

Dukes Hotel

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Dukes Hotel Bar

THE GAME IS BOND

KATE CHAMBRE PLAYS SECRET AGENT IN LONDON

A WORD OF warning to all suave and sophisticated gents out there: never, ever order a martini using the 007 catchphrase, “shaken, not stirred” if you want your reputation to remain intact.

“It’s simply not the done thing,” says Italian bar manager Alessandro Palazzi during a martini-making master class at Dukes Hotel.

The sumptuous five-star boutique hotel (dukeshotel.com), situated in London’s St James’s, is where Ian Fleming used to drink cocktails and coined the famous phrase for his Bond novels.

“The fact that Ian Fleming used ‘shaken, not stirred’ was simply to make Bond stand out from the crowd. You would never shake a martini,” says Palazzi.

As fans eagerly await the release of *Quantum of Solace* in October, there are a whole load of James Bond-themed activities available across London to keep ardent fans amused.

Brown’s Hotel (brownshotel.com), situated in the heart of Mayfair since 1837, is offering an Ian Fleming Centenary package until 28 December. No better place. The hotel bar, named after the legendary photographer Terence Donovan, with its seductive collection of femme fatale images and variety of James Bond-themed cocktails, lends itself perfectly to the 007 experience.

Dukes Hotel is also offering a Bond package, which includes a Miss Moneypenny manicure, a men’s wet shave at Truefitt & Hill on St James’s Street, and a martini-making master class with Palazzi.

The Wolseley (thewolseley.com), around the corner in Piccadilly, is a must-visit and is the type of place Fleming might have enjoyed his favourite breakfast of scrambled eggs.

To learn a bit about the costume design



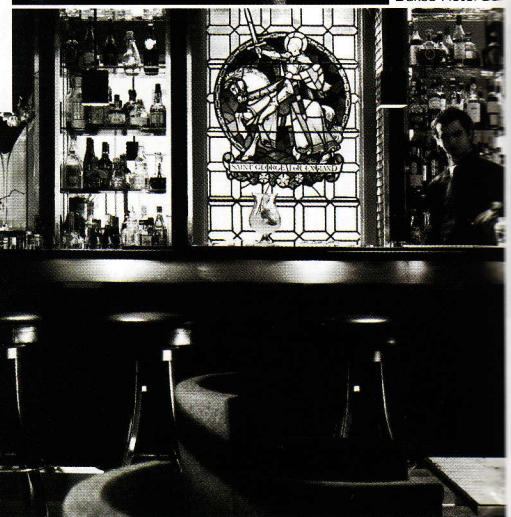
Brown's Hotel



Donovan Bar

history of past Bond movies, head to Jermyn Street’s Turnbull & Asser (turnbullandasser.com), which dates back to 1885 and is famed for its bespoke shirts and clothing. Particularly popular with screen legends, politicians and royalty, its clothes have featured in many a Bond blockbuster. “Thank you for the magic shirts,” writes Daniel Craig on a signed photograph of himself, which is one of over a hundred famous faces proudly on display.

For the aspiring Bond girl out there, be sure to wear waterproof mascara if you fancy making a quick getaway down the Thames with your paramour. The hour-long



trip (londonrivovoyages.com), equipped with tour guide and waterproofs, comes highly recommended and, although exciting and exhilarating, may not be quite as glamorous as you’d like it to be if you have make-up smeared across your face. The speedboat leaves from Waterloo Millennium Pier on Westminster Bridge Road located right beside the London Eye (londoneye.com), which is also worth a whirl if you’re up for a little more adventure.

Afterwards, take a walk along the South Bank for a spot of lunch in the magnificent glass-fronted Tate Modern restaurant (tate.org.uk/modern/eatanddrink).

The Bond experience would not be complete without visiting *For Your Eyes Only*, a thrilling exhibition (iwm.org.uk/007) running until 1 March 2009 at the Imperial War Museum. Celebrating the centenary of Ian Fleming’s birth, it gives an intriguing insight into what inspired the author to dream up his secret agent with a license to kill. Original manuscripts, the autogyro Bond uses in the film *You Only Live Twice*, the blood-splattered Turnbull & Asser shirt worn by Craig in *Casino Royale* and many other artifacts are on display. □