

EAT & DRINK

News and reviews from London's bar and restaurant scene

compiled by JENNY STALLARD

TABUN KITCHEN

OXFORD CIRCUS ★★★★★

THE kind of cooking you should expect at shiny new Tabun Kitchen is centuries-old Palestinian recipes as honed in modern-day Jerusalem by founder Hanan Kattan.

Tabun is spaceship-modern but still cosy and intimate (perfect date setting) and much of what's on the menu will be familiar: hummus, falafel, grilled halloumi, smoked aubergine dip, couscous salad. But the way they do things takes it to a whole new level.

We start off with champagne laced with pomegranate - our new favourite drink, thanks to the nice barman who invented it for us - then share the falafel with a sumac onion surprise in the middle (£5) and a moutabal smoked aubergine dip with grilled chilli and lemon courgette (£5). These are served

with flatbread so flat you could wear it as intimate protection.

And, in a world where courses mean nothing and the food comes pretty much as you want it, we also go for chicken kofta with warm artichoke (£14) - familiar yet exotic, especially with

those dips going on - and a vegetable makloubeh (£12), which is a slightly Indian-flavoured rice piled up with spiced aubergine, cauliflower, broad beans and a cucumery yogurt sauce. You could also go for interesting looking Palestinian pizzas with akkawi cheese or lamb tahini kofta.

In a city where it feels like you really have tried it all, it's great to come across something from somewhere you never thought of. And if all Palestinian food is this good, let's roll it out. **SIMON GAGE**

tabunkitchen.com



Palestinian feast: Tabun Kitchen offers a modern take on ancient dishes

DIARY DATES



SLIDE on over to west London's Bodo's Schloss from December 3, where you'll be transported to the Alps with champagne and ice-cold schnapps, alpine-inspired brunch cuisine and all-day dancing.

From £55, bodosschloss.com



WE love a show and we do love a drink, so you can imagine how excited we are about The Spirit Show. Featuring 200 of the world's finest spirits and the London Cocktail Club shaking up a storm, it's a must for anyone with a bit of a thirst on.

Dec 9 and 10, thespiritshow.co.uk