

SPORTS & LIFESTYLE

DECEMBER 2023



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L'édito

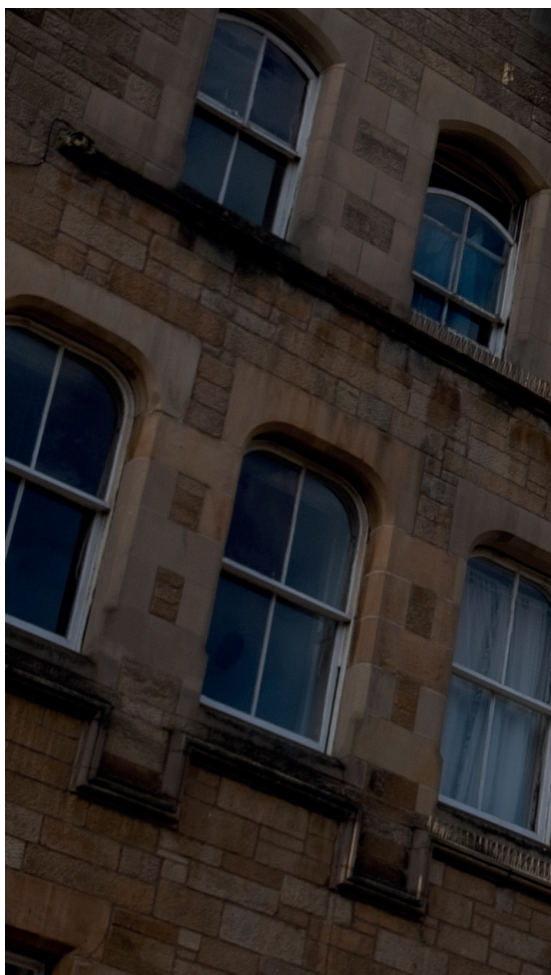
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Royalty has shown us the way to embark on this aristocratic journey. Edinburgh is a medieval city that highlights the importance of the British Crown in sport. Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh were lovers and enthusiasts of the horses, that's why we were able to see Prince Philip participate and win in the most important **polo** tournaments and later in exciting **carriage races**. Thanks to King James IV, **golf** became known in Scotland, and it was through his participation in a game that it was recognized worldwide as an aristocratic sport.

On this trip we will go into the darkest **closets** where we can walk out into a beautiful garden, a courtyard or meet a wall. We'll also be at **one o'clock** listening to the cannons so that we and the sailors can set the exact time for our **Perrelet Ice Blue**, which will give us style and class this festive season and which we can use staying in a cabin or suite on the **Royal Yacht Britannia** and taste one of the over eighty years old whiskies or the innovative signature blends that **Macallan** keep in reserve for us.

And if it's all about experiences, why not spend the night in an elegant suite of **Dalhousie**, a medieval castle, trying to solve mysteries like **Sherlock Holmes**, the character inspired by a Scottish doctor made famous in his detective novels by the Edinburgh-born Conan Doyle, or drink a cocktail in the iconic pub, **Deacon Brodie's Tavern**.

And we end this fairytale edition among knights, princesses, castles and medieval competitions, wishing you much more *sports & lifestyle* in 2024.

Monique SM

Bon Appétit

MALT IS THE SCOTCH LIQUID GOLD

Photos: Courtesy by Macallan



The time spent in handcrafted casks is what makes the **Macallan** whiskies exceptional. These are individually crafted from sustainable oak sourced from the finest forests on two continents: America and Europe, ensuring 100% natural color. In addition, they use pure Scotch water, yeast and barley of the highest quality for this spirit, called “new make.”

The Macallan was founded in 1824 by Alexander Reid and was one of the first legally licensed distilleries in Scotland. It’s now recognized as one of the world’s leading single malt whiskies by the exceptional oak casks sourced, crafted, toasted and seasoned under the watchful eye of the mastery of wood. The casks are hand selected and delivered to the exacting specifications of the Whisky Mastery Team.



“The whisky had an incredible depth of character - rich dark fruits, black cherry compote alongside sticky dates, followed by intense sweet antique oak, which is for me a recognizable note of such aged Macallan. It was a very special moment to experience this iconic 60 Years Old single malt.” Said Kirsteen Campbell, Master Whisky Maker 2023.

All the brand’s whiskies get their color from the wood in which they are matured. Because wood is a natural product, each tree is different and, in turn, imparts different flavors and colors to the whisky during maturation. The skill of the manufacturers ensures that the color is as consistent as possible from one bottle to the next, through the management and selection of casks that provide the natural color spectrum essential to The Macallan single malt.

The Macallan 1926 exalts female power

In 2019, The **Macallan Fine & Rare 1926** had broken the world record for the most valuable bottle of wine or spirit ever sold at auction until, last October, it was surpassed by another of ‘The Macallan 1926’ bottles for more than £2.1 million.

Janet Harbinson, better known as **Nettie**, was daughter of Roderick Kemp, owner of The Macallan between 1892 and 1909. Janet was married to Alexander Harbinson who had been running the business in the years before her late father, until he died in 1918, a few months before the end of the First World War, and it was then that ‘Nettie’ decided to continue the family business. She hired the best advisors



Bon Appétit

and invested wisely and cautiously, to keep the business afloat, helped to rebuild the local community and used her role to find more international export opportunities and looking after the war widows who remained her employees, ensuring that their futures would be protected.

In 1926, Janet 'Nettie' Harbinson created the world's most valuable bottle of Scotch whisky, which was auctioned for £2,187,500 at Sotheby's in London. This was undoubtedly one of his greatest achievements, filling freshly made Macallan spirit from Speyside into n° 263 sherry cask, overseeing the distillation and maturation of The Macallan 1926 and allowing it to age for



sixty years under the watchful eye of successive generations who decided that this particular single malt whisky had matured sufficiently and divided its precious contents into just 40 bottles.

The £2.1 million bottle is one of twelve that are covered with a label designed by Italian painter Valerio Adami, a bottle also believed to have been destroyed during the 2011 Japanese earthquake. It's the first of The Macallan 1926 bottles to have been reconditioned, carried out by The Macallan Distillery in Scotland before to the auction. The other labels in this same series were designed by Sir Peter Blake, who also designed the cover of The Beatles' *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* album.

