

“one of the best looking coffee shops out there...”

Time Out London, november 2009

London's best cafés and coffee shops

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Photography Tricia de Courcy Ling

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Time Out sips its way across town, testing every kind of coffee, from cappuccino to ristretto, to compile the definitive list of where to find London's finest brews, cafés and coffee shops



© Charmaine Mok

Kaffeine

One of the best looking coffee shops out there, situated at the quieter end of Great Titchfield Street. Aussie owner Peter and his team are a welcoming lot, and very skilled in their trade. Visit the [Kaffeine blog](#) for weekly menus, and don't forget to try their luscious pastéis de nata (Portuguese egg tarts). And the coffee, of course.

66 Great Titchfield Street, Fitzrovia, W1W 7QJ (020 7580 6755/www.kaffeine.co.uk). Oxford Circus tube.

Fernandez & Wells

Brace yourselves for the invigorating triple ristretto shots served at this third branch of Fernandez & Wells, which is earmarked as the 'espresso bar' of the trio. The displays of fat doorstep sandwiches, pastéis de nata and various cakes is impressive, but coffee-lovers will know that these are only secondary to the legendary brews. The baristas make magic by way of textbook-perfect crema served at the correct temperature. With the cappuccinos, the foam stands proudly several millimetres above the cup rim – the mark of an expert indeed.

Fernandez & Wells, 16a St Anne's Court, W1F 0BG (020 7494 4242/www.fernandezandwells.com). Tottenham Court Road tube.

Lantana

Australian proprietress Shelagh Ryan is determined to make London a better place by serving quality, no-nonsense food and proper coffees to the people. This airy space is ideal for a quiet morning reading the paper or chatting. Ryan has chosen what she calls the 'coffee super-couple' of Monmouth beans and a La Marzocco espresso machine – 'sexier than Brad and Angelina, better pedigree than Peaches and Pixie' – and we agree. We voted Lantana our [favourite café](#) in the 2009 Eating and Drinking Awards, and the coffee clearly played a large part in its nomination and eventual win.

Lantana, 13 Charlotte Place, W1T 1SN (020 7637 3347/www.scramblingeggs.blogspot.com). Goodge St tube.