

Cairndale

COURIER

ISSUE 60 - AUTUMN 2025



LOVELY BUBBLY!

The Cairndale
becomes Scotland's
only Five Bubble
Luxury Spa

**Best New Spa
in Scotland and
Best Hotel in South
West Scotland**

2025 National Hotels
of the Year Scotland

SIP, TASTE, TOUR AT

ANNANDALE DISTILLERY



Experience the magic of Scotch whisky making at Annandale Distillery, Scotland's first Single Cask, Single Malt distillery.

Tour our working distillery and discover how we make award-winning whisky while sampling Single Cask, Single Malts and the premium blend - STORYMAN. Tours run every hour, 7 days a week.



BOOK A TOUR



Enjoy a delicious meal at The Maltings Coffee Shop, located inside the historic Annandale Distillery.

Savour the flavours of our delicious homemade soups, sandwiches and light bites freshly made every day with the finest local ingredients. Treat yourself to our delicious Afternoon Tea, served daily with a selection of cakes, scones and sandwiches. Open 10am-5pm, 7 days a week.



RESERVE A TABLE



Northfield, Annan, Dumfries & Galloway, DG12 5LL
Telephone: 01461 207817
www.AnnandaleDistillery.com

AUTUMN'S HERE!

Here at The Cairndale, we're heading into one of our favourite times of the year. It's a season for warmth, comfort, and celebration, and we're delighted to share some wonderful news and updates with you.

It's been a fantastic couple of months for all the team as our hotel and spa has picked up more top awards – including a 5 Bubble Luxury rating from the Good Spa Guide.

This is the highest rating possible and is only given to the finest spas across the UK – we are currently the only spa in Scotland and one of just 25 in the whole of the UK to hold this rating.

Since we began planning the Spa, we always knew we wanted it to be something special, somewhere guests could experience world-class luxury with unrivalled treatments and service – and it seems we've been getting it right.

Of course, getting here is probably the easy part and now we have to all work twice as hard to maintain the standard and ensure we remain the best.

Elsewhere in the hotel, the refurbishment of 12 of our guest rooms is almost complete and we're excited to have recently opened the doors to our new bar and restaurant The Oak. The Oak is located downstairs and accessible from outside and we're thrilled to be adding a new venue to the Dumfries landscape.

Autumn/Winter at The Cairndale means one thing: the festive season. We recently released our Christmas party dates for 2025 (see back cover) along with news of our Twixmas and Hogmanay breaks and other Christmas entertainment.

It may seem a long way off, but experience tells us it'll be here before we know it – so now is the time to start considering your plans and if you want to get booked for one of our festive party nights, it'll be wise to act soon.

Best Wishes,



*Matthew Wallace Snr,
General Manager/Director*



*Matthew Wallace Jnr,
Director*



What's inside

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BUBBLING WITH JOY

THE Cairndale Hotel & Spa has secured its place among the finest in the UK after receiving one of the most prestigious accolades in the spa industry.

Our already award-winning spa has now been given the Good Spa Guide seal of approval after being awarded a 5 Bubble Luxury rating.

Not only is this the highest rating possible from the Good Spa Guide – which only recommends the best spas – we are the only spa in Scotland to hold this rating and one of just 25 across the whole of the UK.

“We are incredibly proud to have been awarded what is the highest possible spa accolade – and to be the only 5 Bubble Luxury Spa in Scotland is a huge achievement for all of us,” said Director Matthew Wallace Jnr.

“The Good Spa Guide is the UK’s leading authority for spa excellence and this recognition is a testament to the vision and hard work of the whole team.

“As a family-run hotel, this accolade means even more. To be able to stand apart from our rivals, not just in Scotland but the UK



as a whole, is exactly what we wanted to do and this is for the whole team and everyone who has been involved in getting us to where we are today.”

The Good Spa Guide’s Bubble system follows a rigorous review process by a team of spa experts.

Spas are assessed on cleanliness and tidiness, facilities, treatments and customer service during a thorough evaluation which includes a secret visit from the Good Spa Guide’s Spa Spies, who carry out a full inspection and review.