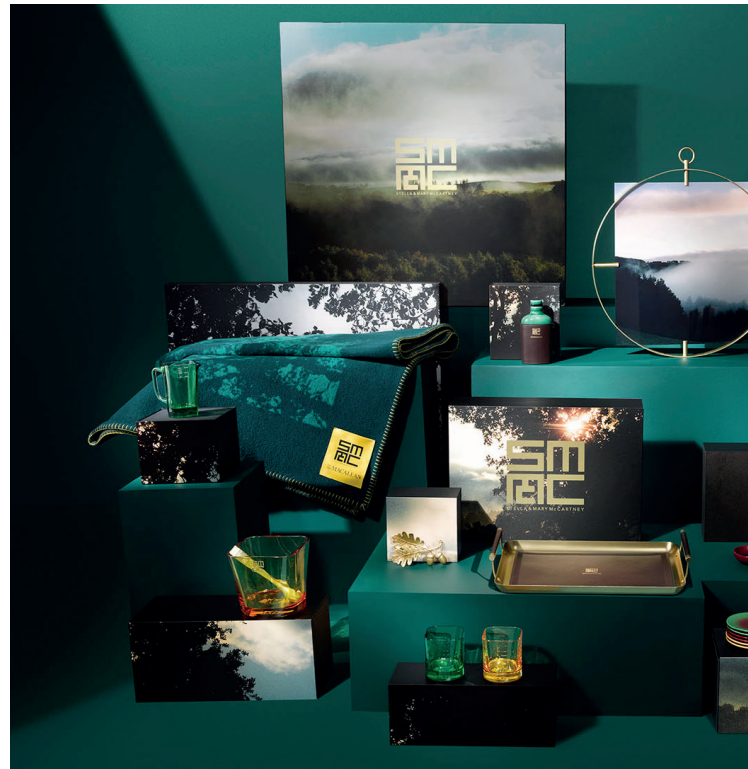
In the short film *The Spirit of 1926*, directed by **Mike Newell**, you can appreciate and value Nettie's strong conviction to follow her own path and create something extraordinary.



The Macallan Bar

The Macallan Distillery Bar has an extensive collection of the rarest single malts, 840 whisky bottles are housed in an 18m-high glass wall. The circular whisky bar has one of the best panoramic views in Speyside, overlooking the Highland landscape and the iconic Easter Elchies House, the spiritual home of the Macallan and an integral part of the brand since 1824.

The Macallan Estate Bar is home to 80-year-old whiskies and innovative signature drinks, you can taste both classics and original creations that complement the flavors of The Macallan and are expertly crafted.



*For this Autumn-Winter season, the three W's:
Wine, Whisky and Wine.
In a champagne flute mix...*

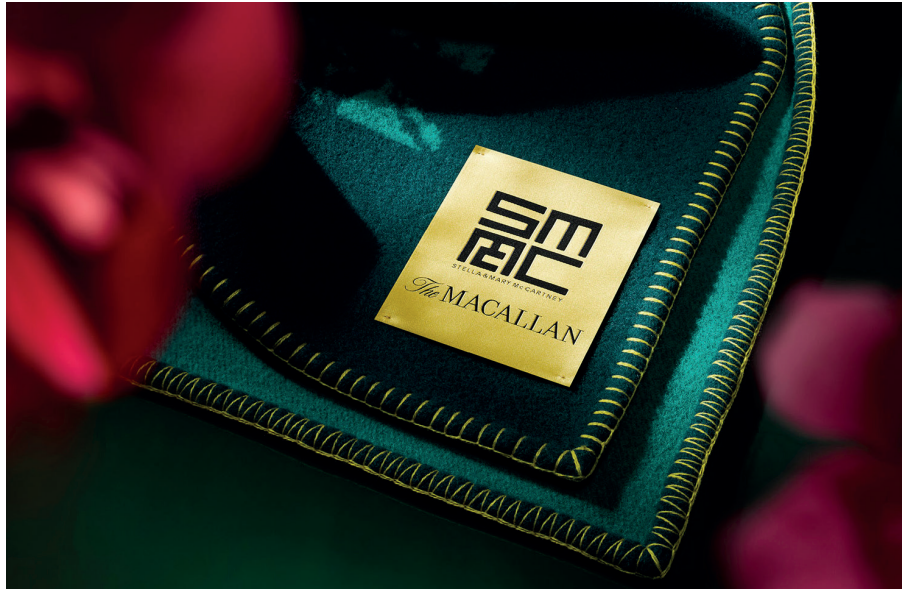


Together is a Limited-Edition collection

The McCartney sisters combine their creative talents and celebrate their memories of Scotland with a limited-edition collection of eleven bespoke pieces including, handmade glassware in vibrant shades that are colored using natural minerals, an ombre ceramic flask encased in an apple leather alternative sleeve, a pair of brass ice stamps with meticulously hand-painted ceramic handles using a green and amber ombre color blend and a brass napkin weight in the shape of an acorn, as a tribute to the exceptional oak casks which mature The Macallan whisky.



- 25ml Double Cask 12 Years Old.
- 10ml Oloroso Syrup.
- 2 dashes of orange bitters
- champagne to top up.



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EQUESTRIAN TRADITION IN SCOTLAND. THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH WAS POLO PLAYER

"Polo is a sport for gentlemen who have a great respect for its rules - back from the 19th Century still in use today - for the rival team and for the faithful horse they are riding." Malcolm Borwick.

At almost one hundred years old, Duke Philip of Edinburgh, consort of Queen Elizabeth II, was a horse lover and polo enthusiast. This is undoubtedly why Edinburgh is so important in equestrian tournaments.

The Prince Philip highlighted at polo, reaching a five-goal handicap. In 1955, the prince founded a club at Windsor Great Park. It was with this team that he received the golden trophy at British Open from Queen Elizabeth II in 1957 and 1966.

A Blue-blooded Club

The **Guards Polo Club** was the place where Philip practiced and played polo close to home, until he turned 50 years old and decided to change polo for carriage racing, a slightly safer but technically demanding sport. The Duke of Edinburgh was an invincible polo player. The sport requires great skill and speed, technique and adrenaline addiction.



Photos: Courtesy Guards Polo Club & Kensington Palace

Philip was also in Argentina on countless occasions to play polo. He was a fan of the Heguy and the Harriott brothers. Alberto Pedro Heguy had the opportunity to play with the duke, reaching the final of the Hurlingham Open in 1966. Heguy remembers and highlights the prince's talent and professionalism as a player.

Philip's bond with Argentine polo was sealed forever when the duke donated his trophy as a thank you for the hospitality he received in this country. For this reason, the Main Cup of the St. George Polo Open is called the Duke of Edinburgh, in his honor.

Until his death, HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, was the Presi-



dent of the Guards Polo Club, originally named The Household Brigade Polo Club. For several years, he even presided over the Coronation Cup prize-giving.

However, not only the Duke of Edinburgh was a great lover of this legendary sport, but also some members of the British Royal Family, such as His Majesty King Charles III, Prince Harry and the Princes of Wales. Prince William participated in the *Out-Sourcing Inc. Royal Charity Polo Cup 2023* at the Guards Polo Club in Windsor last July. Kate Middleton meeting charity representatives and presenting the winning trophy to the Prince's team.



The Guards Polo Club tournaments

Since its foundation on 25th January 1955, the Club has grown considerably and it's now the largest polo club in Europe in terms of membership and number of grounds. The polo season at the Club starts in April and finishes in mid-September, hosting more than 500 matches each year.

The Cartier Queen's Cup is one of the most famous polo tournaments in the world and is played at Guards Polo Club, where brings together the sport's finest players and their remarkable horsepower. The famous luxury brand, Cartier, has sponsored the tournament for over 10 years and brings its distinctive blend of elegance and style to the tournament on finals day. Grandstand seats and Clubhouse hospitality is available to members and non-members alike for final and semi-finals matches.

