

THE VINEYARD A TO Z

A

Awards and Accolades: 5 Red Stars AA; 5 Star Gold Award RAC; Rising Chef Award - Relais & Chateaux 2011; Gold Award Accolade - Toptable.com 2010; Wine List Award for Excellence – Taittinger 2009; Hotel Restaurant of the Year - National Restaurant Awards 2009; Hotelier of the Year - Catey Award 2008; Best Independent Marketing Campaign - Catey Award 2008; Relais Gourmand – Relais & Chateaux 2008; Independent Hotel of the Year, Catey Award 2003; Restaurant of the Year Outside London - Square Meal 2003; Hotel of the Year - English Tourist Council 2000; Most Excellent Restaurant - Johansen's 2000; Best American wine list - AA 2001; Best of Award of Excellence - The Wine Spectator; 8 out of 10 - Good Food Guide.

Art: There are close to 1000 original paintings and sketches in total around the hotel, all from Sir Peter Michael's private collection. Other works in and around the hotel include 'Fire and Water' by William Pye, 'Drift' by Laura White, 'Spine' by Diane Maclean, 'Countless Days' by Michael Kenny, 'Vineyard Baulstrade' by Alan Dawson and 'Deconstructing the Grape' by David Jacobsen. The Vineyard also houses a large collection of Doris Zinkeisen and Boris Smirnoff's art. Including the recent addition of Bucolique by Henri Martin that hangs on display in the restaurant.

Arches: by Johannes Von Stumm. Located as guests enter the Restaurant from the Cocktail bar, Arches is made of granite, glass and iron. This particular piece is number four out of six editions of the work made in 1998. The artist is originally from Munich, Germany, but is now working from his studio in Wantage, Oxfordshire.

Afternoon Tea: Homemade scones with or without raisins served with a section of preserves, carefully crafted sweet treats, fresh and seasonal sandwiches with a choice of fine English teas are prepared by Daniel Galmiche and his team daily.

B

Baby sitting: we recommend Newbury Nannies or Safe Hands to look after the little ones while the parents are out of the room.

Bucolique: by Henri Martin (1860-1943) hangs on display in the restaurant at The Vineyard. In 1925 the well known postimpressionist painter Henri Martin, was commissioned by the town of Beziers, situated at the centre of the Languedoc wine region of France, to produce works that would decorate the main chamber of the 'Centre du Commerce' building that was previously the fine 'Hotel du Lac'. He produced six monumental works that remained there from 1932 until 2008 when under financial pressure to improve communications the sale of these famous works was agreed. This decision caused a great deal of controversy from all sides particularly from Cyrille Martin, the grandson of the artist, who believed that splitting up the collection was a criminal act, nevertheless, the French government issued a legal

certificate of export for all six. The remaining five other works denoting various stages of wine growing – Dechaussage des souches, Le Cultivateur, Le Sulfatage, La Cueillette and Idylle were, largely due to their enormous size, split into various ownerships. You will find replicas of the rest of the collection around The Vineyard.

C

Countless Days: by Michael Kenny (1941-1999) can be seen outside the New Wing and is one of the artist's later works. He was given three months to live and lived for three years. During this period he created (amongst other pieces) Countless Days, which is a sculpture made of white marble.

Crockery: The Vineyard uses Villeroy & Boch dinnerware and glassware is Riedel.

Cummins, Frankie: the murals in the Gymnasium and treatment rooms plus the larger wall paintings in the Music and Morning room are all commissioned by Frankie Cummins. Frankie is a local artist, residing in Hungerford.

D

Darphin: part of a variety of products used on treatments at The Vineyard Spa, Darphin was created in 1958 by Pierre Darphin who believed that a woman's beauty is not only about how her skin looks but also how she feels about herself, to create a state of inner and outer beauty. Darphin's products are the perfect blend of science and nature for optimal results.

Deconstructing the Grape: by David Jacobsen takes its inspiration from the Roman post supports and water rills in the ancient vineyards of Alsace. It is imagined as the wine grape's 'journey' to the wine reservoir.

Drift: by Laura White, an artwork in six parts, is located in the entrance to The Vineyard.

Donnington Valley Hotel and Spa: The Vineyard's sister hotel with 111 bedrooms and conference facilities for up to 140 people and 11 conference rooms, and a state of the art Health Club and Spa. It is located approximately 2 miles away.

E

Entertainment: The Vineyard offers a selection of DVDs from reception. There is also a wide variety of board games available.

Espa: Espa is a totally holistic and therapeutic skincare range used in The Vineyard Spa and is suitable for both men and women. The treatments are highly beneficial to mind and body. The luxurious range has been inspired using the highest quality organic or naturally grown plants known for their purity, potency and therapeutic benefits. Whatever your needs ESPA have a product and a treatment that can eradicate all your aches and stresses.

F

Fire and Water: by William Pye, FRBS. Seven spectacular tongues of fire leaping from a slate black, mirror-like tray of water eleven metres in diameter greets guests on arrival at The Vineyard. At night, overlooked from The Vineyard restaurant it creates a constantly changing abstract pattern of light.

