

Labour and Wait

MAP 1 75



Step back in time to an era when quality and utility were intrinsic; and when simple, functional, everyday objects were beautifully made and designed to last. Stock up on practical, high quality household goods that look equally at home in a traditional or contemporary setting.

Address: 18 Cheshire Street, E2 6EH
Tel: 020 7729 6253
Web: www.labourandwait.co.uk
Open: 1pm-5pm, Sat
10am-5pm, Sun
(Friday by appointment)

Larache

MAP 1 76

Who'd have thought recycling could be such fun? Larache takes post-consumer materials and turns them into clever, quirky home accessories. Oil cans become Moroccan-style lanterns, bottle tops become trivets and, best of all, rice sacks are turned into unusual, unique and utterly desirable handbags.



Address: 30-32 Calvert Avenue, E2 7JP
Tel: 020 7729 7349
Web: www.hassanhajjaj.com
Open: 12pm-6pm, Thu-Sat
11am-4pm, Sun

Little Book of Furniture

MAP 1

77

Most of this showroom's chic, retro-inspired furniture is designed and made in-house, with upholstery options ranging from real leather to a huge range of natural fabrics. Specialities include 1950's-style dining chairs in bubblegum colours and inviting armchairs and chaises longues – stylish additions to any home.

Address: 107a Commercial Street, E1 6BG
Tel: 020 7247 4445
Web: www.littlebookoffurniture.com
Open: 10am-6pm, Mon-Fri
11am-5pm, Sat
10am-6pm, Sun

MARMARCo.

MAP 1

78

Add a contemporary touch to your living space with MARMAR's select range of designer homewares. Vinyl wall stickers offer a quick and simple way to make a style statement; while rustic trestle tables, Scandinavian glassware and ceramic bird-feeders banish ordinariness from every conceivable corner.

Address: 16 Cheshire Street, E2 6EH
Tel: 020 7729 1494
Web: www.marmarco.com
Open: by appointment, Mon-Thu
1pm-5pm, Fri-Sat
11am-5pm, Sun

Nom

MAP 2

79

Treat yourself to a taste of the orient with Nom's exclusive range of (mostly Vietnamese) homewares. Choose from beautifully decorated ceramic dishes and tea-ware; distinctive kitchen utensils in coconut wood or natural horn; or stunning lacquered bowls and platters in bright, metallic colours for extra 'wow' factor.

Address: 102a Columbia Road, E2 7QB
Tel: 07976 917 265
Open: 1pm-6.30pm, Thu-Fri
8am-3pm, Sun

OneDeko

MAP 1 80

From sleek designer sofas and stylish lampshades to cuckoo clocks and dog-shaped table lamps, OneDeko is a one-stop shop for quirky and unusual contemporary homewares. The accent here is on fresh new design, with plenty of statement pieces to bring real impact to your home.



Address: 103 Commercial Street, E1 6BG
Tel: 020 7375 3289
Web: www.onedeko.co.uk
Open: 10.30am-6pm, Mon-Fri
10.30am-5.30pm, Sat-Sun

Open House

MAP 2 81



Indoors meets outdoors at Open House, which specialises in modern and vintage furniture and accessories for the home and garden. Folding tables, designer mugs and decorated teapots will tempt the homebody, while garden twine, painted trowels and handmade wooden trugs will delight those with greener fingers.

Address: 152 Columbia Road, E2 7RG
Tel: 07979 851 593
Web: www.openhouseretail.co.uk
Open: 11am-3pm, Sat
7am-3pm, Sun

Pot Luck

MAP 2 **82**



If white bone china is your thing, then check out Pot Luck's vast selection of mugs, plates and tableware – with everything at least 50% cheaper than you'd find it on the high street. A selection of bold, bright flower pots adds a welcome splash of colour to the proceedings.

Address: 84 Columbia Road, E2 7QB
Tel: 020 7722 6892
Open: 8am-3pm, Sun

Russell Roberts

MAP 1 **83**

This gallery of top quality 20th Century furniture features chairs by such celebrated designers as Charles Eames, Hans Wegner and Bruno Mathsson; retro light fittings by Louis Polsen; and a fantastic selection of 1950's ceramics and Swedish art glass – plus an intriguing array of one-off 'curiosities'.

Address: 8 Cheshire Street, E2 6EH
Tel: 020 7613 3355
Web: www.8cheshirestreet.com
Open: 12pm-5pm, Thu-Fri
12pm-6pm, Sat
11am-5pm, Sun

SCP

MAP 1 **84**

One of the UK's largest outlets for contemporary design, SCP offers a carefully selected range of cutting-edge furniture, homewares and accessories from some of the best-known designer brands. As well as these timeless design classics, the shop also stocks an exciting collection of own-design furniture.



Address: 135-139 Curtain Road, EC2A 3BX
Tel: 020 7739 1869
Web: www.scp.co.uk
Open: 9.30am-6pm, Mon-Sat
11am-5pm Sun

Smudge Gallery

MAP 1 85

This photographic gallery specialises in urban art, with a particular emphasis on graffiti – including works by everyone’s favourite guerrilla artist, Banksy. Images are reproduced onto wood blocks or large-format canvas; and if you can’t find anything you like, they’ll even mount one of your own photographs.

Address: 117 Commercial Street, E1 6BG
Tel: 020 7247 9004
Web: www.spitalfieldsartmarket.co.uk
Open: 10am-6pm, Mon-Fri & Sun
11am-6pm Sat

Two Columbia Road

MAP 1 86

The stock at this high-end furniture store is in such pristine condition, it’s hard to believe it’s mostly over 50 years old! Specialising in classic Scandinavian, European and North American modern design, this is the place to come for retro furnishings at their very best.

Address: 2 Columbia Road, E2 7NN
Tel: 020 7729 9933
Web: www.twocolumbiaroad.com
Open: 12pm-7pm, Tue-Fri
12pm-6pm, Sat
10am-3pm, Sun

Unto This Last

MAP 1 87



Stylish, innovative and highly individual wooden furniture is made right here on the premises by skilled craftsmen using ethically-sourced materials and state-of-the-art technology. Tables, chairs, placemats and retro, curved-edge storage units are among the best sellers, with prices much lower than you might expect.

Address: 230 Brick Lane, E2 7EB
Tel: 020 7613 0882
Web: www.untothislust.co.uk
Open: 10am-6pm, daily



Browse through hundreds of china tea-sets, decorated plates and other practical homewares, plus a wide selection of ornamental glassware and a basement filled with

crochet napkins and embroidered tablecloths. Then head to the back of the shop for a cream tea at the Cake Hole café.