Other major tournaments played at this iconic venue includes Talacrest Prince of Wales's Championship Cup, Out-Sourcing Inc. Royal Windsor Cup, Archie David Cup, Clé de Peu Beauté Guards Ladies' Charity Polo Tournament and the Indian Empire Shield. Other key competitions include La Martina Varsity Day (Oxford v Cambridge), the Duke of Cornwall Trophy, the Inter Regimental Final and the Duke of Wellington Trophy.





16

ANIVERSARIO
VIÑEDOS
DEL
POLO
EL MARQUÉS

18 AL 20 DE ENERO

2024

BAJO HANDICAP

1 A 3 GOLES

ALTO HANDICAP

6 A 8 GOLES



FEDERACIÓN
MEXICANA DE POLO



Tendances





ICE BLUE WINTER COLLECTION BY
PERRELET



Photos: Courtesy by Perrelet



The prestigious Maison Perrelet is inspired by the winter season to propose a new Weekend collection with new Ice Blue dials.

Abraham-Louis Perrelet was the Master Watchmaker who founded the brand and in 1777 developed the automatic movement, a revolutionary

invention that achieved extreme precision and perpetuated his legacy as well as his successors.

The ice blue power

Ice Blue is a specific blue tone inspired by nature, reminiscent of the depths of glaciers and the



clouds of the cold season. This color has a relaxing and refreshing effect, calming stress and inspiring serenity. The dial of the new watch is illuminated by the sunray finish, which generates iridescent flashes throughout the piece.

This collection offers dress watches with a classic look and timeless appearance. A sober design imbued with elegance are the strong distinguishing features that make these pieces a perfect complement to any outfit and all occasions.

The 39 mm stainless steel case and a thickness of just 9.56 mm, adapting perfectly even to the smallest wrists. For a sportier look, this can be achieved with the midnight blue calfskin strap with crocodile motif, fastened by a buckle signed with the watchmaker's logo. And for more formal occasions, it can be worn with the seven-row steel bracelet with geometric links alternating in polished and brushed. The collection is available in three versions.

The **Weekend Ice Blue 3-hands** is powered by the Perrelet P-321 in-house caliber, composed of 93 parts and 25 jewels, and it has a power reserve of 42 hours. The watch features an Ice Blue, satin-finished domed dial with applied indices, along with a date window at 3 o'clock. The screw-down case back is transparent and reveals the impeccable finish of the movement, its grained circular bridges, and the rhodium-plated oscillating weight decorated with the Maison's logo.



The **Weekend GMT Ice Blue** displays a second 24-hour time zone with a red triangular-tipped central hand that rotates around an inner ring on the dial, is powered by the Perrelet P-401 manufacture caliber, which has the same technical characteristics, but allows two time zones to be displayed simultaneously, intuitively and immediately. The central part offers an optimal legibility of the second time zone on 24 hours thanks to its red hand turning on the internal ring of the dial. The GMT function is adjusted by the crown.

The **Weekend Open Heart Ice Blue** is powered by the Perrelet P-391 in-house caliber. Thanks to the opening on the dial, it allows you to appreciate the beat at 28,800 A/h of this Swiss automatic movement. The heart of the movement has balanced proportions, the slender bezel, the elongated lugs with bevelled edges and the fluted crown define a sophisticated and refined aesthetic. The satin-brushed polished finishes create a unique play of light on the various surfaces.

The Weekend Ice Blue line is faithful to the values that have always made this Swiss brand unique. The manufacturing excellence respects the demands of Swiss watchmaking tradition in both the technique and the decorations and finishing.



PERRELET

1777



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#Luxuryinmovement

www.perrelet.com

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EDINBURGH IS A ROYALTY CITY

Photos: Courtesy David McKelvey, Unsplash & Freepik



CROWDED OF CLOSES AND ART



Edinburgh is one of the European cities with more legends and is the second one most visited from the United Kingdom after London. The charming of its streets and buildings, most of them with a medieval style, give the city a special magic. Impressive castles, dark alleys, enchanted houses and majestic gardens make of the Scottish capital a mysterious and evocative city.

