

# Indoors, outdoors



Turn the garden into your home's best room *Monday*

Divorce hurts... someone rips everything up and you wake up to who you've become

# Alex Hollywood



The real story of my break-up with Paul *Monday*

# The Sunday Telegraph

## Gove ready to delay Brexit until next year

## Liverpool triumph in Madrid

## Javid would scrap top rate of income tax as Tory leader



By Steven Swinford  
DEPUTY POLITICAL EDITOR  
SARID JAVID today says he is prepared to scrap the top rate of income tax as he argues he has the "broadest reach" of any of the candidates for the Tory leadership contest.  
In his first interview since announcing his leadership bid, the Home Secretary today tells *The Sunday Telegraph* that he believes Britain is ready for its first ethnic minority prime minister.  
He positions himself as "someone's leader", capable of winning over traditional Tory voters while being able to "connect in a very special way with the vast, vast majority of the electorate".

## The Sunday Telegraph

Sunday 2 June 2019 | telegraph.co.uk

### SINGAPORE FOR YOUR SUPPER

A culinary journey through one of south-east Asia's tastiest cities

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### ANTHONY HOROWITZ

My visit to Alderney was everything I'd hoped for and more!

page 9



### A BIG SPLASH

Our pick of the top surfing and white water holidays around the world

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# Travel on Sunday

## Park life!

Richard Madden reveals 15 great ways to celebrate the 70th anniversary of Britain's national parks



## HOTEL HIT SQUAD MARK C O'FLAHERTY



**MEET THE TEAM**  
Mark reports on design and luxury – he likes lights that are easy to turn off, extraordinarily plush mattress toppers and a single large cube of ice in his negroni.



**EXCLUSIVE OFFER**

*Londoners venturing west will find a luxe, pretty haven at the Richmond Harbour Hotel and Spa*

In New York, when I'm north of Harlem I use the term "Nosebleed Heights". There needs to be a similar term for increments of west London. A play on the Thames and "the bends" maybe? I feel like there are astringent bubbles forming in my blood as soon as the Central Line passes Marble Arch. By White City, I'm close to having an aneurysm. And here in Richmond which, weirdly, I got to just by sitting on the Ginger Line for a mere 50 minutes from my house in Stole Newington (I don't even have a recognisably London postcode but they have over in the park. And if you have £750 you can take one of the Queen's coaches for a 45-minute buggy ride there. Which you can't do on my home turf of Hackney. So, there's that.

While my territorial dislike of venturing west is well known among my friends, a recent weekend in Richmond reminded me I should get over myself and go more often. After leaving my bags at the Richmond Harbour Hotel, I went straight to Peterhavan

Nurseries. It reminded me of my first trip to Paris, rushing off to the Eiffel Tower to make sure it was real – much discussed, never visited. What a joy it is – all that springtime flora and pricey architectural salvage, scented candles and visitors loading up their custom decorated 4x4 BMWs with pot plants. And best of all, the promise of long lunches in the late summer with far too much wine before a river cruise back east.

The new Gate restaurant at Richmond Harbour Hotel doesn't have the credentials or aura of Peterhavan Nurseries, but already it feels like something special on a sunny day. It has the same horticulture-forward vibe, with plenty of appealing outside tables and a light-filled dining space and cocktail bar. The decor is lovely – lots of bright, stylishly shaped wood and vivid upholstery, one pair Arabian Nights, another pair Home of Hackney, a final pair Laura Ashley. It's cool, but in a measured and conservative way. Tris Richmond, The Gate's manager, is shamelessly, undeniably similar to a Soho House branded offshoot and the place has a cheery, club house feel, although with sometimes inadvertently over-enthusiastic staff.

The food at The Gate continues to pull from the "green" theme, but with mixed results, many to do with portion size. Cauliflower remains, of course, all the rage with urban sophisticates. Potentially horrible, it's the chitterlings of veg. Only the truly earnest cedar it. My katch date did. And was surprised that "cauliflower, buckwheat and almonds" turned out to be one whole giant cauliflower, albeit in a sort of Ottolenghi drag with



romesco and pomegranate seeds. The methane potential of the fish alone loses the hotel several eco points.