Only spas deemed to be ‘seriously special’ with ‘spectacular facilities’ and ‘soothing and enriching treatments’ make the top grade.

“The news has given the whole team a boost and shows them that we are doing the job well, which is all we’ve ever strived to do,” added Mr Wallace Jnr.

“I would like to extend my gratitude to everyone and particularly our spa manager, Claire Primrose, for going above and beyond to ensure we are delivering a world class service here in Dumfries.”

AND THERE’S MORE...

ALONG with receiving the coveted 5 Bubble Luxury rating, we’ve had even more reason to celebrate in the last couple of months after being named Best Independent Hotel in the annual Scottish Excellence Awards.

The Cairndale Hotel & Spa beat last year’s winner, Cromlix, owned by tennis ace Andy Murray.

The awards, held annually, recognise and reward the highest standards in Scottish hospitality and judges were impressed with The Cairndale’s stunning new spa and facilities, along with the hotel in general and our work with the Dumfries community.

Judges stated: “The Cairndale was a worthy winner due to its investment in the Spa and its staff, its support of the local community, excellent customer feedback and its focus on sustainability.”

This award comes hot on the heels of a string of other accolades we have won since our Spa opened last summer and our awards list continues to grow:

- **Awarded 5 Bubble Luxury accreditation from The Good Spa Guide**
- **Best Independent Hotel in the annual Scottish Excellence Awards**
- **Best New Spa in Scotland in the National Hotels of the Year Scotland Awards**
- **Best Hotel in South West Scotland in the National Hotels of the Year Scotland Awards**
- **Named as one of the top three new Spas in the UK at the Good Spa Awards after just four months of opening**
- **Best Family Business in the 2024 Dumfries and Galloway Life Awards**
- **Named one of the Top 10 Spas in Scotland and Best for Thermal Bathing Rituals by European Spa**
- **Named in the Top 10 Spas for 2024 by VisitScotland**

CHEERS TO A SPARKLING SPA SUNDAY

OUR first ever Bollinger Ladies Lunch was a huge hit this spring – and there's still time to reserve your spot on our last event later this year.

In April and July, we hosted our first exclusive Ladies Only Bollinger Champagne Lunch in the Spa, welcoming guests from 9am on a Sunday morning with a glass of Champagne before they enjoyed three blissful hours in the Spa.

This was followed with a sumptuous three-course lunch, paired with chilled Bollinger to create a perfect Sunday for ladies who enjoy a little bit of luxury.

As a result of its success, we're almost sold out for our remaining Ladies Only Bollinger Lunch on Sunday October 26 with just 30 spaces available.

Tickets are £150pp, with optional add-on Spa treatments from £69.

