



The inspiration behind The Herbalist

Named in honour of those great explorers and botanical pioneers of the seventeenth and eighteenth century, The Herbalist is an exciting pioneering adventure in social dining, bringing a new experience to the culinary scene in the heart of Maidstone; the county town of Kent.

Joseph Banks mustered the scientific talent of the time and set out to discover and record many of the plants and herbs, which make up the tastes of modern dining. His expedition on board James Cook's first great voyage in 1766, in the iconic HMS Endeavour, to Brazil, Tahiti, then New Zealand and Australia amassed the largest collection of plants previously unknown to European science. Each one recorded and illustrated by talented artists in remarkable detail.

Nicolas Culpeper goes down in history as one of the greatest herbalists known to mankind. His close connections to this area, particularly nearby Hollingbourne, where the Culpeper family had their family seat, have inspired us to name our new bar and kitchen: The Herbalist.

We look forward to welcoming you on this exciting voyage of discovery and are sure you'll love the experience.



1757 Joseph Banks as a boy