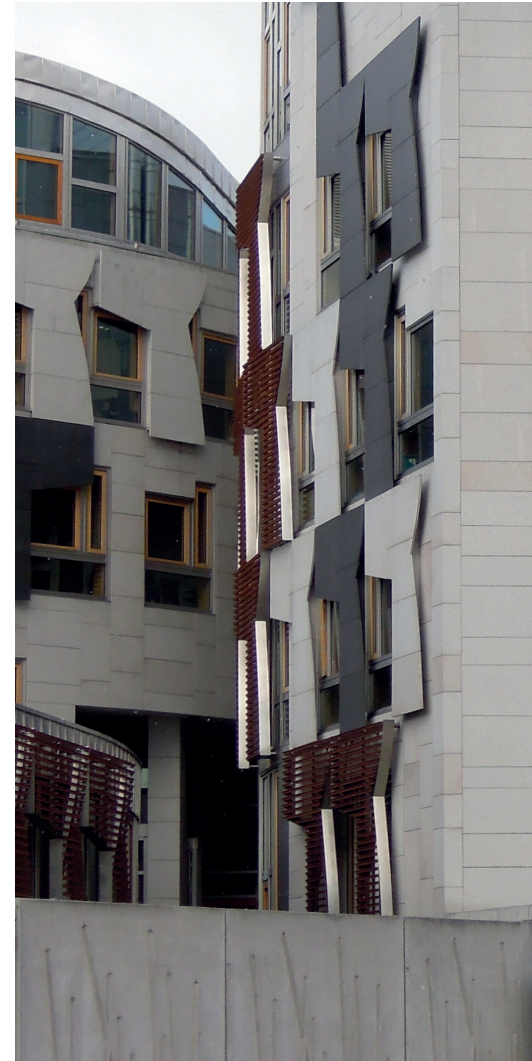
Royal Mile, medieval passage

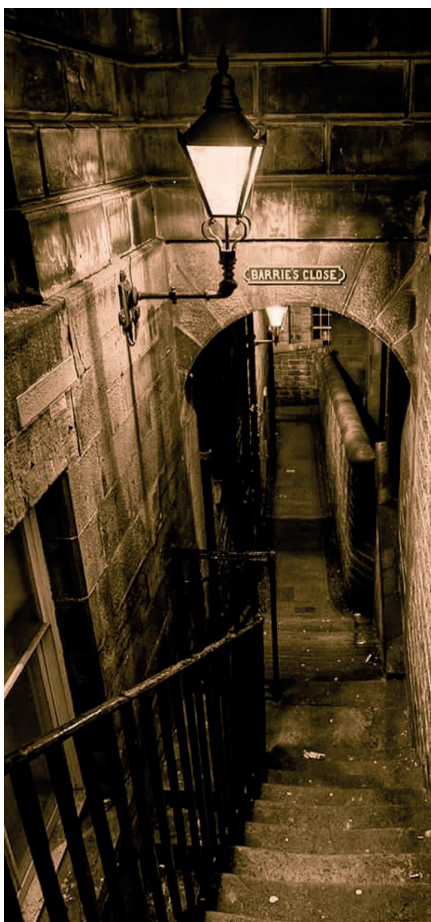
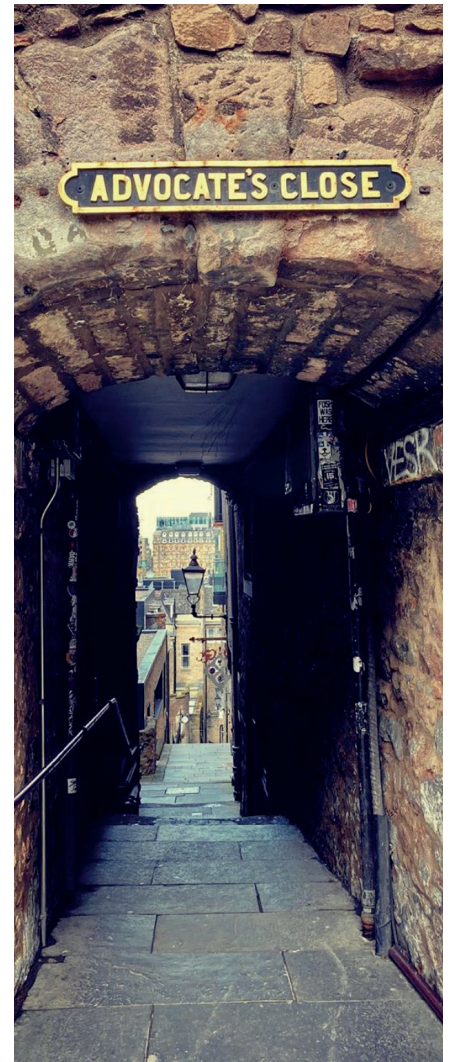
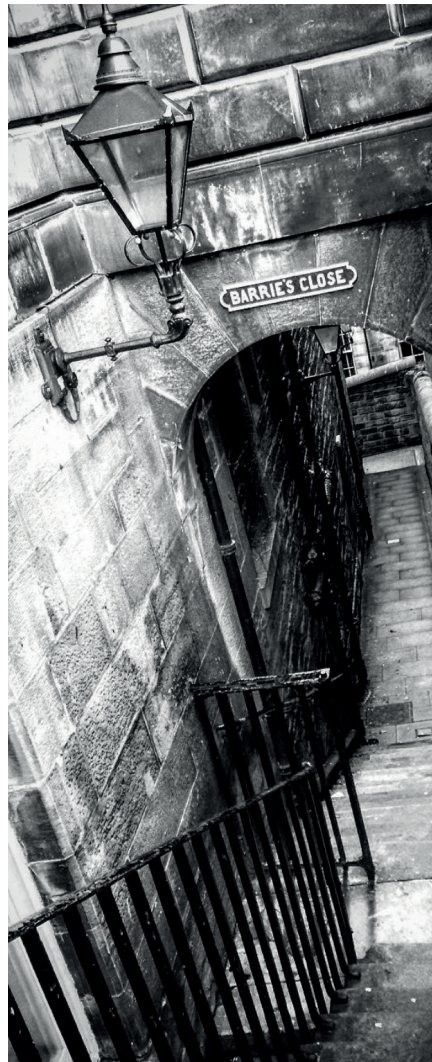
The almost 2 kilometers long Royal Mile is the main artery of the Old Town and along it's the old Parliament, St. Giles Cathedral, the City Hall. Moreover, it links Edinburgh Castle with Holyrood Palace from the middle of the 12th century. A stroll down Royal Mile is the best place to find *souvenir* shops, charming cafés or restaurants and underground passages.

The **closes** are where much of the Old Town's charm lies. Mysterious alleys suddenly appear that are impossible to miss. Some are so dark that it's difficult to see what lies ahead, but it is certainly worth venturing through them and finding yourself in a bewitching part of the city, where you can find courtyards, gardens or simply nothing at all.

The must visit ones are **Lady Stair's Close**, close to the Castle and home to the Writer's Museum, dedicated to three famous Scottish writers. Lady Stair's House was built in 1622, opposite is a literary trail in the ground, made up of quotes from writers carved into the stone.

The underground city, the **Real Mary King's Close**, is more than 20 meters deep, this alleyway was sealed off and buried by new constructions. Today it's a great attraction that is steeped in amazing stories and legends, and it is even possible to learn how its inhabitants lived and died in the 17th century.





White Horse Close, one of the two alleys at the end of the Royal Mile, is considered one of the most beautiful. There are many stories that can be told about this alley, as it is where the stables of the Palace of Holyrood were located, as well as the starting point of the transports that connected Edinburgh with London.

The King observing its kingdom

Edinburgh Castle dominates the Scottish capital on top of a volcanic rock at the far west, called Castle Rock. Its origins go back to the mystery







and mythology of medieval kings. This fortress has been part of the great historical events such as births and deaths of the Scottish royalty, scene of battles, invasions and conspiracies, as well as having been at a time a prison and a military arsenal.

In the Crown Chamber, you can see the jewels of the Scottish Crown and the Stone of Scone (destiny rock), an ancient symbol of the Scottish monarchy that has been present at coronations for centuries. In fact, the Stone of Scone only leaves Scotland to travel to London when a new king is crowned in Westminster Abbey.

St Margaret's Chapel is the oldest Romanesque building in Edinburgh. King David I had St Margaret's Chapel built in 1130 in



honor of his mother Margaret of Scotland, who was canonized by Pope Innocent IV in 1250.

Every day at 13:00 hours the **One o'clock Gun** is fired from the castle. It has its origins in 1861, when on Calton Hill, the cannon was fired daily at one o'clock and the sound was used by sailors near the port of Leith to set the chronometers and navigational instruments. Today the tradition continues and the sound echoes through the city daily, except on Sundays, Good Friday and Christmas. At the Castle there is a pet cemetery, a small terrace full of graves. It was created in the 19th century, so that soldiers could bury their pets, especially their dogs, during the times when the Castle was isolated from the outside.