To book, call **01387 254 111** or email **spa@cairndalehotel.co.uk**

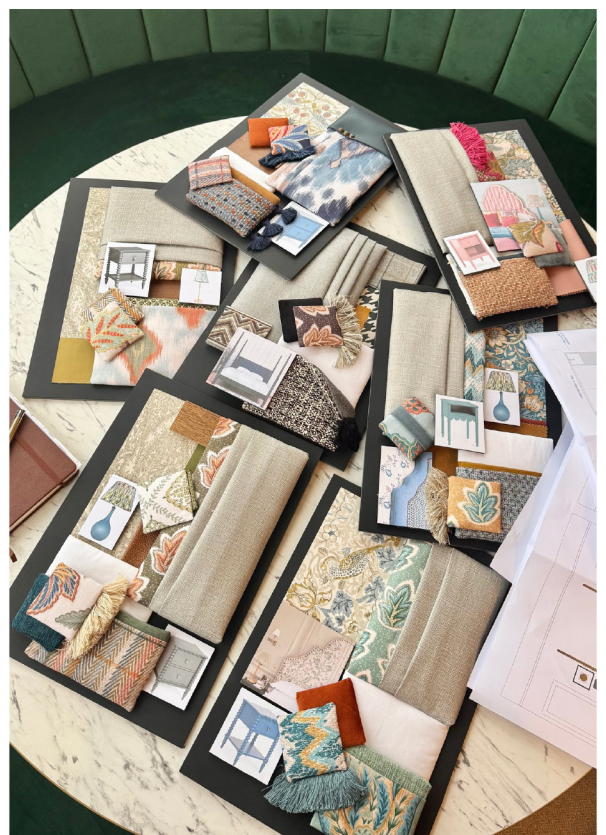
BEDROOM REFURBISHMENT NEARS COMPLETION

AFTER several months of hard work, we're almost ready to take the wraps off our 12 newly-refurbished bedrooms.

Following a £250,000 investment, the latest stage of our ongoing work to update the hotel is almost finished as we prepare to welcome guests to our new rooms from August.

The rooms are being completely overhauled and will feature high ceilings, fully restored original period features and new plush furnishings, high end bathrooms and luxurious finishing touches.

Once complete, the 12 new rooms will set the tone for the rest of the development as we look to start work on more rooms, as part of what will eventually be a total renovation of the hotel.



AL FRESCO DINING ARRIVES AT SPA CAFE

AUTUMN days and evenings just got a whole lot brighter at The Cairndale, following the opening of our new outdoor terrace.

IT'S been a while in the planning, but we were delighted to finally open the doors to the outdoor space earlier this month.

The team has been working hard behind the scenes for several weeks to utilise the balcony area adjacent to our Spa Café.

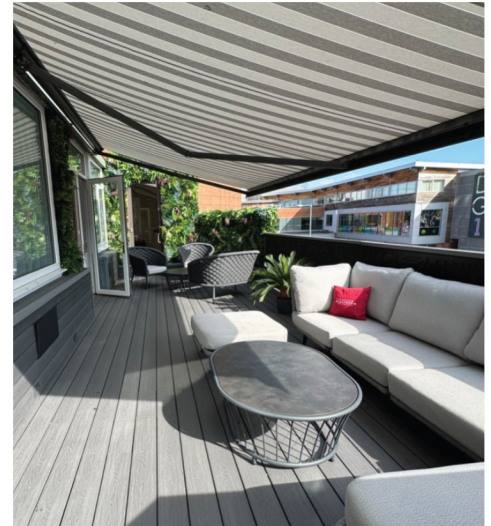
Over the last few weeks, we've updated the area with new decking, lighting and plants and now have our own stunning outdoor space, which allows for outdoor dining and relaxing as part of the spa day experience.

"We've known for a while that this area would make a fantastic Spa terrace and we decided during the winter that as soon as the weather improved, we would work on making this space fully operational," explained Director Matthew Wallace Jnr.

"It's now been fully decked and we've installed new lighting and added plants to make it a lovely, inviting area where guests can relax and enjoy some fresh air either during or after their spa treatments, or during their Spa lunch or afternoon tea.

"I'd like to say a huge well done and thank you to the team who have worked hard to create this fantastic addition in such a short space of time and we look forward to welcoming our guests to experience it over the coming months."

The Spa Café is exclusive to our spa guests and offers delicious lunches and afternoon teas.



To discover more about our spa breaks, offers and packages, visit the website: www.cairndalehotel.co.uk

TAYLORED SWIFTIE SPA STAY

Immerse yourself in the ultimate mix of relaxation and entertainment with our Taylored Swiftie Spa Stay. Indulge in award-winning spa time, delicious dining, and a luxurious overnight break, all topped off with a dazzling live tribute to Taylor Swift from the incredible Beth Singh, who'll take you on an unforgettable journey through the Eras.

- Taylored Swiftie Spa Stay includes: One-night stay in a classic room
- Live Taylor Swift tribute performance
- Two hours' spa access
- Two-course dinner
- Breakfast the following morning

Priced from just **£189** per person based on two people sharing a classic room

CAIRNDALE HOTEL & SPA PARTNERS WITH 111SKIN

In just one year since the doors opened, the Cairndale Spa has become a true haven for relaxation and rejuvenation. And now, our award-winning destination is already expanding its offering, listening to your guest feedback and introducing new spa partners to bring world-class treatments to the heart of Scotland.

