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Loving LONDO

YVONNE GORDON finds the perfect base for a city break

UE TO Sterling being a lot cheaper right now, it's a great excuse to visit one of the most exciting cities in the world, London.

With so many hotels to choose from, it can be baffling trying to find one that is central, high quality and decent value.

The Strand Palace Hotel has long been a favourite with Irish visitors and its location in the heart of the West End on The Strand, right beside Covent Garden Market, is hard to beat for shopping and nightlife.

The hotel first opened in 1909 as an artdeco gem and it's just a few minutes' walk from the big West End shows. Also nearby are cultural landmarks like St Paul's Cathedral, Trafalgar Square and the River Thames with the London Eye on its banks.

The Strand Palace is also within walking distance of Regent Street and just one Lon-

don Underground stop from Oxford Street with shops like John Lewis, Selfridges and a large branch of Topshop.

If you're taking in an evening show, some of the best are The Lion King at the Lyceum (two minutes' walk from the hotel), Aladdin at the Prince Edward Theatre (10-15 minutes' walk) and The Phantom Of The Opera at Her Majesty's Theatre (10 minutes' walk).

At the hotel itself, as well as having a dinner and pre-theatre menu, Dawaat Indian Restaurant also serves an Indian afternoon tea, with a selection of lightly spiced nibbles like Bombay burgers, lamb samosas and sweet Indian pastries. There's also a carvery and grill, Gin Palace cocktail

CENTRAL: Trafalgar Square and inset, The Strand Palace Hotel

bar and Sacred Café.
A double room at the
Strand Palace costs from
£150 per room (approx
€175) and advance bookings get 15 per cent off the
stay. Book online and get a
complimentary bottle of prosec-

co plus a £15 voucher for the hotel's restaurants and bars. For information and to book, see www.strandpalacehotel.co.uk.

If you're traveling to London for shopping and will have luggage, check out CityJet's fares to London which start at €35 one way, include a 15kg check-in bag plus snacks and drink on board, and bring you right to London City where you can take the Docklands Light Rail and London Underground to the hotel (fares from £2.80 with an Oyster card), see www.cityjet.com



KEITH PROWSE

YOUR ENTERTAINMENT TRAVEL SPECIALIST

The Best of London & The West End

See the best of London's West End with Keith Prowse. We offer the best London Theatre Breaks in town! Our packages combine top price seats with a range of London hotels making for a fabulous theatre break away. Choose from a fantastic choice of West End shows. You can also round off any of our London packages with our great value dining options, and sightseeing, add a trip on the London Eye, a ticket to Madame Tussauds or a hop-on/hop-off sightseeing tour. With so much to see and do in London, booking a Keith Prowse Theatre Break is a perfect way to explore London. Book your break away today!

Choose from the following shows:

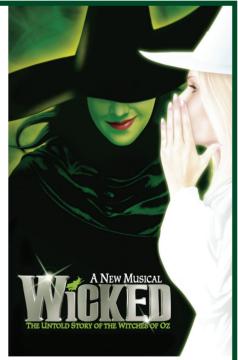
- Dreamgirls The Girls Miss Saigon An American in Paris Les Misérables
- The Phantom of the Opera Charlie & The Chocolate Factory Dirty Dancing
- Wicked Jersey Boys Mamma Mia Sleeping Beauty Bat Out of Hell
- Kinky Boots The Lion King Aladdin & many more...

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Our theatre breaks include:

- Two-nights bed & breakfast in three-star, four-star or five-star hotels on a bed and breakfast basis
- Top ticket for West End Show of your choice

To book, call Keith Prowse on **(01) 878 3500**



Organised and operated by Keith Prowse, whose booking conditions apply. Prices are per person and are based on two sharing, subject to availability. Single Supplements apply. Prices are based on weekend travel attending the show on the Friday evening. Price varies according to travel date, hotel and show of choice. Exclusion dates apply for certain shows.

Please note that flights are not included in offer price, however, we would be delighted to quote you best fare at the time of booking.