Address: 82 Columbia Road, E2 7QB

Tel: 01277 215 968

Web: www.vintageheaven.co.uk

Open: 12pm-6pm, Fri - Sat
8.30am-5.30pm, Sun

WAWA

Check out the constantly evolving selection of quality, locally-produced homewares at this gallery of superlative British interior design. The main focus is on made-to-order seating and sofas, supported by hand-printed lampshades, carved wooden mirrors and hand-made leather bags, plus beautiful tableware, cushions and designer ceramics.

Address: 3 Ezra Street, E2 7RH

Tel: 020 7729 6768

Web: www.wawa.co.uk

Open: 10am-2.30pm, Sun
(plus weekdays by appointment)



Galleries



London Eastside is a hotbed for creative types, whose works can be found at these edgy, contemporary galleries.

Columbia Road Gallery

MAP 2 **90**

Get a taste of the seaside without leaving East London. Columbia Road Gallery contains works by modern Cornish artists and craftspeople, with works ranging from oils on canvas to furniture and sculpture. Items are well-priced to make these original artworks accessible to all.

Address: 7 The Courtyard, Ezra Street, E2 7RH
Tel: 020 7613 0059
Web: www.columbiaroadgallery.com
Open: 9am-3pm, Sun
weekdays by appointment

Concrete Hermit

MAP 1 **91**

This shop-cum-gallery just off Redchurch Street features frequently changing exhibitions by internationally acclaimed graphic artists. Check out their original and innovative artworks on the walls; then buy the images emblazoned across a range of products like T-shirts, badges, postcards, prints and books.

Address: 5a Club Row, E1 6JX
Tel: 020 7729 2646
Web: www.concretehermit.com
Open: 10am-6pm, Mon-Sat

Update your living space with one of Nelly Duff's high-quality, original screen prints featuring the work of graphic, street and illustrative artists like Banksy, Patrick Thomas, Pure Evil and Faile. Images come framed or unframed and range from the provocative and thought-provoking to just plain kooky.

Address: 156 Columbia Road, E2 7RG
Web: www.nellyduff.com
Open: 12pm-4pm, Sat
9.30am-3.30pm, Sun
weekdays by appointment

StART SPACE

Discover original artworks and ever-changing exhibitions by established and up-and-coming talents at this cutting-edge Columbia Road gallery. Styles vary considerably, from Alexander Baynes' bold, vibrant cityscapes and Kirsty McLaren's manipulated photographic images to StART DESIGN's own ceramic 'crinkled coffee cups'.

Address: 150 Columbia Road, E2 7RG
Tel: 020 7729 0522
Web: www.st-art.biz
Open: 12pm-6pm, Fri-Sat
9am-3pm, Sun
weekdays by appointment



Food



Delve into a smorgasbord of goodies, from hand-made chocolates and tuck-shop treats to international delicacies and good old British staples.

A. Gold

MAP 1 94

There's more to British food than baked beans on toast! This quality grocer specialises in regional British and Irish produce such as cheeses, chutneys and hand-made pork pies. There's also a made-to-order sandwich bar and an old-style tuck shop selling traditional sweets by the 100g.



Photo credit: LDA

Address: 42 Brushfield Street, E1 6AG
Tel: 020 7247 2487
Web: www.agold.co.uk
Open: 9.30am-5.30pm, Mon-Fri
11am-6pm, Sat
10am-6pm, Sun

Bedales

MAP 1 95

Discover the world of wine at this out-of-the-ordinary bottle shop. Select your preferred vintage with the help of knowledgeable staff and a handy 'try before you buy' policy; then pay the corkage fee and sup your chosen bottle over a delicious snack from the deli.

Address: 12 Market Street, E1 6DT
Tel: 020 7375 1926
Web: www.bedaleswines.com
Open: 12pm-9.30pm, Mon
12pm-10pm, Tue
12pm-10.30pm, Wed-Fri
12pm-9pm, Sat
12pm-7.30pm, Sun

Billingsgate Fish Market

MAP 3 96

It may require an early start, but a visit to Billingsgate's famous fish market is a fantastic experience. Come face to face with a staggering variety of sea foods; then learn how to cook them on one of the Billingsgate Seafood Training School's cookery courses.

Address: Trafalgar Way, E14 5ST
Tel: 020 7987 1118
Web: www.billingsgate-market.org.uk
Open: 5am-8.30am, Tue-Sat

Brick Lane Beigel Bake

MAP 1 97

Handy for a snack at any time of day or night, this 24-hour bakery is a genuine East End institution. Buy fresh-from-the-oven beigels by the half-dozen, or treat yourself to one stuffed with cream cheese, smoked salmon or the shop's speciality – hot salt beef.



Address: 159 Brick Lane, E1 6SB
Tel: 020 7729 0616
Open: All day, every day (24 hours)

Franzè & Evans

MAP 1 98

Specialising in regional products from co-owner Nicolas Franzè's southern Italian homeland, this wonderful deli-cum-café is perfect for a lunchtime pit-stop. The café serves up delicious, freshly-made meals, Musetti coffee and arguably London's best brownies, while the deli stocks dry goods, salamis and hard-to-find Italian cheeses.



Address: 101 Redchurch Street, E2 7DL
Tel: 020 7033 1910
Web: www.franzeevans.com
Open: 8.30am-7pm, Mon-Fri
9am-7pm, Sat
10am-6pm, Sun

Friends Organic

MAP 4 99

You'll find everything you need for a healthier lifestyle at this well-stocked shop; organic vegetables, preserves, cereals, cheeses and other groceries, plus gluten-free and fair-trade goods, herbal remedies and environmentally-friendly cleaning and grooming products. There's also a decent range of sandwiches and other healthy snacks.

Address: 83 Roman Road, E2 0QN
Tel: 020 8980 1843
Web: www.friendsorganic.com
Open: 10.am-6.30pm, Mon-Fri
10am-6pm, Sat
11am-5pm, Sun

Jones Dairy

MAP 2 100

Once a working inner-city dairy with real cows, Jones' now sells farmhouse cheeses, seasonal vegetables and an excellent range of teas, breads and preserves – all sourced directly from small-scale, traditional producers. The cowsheds themselves have been transformed into a popular café serving coffee and light lunches.



Photo credit: LDA

Address: 23 Ezra Street, E2 7RH
Tel: 020 7739 5372
Web: www.jonesdairy.co.uk
Open: Shop: 8am-1pm, Fri-Sat; 9am-2pm, Sun
Café: 9am-3pm, Fri-Sat; 8am-3pm, Sun

Leila's Shop

MAP 1 101

Stop in for breakfast or a sandwich at this welcoming, rustic grocery-cum-café. The open-plan kitchen, refectory-style table and jars of home-made jam give the place a pleasant, homely feel, while the selection of imported dry goods on sale adds a distinctive tang of faraway places.