THE latest addition is nothing short of extraordinary: Cairndale Spa has become the exclusive Scottish home of 111SKIN, the globally celebrated skincare brand loved by celebrities, facialists and beauty insiders across the world.

Founded by world-renowned plastic and reconstructive surgeon Dr. Yannis Alexandrides and Eva Alexandridis, 111SKIN has earned a cult following for its results-driven, scientifically advanced products and treatments. From the transformative Celestial Black Diamond Facial to the glow-boosting Rose Gold Radiance Facial, guests at Cairndale Spa can now indulge in the same treatments found in five-star spas from London to Beverly Hills.

To mark the launch, Cairndale Spa hosted an exclusive influencer event on Tuesday 19th August, welcoming beauty and lifestyle creators to experience 111SKIN's cutting-edge facials alongside

personalised skincare consultations, time in the hotel's thermal spa facilities, and an intimate evening meal with the 111SKIN team.

"We've only been open a year, and it's been incredible to see how our guests have embraced the spa experience here at Cairndale," says Claire Primrose, Spa Manager. "We're expanding already with carefully chosen partners like 111SKIN, all based on what our customers have told us they want. Being the only spa in Scotland to offer these treatments makes it even more special."

With its reputation for innovation, luxury, and proven results, 111SKIN cements Cairndale Spa's position as a rising star in Scotland's wellness scene. It's a partnership that promises not just indulgence, but a new level of skin health and confidence - delivered in the tranquil surroundings of one of Scotland's most loved hotels.

111SKIN treatments are available to book online. For more details, visit www.cairndalehotel.co.uk/spa.



VOYA SPA STAY FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

Relax and unwind this Autumn with our VOYA Spa Stay.

Enjoy a night's accommodation at The Cairndale with full Scottish buffet breakfast, a 30-minute VOYA treatment per person and four hours access to our award-winning thermal spa facilities.

Your stay also includes a welcome refreshment upon arrival to the spa, use of robe and towel and gifted slippers to take home



Prices from

£339
per couple

Sunday – Thursday

£379
per couple

Friday – Saturday

Visit the website to book: www.cairndalehotel.co.uk/offers



FROM SMALL ACORNS...

The Oak is back – and it's mightier than ever before

IT was once one of Dumfries' most-loved venues, a popular watering hole here in the centre of Dumfries where locals met for a pint and a chat – and now it's been given a brand new lease of life.

Following a £250,000 investment and several months of hard work, The Cairndale Hotel & Spa was all set to open the doors to its latest redevelopment, The Oak, as the Cairndale Courier went to press.

Located downstairs and accessible via a separate entrance, The Oak is its own standalone venue, a vibrant bar and restaurant which looks, feels and operates differently to the hotel.

"For decades, The Oak was the beating heart of Dumfries but it has stood empty for a long time," explained Director Matthew Wallace Jnr. "We are

absolutely thrilled to have not just breathed new life into an old building but to have completely reimaged it.

"Many months of hard work and even more of planning have gone into this because we wanted to get it right.

"We wanted to create somewhere new and dynamic here in the heart of Dumfries, somewhere where locals and hotel guests alike can enjoy and make memories together."

The team has created an exciting new bar and restaurant, drawing inspiration from the venue's past with a quirky interior with a nod to tradition.

Along with being a bar where guests and locals can pop in for a quiet drink or to meet friends, The Oak is set to be Dumfries' coolest restaurant.



“The Oak has been meticulously planned and designed to create a warm, welcoming place where people can come and go, enjoy a pint, treat themselves to a cocktail and enjoy fine food”

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THE
OAK



"The Oak has been meticulously planned and designed to create a warm, welcoming place where people can come and go, enjoy a pint, treat themselves to a cocktail and enjoy fine food...we believe we can quickly become the go-to place in Dumfries for both casual dining and special occasions," added Matthew Wallace Jnr.

