A former venture capitalist is planning to restore the former glory of Britain’s famous red telephone boxes by turning some of them into mini-offices for on-the-go workers.

Jonathan Black, chief executive of New York City-based Bar Works, said his company was refitting phone booths in five British cities with 25-inch screens, scanners, printers, a wireless mouse, and Wi-Fi connection—as well as free coffee.

“It’s an alternative to, say, Starbucks but obviously it provides you with total privacy,” said Black, a Brit who lives in New York.

Privately-owned Bar Works launched in Manhattan last year, offering bar-themed workspaces in popular locations. Users pay a monthly subscription in return for access to the premises and unlimited use of office facilities.

There’s also free coffee involved.

British iconic red phone boxes are set to be given an unusual makeover by a New York co-working space firm. Bar Works is to launch Pod Works in locations including London, Leeds and Edinburgh using old BT phone boxes as mini-work stations for those on the move.

This U.S. Firm Is Revamping Britain’s Iconic Red Phone Booths Into Mini-Offices

REUTERS PW

U.S. firm to turn Britain’s red phone boxes into mini-offices

A former venture capitalist is planning to restore the former glory of Britain’s famous red telephone boxes by turning some of them into mini-offices for on-the-go workers.

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Some of Britain’s iconic red phone boxes are set to be given an unusual makeover by a New York co-working space firm.

Bar Works Inc’s chief executive Jonathan Black, a Briton living in New York, said that his company will refurbish telephone kiosks with fully functional printers, scanners, a wireless mouse, a 25 inch screen and Wi-Fi.

In a telephone-box transformation worthy of Superman himself, one of Tombland’s red phone booths is to become Norwich’s newest shared office.

The project is the idea of New York-based Bar Works Inc, which has snapped up more than a dozen of the boxes across the country and wants to refurbish them for the use of entrepreneurs.

It says the location of the boxes makes them ideal for business people looking for affordable workspace in attractive locations.

Britain’s red telephone boxes to be turned into mini-offices for workers on the go

International Business Times

Bar Works and Bold, a Part of the Rising World of Co-Working Spaces

Eastern Daily Press

Box office: The phone booth which could become Norwich’s newest - and smallest - workplace

Co-working spaces are a fast-growing part of New York City real estate, and Bar Works, headquarters of Bold Media, is part of that growth. The space is a former Italian restaurant turned office space that (hence the name) kept the bar. The spot is located in Midtown and led by Jonathan Black and Zoe Miller. The atmosphere of the space is more relaxed than your typical office, with long tables and benches and comfortable seating in the former dining area instead of standard desks with swivel chairs.

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Lancashire Evening Post

21st century twist for iconic red box

An iconic Preston phone box is about to be brought into the 21st century with plans to turn it into a quirky work station.

The transformation will see it include Wi-Fi, a printer and scanner, a wireless mouse, a 25 inch screen, a hot drinks machine and a powerbank of plugs.

The scheme is the brainchild of New York-based company Bar Works Inc which plan to convert several unused phone boxes around the UK.

‘Pod Works’ will be launched in many places including London, Edinburgh and Norwich but a box in Preston has also been targeted.

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