Address: 17 Calvert Avenue, E2 7JP
Tel: 020 7729 9789
Open: 10am-6pm, Wed-Sat
10am-5pm, Sun

Montezuma's

MAP 1 102

This exquisite chocolate shop embodies the principle of 'naughty but nice' with its deliciously decadent (yet organic and ethically sourced) products. Buy their award-winning, British-made chocolates in bars, blocks or buttons, or try their innovative truffles like Montezuma's Revenge – flavoured with chilli and tequila!



Address: 51 Brushfield Street,
E1 6AA
Tel: 020 7539 9208
Web: www.montezumas.co.uk
Open: 10am-6pm, daily

Suck and Chew

MAP 2 103



Reconnect with your childhood at this traditional tuck shop, where old-school treats like pear drops, midget gems, kola kubes and dolly mixture are dispensed from Victorian-style glass jars and sold by weight.

There's also a tempting selection of hand-made, organic chocolate truffles for the grown-ups.

Address: 130 Columbia Road, E2 7RG
Tel: 020 8983 3504
Web: www.suckandchew.co.uk
Open: 1pm-5pm, Sat
9am-5pm, Sun

TeaSmith

MAP 1 104

Explore the world of tea at this contemporary, East Asian-style tea-house. Sample different blends of oolong, green and jasmine teas at the sleek wooden counter, then buy packets of your favourite brews to take home. The shop also sells a full range of tea-ware.



Address: 6 Lamb Street, E1 6EA
Tel: 020 7247 1333
Web: www.teasmith.co.uk
Open: 11am-6pm, daily

Treacle

MAP 2 105

With their super-cute cupcakes (think frosted icing and lots of pretty embellishment) achieving almost legendary status, this little bakery has become a genuine Columbia Road institution. Recreate the Treacle experience at home with their excellent range of classic and contemporary teapots, jugs and cake stands.



Address: 110-112 Columbia Road, E2 7RG

Tel: 020 7729 5657

Web: www.treacleworld.com

Open 9.30am-3.30pm, Sun

Verde & Co

MAP 1 106

High-end continental groceries are the order of the day at Verde & Co, where the presentation is as beautiful as the products themselves. Swedish jams, Italian coffee and luxurious Pierre Marcolini chocolates line the shelves, with colourful fresh vegetables and made-to-order sandwiches completing the picture.

Address: 40 Brushfield Street, E1 6AG

Tel: 020 7247 1924

Web: www.verde-and-company-ltd.co.uk

Open: 9am-7pm, Mon-Fri
10am-5pm, Sat-Sun



Gifts, gadgets and handicrafts

Spoil someone rotten with one of these fun, inspirational or one-of-a-kind gifts – or really go to town by making your own!

4D Modelshop

MAP 1 107

Why should architects have all the fun? This shop is essentially a resource centre for creative types, selling everything you'd need to make professional scale models of building projects – but the materials, tools, spray-paints and accessories are equally useful for a wide range of do-it-yourself crafts.



Address: The Arches, 120 Leaman Street, E1 8EU
Tel: 020 7264 1288
Web: www.modelshop.co.uk
Open: 9am-6pm, Mon-Fri
9.30am-6pm, Sat

Bob & Blossom

MAP 2 108

It's all about the little ones at this super-cute gift shop, which sells clothing and goodies for babies and toddlers. Candy-striped gift boxes can be filled with your choice of bathing products, sleepsuits, T-shirts or accessories – topped off with a hand-knitted soft toy or two.

Address: 140 Columbia Road, E2 7RG
Tel: 020 7739 4737
Web: www.bobandblossom.com
Open: 9am-3pm, Sun

Evolution

MAP 4 109

Indulge your whims with a clear conscience at this ethical gift shop, where fun and funky toys, games, homewares, candles and greetings cards are imported from traditional craftspeople in Africa, Asia and South America – with all profits invested in social development programmes in source countries.

Address: 59-61 Roman Road, E2 0QN
Tel: 020 8981 7219
Open: 10am-6pm, Mon-Sat
10am-5pm, Sun

Idonia van der Bijl

MAP 2 110

This is how all gift shops should be, offering an eclectic range of quality, genuinely desirable jewellery, toys, picture frames, mugs, bath products and greetings cards. There's also a great selection of vases, which you can fill with fresh flowers from the market stalls outside.

Address: 122 Columbia Road, E2 7RJ
Tel: 020 7729 7976
Open: 9am-2.30pm, Sun

Milagros

MAP 2 111

Get an authentic south-of-the-border flavour at this colourful gift shop, which specialises in ceramic wall tiles, recycled glassware and woven baskets, all made in Mexico. Milagros works with



independent artists and workshops to create quality, hand-made products combining traditional techniques with contemporary design.

Address: 61 Columbia Road, E2 7RG
Tel: 020 7613 0876
Web: www.milagros.co.uk
Open: 9am-3pm, Sun

Mundo

MAP 1 112

Make someone's day: send them one of Mundo's fun, funky and thoroughly individual greeting cards. Edgy, humorous images and giftware are the shop's forte – as is the wide selection of artworks on canvas, with an emphasis on stylised portraits of famous faces captured in monochrome acrylics.



Address: 59 Brushfield Street, E1 6AA
Tel: 020 7392 2000
Open: 10.30am-5.30pm, Mon-Wed
10.30am-6.30pm, Thu-Fri
9.30am-5.30pm, Sat-Sun

Museum of Childhood

MAP 4 113

Who needs batteries? The Museum's well-stocked gift shop sells a wide range of traditional, old-fashioned toys like doll-making kits, Fuzzy Felt cards, cuddly animals and wooden toy buses, plus there's a great selection of children's books and lots and lots of pocket-money-sized goodies.

Address: Cambridge Heath Road, E2 9PA
Tel: 020 8983 5200
Web: www.museumofchildhood.org.uk
Open: 10am-5.30pm, daily

Poetry in Wood

MAP 1 114

Order any wooden item you like – from inlaid mosaic tables to bookends and fridge magnets – and have it made on commission. Poetry in Wood is a highly acclaimed social enterprise that trains and develops people with learning disabilities, then employs them in the on-site workshop.

Address: Montefiore Centre, Hanbury Street, E1 5HZ
Tel: 020 7375 3933
Web: www.ssba.info
Open: 10am-5pm, Mon-Fri
(by appointment only)

Prick Your Finger

MAP 4 115



Beat the credit crunch: make your own clothes! This specialist knitting shop sells hand-spun woollen yarns from small farmer producers (including breed-

specific wools from different types of sheep). Vegan knitters may prefer yarn spun from unusual materials like bamboo, soybean and even recycled bottle-tops.