The Palace and the Holyrood Abbey

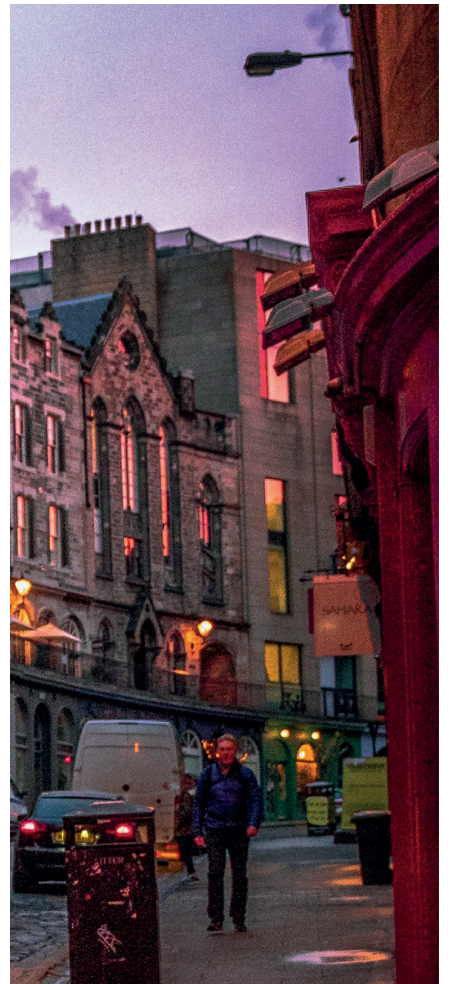
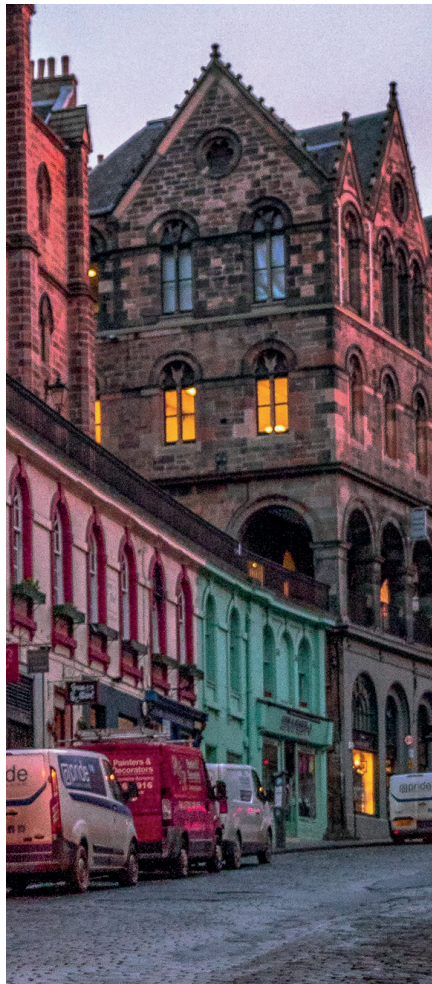
At the end of the Royal Mile is the majestic Palace of Holyroodhouse, the official residence of the **British Royal Family** in Scotland. The palace was built in 1501, by order of King James IV to live there with his wife Margaret Tudor, as it was a place where he could enjoy walks, visits and parties away from prying eyes; guarded under the watchful eye of the Royal Scots Guards. Before the palace was built Holyrood Abbey (Abbey of the Holy Cross), this abbey begins with the legend that, in the year 1127, King David I of Scotland was hunting in this place when a deer was about to attack him; the king was able to flee thanks to the fact that a crucifix appeared in his hands, and he was able to defend himself. The abbey was erected the following year.

Queen Elizabeth II visited frequently this palace to enjoy private and quiet place near nature. Scottish monarchs have left their mark on each of the rooms over the centuries. Coronations and weddings, intrigues and betrayals, as well as burials, form a fundamental part of Holyrood's history.

New Town, neoclassical new city

North Bridge connects the **Old Town High Street** with the gardens of **Princess Street**, the district that in the 18th century expanded Edinburgh into a city with large avenues and stately buildings. This residential area was planned by James Craig in 1766, to end the problem of overcrowding in the Old Town. Thus, an aristocratic neighborhood was born with unique squares and buildings, a large park with the Walter Scott monument and the National Galleries of Scotland.





Leith, a cosmopolitan port neighborhood

Leith is today a cosmopolitan district, but, until the beginning of the 20th century, it was only a port district that saw both kings and whalers disembark. Today there is an artistic atmosphere, full of musicians, writers, pubs, restaurants and art galleries. However, it keeps a bit of the taste of its original inhabitants.

You can enjoy the contemporary area of Leith in the Ocean Terminal shopping center, which has several yacht boutiques and from the terrace you can see the **Royal Yacht Britannia**, yacht of the British Royal Family for over 44 years. Even for the festive celebrations you can stay on board the awarded five-star hotel and enjoy luxury cabins or the *Skerryvore Suite*, with a separate sitting room and private decking area for watching the sun go down or if you prefer you can dine, have tea and pastries or a cocktail in the *Lighthouse Restaurant & Bar*.



ETÉREO: CELEBRA LA TEMPORADA NAVIDEÑA EN LA RIVIERA MAYA

Saborea los banquetes navideños y las experiencias festivas con familiares y amigos en Etéreo este invierno. Brinda por el año nuevo o reúnete con amigos y familia en un entorno íntimo con vista al chispeante mar Caribe. Celebra la magia de compartir y la unión junto a la costa intacta de Quintana Roo.



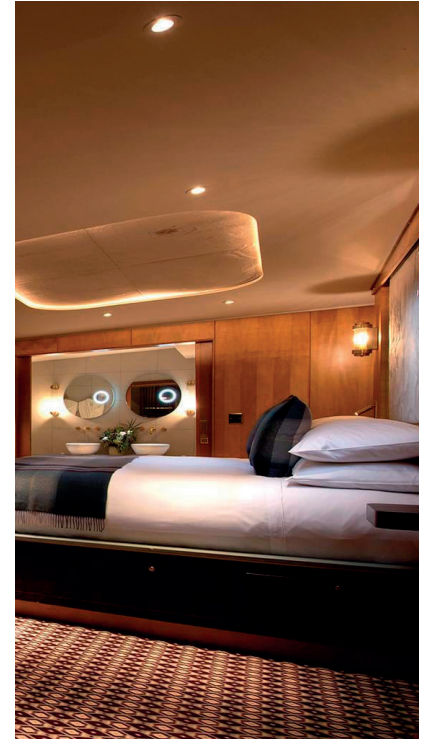
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To finish this 2023, you can enjoy two days starting with a Champagne Afternoon Tea in The Lighthouse Restaurant & Bar, followed by a night on board with a Champagne and Canapé reception and four-course menu created by Executive Chef and served with the perfect complimentary wines in the Ballroom.

