LUNCH ON MY OWN



A leisurely lunch, with a book for company. · Editorial illustration

When I stayed with my friend in Pimlico, I used to spend my mornings at Tate Britain. Lunch in the gallery restaurant was an indulgence. The waiter would suggest a wine to go with each course, and I would happily give the meal an afternoon of its own.

On the South Bank, it's the bookstalls that draw me. I can picture myself there for hours. What I want to know before I set off is where I'll feel comfortable sitting down to lunch afterwards.

I've chosen two tables I would ask for. One gives you the Thames to watch between courses. At the other, the booksellers are still there when you come out.

Desmond

Desmond Andrew McPartland

THE SEAT TO ASK FOR

Skylon · Level 3, Royal Festival Hall · SE1 8XX



The view from a river-facing chair. · Editorial illustration

CHOOSING THE ROOM

Ask for a dining-room table near the glass, with a chair facing the river. You have something to watch when the first course is cleared. If every window table is taken, an inward table with a clear sightline to the water can do the same job.

"A table for one at 12.30, please. I'd love a view of the river from my chair. Is the Festival of Britain menu available at lunch that day?"

BOOKING FOR ONE

Use the booking form on the contact page. If a single place isn't offered online, call 020 7654 7800. A window seat is a request. If the view matters more than the time, ask when the team would suggest coming.

Skylon · ask for a table or contact reservations