

LE CAFÉ DU MARCHÉ

Media Information: Le Café du Marché, Smithfield, London



Renowned as an atmospheric and convivial French restaurant, Le Café du Marché has been open for three decades and is still family-run. Tucked away down a cobbled mews in historic Smithfield, it is one of the oldest restaurants in the area. Downstairs a characterful restaurant serves authentic French cuisine, while upstairs is a unique private dining room - perfect for parties, dinners, corporate events and wedding celebrations.

The regularly changing à la carte menu uses the best fresh and seasonal ingredients, features daily specials and ever popular dishes such as la cote de boeuf with sauce béarnaise; braised beef bourguignon and celeriac puree; mousse au chocolat and classic French cheese and wine.



The ground floor restaurant saw extensive renovation during 2017 to open up the previously separate café. The space retains the bare brick walls and beams of this former warehouse and coachhouse for neighbouring Charterhouse. The atmosphere is that of a traditional French brasserie, with live jazz in the evenings. In the summer tables spill out onto the pavement.



The high-ceilinged first floor private dining room, Le Grenier “the attic”, has large windows and characterful oak panelling, creating a light and rustic French atmosphere in the centre of London. The room is self-contained with its own entrance, bar, toilets, and kitchen. The light and airy space seats up to 62 people for lunch or dinner and up to 120 for canapés, but is also cosy enough to suit smaller groups too.

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Downstairs, Le Rendezvous seats up to 35 and benefits from the background live jazz that plays in the main restaurant. The whole restaurant can be hired for parties of 150 to 300 people.



Owner and Manager, Sophie Graham-Wood says: *“At heart Le Café du Marché is a family business offering a convivial and personal service and delicious French food. We will work closely with clients from planning the menu to creating a memorable event. Many of our customers return again and again - testament to Le Café being a little bit unusual and rather special.”*

Marina O’Laughlin reviewed the restaurant for The Guardian in 2015 and wrote:

“The candlelit romance of the place is intensified by its location, a hidden, cobbled archway off Charterhouse Square. It’s all enough to turn the most leathery cynic misty-eyed. The food, regularly changing and handwritten on a blackboard under the brick arches, is as unreconstructed as a garlic-breathed, whiskey kiss”



Le Café du Marché was founded by Charlie Graham-Wood in 1986 and named to reflect its proximity to Smithfield meat market – the largest wholesale meat market in the UK, Charlie’s family hail from the culinary French capital, Lyon and his ambition was to serve honest and authentic French food to London.

Today Charlie’s vision is continued by his daughter, Sophie Graham-Wood and a loyal team of staff. Head Chef, Antonio Pineda has worked at Le Café du Marché for 20 years recently stepping up to lead the kitchen. General managers Roberto Muscas and Carlos Ruiz and pastry chef, Keith Davies, have also been part of the team since the late 1980s.

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“We had a really wonderful evening and want to thank you for ensuring that everything was so perfect! All our guests were so impressed by the exquisite dinner, the ideal venue and warm and attentive staff! We can't thank you all enough; you were all so helpful and accommodating with our arrangements, always acting with tremendous attention to detail and great care.” Private party host 2017



Le Café du Marché 22 Charterhouse Square, Smithfield. London EC1M 6DX

www.cafedumarche.co.uk

Twitter: [@cafedumarche](https://twitter.com/cafedumarche)

Instagram: [@cafedumarche](https://www.instagram.com/cafedumarche)

Media enquiries: Polly Robinson Email: polly@pollyrobinson.co.uk; Tel: 07966 475195

Private Dining Room booking information

There is no room hire charge although there is a minimum spend which includes all food and drinks and can incorporate a 15% service charge. Please note that the service charge will be added to the total amount.

Capacity:

Le Grenier Private Dining Room: 62 seated /120 standing.

The Rendezvous Café (semi private with own bar) - 35 seated / 60 standing

Exclusive Hire - 150 seated / 300 standing

Menu:

Sample menus are available on request.