



## Bed matters

Don't laugh, but we've discovered the Soho House of Slough.

**Is that a typo?** No, we're serious.

**Oh, come on!** For real. We were tipped off about Stoke Place by a very reliable source and can verify that it's amazing.

**OK, so what's the deal?** A boutique hotel and restaurant with 40 stunning rooms, it's the new place to be seen. Just 30 minutes outside of the capital, the main building is a stately home which dates back to 1690, while the internal conversion is modern, sleek and classy.

**Tell me more...**

Basically, it's our new favourite outer-London hangout. They have an award-winning restaurant designed by the people behind Babington House, a cocktail bar and beautiful manicured gardens landscaped by Capability Brown.

**Who's that?** He was the horticulturalist for the Royals.

**Oh, fancy. So what are the rooms like?**

Palatial, but thoroughly modern. Expect expensive technology, claw-foot ceramic baths and urban,

masculine colour-schemes. It's the ideal place to take a prospective boyfriend.

**And the food?**

Incredible, which is probably why they've won two AA rosettes for outstanding meals and service. We loved the six-course taster menu, which they serve in reverse – starting with a delicious gin and tonic foam. As if that wasn't enough, they also have a remarkable wine list.

**Where do they source the food from?** Everything is procured from local suppliers, but 50% of their produce is self-sufficient and grown on the grounds.

**Sounds good, but is this place intimidating?**

No, not at all – the whole culture of the place is relaxed and trendy, despite the grandeur of the building. It's the best of both worlds.

**Anything else?** They stock Aveda products in their bathrooms, which – for gays like us – is the icing on the cake.

**Amen.** ■

Stoke Place, Buckinghamshire.  
Stokeplace.co.uk

**Tokyobikes** Gone are the days when we used to dash around on our Chopper pretending to be Eric Estrada in CHiPs \*sighs\* – but cycling is back and back big time. Here at GT we've ditched those clunky Boris Bikes in favour of something more urban and hi-tech. Now nowhere is more urban or hi-tech than Tokyo and Tokyobikes have poured all that expertise into crafting these sleek rides. With slimmer profile wheels than most road bikes, stronger Cr-Mo steel frames and flat handlebars to allow you to sit upright, these are purpose designed to tackle the city. Mercifully free of any gaudy go-faster graphics \*shudder\*, the stealthy and on-trend matt black Tokyobike Sport is our favourite. But maybe the Fluro Red would be wiser when dodging around a jam of black cabs... Actually, we want both. ■

Tokyobikes have a pop-up store at 54 Rivington Street, London EC2 until 31 July, or visit [tokyobikes.co.uk](http://tokyobikes.co.uk)

