

THE *Brit*list

WHAT TO DO • WHERE TO GO • WHAT TO BUY

We round up our favourite upcoming exhibitions, theatre, concerts and attractions, as well as places to stay and best British buys

BRITTEN ON THE BEACH

In this, the centenary year of England's greatest composer Benjamin Britten, his home town of Aldeburgh is celebrating with a fabulous festival. Britten's most famous opera, Peter Grimes, arrives with concert performances and an outdoor production on Aldeburgh beach.

WE'VE TEAMED UP WITH ALDEBURGH FESTIVAL TO OFFER THREE PAIRS OF TICKETS WORTH £100 TO THE PERFORMANCE ON ALDEBURGH BEACH. ENTER ONLINE AT WWW.BRITAINMAGAZINE.COM/BRITAINCOMP





TOP OF THE TOWER

Whizz up to the 72nd floor of Western Europe's tallest building for a knee-trembling but incredible perspective of London with The View from the Shard – now open to the public.

TICKETS TO LONDON'S NEWEST LANDMARK COST £24.95 AT WWW.THEVIEWFROMTHESHARD.COM

CHOCOLATE HEAVEN

We have just discovered Amelia Rope's delicious luxury chocolate, and now we're obsessed. The beautifully-wrapped chocolate is made by hand, with flavours such as rose or lime hand-stirred in, some with nuts or coffee beans scattered on top. Amelia is uncompromising when it comes to the sustainable and ethical sourcing of the chocolate and she uses UK-based sources wherever possible for the packaging. It is all dairy, gluten and alcohol free and available to buy online at www.ameliarope.com. Enjoy!



PHOTO (FACING): © THE VIEW FROM THE SHARD

James McAvoy takes on Macbeth

Shakespeare's darkest tale plays out in a dystopian Scotland brutalised by war

This exciting and radical new production is played in the round in the newly configured Trafalgar Studios in Whitehall. Scottish BAFTA winner and Olivier nominee James McAvoy stars alongside Claire Foy's Lady Macbeth in the bard's politically-charged and atmospheric play until 27 April. 0844 871 7632; www.macbethwestend.com



SHUGBOROUGH IS MUCH MORE THAN A STATELY HOME

Shugborough near Stafford is featuring new exhibitions and a new-look historic walled gardens this year, as well as events from open-air concerts to festivals and country shows. Shugborough is the nation's most complete working historic estate and offers a fun-packed family day out. www.shugborough.org.uk



SCENTS OF THE CITY

Fill a room with the gentle fragrance of the Covent Garden flower market or the spicy notes of an exclusive gentlemen's club with Tales of London candles from Ashleigh & Burwood. There are six fragrances to choose from including Buckingham, Knightsbridge and Piccadilly. All of the candles are hand-poured in the UK and guaranteed to burn for 50 hours. www.ashleigh-burwood.co.uk



FEELING COSY

Hainsworth, one of Britain's most historic textile mills, has unveiled its wonderfully comforting 2013 Scarlet & Argent collection.

WWW.SCARLETANDARGENT.CO.UK

PLACES TO STAY – EDITOR'S PICKS

If you're inspired by our features this issue and fancy visiting an area we mention, we have a couple of top recommendations from the BRITAIN team.

For those exploring the Cotswolds after reading our Wonderful Weekends feature, the Cotswold Water Park Four

Pillars Hotel is a contemporary luxury Cotswolds venue set in a wonderland of lakes, woodland and open countryside. The four-star hotel blends contemporary design with nature, capturing the scenic



landscape through expanses of glass. www.four-pillars.co.uk And for a place to stay just an hour's drive from London, The Wellington Arms

in Baughurst is a superb find and the perfect place to escape to from the hubbub of the city. On the edge of the Hampshire Downs, The Wellington offers a welcoming haven for locals and Londoners alike. It focuses on food, and its small restaurant is packed full of



foodie fans every night of the week. After a delicious dinner you can stay in one of The Wellington's two lovely bedrooms, converted in 2011 from what was once a derelict hay store. www.thewellingtonarms.com