

NEW RETAIL AND LEISURE DESTINATION OPENS IN ELEPHANT & CASTLE, OFFERING LOCAL DINING, LEISURE AND ENTERTAINMENT

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Castle Square, the brand-new retail and leisure destination in Zone 1's Elephant & Castle will celebrate its opening this weekend (26 and 27 September). Playing host to a number of Elephant & Castle's muchloved established traders, restaurants and leisure facilities, the 5,000 sq.ft area of Castle Square and Ash Avenue at Castle Square, will provide Londoners and the local community with a new dining, leisure and entertainment hub.

26 traders including Guyanese Kaieteur Kitchen, Original Caribbean Spice and family run El Guambra who have been providing traditional Ecuadorian dishes for the whole family will join existing restaurants Pizzeria Pappagone and TUPÍ in the square. The trader line up is also accompanied by gaming specialists Games and Gadgets and electrical services provider Laughland Communications, plus clothing retailers Maya Fashion, D&Eddys, Ana Castro and Raw Fashion. Further women's fashion and clothes alterations are available in Ash Avenue (just off Castle Square) at Medellín Moda and Nicole's Alterations.

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Castle Square will also host entertainment across six-weekends for Londoners of all ages to enjoy, including live music, DJs and street performances, providing fun for the half-term period and Halloween all the way up to and including 29 – 31 October. Visitors can also enjoy the pop-up bar and street food operators that will be pitched across the weekends. Social distancing guidelines will be adhered to throughout.

Castle Square is located just 5 minutes' walk from Elephant & Castle tube station and directly opposite Elephant & Castle train station, with Ash Avenue just off Castle Square. It will also become a new home to the well-known Elephant Statue, who will be refurbished and repainted ahead of taking pride of place in the square.

Speaking of the Castle Square opening, Diana Barranco, Community Director for Elephant and Castle Town Centre said: "Elephant & Castle, the hub of London's Zone 1 has long been home to much-loved traders, who are greatly appreciated by Londoners and the local community. With the opening of Castle Square providing a new leisure and retail destination for all ages, we look forward to welcoming the community to enjoy the space and the entertainment it will provide."