Address: 260 Globe Road, E2 0JD

Tel: 020 8981 2560

Web: www.prickyourfinger.com

Open: 12pm-7pm, Tue-Sat

Queens

MAP 1 116

More of an Aladdin's Cave than a shop, Queens is the place to come for designer decorations and over-the-top ornaments. Fairies, fishes and antique dolls create a dazzling display that's out of this world. It's camp, kitsch, frilly, fun – and definitely not to be missed.

Address: 111B Commercial Street, E1 6BG

Tel: 020 7426 0017

Open: 10am-6pm, daily

Shelf

MAP 1 117

Best known for its range of reproduction plaster lettering (that's actually made on the premises), this quirky store also sells cards, stationery, artworks and specialist ceramics. Don't miss the cute selection of Moomin mugs, plus design classics like carved wooden birds and Japanese ceramic animals.

Address: 40 Cheshire Street, E2 6EH

Tel: 020 7739 9444

Web: www.helpyourshelf.co.uk

Open: 1pm-6pm, Fri-Sat

10am-6pm, Sun

Whitechapel Bell Foundry

MAP 1

118

Founded in 1570 and still going strong, this working foundry is a fascinating place to visit. It's famous for casting both Big Ben and the American Liberty Bell, though the gift shop's hand bells, antique-style doorbells and sheet music are much easier to carry home!



Address: 32 Whitechapel Road, E1 1DY
Tel: 020 7247 2599
Web: www.whitechapelbellfoundry.co.uk
Open: 9am-4.15pm, Mon-Fri

Wood 'n' Things

MAP 1

119



Almost two shops in one, Wood 'n' Things stocks a wide range of traditional wooden toys alongside a good selection of fancy dress items. The hand-crafted Venetian masks are something of a speciality, as are the Betty Boop figurines, working puppets and Brio wooden trains.

Address: 57 Brushfield Street, E1 6AA
Tel: 020 7247 6275
Web: www.woodnthings.uk.com
Open: 10am-6pm, daily

Books, maps and charts

Rediscover the joys of reading at one of these unusual, independent bookshops, specialising in everything from maps and movies to local history.

Cinéphilia

MAP 1 **120**

Anyone who loves movies is in for a treat at this specialist bookstore. Practically any genre you can think of is covered in the extensive range of new and second-hand titles; plus there are magazines, DVDs, a lending library and a good selection of posters.

Address: 97 Sclater Street, E1 6HR

Tel: 020 7729 9533

Web: www.cinephilia.co.uk

Open: 12.30pm-7.30pm, Tue-Sun

Eastside Books

MAP 1 **121**

This friendly, independent bookshop is known for its excellent range of books on local history. The East End's industrial, Jewish and gangster legacies are all well documented alongside a more mainstream collection of fiction, travel and kids' books. Comfy armchairs make this a very browser-friendly store.



Address: 166 Brick Lane, E1 6RU

Tel: 020 7247 0216

Web: www.eastsidebooks.co.uk

Open: 11am-6pm, Tue-Sat
10am-6pm, Sun

Forget-Me-Knot

MAP 4 122

Give a much-loved book a new lease of life at this specialist book binder and restorer. Revive old volumes and documents, or bind sketches, letters and other memorabilia into their very own tome. Forget-Me-Knot also creates unusual, book-related gift items – ideal for the person who has everything.

Address: Studio 3, Britannia Works, Dace Road,
E3 2NG

Tel: 020 8980 2447

Web: www.forget-me-knot.org.uk

Open: by appointment only

Frontispiece

MAP 3 123

Discover images of a bygone era among Frontispiece's half-million-strong library of antique maps, prints and charts. Prints range from Punch cartoons to historic images of stately homes, battle scenes and the London Docklands, while the maps cover everything from local parish plans to the whole world.

Address: One Canada Square, Canary Wharf,
E14 5AX

Tel: 020 7363 6336

Web: www.frontispiece.co.uk

Open: 9am-7pm, Mon-Wed

9am-8pm, Thu-Fri

10am-6pm, Sat

12pm-6pm, Sun



Music



London Eastside rocks! Swing those hips and sway to the rhythm with this selection of vinyl, CDs and musical instruments.

Duke of Uke

MAP 1 **124**

Proper musicians will love this ukulele and banjo emporium, home to a wide range of acoustic and electric instruments (both new and vintage). There's also a good selection of sheet music featuring tunes from Hawaii (the uke's spiritual home), plus cowboy classics for a home-on-the-range-style sing-along.

Address: 22 Hanbury Street, E1 6QR
Tel: 020 7247 7924
Web: www.dukeofuke.co.uk
Open: 12pm-7pm, Tue-Sun



Nudge Records

MAP 1 **125**

This old-school record shop specialises in reggae, offering a huge selection of second-hand discs. The main focus is on material from the very collectable Blue Beat, Studio One and Treasure Isle labels – plus there's a good range of funk and soul artists thrown into the mix.

Address: 20 Hanbury Street, E1 6QR
Tel: 020 7655 4823
Open: 11am-7pm, daily

Rhythm Division

MAP 4 126

A must for any aspiring DJ, this specialist shop features a good range of house, garage, dub step and other genres of dance music, both on vinyl and CD. There's also an up-to-date selection of mix CDs, plus tickets to concerts, raves and other events.

Address: 391 Roman Road, E3 5QS
Tel: 0208 981 2203
Web: www.rhythmdivision.co.uk
Open: 11am-7pm, Mon-Sat

Rough Trade East

MAP 1 127

Voted Music Store of the Year in 2008, Rough Trade East is the place to discover exciting new music. A Fair Trade café, gallery exhibition space and free internet access contribute to the relaxed environment, while in-store events can include intimate gigs from big-name acts.

Address: Dray Walk, Old Truman Brewery, E1 6QL
Tel: 020 7392 7788
Web: www.roughtrade.com
Open: 8am-9pm, Mon-Thu
8am-8pm, Fri-Sat
11am-7pm, Sun



Gardening, outdoor and adventure

It's a jungle out there. Find all the equipment you'll ever need for getting down and dirty in the great outdoors.

Brick Lane Bikes

MAP 1 128

Brick Lane's signature vintage vibe even extends to its bike shop, where old-school track bikes and Italian racers are the order of the day. In addition to stocking a whole spectrum of cycling accessories, the shop also offers repairs and spares (featuring high-spec Campagnolo parts).