G

Galmiche, Daniel: executive chef. Charismatic, modest and a true gentleman. A Frenchman born in Lure, in the Comte region of eastern France, he has lived and worked for most of his career in England. Daniel was enthralled with cooking from an early age. After leaving school, he worked alongside the Michelin starred Chef Yves Lalloz on a 3 year apprenticeship at the Hotel Beausite, Luxeuil les Bains. Daniel has previously worked at Harvey's in Bristol and at Cliveden in Berkshire. He regularly appears on TV and has been seen on BBC's Saturday Kitchen with James Martin a few times. Daniel has held a Michelin star for 20 years. He is described as the "king of contemporary French cooking".

Golf: Donnington Valley Golf Club is located approximately 2 miles away, adjacent to Donnington Valley Hotel and Spa. It is a challenging 18 hole golf course with 6353 yards, par 71. An extensive Pro Shop is on site where equipment is available for hire. The club house has its own restaurant and its building is a grade II listed Victorian house.

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H

Hunting lodge: the original house at the hotel is a former 19th century hunting lodge. It served as a country retreat for the Hartley family, who were 'Lords of the Manor of Stanford Dingley'. The Vineyard was developed as a country house hotel in the 1980's. During this period a conservatory, was added, along with function rooms. It was then known as the 'Foley Lodge'. Sir Peter acquired the hotel in 1996, closed it down for a year and a half, and reopened in May 1998 as 'The Vineyard at Stockcross'. It was originally known as a 'Restaurant with rooms to stay' but with a new wing built in 2004, 16 new suites were added to the hotel and The Vineyard is currently known as country house retreat.

I

Interior Design: The Vineyard's hotel interior has been designed by Emily Todhunter (entire hotel except New Wing) and Serena Richards (New Wing- Atrium Suites). All the rooms done by Emily Todhunter are individually designed, whilst the new wing is more contemporary in style.

J

Jane Iredale: Jane Iredale is the make-up range available at The Vineyard Spa. The brand combines anti-ageing ingredients and minerals that allow the skin to breathe.

K

Kitchen: One of the most important places in the hotel. It is where Daniel Galmiche and his team create their magic. The kitchen has had the likes of John Campbell and James Nathan cooking in there over the years. It has two entrances and exits where guest are able to see in as they walk past in the corridor. At The Vineyard we offer a unique experience for our guests to explore the kitchen with organised tours, showing them the different sections and understanding of how everything is prepared and executed.

L

Les Pavot: Les Pavot is the flagship wine for the Peter Michael winery. A Cabernet Sauvignon based blend, known as Meritage in California. The 1996 vintage has received worldwide accolades and was voted one of the top five wines in the world by Wine Spectator magazine in 1999. At President Bush's official visit to the UK in 2004 the 1997 Les Pavot was served for the dinner hosted by the American President. It was once again served to Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, when they dined with George Bush at the White House in May 2007.

M

Ma Belle Fille: Chardonnay Sonoma County Ma Belle-Fille 2008; came 3rd at the Wine Spectator Top 100 wines in 2010. A core of lean citrus and vivid minerality, layered with baked apple and nectarine. The name translates to "my daughter in-law" in honor of Emily Michael, Paul Michael's wife.

McKenzie, Andrew: Managing Director. Andrew hails from Scotland and was named Hotelier of the Year in 2008 at the industry 'Oscars', the Catey Awards. He started working in the hotel industry at the age of 13. He is married to Kate and has two children; Tom and Emily.

Michael, Sir Peter: Knighted by Queen Elizabeth in 1989 in recognition of the economic prosperity spawned by his work. In 1992 Sir Peter founded the first national commercial classical radio station in the UK, Classic FM, which is now one of the biggest commercial FM stations in the world. Sir Peter lives locally.

Molton Brown: in all rooms you will find a selection of products from Molton Brown. Found in decanters in the bathrooms, they contain shampoo, relaxing shower gel and invigorating shower gel. Both decanters and products are for sale at reception.

Morgan, David: paintings in the Atrium suites are done by David Morgan, who is an abstract painter working on commission from Sir Peter. His oils on canvas are approximately 48 inches square.

N

Newbury: the name Newbury was first mentioned in 1079 in 'Ecclesiastical History of England and Normandy'. It was then given a license to hold a fair and a market. As a curiosity, England's oldest road is located not far from here: 'The Ridgeway' is 85 miles long, stretching between Ivinghoe Beacon and Overton Hill. In the late 15th Century, cloth manufactured in Newbury was highly regarded on the continent. The 'Newbury Coat' was made in 1811 as a bet between Sir John Throckmorton and John Coexter. The bet: 'A Sheep's Coat at Sunrise, A Man's Coat at Sunset'. A painting of this event can be seen behind reception at The Vineyard. Newbury Racecourse was opened in 1905. During World War 2, Greenham Common was used as a base for 101st Airborne and was used as a launch place for scores of gliders used at D-Day on June 6th 1944. Today Newbury is home to the largest mobile phone company in the world; Vodafone. Newbury is located 45 minutes from Heathrow and 1 hour 15 minutes away from downtown London.