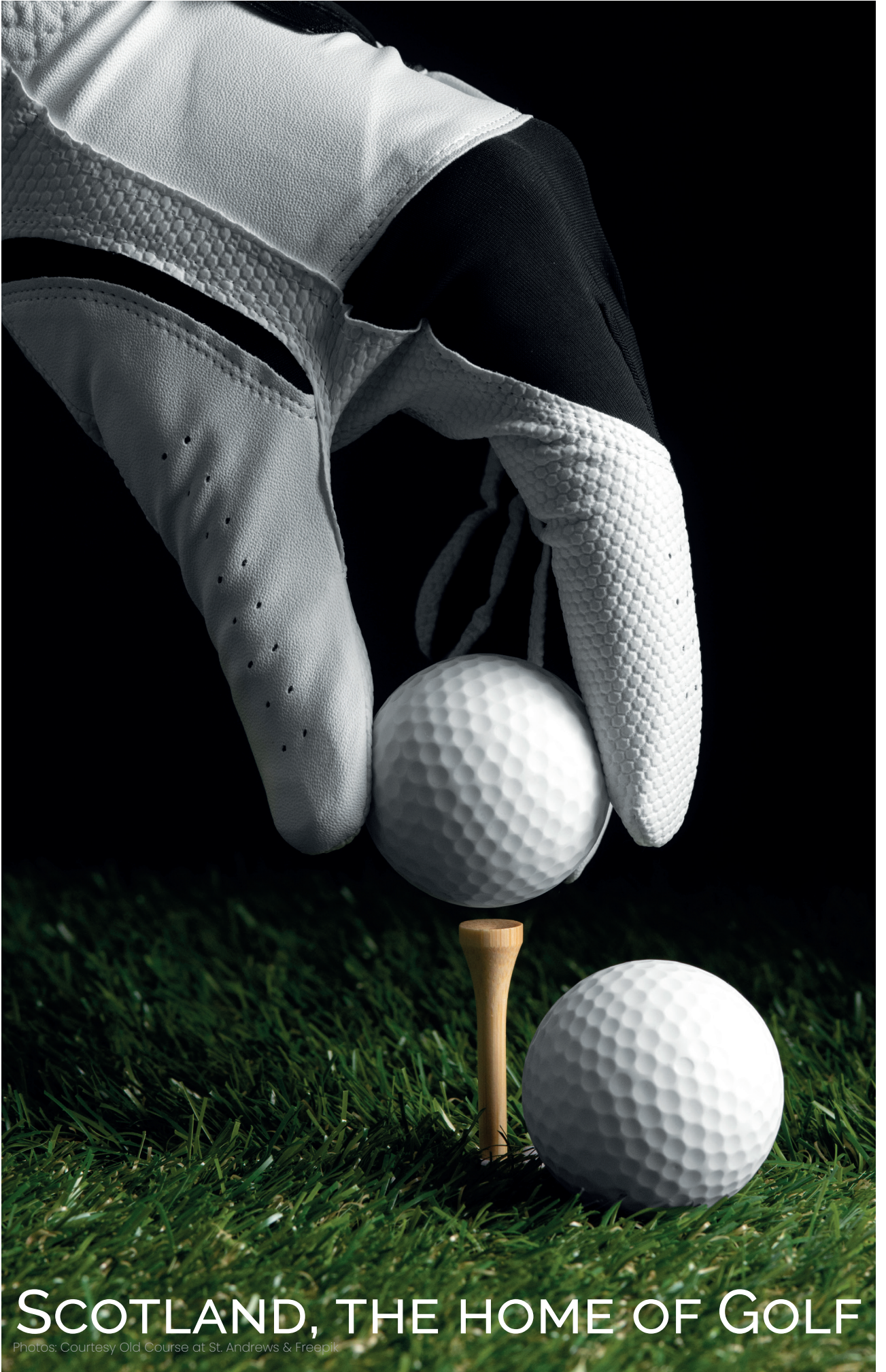
After a relaxing first night's sleep aboard **Fingal**, rise and shine for a hearty breakfast in The Lighthouse Restaurant & Bar with a day at your leisure to explore Scotland's capital city. A New Year's Eve like no other, piped on board Queen Elizabeth II's former Royal Residence, enjoy

a Moët & Chandon Champagne & Canapé reception followed by a guided tour of the State Apartments. A delicious four-course menu, created in the original Royal Gallies, will be served in the State Dining Room as a captivating string duo plays.

Experience a spectacular musical performance on the quayside of the Beating of the Retreat, just as during Royal service, before heading to our stunning Royal Deck to welcome in the Bells! Your cabin aboard Fingal waits for your final night. Wake up feeling refreshed and ready for the new year ahead.







SCOTLAND, THE HOME OF GOLF

Photos: Courtesy Old Course at St. Andrews & Freepik

Golf runs through the veins of the Scots and it's a privilege to see the best golfers of the world playing in Scotland. The atmosphere and passion lived in golf tournaments in this country is unique. Some of the world's finest golf courses are in Scotland, undoubtedly a Scottish tradition. **The Old Course at St. Andrews**, Gleneagles, Gullane, Carnoustie, Royal Troon or Prestwic are some of the most renowned courses in this country.

A popular sport among Scottish gentlemen

The origin of golf began in the Middle Ages, on a coast in the east of Scotland, near Edinburgh. At that time, players hit a stone over sand dunes, rabbit races and tracks using a bent club. It wasn't until 1502, however, that it became an elite sport when it was played by King James IV of Scotland, and it got its Royal Seal of Approval as he was the world's first golfing monarch.



During the 16th century, golf became increasingly more popular throughout Europe as it was so much liked by the royals. King Charles I popularized golf in England and Queen Mary I of Scotland introduced the game to France while she was studying there, in fact this is how the term caddie came to be derived from her French military assistants, known as cadets.

In the early 17th century, mention was made of the first golf ball known as the feathery ball, which consisted of a leather sphere filled with feathers. The first clubmaker William Mayne, appointed by King James VI as Royal Clubmaker, was also recognized.

One of the finest golf courses of the time was at Leith, where the first International Golf Match was held in 1682. It was there that the Duke of York and George Patterson, representing Scotland, defeated two noble British golfers.

Golf officially became a sport in 1744, when the Gentlemen Golfers of Leith formed the first golf club and organized an annual competition, awarding a prize to the winners. Duncan Forbes drew up the rules for this new competition and the first 18-hole course was built at St Andrews in 1764, setting the official standard for the game.

King William IV honored the club with the title Royal & Ancient in 1834, with this recognition and its excellent course, the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews established itself as the leading golf club in the world; during the same 19th century, more and more women were playing golf, so the first tournament in which they participated was in 1893 and the first golf club for women was founded in 1867 under the name The Ladies Putting Club of St Andrews.

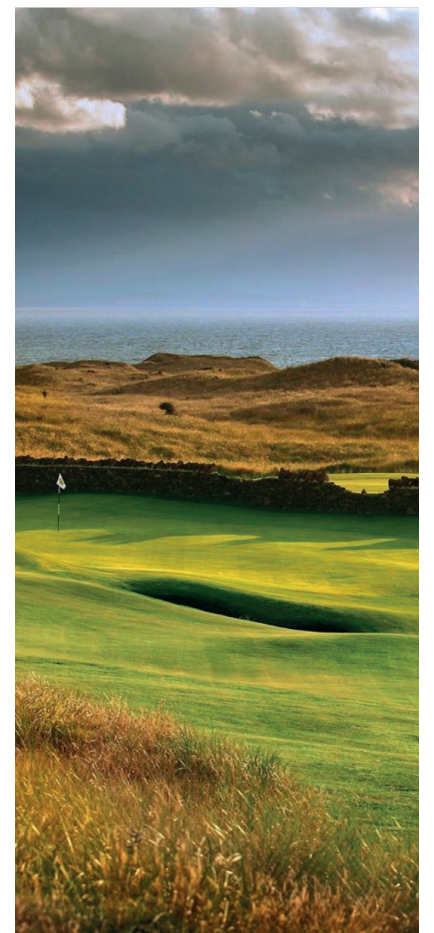


Golf world championships for men and woman

Throughout the year, golf fans from all over the world flock to Scotland's famous golf courses to watch some of the country's best golf championships. ASI Scottish Open, ASI Ladies Scottish Open, Alfred Dunhill Links Championship, The Open for the Ages or St. Andrews Trophy are the favorite ones.

Bob Martin, Jamie Anderson, Jack Nicklaus, Sir Nick Faldo, Seve Ballesteros or Gary Player have been some of the most recognized winners of the Open Championship in St. Andrews.







Annika Sörenstam became one of the first woman to become a member of The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews in 2015. Among other ladies who have been outstanding in golf are “Babe” Zaharias, Patty Berg, “Mickey” Wright and Lorena Ochoa.

There are currently several important golf tournaments around the world, including the Open Championship in England, PGA Tour, LPGA Tour, PGA

European Tour, Ladies European Tour, Japan Golf Tour, Solheim Cup and the Abierto Mexicano de Golf.

