



## Blue Bar

### The Berkeley, London

The Berkeley's Blue Bar holds iconic status among the hotel bars of the British capital, and indeed among the hotel bars of the world. Originally designed by David Collins, when the bar opened in 2000 it saw original features by Sir Edwin Lutyens restored and the creation of a bespoke colour for the space, Lutyens Blue.

For its recent refurbishment there seemed no better name to continue the evolution of the bar's design legacy than Robert Angell, protégé of David Collins and formidable contemporary talent.

The 'new' Blue Bar is less a reimagining of the original and more a soft shift in vision. Fresh furniture, designed by Angell and handmade by Ben Whistler, has been introduced, along with more brazen flashes of deep red and black and silver accents. Wood panelling has been restored and a

greater expression of colour deployed on the bar front, whilst the cream marble counter has been retained.

The most notable change is in the expansion of the space. A new glass pavilion affords room for additional seating, part of an updated frontage to the building that sees a redeveloped lobby and entry façade. Slimmer doors to the bar are intended to evoke a greater sense of intimacy and discretion.

A revised menu sees cocktails grouped by colour depending on potency, with green for low alcohol mixes; yellow for champagne cocktails; red for the heavy hitters; and blue for – what else? – innovative signature cocktails such the Smoke & Mirrors and Frozen in Time.

[www.the-berkeley.co.uk](http://www.the-berkeley.co.uk)

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**IN A BITE** Head Bartender: Andrea Melis • Interior Design: Robert Angell (redesign), David Collins (original) • Architecture: Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners  
Owner: Maybourne Group • Covers: 75 • Table Plates and Dishes: William Edwards • Glassware: John Jenkins, Riedel