

# Imaginary Press Release.

## London Set to Become One Grand Summer Outdoor Café: London Boroughs Share Public Spaces with Restaurants



Have you ever seen an outdoor café sprawled across an entire city? You just might see one in London, especially with the city declaring that it's taking a step further in helping the cafés and restaurants, which will be allowed to reopen as part of London's gradual exit from coronavirus lockdown.

Experiences like audience requested music venues, competitive socialising, food halls and markets, street food stalls and food trucks, craft beer bars and high-end restaurants have become part of the city's identity for locals and visitors alike. Therefore, helping this industry in difficult times is among the city's priorities amid relaxed lockdown rules.

According to London's Health Advisors cafés and restaurants that choose to recommence operations must follow strict physical distancing rules and safety measures. Seating is only allowed outdoors, and clients seated at different tables must be at least two metres apart.

Strict safety requirements have made restaurant, café and bar owners pessimistic about the prospects of reopening.

However the London Mayor or the Government's Culture Minister responded to these doubts directly with a support package. "Plazas, squares, and streets – nearby cafés will be able to set up outdoor tables free of charge this season and thus conduct their activities during quarantine. Just open up, work, retain jobs and keep London alive. The day after the government announced the easing of quarantine restrictions. "Of course, the top priority remains safety for all," he said.

London's public spaces – which until now have rarely been used for outdoor eating, are now open for this activity to support the city's restaurants going through difficult times. Currently, 18 public spaces have been put on offer, with the possibility to add more in the near future.

The announcement was met with enthusiasm, both from café owners and residents of London who are longing to return to their favourite cafés after weeks of lockdown.

London's offer to help our cafés and restaurants came just in time, says the majorly effective leader of industry group ..... "This additional space will help them accommodate more visitors and bring life back to the city streets without violating security requirements."

As of today, more than 162 cafés, bars and restaurants have applied to inhabit the city's public spaces with outdoor seating.

The GLA / Govt. has come up with another initiative that will end up benefiting local restaurants. In celebration of the lifting of lockdown the Govt. has decided to thank its front line care staff by giving them some £400,000 worth of restaurant vouchers, which they can use at restaurants across the city. The gesture serves as a big thank you for their tireless work while bringing even more business to the city's restaurants, which have been closed by the coronavirus lockdown.

*This idea and imaginary press release have come from the hugely successful initiative implemented by the Mayor of Vilnius Lithuania's capital which allowed outside tables in their city squares. They started Monday 27<sup>th</sup>. April and it's now difficult to find an empty seat. Attached please find our proposal of how it could work. This could be adopted in any UK city.*

If you like this idea please let me know

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