

LUX WORLDWIDE

THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO LUXURY

Despite having a global reputation as a hub of finance, culture, fashion and, of course, cuisine, London is the capital of a relatively small island nation. Which, most certainly, goes some way to explaining why seafood has long been one of the county's specialities.

Far from the jellied eel and cockles that were once associated with London, the capital's seafood reputation is known around the world and fine fish restaurants are coming into their own. Whether newly opened or established institutions, oyster specialists or experts in all things piscine, London is home to some of the best.

Wiltons

As their logo suggests (a lobster sporting top hat, champagne flute and walking cane) Wiltons is a sanctuary of refined British traditionalism. Having been catering to Mayfair's elite since 1742, patrons royal, regal and gentlemanly have visited the restaurant over the years and, considering Wiltons still-enviable reputation, cannot have left unsatisfied. Jackets and ties are required at all hours, which is the opposite on their policy for smartphones, iPads and other such devices which, if used, will have the maître d politely coughing behind diners in seconds.

The food too sticks to the sophisticated nature of the atmosphere, with lobster cocktail, grilled turbot and wild sea bass making up the majority of the menu, complemented by a range of Oysters and game. Diners averse to rich dining should probably try somewhere more upbeat, but for lovers of old-school extravagance, there are few places quite like it. After all, it's lasted so long for a reason.

Sweet, fleshy lobster or oysters suffused with the taste of the sea, the finest caviar or whole grilled seabass, London's seafood restaurants cater to the whims of fish lovers the world over. Whether it's the old-fashioned sophistication of Wiltons, the glamour of Scotts or the rambunctious atmosphere of Wright Brothers, there are few cities that can match them for atmosphere, provenance and, of course, exquisite food.