Address: 118 Bethnal Green Road, E2 6DG
Tel: 020 7033 9053
Web: www.bricklanebikes.co.uk
Open: 9am-7pm, Mon-Fri
11am-7pm, Sat
11am-6pm, Sun

Columbia Road Pottery

MAP 2 129

Add a hint of sunnier climes to your outside space with some colourfully glazed pots and planters from as far afield as Spain, Tunisia, Mexico and Thailand. Save space with a wall-mounted option, or opt for stylish zinc troughs for a more contemporary feel.

Address: 132 Columbia Road, E2 7RG
Tel: 07960 809 933
Web: www.21stcenturyeastlondon.com
Open: 9am-3pm, Sun

Cotswold Outdoor

MAP 1 130

OK, so this one may not be an independent but it does offer the area's best selection of clothing and equipment for the outdoor enthusiast. Pick up waterproofs, thermals, ski suits and walking boots, plus climbing accessories, camping equipment and a good selection of maps and guidebooks.

Address: Leyden Street, E1 7LL
Tel: 020 7655 4660
Web: www.cotswoldoutdoor.com
Open: 10am-7pm, Mon-Fri
10am-5pm, Sat

LCB Surf Store

MAP 1 131

Well known for their hand-crafted, groundbreaking boards, LCB is the place to go for all your skaterboy essentials. Snowboards, surfboards and skateboards are stocked alongside a full range of accessories and streetwear including helmets, sunglasses, caps and trainers. There's also a café serving organic, fair-trade coffee.

Address: 121 Bethnal Green Road, E2 7DG
Tel: 020 7739 3839
Web: www.lcb surfstore.com
Open: 8am-7pm, Mon-Fri
10am-7pm, Sat-Sun

The Red Mud Hut

MAP 2 132

Transform your terrace and glitz up your garden with Red Mud Hut's contemporary collection of indoor and outdoor tubs, pots, planters and troughs. Favourite choices include containers in tasteful terracotta, frost-resistant fibreglass and super-stylish zinc (in both black and natural finishes) – plus some lovely Chinese-style furniture.



Address: 92 Columbia Road, E2 7QB
Tel: 020 7613 4811
Web: www.theredmudhut.com
Open: 8am-3.30pm, Sunday
(weekdays by appointment)

The Scooter Emporium

MAP 1 133

Get a genuine taste of the dolce vita at this specialist store dedicated to classic Italian scooters. Pick up your very own iconic, vintage Lambretta or brand new Vespa, then kit yourself out appropriately with helmets, goggles and waterproof clothing. Spares and repairs are also available.

Address: 10 Dray Walk, Old Truman Brewery,
E1 6QL

Tel: 020 7375 2277

Web: www.scooteremporium.com

Open: 9am-6pm, Mon-Fri
9.30am-5pm, Sat
11am-5pm, Sun

Stoned & Plastered

MAP 2 134



Bring some ornamental grandeur to your garden. Stoned & Plastered creates busts, birdbaths and decorative plaques in moulded concrete, making them both durable and weatherproof. Or choose similar items (plus fireplaces, mantelpieces and wall-mounted cherubs) in plaster of Paris for indoor use.

Address: 21B Ezra Street, E2 7RH

Tel: 020 7729 5675

Open: 9.30am-4.30pm, Sun

Timuna Sea

MAP 3 135

Whether you're an experienced diver or a first-time novice, you'll find everything you need for an under-the-sea experience here in East London's premier dive shop. The extensive range of diving equipment, accessories and other hardware is complemented by a great selection of designer swimwear.

Address: 121 Cannon Workshops, Cannon Drive,
West India Quay, E14 4AS

Tel: 020 7719 9444

Web: www.timunasea.com

Open: 11am-7pm, Mon-Thu
11am-6pm, Fri
10am-6pm, Sat

Treatments, therapies and beauty

All shopped out? Treat yourself to a revitalising massage, a cleansing body wrap or even a brand new 'do'.

Angela Flanders Perfumes

MAP 2 136



This delightful and unique perfumery is a fragrant gem in the heart of Columbia Road Flower Market. Using heady floral bouquets and heavier, woody notes, Angela Flanders creates exotic, imaginative fragrances like Figue Noire and Moroccan Rose, available as perfumes, scented candles or essential oils.

Address: 96 Columbia Road, E2 7QB
Tel: 020 7739 7555
Web: www.angelaflanders-perfumer.com
Open: 9.30am-3.30pm, Sun

Bodywise

MAP 4 137

Achieve inner harmony with a visit to this natural health centre. Sign up for classes in yoga, Pilates, Tai Chi and Qi Gong, or indulge in a range of complementary therapies. Better yet, Bodywise is charitable operation so you can spoil yourself rotten without feeling guilty.



Address: 119 Roman Road, E2 0QN
Tel: 020 8981 6938
Web: www.bodywisehealth.org
Open: 8.45am-8.45pm, Mon-Fri
8.45am-2.30pm, Sat

City Beach Salon

MAP 1 138

Unwind with a relaxing full-body massage; then get yourself in shape for your next sunshine break with a full range of indulgent treatments. Tanning, facials, pedicures, electrolysis, eyelash tints and bikini waxes are all available, with chest and back waxes for the boys. Ouch!

Address: 28 Hanbury Street, E1 6QR

Tel: 020 7247 7878

Web: www.citybeach.biz

Open: 10am-7pm, Mon-Wed

10am-8pm, Thu

10am-6pm, Fri-Sun

E Rejuvenation Centre

MAP 1 139

Treat yourself to a spa experience like no other. Following the Far Eastern approach to natural health and wellbeing, ten healing procedures are combined into one single, hour-long treatment that will leave you feeling serene, energised and with renewed vigour and lust for life.

Address: 132 Commercial Street, E1 6NG

Tel: 020 7650 0718

Web: www.erejuvenation.co.uk

Open: 9am-8pm, Mon-Fri

9am-2pm, Sat-Sun



Hair and Jerome

MAP 1 **140**

Make sure your hairstyle's bang up to date with a visit to this snazzy salon specialising in 'fashion forward hairdressing'. Creative director Jerome Hillion was 2005's British Avant Garde Hairdresser of the Year, so expect style, creativity and a personal, truly memorable boutique salon experience.

Address: 5 Artillery Passage, E1 7LJ
Tel: 020 7375 0044
Web: www.hairandjerome.co.uk
Open: 10am-9am, Mon-Thu
10am-8pm, Fri; 9am-6pm, Sat

John Lester Hair Systems

MAP 4 **141**

Change your look instantly – and as often as you like – with one of John Lester's ready-to-wear wigs or hairpieces. Choose from a wide range of length, style and colour choices (in real human hair or synthetics), or have one custom made to your own specifications.