My starter of coriander and burrata was super fresh, but twice the size a starter should be. My Dover sole was perfect, but I was full before they had served it.

At dinner I wondered, while plunging through a bowl of fancy pulled-pork wrappings with Branley sauce, why the background music had shifted to the sort of stuff I only hear on Radio 1 when I get an Uber on a Saturday evening, for the five seconds before I demand it be turned off. Then the food came: my companion's fish burger was a weird and overly racist mélange of treated ocean, wide-say

count duck leg was as good as I could ask for, but came with grilled lettuce, which shouldn't be "a thing", ever. I picked it off while turning over in my head why anyone thought to do a 11-MB1 disco cover version of Bryan Adams.

The breezy spring/summer style of the dining room is in evidence in the common areas. All of which comes as something of a surprise, because the whitewashed façade of the 18th-century building suggests you might be in far provincial or seaside – and weathered at that – chinz.

This may well have been the case when it was the former Richmond Gate Hotel – an unrefurbished corridor and staircase I was sent down to head to the spa before a subsequent fire on its roof closed it for ongoing repair suggested the last days of Crossroads Hotel. But almost everything else I saw was slick, luxe and pretty. The design team at the Harbour Hotel group clearly know their stuff, even if I felt menaced by bolster cushions in my bedroom, while hunting in vain for USB charging points or usable Wi-Fi.

When the spa and health club are operating again – along with a really splendid swimming pool that had me kicking myself for not packing trunks – there will be at least as much of a reason for "making a day of it" at Richmond Harbour as staying over. Until then, it's a great finishing point for a west London-ish safari. Even for territorial eastenders.

Rooms at Richmond Harbour Hotel and Spa cost from £345 per night, including breakfast. There are two ground floor accessible rooms.

**RICHMOND HARBOUR HOTEL & SPA RICHMOND**

**7/10**

Richmond Hill, Richmond TW10 6HP 020 8940 0062; [harbourhotels.co.uk/richmond/](http://harbourhotels.co.uk/richmond/)



**PILLOW TALK**

### GREEK GARDEN

Santorini's capital Fira gets a new five-star hotel this month in the form of Katikies Garden, set in the grounds of a former monastery.

Preserved Venetian architecture is complemented by a modern-meets-vintage style, and open spaces bloom with colourful plants. Many suites have their own garden, veranda

### SOHO HOME

You don't have to be a "creative soul", as the Soho House rules put it, to indulge in a little bit of the group's Cowshed spa



therapy. The award-winning products, made in England, are available to buy and use at home. These include the Kahal Wonder Balm, a botanical multitasker that's a nourishing moisturiser, salve and body butter, and the Body & Shower range, which offers different options depending on your mood. Products from £12 ([cowshed.com](http://cowshed.com))

### BITE OF HISTORY

Letters between the Cary Arms and sides of Sir Winston Churchill served as inspiration for the Devon hotel's new seafood experience. The inn's terrace offers a weekly lobster barbecue, serving the crustacean a number of ways – the



pairing of Pul Roger a favourite of Churchill. Rooms £265; Saturday lunch lobster barbecue, during summer 09803 32710; [caryarms.co.uk](http://caryarms.co.uk)

### Benjamin Parker

For more hotel news, see: [telegraph.co.uk/tt-pillowtalk](http://telegraph.co.uk/tt-pillowtalk)

Book by June 30 for stays until July 31 2018. Quote TEL302016; call 03301 623 974; see terms; [telegraph.co.uk/tt-cavendish-hotel](http://telegraph.co.uk/tt-cavendish-hotel)

### 30's 011



**PILLOW TALK**

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Preserved Venetian architecture is complemented by a modern-meets-vintage style, and open spaces bloom with colourful plants. Many suites have their own garden, veranda

or open-air jet pool, while the main swimming pool gazes towards the island's famous caldera.

Rooms £320 (0030 22860 72380; [katikiesgarden.com](http://katikiesgarden.com))

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