"We've always seen ourselves as being a huge part of the community and we hope by introducing The Oak, we can attract new customers from the town who may not necessarily choose the hotel as somewhere to visit.

"We have already had a wonderful response to our new social media pages and there's a definite buzz, with people asking when we will be open. We're excited and confident we can continue to put Dumfries on the tourism map and I'm sure The Oak will be a huge success."

Now fully open, The Oak is also offering pre-theatre express menus for people heading to the town's Theatre Royal or Loreburn Hall, along with many other special deals.

A small sample of our menu

STARTERS

Stornoway Black Pudding Scotch Egg with whisky and mustard mayo
Toasted Bruschetta, Heritage tomato, burrata, basil, prosciutto and balsamic

MAINS

Slow braised beef short-rib, confit garlic mash, roscoff onion, glazed carrot, red wine jus
Pad Thai, rice noodles, peanut, pak choi, wild mushrooms, kimchi, served with either king prawns or tofu

DESSERTS

Chocolate brownie, salted caramel, tablet ice cream
Apple & Golden Raisin crumble with vanilla ice cream or vanilla anglaise

SUNDAY LUNCH

See our Sunday roast menu for more details or speak to our team
Every Sunday from 12pm – 5pm

VISIT THE WEBSITE: WWW.THEOAKRESTAURANT.CO.UK OR FOLLOW @THEOAKDUMFRIES ON SOCIAL MEDIA TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH ALL THE LATEST

SAVE THE DATE!

Red Bow Ball is back for 2025

Images: CopperTree Photography



FOLLOWING its runaway success last December, The Cairndale is delighted to reveal the return of the Red Bow Ball for 2025.

We are proud to announce that we will once again host the biggest party in town on Friday, December 5 to help support national charity Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY) via the David Hill Memorial Fund.

Last winter, we hosted our first ever Red Bow Ball – named after our famous red bow Christmas decoration.

Guests dressed to impress in their best red outfits and enjoyed a spectacular night with a red-themed menu and live entertainment, raising more than £10,000 for CRY through auctions and raffles on the night.

The Ball was organised after Hotel Directors Matthew Wallace Senior and Matthew Wallace Jnr heard the devastating story of David Hill, a former pupil at Dumfries' St Joseph's College.

The political aide died suddenly while playing rugby for the Scottish Parliamentary Team on a sunny day in Dublin on March 19, 2022 aged just 30. It was later discovered he had died from Sudden Cardiac Death.

Since then, his parents Rodger Hill and Sharon Duncan have worked tirelessly to raise awareness of the condition and set up the memorial fund to support CRY, which is aiming to fund screening for young people in the local community.

During the preparation for last year's event, The Cairndale team spent lots of time with both Rodger and Sharon, discovering more about the condition.

Each week in the UK, around 12 young people aged under 35 die suddenly from an undiagnosed heart condition and 80 per cent of these deaths occur with no prior symptoms.

CRY works to try and raise vital funds and awareness of the condition and is committed to helping fund specialist screening centres – which includes The Cairndale along with other venues across the region.

The David Hill Memorial Fund has, to date, raised upwards of £40,000 which has helped the family organise hundreds of free screenings across Dumfries over the past two years.

"The Red Bow Ball was a wonderful event where everyone had a fantastic time – but ultimately, it was about raising as much money as we possibly could for what we believe is a vital and worthwhile cause," explained Director Matthew Wallace Jnr.

"Spending time with David's family really opened our eyes to this devastating condition and I was genuinely inspired by the passion they have to grow awareness and raise money to support CRY and try to prevent this happening to other families.

"We were determined to get involved and offer our help wherever we could and it was never in question that The Cairndale would do whatever we can.

"We knew as soon as last year's Ball was finished that we would be doing it again this year and we hope we can raise even more vital cash this year, for what we believe is a very worthwhile cause."