Address: 32 Globe Road, E1 4DU
Tel: 020 7790 2278
Web: www.johnlester.co.uk
Open: 10.30am-1pm, Mon; 9am-6pm, Tue-Fri
9am-5.30pm, Sat

Mollie Sugden Hairdressing

MAP 1 **142**

Mrs Slocombe is alive and well at this opulent salon, where a huge pop-art portrait of everyone's favourite Are You Being Served? character watches over the proceedings from above the reception desk. Crystal chandeliers, a moody colour scheme and touchy-feely flock wallpaper complete the look.



Address: 240 Brick Lane, E2 7EB
Tel: 020 7613 2467
Web: www.molliesugdenhairdressing.co.uk
Open: 11am-6pm, Tue; 11am-8pm, Wed-Thu
10am-7pm, Fri; 10am-6pm, Sat
10am-4pm, Sun

Pimps & Pinups

MAP 1 143

You don't need to be a superstar to be treated like one. Just walk into Pimps & Pinups, whose dazzling dressing-room mirrors and retro barbers' chairs give a distinct impression of 1950's Hollywood glamour. The salon has a funky atmosphere that's relaxed, friendly and refreshingly unpretentious.

Address: 14 Lamb Street, E1 6EA
Tel: 020 7426 2121
Web: www.pimpsandpinups.com
Open: 10am-7pm, Mon-Wed
10am-8pm, Thu
10am-7pm, Fri
11am-6pm, Sat-Sun



Spa London

MAP 4 144

Restore inner harmony with a visit to Spa London's full-service facility in Bethnal Green. Start with an invigorating Hammam and steam-room experience, then indulge in any of a wide range of treatments, including massages, facials, wraps, body scrubs and bronzing (for both men and women).

Address: York Hall Leisure Centre, Old Ford Road, E2 9PJ
Tel: 020 8709 5845
Web: www.spa-london.org
Open: 11am-9.30pm, Mon
10am-9.30pm, Tue-Fri
9am-7.30pm, Sat-Sun

Taylor Taylor

MAP 1 145

More than just a hair salon, Taylor Taylor offers a full range of grooming and beauty therapies, allowing you to indulge in a haircut, colour, waxing, pedicure and more in a comfortable, boudoir-style environment. With two handy locations, looking good has never been this easy.



Address: 137 Commercial Street, E1 6BJ
Tel: 020 7377 2737
Web: www.taylortaylorlondon.com
Open: 10am-8pm, Mon-Wed
12pm-9pm, Thu
10am-7pm, Fri
10am-6pm, Sat

Address: 12 Cheshire Street, E2 6EH
Tel: 020 7033 0330
Open: 12pm-9pm, Thu
10am-7pm, Fri
10am-6pm, Sat

Vision Hair

MAP 1 146

This bright, spacious salon feels like an airy New York warehouse, with cool, contemporary styling and funky, innovative design. Friendly and professional stylists, complimentary cocktails and the latest equipment and technologies ensure that every haircut at Vision is an experience from start to finish.

Address: 8 Dray Walk, Old Truman Brewery, E1 6QL
Tel: 020 7247 6842
Web: www.visionhair.co.uk
Open: 10am-6pm, Mon-Wed
11am-8pm, Thu-Fri
10am-6pm, Sat-Sun

Shopping districts and markets

Planning your day

As any serious shopper will tell you, planning your itinerary is the key to success. Many of London Eastside's shops (and all the markets) are only open on certain days, so a little forward planning is essential if you're to make the most of your visit. Some of the area's shopping districts don't really come into their own until the weekends, when the markets are in full swing. Roman Road Market is busiest on Saturdays, Petticoat Lane and Old Spitalfields Markets are buzzing on Sundays, while Columbia Road and the Brick Lane area markets are only in action on Sundays – so be sure to go on the correct days to experience the bustle at its best.

Of course the shops themselves are also generally open during the week – and if you'd prefer to avoid the crowds then a weekday visit might be more up your street. Bear in mind, though, that some businesses may not open in the early part of the week (and many on Columbia Road don't open during the week at all), so be sure to check the opening times displayed in this guide before you set out on your assault of the shops.

As with getting anywhere in London, public transport is always best and we've highlighted the best stations to use for accessing the market of your choice. If you do drive (which might be best if you're planning to buy a lot!), don't forget to check parking restrictions even at the weekends – nobody wants a great day of bargain-hunting spoiled by a parking ticket.

Also don't forget that London Eastside has a wealth of great places to eat and drink; so take your time, make a day of it – and be sure to come back soon.

Getting there and getting around

The main shopping areas are all easily accessible using the public transport network. Check the Tube map on the back cover of this guide to identify your most convenient route using London Underground. A one-day travel card or pre-pay Oyster card presents the best value for money for travel by tube, DLR and bus. For further assistance with route planning, contact Transport for London on 020 7222 1234 or visit www.tfl.gov.uk.

Alternatively, do some sightseeing as you travel by using Thames Clipper's speedy river ferry service from central London to Canary Wharf and beyond.



Photo credit: LDA

Brick Lane Market

The large, sprawling Sunday market fills Brick Lane and the surrounding streets with tools, clothing, books, kitchenware and second-hand household goods. Brick Lane itself offers plenty of coffee shops and juice stalls, several funky bars and a decent range of quirky and unique shops – plus of course the wealth of fantastic value Bangladeshi and Indian restaurants for which the street is famed. This area is also the epicentre of London's vintage clothing scene, so expect to find a huge offering of footwear and fashions from yesteryear.

- Where: Brick Lane, Cheshire Street and Sclater Street, E1
When: Sunday: 8am-3pm
Tube: Aldgate East/Liverpool Street

Columbia Road Flower Market



This most fragrant and colourful market has become one of East London's quintessential weekend experiences. The narrow street of Victorian terraces is transformed into a blaze of colour each Sunday morning, when dozens of stallholders set up shop with houseplants, orchids, cut flowers and more. Get there early for

the best choice, or arrive late to pick up some real bargains as the traders vie to shift what's left of their stock before closing time. Besides hosting the prettiest market in town, Columbia Road is also fringed with some really unique gift shops, galleries and cafés, with more round the corner on neighbouring Ezra Street. www.columbiaroad.info

Where: Columbia Road, E2
When: Sunday: 8am-2pm
Tube: Liverpool Street or Old Street,
then walk or take the bus.

