GREAT BRITISH & IRISH HOTELS

200 PERFECT PLACES TO STAY



C&TH GREAT BRITISH & IRISH HOTELS



THE PHEASANT INN

SHEFFORD WOODLANDS, BERKSHIRE

Looking for a stylish yet cosy escape that's easy to reach from town? Here it is. Opened five years ago by charming young Jack Greenall, The Pheasant, near Hungerford, ticks all boxes. Though just moments from the M4, the old drovers' inn stands alone and feels properly rural, with uninterrupted views across the Berkshire Downs. Inside, thanks to the spot-on taste of Jack and interior designer Flora Soames, it's smart and sophisticated yet also intimate and warm in its racing green and red (the inn is much frequented by trainers and jockeys) with plenty of quiet, comfy corners despite the constant buzz in the recently extended restaurant and at the bar. Upstairs, there are 14 immaculate, spoiling, incredibly good value bedrooms, full of thoughtful extras (three are new this year, decorated by up-and-coming interior designer Isabella Worsley who also did the restaurant). As for chef Andy Watts' 20-mile menu, it's spot on too: Scotch eggs like you've never tasted before, chateaubriand of Wiltshire beef to share and fabulous puddings. The gorgeous private dining room, designed by Octavia Dickinson, is popular with shooting parties. Doubles from £115

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THE PIG - AT BRIDGE PLACE

CANTERBURY, KENT

Every Pig hotel in this magnificent litter has its very own personality. Bridge Place on the leafy outskirts of Canterbury has a rock 'n' roll vibe that's immediately evident. The 29-bedroom, Grade II*-listed, Queen Anne manor house is set in the luscious Nailbourne valley that's part of the Kent Downs. It sports a handsome red-brick façade and ornate Jacobean interior, while also containing a colourful recent past. The likes of Eric Clapton and Pink Floyd have gigged and partied here, and now it's your turn to have a ball, amid a wealth of period features, secret stairways, panelled rooms and endless nooks and crannies, all brought to life by Home Grown Hotels' CEO Robin Hutson and his renowned designer wife Judy, with her eye for effortless, laidback chic. As with every other Pig, the kitchen garden and restaurant are the beating heart of this revitalised property. If you've pigged out on the others, this delightful locale (just 56 minutes by train from central London) should be next on your list: you'll be seduced, charmed and ready to party, all at the same time. Doubles from £145



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