The 2025 Red Bow Ball will be held on Friday, December 5. Tickets are now available, for further information please email: redbow@cairndalehotel.co.uk



Unmissable live entertainment at CAIRNDALE HOTEL

Step into a season of unforgettable live entertainment at the Cairndale Hotel & Spa in the heart of Dumfries.

Whether you're dancing the night away to tribute acts including Taylor Swift or listening to the soulful sounds of Scotty D or Frank Sinatra, our upcoming acts offer something unforgettable for everyone.



TAYLORED SWIFTIE | TAYLOR SWIFT TRIBUTE SATURDAY 18TH OCTOBER

Be transported through the Eras and experience the magic of Taylor Swift like never before with Beth Singh's stunning tribute to the global superstar.

Dinner package from £42.50 per person

Overnight package from £129.50 per person

ELVIS X TOM JONES TRIBUTE SATURDAY 25TH OCTOBER

Enjoy a night of iconic hits as Steve Storm delivers a powerhouse performance celebrating Elvis Presley and Tom Jones.

Dinner package from £42.50 per person

Overnight package from £129.50 per person



CLAUDIA BUCKLEY | IRISH COUNTRY SINGER FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER

For the first time in Dumfries, sensational country singer Claudia Buckley takes the stage with her full band for a night of unforgettable live music.

Dinner package from £49.50 per person

Overnight package from £129.50 per person



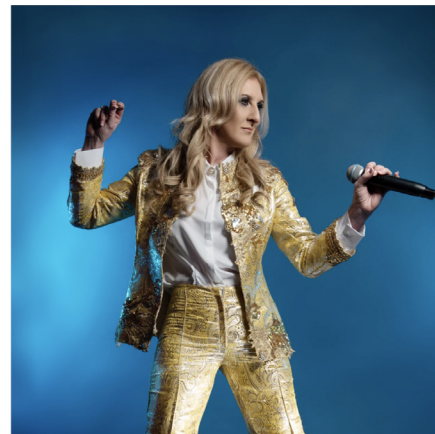
SWING KINGS

SATURDAY 15TH NOVEMBER

Let the Swing Kings whisk you back in time with timeless hits from legends like Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., Neil Diamond, and Elvis.

Dinner and show from £42.50 per person

Overnight package from £129.50 per person



CELINE DION TRIBUTE

MONDAY 29TH DECEMBER

Join us at The Cairndale in between Christmas and New Year with a breath taking tribute to Celine Dion by Lisa Press. Lisa's tribute to Celine has taken her all over the world so this is a tribute act not to be missed.

Dinner and show £50 per person

Overnight packages available

TWIXMAS STAY

FRIDAY 27TH & SATURDAY 28TH DECEMBER

Relax at The Cairndale during the festive period by joining our ever-popular Twixmas break which includes 2 nights dinner, bed & breakfast plus entertainment from only £249 per person.

HOGMANAY STAY

Join our Hogmanay Celebrations and welcome the New Year in style. Choose our 4 or 5-night package which includes a festive four course dinner with live entertainment every evening. You can arrive on either 29th or 30th December – the choice is yours.

For full details of all entertainment breaks, please visit our website www.cairndalehotel.co.uk/entertainment

OUT & ABOUT

Autumn is here and there's no better time to explore some of the world class attractions and beauty spots here on our doorstep.

DUMFRIES is perfectly located for a host of trips and attractions, with something for everyone all close by.

Whether you're into breathtaking scenery, historic castles, picturesque towns and villages or miles of coastline, it's all waiting to be discovered on the South West Coastal 300 (SWC300).

Billed as the perfect road trip for anyone who loves Scotland, the SWC300 is a circular route which takes in the south west coast of Dumfries and Galloway and South Ayrshire.

The Cairndale offers the perfect base for anyone looking to embark on the trip and we also welcome lots of guests as part of their adventure. To find out more, visit: www.scotlandstartshere.com



For those looking to take in some culture a bit closer to home, why not head north to Drumlanrig Castle?

Just a 30-minute drive away, with its breathtaking views across the Nith Valley, Drumlanrig Castle is a real hidden gem.