Old Spitalfields Market

This historic covered market houses a fantastic range of inspiring, independent shops in the main structure, with a huge, stall-filled space at its centre. A massive redevelopment programme has spruced the place up considerably and ushered in some radical changes, but Spitalfields still retains its hip, trendy and creative edginess. The



Photo credit: LDA

market itself continues to thrive, offering artwork, bags, clothes, music, books, jewellery and homewares in a fun, funky and ever so fabulous environment. The redevelopment has brought in a much larger choice of eateries, offering tapas,

burgers, noodles, curries and all kinds of other good things to eat. Stalls are present only on certain days, but the shops and restaurants are open all week. www.visitspitalfields.com

Where: 105a Commercial Street, E1
When: Thursday: 10am-4pm (antiques)
Friday: 10am-4pm (fashion)
Sunday: 9.30am-5.30pm (all stalls)
Tube: Liverpool Street

Sunday (Up)Market at the Old Truman Brewery

The redevelopment of Old Spitalfields Market has reduced the space available to stallholders, so many of them have upped sticks and moved across the road to this covered space at the Old Truman Brewery. Expect to find a wide range of arts, crafts and design, plus new and vintage clothes and shoes, hand-made bags, jewellery, homewares, accessories, greeting cards and all kinds of fresh and healthy food and drink.

www.sundayupmarket.co.uk

Where: The Old Truman Brewery,
91 Brick Lane, E1
When: Sunday: 10am-5pm
Tube: Aldgate East/Liverpool Street

Petticoat Lane

Although Petticoat Lane itself no longer exists (it was renamed Middlesex Street in Victorian times to avoid offending our more prudish forebears), this is probably the oldest and most famous of all London's street markets. Best known for leather jackets and just about anything else at a markdown, the market is hugely popular with bargain hunters on the lookout for clothes, bags, makeup, watches and all kinds of other discounted goods.

Where: Middlesex Street, E1
(and surrounding streets)
When: Sunday: 9am-2pm, with smaller markets
on weekdays: 10am-3pm
Tube: Aldgate East/Liverpool Street

Roman Road Market

This famous street market is popular with East Londoners 'in the know' for high street fashion items at bargain prices. Specialist clothing and shoe shops can be found along Roman Road itself, with clothes, fabrics, bric-a-brac, produce and plants in the market proper. It's especially good on summer Saturdays, when street performers and special events make the market come alive.



Where: Roman Road, E3
When: Tuesday & Thursday: 9am-3pm
Saturday: 9am-5pm
Tube: Mile End, Bow Road and Bow Church

Canary Wharf

For something a little more conventional, the indoor shopping malls at Canary Wharf offers over 200 shops, bars and restaurants – including a wide range of high-street and high-end retailers. Clothes, shoes, stationery, sports goods, electronics, greetings cards and even groceries are all available in this one convenient, weather-proof and easy-to-reach shopping destination, with big-name retailers including Marks & Spencer, Waitrose, Zara, Next, The Body Shop and French Connection. Make a day of it by picking up a Canary Wharf 'Movie Map' and following the self-guided trail to discover locations used in recent blockbusters – including *The World Is Not Enough*, *Batman Begins* and *28 Weeks Later*. www.mycanarywharf.com

Where: Canary Wharf
When: Monday-Wednesday: 9am-7pm
Thursday-Friday: 9am-8pm
Saturday: 10am-6pm
Sunday: 12pm-6pm
Tube: Canary Wharf

Where to eat

Shopping is hungry work, so take a break while you contemplate your next purchase. East London may historically be associated with jellied eels, but the area actually offers a diverse and delicious culinary scene. From an inexpensive curry on Brick Lane to destination restaurants like Canary Wharf's Plateau and the spectacular Wapping Food (located in an old power station), the area has dining options to tempt every taste and budget. Here's a selection of independent, quirky eateries in the main shopping districts that showcase the area's distinctly different approach to food.

Spitalfields

S&M Café, 48 Brushfield Street – tuck into your favourite British comfort foods at this 50's-style café, where all kinds of sausages are served with gravy and mash; or try one of the traditional, all-day British breakfasts.

Scarlet Dot, 4 Crispin Place (Lamb Street) – Spitalfields Market's only truly independent restaurant offers haute cuisine Indian dishes and a tempting cocktail menu, with covered outdoor seating in summer and 'bento'-style takeaway boxed lunches.

Market Coffee House, 52 Brushfield Street – soak up the atmosphere at this cosy, wood-panelled coffee shop, whose counter groans under the weight of covetable cakes and superlative scones. Buttered crumpets, soups and delicious light lunches are also served.



St John Bread & Wine, 94 Commercial Street – this thoroughly unusual establishment offers traditional-style British cuisine with a twist. The emphasis is on hearty cooking using seasonal ingredients, with different dishes served throughout the day, according to a strict mealtime schedule.

Meson los Barilles, 8a Lamb Street – for a typically Spanish vibe, head to this authentic tapas bar and restaurant to enjoy chorizo, patatas bravas and perfectly formed portions of other regional specialities – plus whole legs of Iberian ham hanging from the ceiling.

Rootmaster, Ely's Yard, Old Truman Brewery, E1 – hop aboard for a vegan feast! This landmark restaurant is located within a London icon – a bright red, double-decker bus – and serves delicious vegan dishes (think meze, stir-fries and soups) in a fun, one-of-a-kind setting.



Brick Lane area

Café Bangla, 128 Brick Lane, E1 – Brick Lane is awash with curry houses, but this one really stands out from the crowd. Tuck into typical tandoori and other regional Indian dishes under the watchful gaze of a huge Princess Diana mural.

Le Taj, 96 Brick Lane, E1 – another popular choice, Le Taj offers an inexpensive approach to Bangla-Bengali cuisine in a smart, bright environment, with a BYO drinks policy that helps keep your costs down.

Story Deli, 3 Dray Walk, Old Truman Brewery, E1 – grab a healthy, delicious snack on the go at this busy deli, where pizzas, salads, soups and cakes are all made with organically grown ingredients.

Chaat, 36 Redchurch Street, E2 – this restaurant and tea room features a tapas-style menu of typical Bangladeshi dishes – with recipes inspired by the owner’s mum’s home cooking! Specialities include spicy lamb keema and classic chicken curry, all washed down with aromatic teas.

Fika, 161a Brick Lane, E1 – for excellent Swedish food in a typically stylish Scandinavian setting (think white walls, funky artwork and lots of candles), this cosy little diner is hard to beat. Don’t miss the pickled herrings and traditional Swedish meatballs.

Damascu Bite, 119-121 Brick Lane, E1 – for a tasty snack with real Middle Eastern flair, pop into this tiled kebab shop for an authentic shawarma. Served in pita bread with tahini, salad and a fiery garlic sauce, it’s the perfect lunch on the go.

Columbia Road

The Flea Pit, 49 Columbia Road, E2 – comfy leather seats, retro furnishings and light, healthy meals (including organic and vegetarian dishes and cakes) make this the perfect place to escape from the hubbub of the market.