O

Oak Table: 18th century (1870/1880) solid oak table based in our Music room, one of the many pieces of furniture's in the hotel that is typical of the 18th/19th century hunting lodge.

P

Peter Michael Winery: in 1982 Sir Peter established the Peter Michael Winery on a square mile of rocky volcanic ridges that form the western face of St. Helena in Sonoma County, California. Due to the commitment to quality only a very small amount will be made every year.

Poppy: the Californian poppy grows wild on Sir Peter's winery in the Sonoma Mountains and can be seen on the mural in the Morning room. The Poppy is the logo of The Vineyard at Stockcross and can be found on several products around the hotel, such as ties, cravats, glasses, plates and carpets.

Q

Quality: As a five star hotel, quality is a must! From the moment you walk in the door we strive to pursue excellence throughout. Everything within the hotel from the linen on the beds to the food we produce has all been carefully selected to maintain our exceptionally high standards.

R

Red Stars: awarded by the AA, The Vineyard has 5 Red Stars those denote consistent outstanding levels of quality, comfort, cleanliness and customer care.

Relais & Chateaux: The Vineyard at Stockcross joined Relais & Chateaux in 2002 with 450 members in the world and 29 in the UK.

Restaurant: The Vineyard at Stockcross was known as a restaurant with rooms which opened in 1998. For the owners the cuisine was to match the extensive wine list, the restaurant collected a number of accolades and sits just outside of London. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are served daily throughout the year.

Rooms & Suites: there are 49 rooms in total at The Vineyard, 32 of which are suites. All rooms are named after wines and six of them are named after wines produced by Peter Michael Winery. La Carriere (101), Mon Plaisir (102), Les Pavot (103), Point Rouge (214), Belle Cote (114), and Le Apres Midi (217).

S

Searle area: semi private area in the restaurant which was named after Ronald Searle. English born illustrator and cartoonist, most well known for his illustrations of 'Punch's' theatre column, has a special collection in the restaurant. The Vineyard is proud to boast that the Searle area is the largest known collection of Ronald Searle illustrations.

Smirnoff, Boris: artist born in Russia 1894. The early part of his life is very much undocumented, as he fled Russia shortly after the 1917 revolution. He spent some time in Japan, before settling in France. A leaflet with Boris Smirnoff's biography is available at The Vineyard and where his collection lines the walls.

Spa: the spa is a place to disconnect from the outside world and rediscover yourself. An atmosphere of complete peace allows anyone to unwind in the tranquil surroundings. The Spa design was kept in the same theme as the hotel keeping wine as a feature throughout. There is a circular pool, sauna, Jacuzzi, and four treatment rooms.

T

Theodas, Therese: Scottish born artist who studied life drawings in Paris followed by 3 years in India. After a career as a hotelier Therese Theodas now lives and works from her home in Devon where she paints, sculpts and oversees the reproduction of her sculptures. Most works are human figurative with the addition of some abstract and animal works. She has also designed the Catey Award that The Vineyard won in 2003. The award can be seen on display in reception.

The Spine: by Diane Maclean can be seen just as you arrive at The Vineyard. Based on the simple design of the human spine, this sculpture forms a tribute to the artist's late father, who was a surgeon and medical artist and is made out of stainless steel. The piece is 6 metres high.

U

Unique: The Vineyard at Stockcross is a hotel like no other. Its connection with fine wine is all too evident with a cellar that contains 23,000 unique wines and one of the most impressive wine lists the culinary world has to offer. The unrivalled privacy at The Vineyard allows for unique events from stunning wedding celebrations, executive board meetings, team building events, conferences and even car launches.

V

Vines: The Vineyard at Stockcross is sometimes referred to as a Vineyard but without the vines. The Vineyard at Stockcross is renowned for its extensive wine list and its passion for wine. Everything about the hotel from the décor and sculptures to the design of the hotel reflects this.

Visit Newbury: www.visitnewbury.org.uk. This website features details on the local area of Berkshire and what there is to offer, The Vineyard at Stockcross and Donnington Valley Hotel & Spa are also featured.

W

Weddings: Morning and Music rooms are licensed for weddings.

Wine: We say at The Vineyard that 'Wine... it's what we do'. From our owner's vineyard in California to the 2,300 wines on our wine list, wine is our passion. Over 600 Californian wines are listed on our wine list. It is one of the biggest wine lists in the world on Californian wines. The cellar holds a maximum capacity of over 23,000 bottles. Awards for the wine list include Best American Wine list by AA and Best Award of Excellence by Wine Spectator.

Z

Zinkeisen, Doris: Artist born 1898, died 1991. Zinkeisen was born in Scotland, attended the Harrow School and was awarded a scholarship to the Royal Academy where her first painting was exhibited in 1918. After leaving the Royal Academy she went to work in stage design for Sir Nigel Playfair, where she also designed costumes and sets for the Old Vic. The National Portrait Gallery in London has several works by Zinkeisen as does The Vineyard, including a self-portrait. Zinkeisen painted the mural for the Verandah Grill on the Queen Mary in 1936 and in 1938.