

HELLO!

Hello!

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THE MASON'S ARMS

Anyone who's spent time in the Cotswolds is likely to have called in at The Double Red Duke, a rabbit warren of a hotel/restaurant with endless cosy corners and inviting nooks and crannies. Excitingly, the duo behind the Clanfield hotspot have just reopened The Mason's Arms, the charming pub opposite, creating the perfect place to while away a winter afternoon.

Chef Chris Lindsay has designed a menu intended to celebrate the British pub, offering Cotswold roast chicken with onions and bacon, baked sole, and ox cheek pie and mash. But if you're simply after a beer, that's fine, too. Co-founder Georgie Pearman tells **HELLO!**: "Frothy pints, Scotch eggs and a Sunday roast with the dogs and all the children, or a sleepy afternoon with a book in front of the fire..."

There's a sense of great anticipation for our first guests – locals and travellers alike."

The Mason's Arms, Bampton Road, Clanfield OX18 2RG. To book, visit countrycreatures.com/the-masons-arms.

TAMARIND OF MAYFAIR

Enconced in one of London's smartest districts, Tamarind opened its doors 30 years ago. It was one of the first Indian restaurants to earn a Michelin star – and it still holds this distinction today.

To celebrate the milestone, the restaurant has launched a 30-cover, year-round service, designed by Stephanie Barba Mendonça, the creative mind behind the redesign of Annabel's on nearby Berkeley Square.

In warmer months, the terrace is shaded by cascading branches from ancient oaks. As autumn and winter arrive, a retractable awning adorned in bold floral fabric provides a cosy refuge. The space offers an inviting setting to savour Tamarind's exceptional

North Indian cuisine. We sampled the tasting menu – the perfect gateway to discover the restaurant's finest dishes.

Among the standout small plates, the Rajasthani curd chat – a popular Indian street food – impressed with its satisfying crunch and tangy chutneys. The coconut and chilli sea bass, served with a salmon rose salsa, was complex and delectable. The main attraction was slowcooked Mangalorean prawn curry, accompanied by fresh naan and rice. And the Tamarind ginger pudding with vanilla custard, sesame and whiskey mulberry ice cream provided the perfect finale.

Tamarind of Mayfair, 29 Queen Street, London W1J 5PR. To book, visit tamarindrestaurant.com.



BIG MAMMA

Shoreditch has long offered some of London's most on-trend restaurants, and funky Italian trattoria Gloria from colourful chain Big Mamma is no exception.

After a warm welcome from the cheery staff, relax with a blood-orange Campari bitter in the well-stocked bar before settling into cosy booths around tables inlaid with mosaics.

Amid the atmospheric low lights, smoky stracciatella cheese and salty focaccia are the pick of the starters, while the spicy Ndja Really Like It? pizza goes down nicely with a crisp prosciutto. Try the linguine alle vongole – garlicky clams atop a tangle of al dente pasta, bathed in the juices of the datenini tomatoes that dot the dish – but leave room for the showstopping lemon pie, boasting a wall of meringue six inches high.

Big Mamma is due to open La Bellezza (left) in Birmingham on 29 November, so Brummie foodies are advised to book as soon as they can. *Gloria, 34-36 Great Eastern Street, London EC2A 3QR. To book, visit bigmammaprismgroup.com.*

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