Laxeiro, 93 Columbia Road, E2 – tuck into tasty tapas at this authentic Spanish café, where the emphasis is very much on fresh, seasonal products – many of which are sourced directly from Spain.

Campania Gastronomica, 95 Columbia Road, E2 – expect to be overwhelmed by tantalising aromas when you enter this fantastic café serving regional southern Italian goodies – plus some seriously tempting breakfast specials.

The Royal Oak, 73 Columbia Road, E2 – once an after-hours refuge for pie-eyed clubbers, this typical East End boozier has had a major ‘gastropub’ makeover and now offers quality pub grub, some excellent beers and a hearty Sunday roast.

Stringray Globe, 109 Columbia Road, E2 – just down the road from the market proper, this Mediterranean restaurant offers perfect pizza and pasta dishes and a respectable wine list, with plenty of outside seating in the summer.

Café Columbia, 138 Columbia Road, E2 – grab a freshly-baked bagel with your choice of smoked salmon and cream cheese, crayfish and rocket; or super-filled breakfast specials – then retreat to the private courtyard to eat it in peace.



Canary Wharf area

Shoppers at Canary Wharf are spoiled for choice when it comes to refuelling. There's a wide range of high-street bar and fast-food chains offering burgers, pizzas, sandwiches, salads and more; plus a smattering of more upmarket eateries covering French, Asian and other international cuisines. For a full listing, log onto www.mycanarywharf.com.



And finally....over to you!

The details in the guide were correct at the time of publication, but we know things can sometimes change. If you have any comments on the featured shops, or if you've discovered an unusual store which you think should appear in the next edition of the guide, please let us know by emailing tourism@towerhamlets.gov.uk.

This guide is not intended as an exhaustive listing of shops in the area, but is instead designed to provide a taste of what makes shopping in East London so unique. Whilst every reasonable precaution has been taken to ensure that the information contained in the Quirky Shopping Guide is accurate, the Borough of Tower Hamlets cannot accept any liability for errors or omissions, however caused.



The playground for 2012

You don't have to wait until 2012 to experience the thrill and excitement of an Olympic atmosphere.

Look out for our colourful and vibrant programme of sports and cultural activities taking place across Tower Hamlets – the heart of East London, as we celebrate our role as a host borough and head towards the crescendo of the Games of the 30th Olympiad.

visit www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/olympics to find out more.



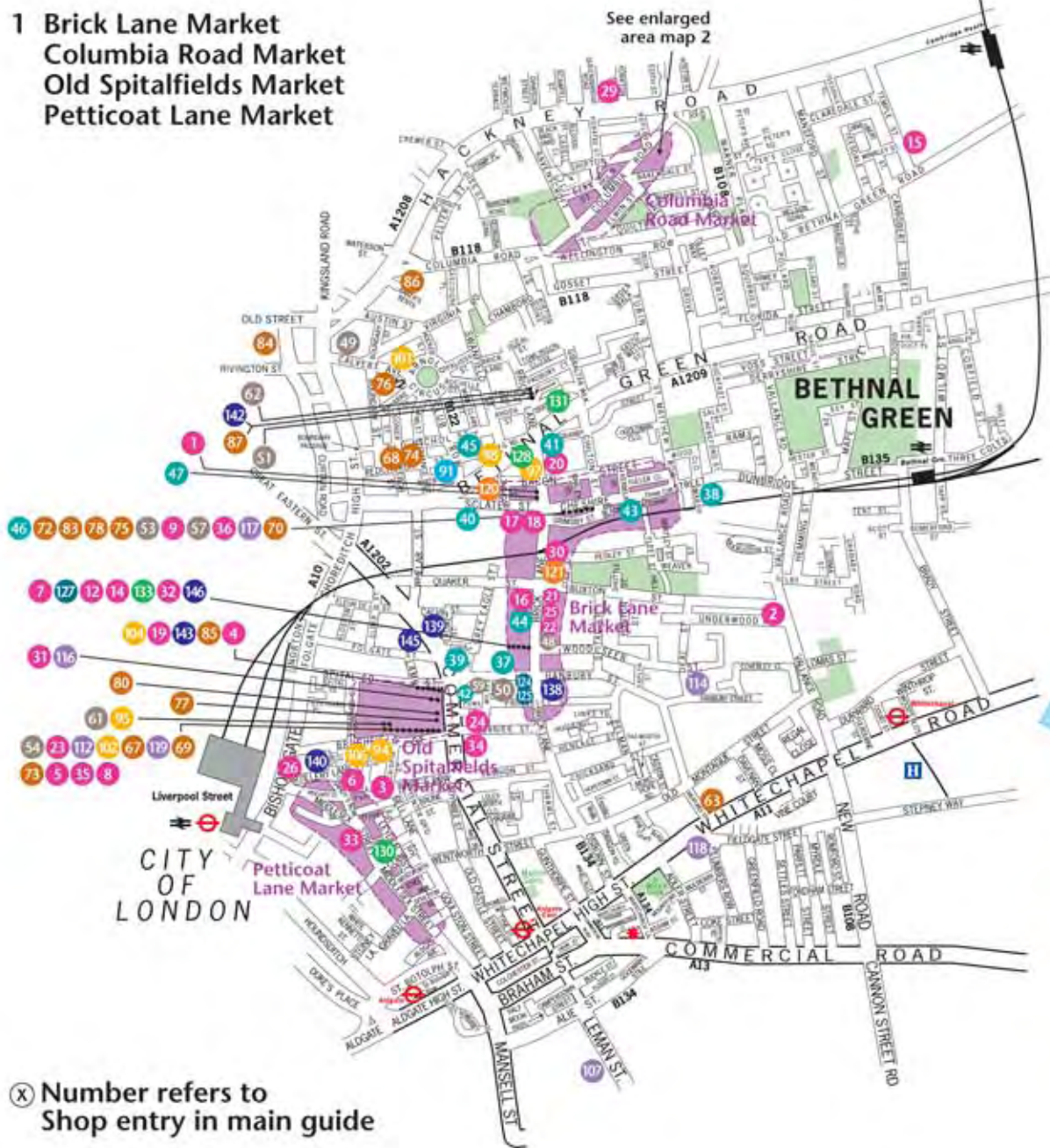
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**1 Brick Lane Market
Columbia Road Market
Old Spitalfields Market
Petticoat Lane Market**



(X) Number refers to Shop entry in main guide

2 Columbia Road Market



3 Canary Wharf Area



4 Roman Road & Bow

Establishments included within this publication do not imply a recommendation or approval. While every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information in this guide, Tower Hamlets Council cannot accept responsibility for any errors, omissions or subsequent alterations.



Market area

