

Client: Z Hotels Yellow News
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NEW HOTEL

Z City Hotel £115



This fast-growing budget chain now has six hotels in London. We put the latest opening through its paces.

The building

Almost opposite the Royal Courts of Justice near the Strand, this newly-opened outpost of Britain's coolest new budget chain is inside an ornate building that used to house offices.

The rooms

Tiny but cleverly arranged with monochrome décor, rooms feel like futuristic pods rather than depressing shoeboxes. There are no wardrobes – instead you'll find hooks and hangers, and room under the bed for a large suitcase. Double beds (190cm lengthways) are wedged between three walls, so people with long legs might need to sleep diagonally. Bathrooms are neatly designed, but feel a bit high-end aeroplane. The cheapest rates are on the Inside Doubles, which don't have a window.

Food & drink

No room service and the cold buffet breakfast in the metro-tiled cafe costs an

extra £9.50 if booked in advance. Don't bother – there are umpteen cafés nearby. Make sure you check in between 5-8pm, when complimentary cheese and wine is on offer.

We love

The bed area has a large flatscreen TV embedded on one wall, so you can turn it into a lounging zone.

We don't love

Frosted glass bathroom doors afford little privacy.

Verdict

You can't really argue with the location and price, starting at £60 for a weekday double. For short stays, Z Hotels is streets ahead of other tired budget chains. **Tip:** If you're coming to London for culture, a new outpost has just opened not far from the museums of South Kensington.

