



# ROTHAY MANOR

HOTEL & RESTAURANT

Rothay Bridge, Ambleside, Cumbria LA22 0EH

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Proprietor Nigel Nixon



# AUTUMN GARDEN HOLIDAY

OCTOBER 2012



## ROTHAY MANOR



## THE HOTEL

Set in its own grounds 1/4 mile from the head of Lake Windermere and 5 minutes from the centre of Ambleside, the Manor was built in 1825 as a private residence, and the drawing rooms and candlelit dining room are still those of an elegant Regency house. Owned and run by the Nixon family for over 40 years, it has gained a reputation as one of the country's



leading small Country House Hotels, being recommended in all the leading guides for the excellence of its service and cuisine whilst retaining a relaxed, friendly atmosphere.

All 19 bedrooms are en-suite with most having bath and separate shower. Individually decorated, they are spacious and comfortable with TV, tea and coffee making facilities, hairdryers, telephone and central heating.

A choice of well appointed Classic rooms; Superior rooms - most of which have a balcony overlooking the garden; Suites for those requiring more space and privacy. There is accommodation to suit everyone including families, wheelchair users and others with mobility issues.



The hotel restaurant has a long-standing reputation for excellent food and wine and is one of only 6 hotels to have been listed in the Good Hotel Guide since it began. Head Chef Jane Binns uses fresh local produce wherever possible to produce delicious, imaginative yet traditional menus and the hotel is well-known for the excellent Afternoon Tea.

Cumbria Tourism Award 2010 Finalist for 'Small Hotel of the Year' and 'Access for All' and 2008 'Taste Awards'.



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# AUTUMN GARDEN HOLIDAY

OCTOBER 14TH - 19TH 2012

## The Gardens to be Visited

### Lowther Castle Gardens

The ruined castle and gardens at Lowther are being transformed into what will become one of Cumbria's greatest tourist attractions. The 130 acre site contains what was once one of England's greatest gardens and we will be given a guided tour by either the Project Manager or the Head Gardener to see the restoration work which has been done to date and to hear about and see the plans for the future. This is a fascinating time to see these gardens which have been forgotten for 70 years.

### Newton Rigg College Gardens

The gardens and college grounds include many educational and interesting features including herbaceous borders, ponds, an organic garden, pleached hornbeam walk, woodland walk, arboretum and an extensive range of ornamental trees and shrubs. The gardens are an invaluable outdoor laboratory for the students of horticulture and we will be given a guided tour by a member of the horticultural department.



### Summerdale House and Nursery

David and Gail Sheals's one and a half acre part-walled country garden contains several themed areas defined by hedges and linked by cobbled pathways. Of the many garden features to see are herbaceous borders, ponds and an excellent adjoining plant nursery.

### Abi and Tom's Garden Plants

In late February 2009 Abi and Tom Attwood became tenants of Halecat Nurseries, a nursery that had once had a good reputation but had fallen into disrepair and ceased trading. They carried out a two year restoration before re-opening and now this very attractive nursery stocks a wide range of plants, most of which are propagated on site. Tom will take us into the propagation and growing areas (not usually open to the public) for what will be a fascinating and enlightening guided tour.

### Blakebeck Garden, Mungrisdale

The Hockley's garden was designed by Vera Turnbull who is the holder of an RHS Chelsea Flower Show Gold Medal - awarded in the Courtyard Section for 'Lakeland Reflected'. During our visit Vera will explain how she and her husband converted a field and the site of an 80ft cattle shed into this beautiful Lakeland garden. She will also discuss with us how the garden has evolved since it was created. Planted for year round structure, the garden contains a lovely range of ornamental plants and raised vegetable beds, with a cobble beach wildlife pond as the centre-piece.

### Acorn Bank, Temple Sowerby

This National Trust garden contains the largest collection of medicinal and culinary herbs in the north of England. Redesigned at the beginning of the 21st century the layout now allows for much easier access and is well known for its collection of apple trees suitable for the northern climate. There is a recently restored sunken garden and several ornamental areas. Chris Braithwaite the gardener in charge will be our guide.

## Plus

### Gardeners Question Time

David Haigh will be joined by Peter Smith who is now retired and a volunteer at Holehird Gardens. He started his career in Edinburgh Botanic gardens and has worked as a Landscape Architect in Hong Kong and finally as Head of the Environmental Improvement Team in Rochdale for the last 15 years of his career.