Discover its rich history with a castle tour, enjoy a guided walk of its stunning Victorian Gardens, watch crafters at work in the Stableyard Studios or saddle up and hit the family-friendly mountain bike trails.

For more information visit: www.drumlanrigcastle.co.uk

When it comes to days out for all the family, you don't have to head far. Dalscone Farm is just a few minutes drive away here in Dumfries and offers a host of fun and entertainment for kids and adults alike.

It became an overnight sensation during Covid with its animal live streams and is just as popular today, welcoming visitors from across the UK and further afield to enjoy its many activities for pre-teens.

These include trampolines, climbing frames, battery-run cars and quads, alpine slide and huge soft play area.

Along with a café and farm shop, there is a large selection of farm and exotic animals, with the likes of monkeys and porcupines mixing it with chameleons and snakes – plus a host of regular farm favourites, too. Discover more at: www.dalsconefarmfun.co.uk

Of course, no trip to Scotland is complete without a distillery visit and we highly recommend a visit to our friends and partners at Annandale Distillery.

Scotland's only single malt distillery is located near Annan around a half hours drive away and hosts regular tours and guided tastings, along with whisky masterclasses for those wanting to refine their palate.

For more information visit: www.annandaledistillery.com

Don't forget, there's also plenty to see and do here in Dumfries town centre, so make sure you head out and about and discover what we have for yourself.



Autumn Escape Package at THE CAIRNDALE

We know one night is never enough to see everything Dumfries and The Cairndale have to offer, so why not join us for a short staycation this summer?

Our summer staycation deals are available from Sunday to Thursday until the end of September, perfect for a sneaky mid-week getaway.

Prices start at £189pp for two nights with two-course dinner, bed and breakfast, £270pp for three nights and £339pp for four.

To book or check availability, visit our website: www.cairndalehotel.co.uk

The
GLOBE
INN

DUMFRIES

MICHELIN
2024



RESERVE A TABLE



World Class Dining

Savour every bite in the historic setting where Robert Burns once found inspiration. Indulge in Scotland's largest Single Cask Single Malt whisky collection by the dram, plus the finest cocktails in town.



The Globe Inn, Dumfries - 56 High Street, Dumfries, DG1 2JA | Telephone: 01387 323010
www.GlobeInnDumfries.co.uk

IT'S NEVER TOO SOON TO START THINKING ABOUT CHRISTMAS!

CHRISTMAS PARTY NIGHTS

Our popular party nights are always a sell-out, so book now to avoid disappointment...

New Identity 80s Band

Back by popular demand, the five-piece band will have the dance floor packed all night with non-stop hits from the 1980s, as guests enjoy a night to remember with fantastic entertainment and a four-course festive dinner.

From £50pp, deposit £10.

Saturday December 6, Friday December 12 or Saturday December 13

Swede Dreamz Abba Tribute

Bring out your inner Dancing Queen (or king) with the UK's leading Abba tribute band and enjoy a night of top entertainment and a four-course festive dinner.

From £50pp, deposit £10pp.

Thursday December 18, Friday December 19 or Saturday December 20.

Wreath-Making Masterclass with Afternoon Tea & Prosecco

Saturday November 29

Sunday November 30

Sunday December 7

Sunday December 14

£79 per person.

Twixmas Retreat

Relax and unwind with us during those wonderful lazy days between Christmas and New Year and discover the magic of Twixmas in Dumfries.

Two nights from £249pp and three nights from £319pp – available December 27-29.

Happy Hogmanay!

Nobody knows how to see in the New Year like the Scots – so why not join us for one of our Hogmanay breaks and start 2026 in style? All Hogmanay breaks include four-course dinner and entertainment each evening, full Scottish buffet breakfast, parking and WiFi.

Four nights from £620pp and five nights from £699pp.

HURRY!
Dates are
already
filling up
for this.



For more information or to book any of our festive events, breaks and entertainment nights, Call **01387 254111**, email **info@cairndalehotel.co.uk** or visit our website: **www.cairndalehotel.co.uk**