

## PRESS RELEASE

### COVENT GARDEN BECOMES THE MOST MAGICAL PLACE THIS CHRISTMAS

- Festive season starts with the Christmas lights 'switch on' held 12th November
- 115,000 lights, 55ft British grown Christmas tree and lighting installations will decorate the estate
- Gigantic Covent Garden gingerbread installation in the Market Building, from biscuit makers Biscuiteers
- Limited edition Christmas stockings from Covent Garden and British Fashion Council, designed by Richard Quinn, Osman and more supporting national homelessness charity, Crisis
- Festive Christmas trees dressed by Miller Harris, For Art's Sake, Tiffany & Co amongst others
- Exclusive gifts from Chanel, Tom Ford, Olivia Burton, Mariage Frères and more
- Dining experiences at SUSHISAMBA, Cora Pearl, Frenchie and family favourites Shake Shack and Wahlburgers

Covent Garden is London's number one destination to enjoy the magic of Christmas. This festive season the estate will transform into a dazzling hub with amazing events, world-class dining experiences and an unrivalled selection of gifts

Christmas officially kicks off in Covent Garden on Tuesday 12th November, as London's favourite shopping and dining destination hosts its annual family friendly 'switch on' extravaganza in the Piazza, in partnership with national homelessness charity, Crisis.

Covent Garden's iconic Christmas decorations will welcome its sweetest update yet as the estate boasts a 3D and 4ft high gingerbread replica of the Covent Garden Market Building. Made by British biscuit makers Biscuiteers, the mouth-watering display is made with over 5kg of icing and weighs in at over 10kg, having taken 100 hours of gingerbread making. Showcasing Covent Garden's most iconic features and nodding to the season, the installation includes the infamous Christmas tree on the East Piazza. Visitors to the estate will be able to visit Biscuiteers located in Central Avenue within the Market Building, from 11th November and purchase a newly designed build-your-own Covent Garden gingerbread house gift set.

Joining Covent Garden's iconic 55 ft British grown handpicked Christmas tree, decorated with over 30,000 lights, the estate will become London's most magical Christmas destination dazzling with 115,000 lights across the piazza and its adjoining streets. Joining the festive magic, for the first time Covent Garden will welcome Wonder Wood, an enchanting Christmas tree forest with trees dress by British and global brands. Participating stores including **Tiffany & Co**, **Miller Harris**, **Olivia Burton**, **For Art's Sake** and more will showcase their own spectacular fir couture Christmas trees, creating a beautiful backdrop for visitors.

In partnership with the **British Fashion Council**, Covent Garden will launch an exclusive limited edition collection of luxury Christmas stockings designed by Richard Quinn, Holly Fulton, Fyodor Golan, Alighieri, Osman amongst others. Filled with gifts from across the estate, each stocking is available via a [prize draw](#), with the £10 entry fee being donated directly to national homelessness charity, Crisis.

The **Royal Opera House** will bring its theatrical magic to a festive pop up on James Street this Christmas. Featuring displays of costumes from iconic productions and a Christmas store selling exclusive tree baubles and Christmas gifts, it will open its doors from 18th November until the end of December.

Spreading Christmas cheer, stores across Covent Garden including **ba&sh**, **Brora**, **Bucherer** and **Molton Brown** and more will host exclusive in-store experiences and serve mulled wine and mince pies. For the last minute shopper, stores will stay open late until 10pm. Selected stores will also offer gift personalisation and bespoke gift-wrapping, including **Mulberry**, **Charlotte Tilbury**, **Moleskine**, **Atelier Cologne** and more.

Covent Garden has become London's gastronomic heartland and hottest dining destination, home to global restaurant concepts, including **SUSHISAMBA**, **RedFarm**, **Balthazar**, **Din Tai Fung** and **Wahlburgers**, along with some of the best independents including **Oystermen**, **Avobar** and **Cora Pearl**. Visitors looking to celebrate after a day of shopping should book in for the festive menu from **Floral by Lima**, or enjoy **Frenchie's** infamous Bacon Scones, which can be purchased to take-away as a gift or treat yourself with, exclusively for the month of December. **Cora Pearl's** Christmas feasting menu will see favourite dishes undergo seasonal twists and will also add Devils on Horseback and Spiced Clementine Baked Alaska to its menu.

For a festive cocktail, **Henrietta Hotel's** Miracle Pop Up Bar will return for the second year to serve amazing Christmas concoctions this November, with favourite tipples including the Snowball Old Fashioned, Christmapolitan, Run Run Rudolph and Gingerbread Flip. The Market Building will be home to a mulled wine pop up, with a variety of mulled wines available across Covent Garden including Laduree and a mulled tea from Mariage Freres.

Adding to the amazing Covent Garden Christmas experience, those visiting Covent Garden can enjoy shopping at the coolest brands, including newly opened **A.P.C** and **Polo Ralph Lauren**, which have joined the likes of **Tiffany & Co.** **Paul Smith**, **Linda Farrow**, **Mulberry**, **Burberry**, **ba&sh**, **Lacoste**, **Hackett** and more on the fashion front plus the biggest number of beauty brands per square metre including, **Dior**, **Chanel**, **Tom Ford**, **Charlotte Tilbury**, **Aesop** and more.

Shoppers will have the opportunity to support the amazing work Crisis does with homeless people throughout the year as Covent Garden partners with them for the second year running. The charity is gearing up to open its Christmas centres to over 4,000 homeless guests, and shoppers' donations can help Crisis provide them with food, warmth and access to vital services. But work doesn't stop there. At their Christmas centres, Crisis introduce people to year-round training, education and support with housing, employment and health.

This long-term support helps people to rebuild their lives and leave homelessness behind for good.

-Ends-

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**About Capco Covent Garden:**

Covent Garden is a leading retail and dining destination and is one of the most vibrant estates in the heart of central London. The area is now home to a wide variety of British, global and independent brands including Chanel, Tom Ford, Balthazar and SUSHISAMBA, with upcoming openings from Dominique Ansel Bakery and Polo Ralph Lauren.

Capital & Counties Properties PLC ('Capco') is responsible for the management of over 1.2 million sq. ft. of space at Covent Garden valued at £2.6 billion (as at 30 June 2019). Under Capco's stewardship, Covent Garden has been transformed into a world-class destination, welcoming over 40 million customer visits a year and 150 new brands since 2006.

[www.coventgarden.london](https://www.coventgarden.london)

**About Capital & Counties Properties PLC (Capco):**

Capital & Counties Properties PLC is one of the largest investment and development property companies that specialises in central London real estate and is a constituent of the FTSE-250 Index. Capco's landmark London estates at Covent Garden and Earls Court were valued at £3.2 billion as at 30 June 2019 (Group share). The company is listed on the London Stock Exchange and the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.