

# Life

Dispatches from across the PAL network

📍 London

## A Filipino affair

Known for its cultural diversity and insatiable appetite for foreign flavors, London is home to 50,000 Filipinos and a clutch of eateries currently riding on the crest of Philippine cuisine's rising popularity

FOOD + DRINK

Adobo chicken wings and beef short ribs kare kare feature on the menu at The Adobros, but with modern plating.







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**The Adobros**

The menu at this supper club may sound traditional, but the artful and sophisticated plating appeals to both Filipinos in search of a taste of home, as well as diners new to Philippine cuisine. Founded by British-Filipino siblings Mike and Mark Corbyn four years ago, a typical Adobros dinner has 10 diners and starts with cocktails – like the Pineapple Papa, made with rum, lime juice, agave nectar, pineapple juice and topped with soda – ensuring a convivial atmosphere throughout the night. [theadobros.com](http://theadobros.com)

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**Josephine's Filipino Restaurant**

This West End institution is popular with celebrities from the motherland, as evidenced by the photographs hanging prominently on its red walls. The menu is encyclopedic, with virtually every popular Pinoy dish gracing its pages, and includes set meals featuring heritage dishes like beef kare kare and chicken *inasal* (barbecue) for the indecisive diner. Almost unheard of for a Filipino restaurant, there is also a vegetarian menu. [josephinesrestaurantcook.webplus.net](http://josephinesrestaurantcook.webplus.net)

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**Pepe's Kitchen**

Born in Manila but with roots in the provinces of Leyte and Batangas, Mae Magnaye Williams is well-versed in the regional cuisine of the Philippines. A spot at her monthly supper club means a chance to taste dishes that are better homemade, such as *humba* (braised pork belly, from the Visayas), *empanada* (turnovers stuffed with meat and potatoes, from Vigan) and Cebu lechon. The self-taught cook also organizes cooking classes and posts recipes and cooking videos on her Facebook page. [pepes-kitchen.co.uk](http://pepes-kitchen.co.uk)

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**Romulo Café**

This Manila import, named after a Filipino statesman from Tarlac, is located in the posh Kensington area. It serves comfort food like stuffed chicken and deep-fried pork belly, as well as contemporized signatures like the Kensington Fried Chicken that's rubbed with tamarind juice and served with banana ketchup and adobo mayonnaise. A meal here starts at General's Bar, where bartenders shake up exciting Philippine-inspired libations such as the Old-Fashioned Papa. [romulocafe.co.uk](http://romulocafe.co.uk)