To know more about this sport, visit the R&A World Golf Museum in Scotland. Visitors can explore the rich history of golf from its very beginnings up until the modern day. It boasts one of the largest collections of golf memorabilia in the world, as well as fascinating galleries documenting the evolution of golf.



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SLEEPING IN A CASTLE FOR A MEDIEVAL EXPERIENCE

Photos: Courtesy by Dalhousie Castle

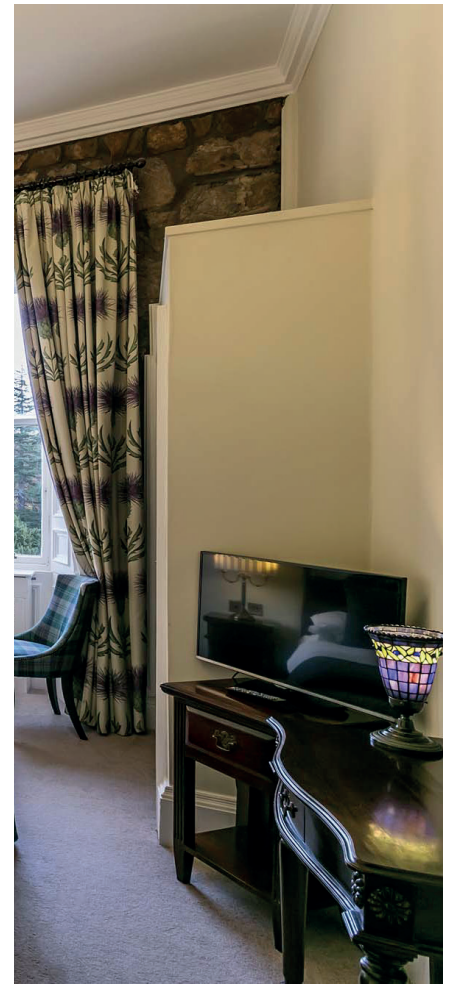


On the banks of the River Esk and just 11 km of Edinburgh center, there is a 13th century castle, where you can stay and feel like the proverbial royalty by relaxing in the spa and enjoying a modern blend of Scottish and European cuisine in one of the castle's two restaurants.

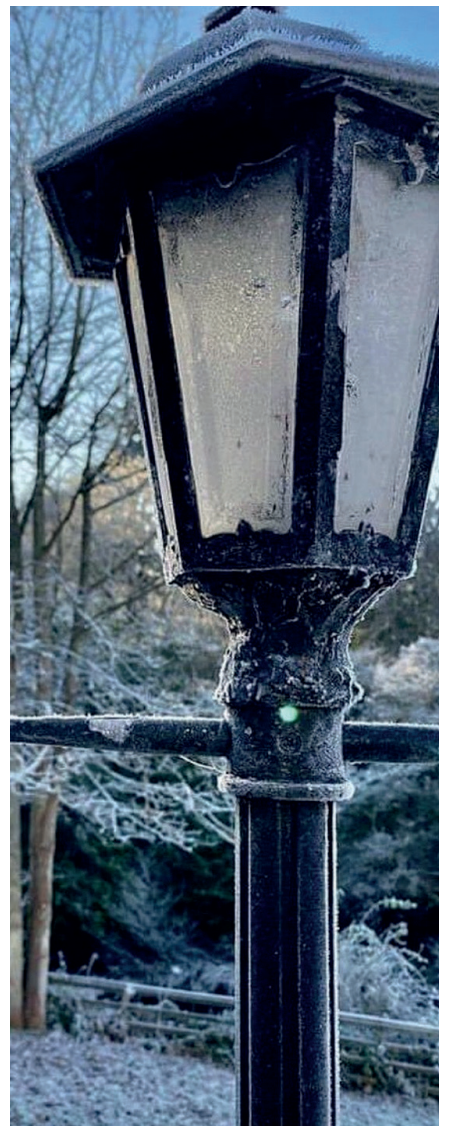
Inside the **Dalhousie Castle** there are 29 suites which are accessed by a maze of staircases and secret passages. It was here that important figures such as King Edward I, Sir Walter Scott, Oliver Cromwell and Queen Victoria stayed. This long tradition of hospitality continues, and you can still be assured a royal welcome, as all the rooms are luxuriously decorated with rich Scottish fabrics and period furniture. However, modernity is important to the guest, you will find flat screen digital TV, telephone, coffee/tea maker, soft Egyptian cotton bed linen, towels and bathrobes, slippers and Temple Spa toiletries.

Dalhousie's themed rooms have been created to feel and connect with the Ramsay's family history, who built and lived in the castle for over seven centuries. You can also stay in one of the two spacious themed suites which feature a separate living room and bedroom to make your stay extra special or if you prefer a contemporary style stay, you can be housed in Castle Lodge.

Just a two-minute walk away through the castle grounds over Dalhousie Bridge you'll find **Castle Lodge**, recently renovated six luxurious oversized bedrooms and suites offering a thoroughly modern twist on traditional castle living. Castle Lodge suites come complete with open plan bedroom, a whirlpool bath or hot







tub and lounge area, free WIFI and a secluded private garden.

Sports and activities at the Castle

The castle offers you the opportunity to take part at the noble sports of falconry or archery, take a walk around our castle grounds to discover roe deer and otters along the way or visit the private burial grounds of the Ramsay clan.





Learn about the historic and noble art of falconry or try your hand at archery. The castle's falconry is located within the grounds of the estate and is home to an impressive selection of birds. Get hands-on with falcons, owls, hawks and eagles under the expert supervision of trained falconers for an ornithological experience like none other. For this gentlemanly sport, you can do it individually or as part of a group.

Go for gold as you try your hand at the medieval sport of archery in the surrounds of the castle falconry. Under the guidance of experienced archery leaders and using traditionally crafted recurve bows, you'll have the chance to shoot at a variety of targets from the classic bullseye to balloons or tic-tac-toe.

Alternatively, if you prefer to relax, you can enjoy the hi-tech thermal suite located in the castle basement includes a hydro pool, a Roman style sauna, a Turkish inspired steam bath and a tropical rain and cold fog shower, or simply sink into a comfy chair in the oak-paneled Library with a wee dram of whisky.

EDINBURGH IS A WRITER'S MUSE





The Scottish capital has been the setting for great literary works inspired by its imposing castle, its gloomy cemeteries and evocative places such as the ruined Holyrood Abbey. Edinburgh has been home to great writers over the centuries, which is why in 2004, UNESCO declared Edinburgh the world's first **City of Literature**.

In addition to being an ideal setting for book scenes, one of the most famous Scottish writers in the world is Arthur Conan Doyle, who was born in Edinburgh and studied medicine in his hometown, it was there that he met the forensic doctor Joseph Bell and is inspired him to create his famous detective **Sherlock Holmes**, for his great capacity to observe and deduce, and even this prestigious doctor came to collaborate with the police. Conan Doyle, as well as being a great writer of detective novels and a doctor, excelled in some sports such as Rugby and Golf.

