



London

1 • BRGR.CO ▶ £15 (187 Wardour Street, tel: 020 7920 6480) The latest contestant for the world's best hamburger can be found in downtown Soho. BRGR.CO's no-fuss, "DIY" menu gives you a number of options to create your perfect 4, 6 or 8oz prime beef burger. Complete the meal with one of five varieties of chips (the parmesan truffle fries were a particular hit) and a stack of crispy buttermilk onion rings.

2 • Bishopsgate Kitchen ▶ £30 (4 Brushfield Street, tel: 020 7247 3802) Hungry? You'll need to be at this diner-style modern British cafe-bar adjacent to Liverpool Street's Bishopsgate Institute. Its menu of respectable mid-price fare is dominated by meaty treats.

3 • STK ▶ £50 (336-337 The Strand, tel: 020 7395 3450) With a name like this, there's really nowhere to hide when it comes to delivering the meat. And this newly arrived US chain doesn't disappoint. Fillet, ribeye, you name it; the steaks are top-notch. Throw in the fact that diners can turn up to drink cocktails first, then party afterwards to resident DJs, and this is just what you might call an all-night destination.

4 • Super Tuscan ▶ (8A Artillery Passage, tel: 020 7247 8717) This neat little *enoteca* (wine bar) near Liverpool Street doesn't require you to know much about wine. Experts are on hand to suggest the perfect drop of Italian (not just Tuscan) to pair with their range of small meat, cheese and vegetable plates. The *panelle* (Sicilian fried crisps made with chickpea flour) are a particularly tasty mouth-amuser.

5 • Life and death in Pompeii and Herculaneum ▶ The extraordinary human stories from the 2,000-year-old volcanic disaster, preserved like the huddled casts of its victims, are being resurrected for the first time at the British Museum. Catch it until 29 September. britishmuseum.org

6 (Off map) Take an hour's train from King's Cross to stay at luxury hotel and spa **The Varsity** ▶ located in the pretty university city of Cambridge. After working through the many quirky boutiques, stroll back along the stunning River Cam to finish the day enjoying views over the city in the hotel's Jacuzzi, or join one of their new astronomy master classes on the rooftop. varsityhotel.co.uk



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