

21.7.10

Fluid London

http://www.fluidlondon.co.uk/SW1_Champagne_Hot_Spot.fluidnews

FLUID★LONDON



SW1 Champagne Hot Spot

By *Christian Rose-Day* (21 Jul 10)

A new raised veranda now overlooks the leafy garden at **Courtyard at 51** Buckingham Gate and serves champagne and cocktails from afternoon until late. It's also a discreet destination for a late night cigar.

A mood of unhurried luxury and a degree of permanence makes it far removed from other seasonal come-and-go bars. Set in plush 5-star surroundings, it offers the right balance of cover and privacy. From this raised vantage point, it's easy to gain a close-up view of the intriguing Shakespearean terracotta frieze that sweeps the surrounding townhouses, and enjoy the garden below.

Champagne cocktails - like the signature Dusky Evening (£12) - classics by the glass, and bottles are all available. Unusually, the list champions elegant rosé choices such as Dom Pérignon Brut Rosé 1998. It also features other sparkling wines from £7.50.

Below the veranda, the main dining area of **Courtyard at 51** Buckingham Gate is open throughout the week for luscious garden cocktails and gourmet grills. A la carte menus offer Lebanese, Moroccan and Turkish main dishes or American classics from £12 to £18 which are open grilled on the garden barbecue. Fridays feature special **Quilon**-inspired Southern Coastal Indian dishes by Michelin star chef Sriram Aylur. In addition, four opera dining nights under the stars are hosted on Friday 30 and Saturday 31 July, Friday 20 and Saturday 21 August.