SPOTLIGHT ON THE NOKE



The latest in our series about members of the Hertfordshire Hoteliers Association





The HHA has launched a campaign focussing on the wide variety of food and drink available at its member properties. The hotels have some of the finest chefs in the county and the association is determined to spread the word and also dispel the myth that eating in hotels is expensive.

A typical example of what's on offer can be found at Thistle Hotel, St Albans (The Noke), a four-star traditional Victorian-style property set in private grounds on the edge of St Albans. It has undergone an extensive £2 million refurbishment over the past two years and is a popular and well-known venue for weddings and weekend breaks.



It features 110 bedrooms, including 54 deluxe rooms and suites, and the opportunity for some fine dining at the acclaimed Noke Restaurant. This has a choice of modern dishes and home-cooked favourites in comfortable, contemporary surroundings with views over the gardens. An extensive cellar of classic and New World wines to suit all tastes is also available.

Highlights of the menu include honey-grilled chicken and pine-nut salad, spiced tomato and aubergine bruschetta, and sticky toffee pudding.

The restaurant has a contemporary decor with polished wooden floors and a large open

fireplace and is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. For another option, the Oak & Avocado Bar and Lounge serves a wide range of drinks and an Italian bistro-themed menu in informal surroundings.

The hotel's general manager, Richard Moppett, said: "We aim to serve traditional British food to our guests in our very traditional surroundings. The Noke Restaurant has combined tradition with a contemporary feel and guests can feel instantly relaxed as they are served good food with great views of our beautiful Victorian gardens."

Another chance to experience the restaurant has arrived with the return of Sunday lunch in the form of a traditional British carvery. The menu offers a wide selection of starters from a buffet, weekly changing roast meats with all the classic accompaniments, followed by the pastry chef's choice of desserts and a British cheeseboard.

The lunch costs £16.95 per adult and £8.50 for four-to-16 year-olds. Children aged four and under eat free.

As a special offer to readers, The Noke is offering a "buy one get one free" deal on Sunday lunch until the end of March 2011, except on December 19 and 26.

To book a table, call 01727 854252, quoting "Sunday Lunch BOGOF", then fill in the coupon below and remember to take it with you when you visit.

The Thistle, St Albans Watford Road St Albans, AL2 3DS Web: www.Thistle.com/St-Albans Phone: 0871 376 9034 / +44 845 305 8333 Fax: 0871 376 9134 / +44 845 305 8372

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OFFER

BUY ONE GET ONE FREE

Bring This coupon along for get your 'buy one and get one free' deal on Sunday lunch until 31 March 2011 (exclusions Dec 19 and Dec 26 2010)

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