### Climbing Plants and Wall Shrubs

An illustrated talk by Lyn Brunetti

Lyn Brunetti was a student at Newton Rigg College before moving to Myerscough College where she



gained a first class honours degree in horticulture. She has trained at Edinburgh Botanic Gardens as well as working at Powis Castle and Levens Hall. Since 2002 Lyn has been gardener in charge at Warnell Hall, Sebergham (in the north of the county), a garden with a growing reputation and one which will be included in next years itinerary.

## Prices

Classic Double or Twin	£620
Superior Double or Twin	£685
Suite Double or Twin	£720
Single - Gunroom	£660
Classic Double as Single	£770
Superior Double as Single	£830
Non-resident	£430

The 5-night holiday runs from Sunday evening through to Friday morning and all prices are per person and include full English breakfast, morning coffee, 3 course dinner and VAT @ 20% for the 5 night stay.

Non-participating partners are welcome, and the cost for them is £30 less than above.

We ask for a deposit of £150 per person which can be made by cheque or credit card. This is non-refundable unless the room is subsequently relet, and cancellation insurance is available.



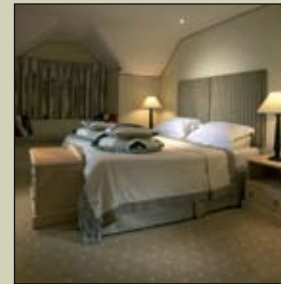
Rothay Manor is a privately owned Country House hotel in the heart of the Lake District, set in one and a half acres of beautifully landscaped gardens.

Owned and personally managed by the Nixon family for nearly 40 years, the hotel has long been renowned for the warm hospitality, comfort and personal service which is complemented by excellent cuisine.



WHERE GUESTS FEEL THEY ARE AT HOME

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Each of the bedrooms and suites are individually designed, combining both traditional and modern furnishings. All rooms are en-suite with generous bath towels and fine quality toiletries, telephone, television, hair drier, tea and coffee making facilities and all are non-smoking.

Of the 16 bedrooms seven are superior rooms, most with a balcony overlooking the garden and views to the fells beyond.

There are 3 spacious suites, ideal for families or those who prefer extra privacy, two of which are in the grounds close to the main building, while the Fairfield Suite is situated in the new wing.

The Loughrigg Suite and a ground floor bedroom are fully accessible for wheelchair users.

The 'Honeymoon Package' or 'Celebration Package' makes Rothay Manor the ideal place to celebrate any special occasion.

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Rothay Manor's restaurant continues to win many accolades, and the cuisine is complemented by a personally compiled wine list with fine wines from around the world.

The chef sources fresh, local produce wherever possible and menus are prepared with flair and imagination to the highest of standards.

Dining at Rothay Manor – whether for lunch, dinner or a private party - is treated as an experience to be savoured to the full and the dining room, with tables laid in a classical style, is elegant and spacious yet comfortable.



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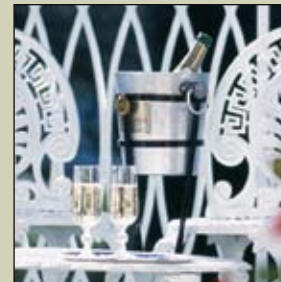
A wide range of outdoor activities is available nearby - sailing on Lake Windermere, water sports, golf, riding the bridleways, cycling the National Parks cycle paths, mountain biking, fishing (the hotel has a free fishing permit), and of course, exploring the fells and lakeshores on foot for which we can provide a specially prepared picnic lunch.

For the less energetic, a gentle game of croquet or boules on the lawn; a day exploring Lake Windermere by ferry; or indulge in a pamper day at a nearby beauty suite, where guests also have complimentary membership of the leisure facilities at the Low Wood Club, 1½ miles from the hotel.

The heritage of the area is revealed in a variety of museums, art galleries, theatres and historic buildings – including the famous Bridge House in Ambleside.



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SPECIALISED HOLIDAYS - From autumn through to late spring a range of Special Interest Breaks is available:- Antiques, Bridge, Gardening, Lake District Heritage, Music, Painting and Walking.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR - For the Festive Season we offer both a traditional 4-night Christmas House Party and a 3-night New Year House Party. Between Christmas and New Year, why not take advantage of our relaxing 3-night 'Post-Christmas Revival' break?

PRIVATE PARTIES - Whatever the occasion, Rothay Manor offers the perfect venue for a family celebration, with a private lounge and dining room for your exclusive use.

MEETINGS & CONFERENCES - For small, informal meetings & conferences the air-conditioned Brathay Room can accommodate up to 22 people.

Non-Residents are welcome for Morning Coffee, Lunch, Afternoon Tea and Dinner.

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