Robert Louis Stevenson, author of **Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr. Hyde**, was inspired by Brodie, a businessman, cabinet maker and member of the Edinburgh City Council, who installed and repaired





security mechanisms, both on cupboard doors in the homes of the wealthiest members of society and in their businesses, and thus he had the opportunity to make copies of keys to steal at night. William Brodie, better known as Deacon Brodie, was arrested, tried and finally hanged. Since 1806, the Royal Mile has been home to the iconic pub, **Deacon Brodie's Tavern**, with references to the double life of this particular character.

The writer of **Harry Potter**, J.K. Rowling, was inspired by Edinburgh to create the fantasy world of the school of magic. It's said that the splendid views over Edinburgh Castle

and Greyfriars cemetery served as motivation to build her magical story, as well as George Heriot's School, founded in 1628 by George Heriot, where orphan kids could receive free education, as well as sports such as Rugby and Hockey. The students at George Heriot's School are divided at four houses, like the wizards at Hogwarts: Lauriston, characterized by the green color; Greyfriars with white; Raeburn with red and Castle with blue. This is how the famous writer categorizes Slytherin, Hufflepuff, Gryffindor and Ravenclaw.

While the Harry Potter's first books emerged in simple coffee shops, Rowling completed the latest novel in the luxurious room 552 at Balmoral





Hotel, one of the most prestigious and expensive in the city. As soon as she finished, she left the following words on a marble bust of the Greek god Hermes: "On 11 January 2007, J.K. Rowling finished writing *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* in this room." To see it, you can stay in J.K. Rowling's suite, for more than £1000 per night.

The **Jacobite Stream Train**, also known as the Hogwarts Express, travels from Edinburgh to Glasgow and, also a trip from Fort William to

Mallaig to pass through several locations where scenes from each of the movies were filmed. Alnwick Castle was the location for the *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* and *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* films.



International Book Festival

In Edinburgh it began as a small meeting with the author in Charlotte Square, the Edinburgh Book Festival, and now attracts over 800 writers from around the world to share their experiences, visions and skills.

The Festival celebrates and preserve the proud tradition of storytelling passed down from generation to generation, a form of entertainment with audience participation. Expert storytellers capture the attention of the audience as they weave their stories of

life and love, magic and mystery in a suitable environment. Often accompanied by live musicians, the broadcasters transport their audiences to other times and places through little more than the power of imagination and their skill with the spoken word.

Writer's Museum

One of Edinburgh's most special alleys is Lady Stair's Close, which hides in a little square behind the Royal Mile the Scottish Writer's Museum and shelters in the quiet of its cobblestones the literary promenade Makar's Court. In the inner



courtyard of Lady Stair's Close, a golden figure leaning over a desk, pen in hand, welcomes you.

As you leave the museum, round the museum and along a literary path at either end of Lady Stair's Close, you will find the Makar's Court monument, in Scotch, *makar* means poet. This corner pays tribute to several Scottish writers through the paving slabs, which are inscribed with quotations and excerpts from their works. Despite its roots in stone, Makar's Court isn't a static monument, as new verses are periodically added, featuring Scottish writers from all eras.



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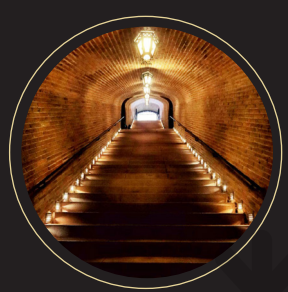
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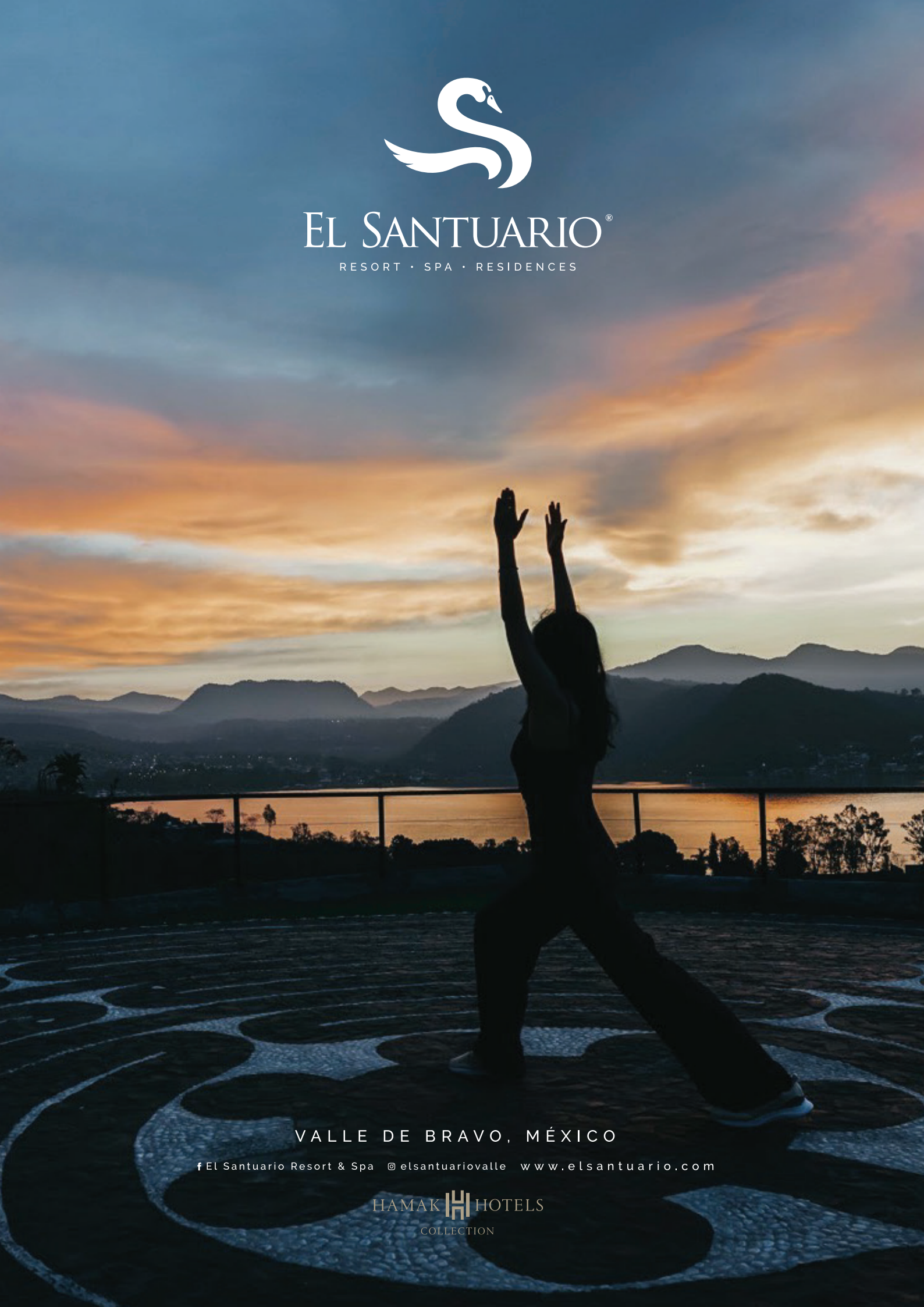
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