

APPETISERS

FOOD NEWS WITH MARINA O'LOUGHLIN

For those of you who haven't already organised your Christmas or New Year bashes there are some venues showing flashes of imagination beyond the turkey-trimmings blanderama. The rather lovely Portal (pictured) is not only offering the unique thrills of nouveau Portuguese cooking – think crab salad 'in cornucopia' with ginger pesto – but a whole suckling pig for parties. Each hog serves 12 to 14 people and costs £420, including accompaniments.

Portal Restaurant And Bar, 88 St John Street EC1. Tel: 020 7253 6950.

www.portalrestaurant.co.uk

Tube: Barbican/Farringdon

