

## PRESS RELEASE

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### THE YEAR OF THE HORSE | CHINESE NEW YEAR 2026 IN CHINATOWN LONDON

As Europe's largest Chinatown, the Chinese New Year celebrations in Chinatown London are always the biggest and brightest outside of China. Over 150 restaurants, bars, shops and businesses set along lantern-strewn streets, transform during the most important event in the local East and Southeast Asian community's calendar. For 2026's Year of the Horse, here's everything you need to know about forthcoming celebrations in Chinatown London.



#### What is the Year of the Horse?

In the Chinese zodiac, the Horse symbolises victorious success and good fortune. It is the seventh animal in the 12-year cycle. Those born in the Year of the Horse – 1942, 1954, 1966, 1978, 1990, 2002, 2014, and 2026 – are said to be hardworking, warm-hearted, and independent.

#### How will Chinese New Year be celebrated in Chinatown?

With an array of cuisines from East and Southeast Asia, Chinatown London is the best place in Europe to experience the vibrant energy and rich traditions of Chinese New Year. Here, cultural celebrations come alive in the heart of the city, and visitors can immerse themselves. There will be special menus and limited-edition Year of the Horse foods and festive drinks, and an annual Chinese New Year parade in partnership with The London Chinatown Chinese Association (LCCA). In the lead up to the parade, expect lion dance performances throughout Chinatown, plus plenty of pop-up stalls and events to drum up excitement.

#### Celebratory dishes in Chinatown



Throughout the CNY period, restaurants across Chinatown London will be serving celebratory dishes, each with their own traditional symbolism over the festive period, as well as limited edition creations.

1. **Jiaozi dumplings** - These dumplings are considered to be lucky, due to their boat-like shape resembling Chinese Ingots. Savour at [Tao Tao Ju](#), [China Modern](#) or [Orient London](#).
2. **Nian Gao** - Also known as Chinese New Year cake, made from glutinous rice. Tuck in at [Plum Valley](#) and [Four Seasons](#).
3. **Lobster** - A popular delicacy for CNY family feasts, lobster is a staple dish. When cooked, they turn red which is known as the colour of luck! Head to [Dumplings' Legend](#) for succulent lobster noodles with ginger and spring onions.
4. **Yu Sheng** - A unique “lucky” dish of the Singaporean celebrations of CNY, Yu Sheng is a symbolic sharing dish to bring longevity, peace and prosperity. Set yourself down at [Rasa Sayang](#) to experience this fresh, vibrant dish.
5. **Whole Fish** - An indispensable guest at the CNY dinner table, the fish, represents a whole and healthy family. [Jin Li](#) serves a delectable whole steamed seabass with ginger and spring onions

#### How to watch the Chinese New Year Parade?

2026's Chinese New Year parade will take place on Sunday 22nd February, starting from East of Trafalgar Square running up to Chinatown. Visitors can line up along the route, fuelling up at local vendors who will set up shop on the day. It will be crowded so arrive early to avoid disappointment.

Explore Chinatown London this Chinese New Year and stay tuned to Chinatown London's ([TikTok](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)) social media platforms.

-Ends-

@chinatownlondon

#ChinatownLondon

<https://chinatown.co.uk/en/>

#### Notes to Editors

##### Chinatown London

As the largest Chinatown in Europe, Chinatown London is the go-to destination for regional Chinese and pan-Asian cuisine. Its twelve predominately pedestrianised and interconnected streets, lined with iconic red lanterns, are home to an ever-evolving mix of traditional and new concepts which reflect emerging dining trends from cities such as Shanghai, Beijing, Tokyo, and Seoul.

Equally thriving day and night, the area's restaurants, bars, shops and cafés, as well as its unique mix of ESEA supermarkets, authentic Asian retail stores and more, attract large numbers of Londoners, tourists, international students and local workers.

##### 中国城

作为欧洲最大的中国城，伦敦中国城是追求地道中餐和亚洲美食的热门去处。这里有十二条以步行为主、



互相连接的街道，路边挂满了标志性的红灯笼。中国城的美食也在不断演变，融合了传统与新潮的美食概念，将来自上海、北京、东京和首尔等城市的新兴餐饮趋势带给大家。

无论白天还是夜晚，这里的餐厅、酒吧、商店和咖啡馆，以及特色的东南亚超市、正宗亚洲零售店等，无不吸引着在伦敦学习，工作，旅游和生活的每一个人。

### **About Shaftesbury Capital**

Shaftesbury Capital PLC ("Shaftesbury Capital") is the leading central London mixed-use REIT and is a constituent of the FTSE-250 Index. Our property portfolio under management, valued at £5.2 billion, extends to 2.7 million square feet of lettable space across the most vibrant areas of London's West End. With a diverse mix of shops, restaurants, cafés, bars, residential apartments and offices, our destinations include the high footfall, thriving neighbourhoods of Covent Garden, Carnaby, Soho and Chinatown. Our properties are close to the main West End Underground stations and transport hubs for the Elizabeth Line. Shaftesbury Capital shares are listed on the London Stock Exchange ("LSE") (primary) and the Johannesburg Stock Exchange ("JSE") (secondary) and the A2X (secondary).

### **Our purpose**

Investing to create thriving destinations in London's West End where people enjoy visiting, working, and living.

### **Our values**

We have a set of values that are fundamental to our behaviour, decision making and the delivery both of our purpose and strategy: Act with integrity; Take a creative approach; Listen and collaborate; Take a responsible, long-term view; and make a difference.