

THE *fitzwilliam* HOTEL

belfast



DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING IN STYLE AT THE FITZWILLIAM HOTEL BELFAST

9 July 2009: The Fitzwilliam Hotel Belfast, in the heart of the city, is the perfect base for a stylish shopping trip to Northern Ireland's capital. Christmas shoppers can make the most of an array of high street and designer stores all within walking distance of the hotel. Here are the hotel's top tips for Christmas shoppers this year, plus a fantastic *Winter Weekend* package:

- Head to the award-winning contemporary living store **Equinox** on Howard Street for tableware, glass, barware and personal accessories, such as jewellery and luggage, from the top names in European design. There is a free gift wrapping service and guests of The Fitzwilliam Hotel Belfast will receive complimentary refreshments in the cool Equinox café. Also visit **Carter** on upper Queen Street for international designer collections including Armani, Mulberry and DKNY.
- For vintage treasures and cool retro finds, shoppers should make their way to **Raspberry Beret** on Fisherwick Place and **The Rusty Zip** on Botanic Avenue.
- Foodie treats such as award-winning Irish farmhouse cheeses are abundant at the colourful **St George's Market**. For those with a sweet tooth, a visit to **Aunt Sandra's Candy Factory**, a recreation of an original 1953 sweetshop on

Castlereagh Road, is in order, as is a trip to **The Chocolate Room** on Lisburn Road to stock up on chocolate snowmen, Santas and penguins.

- **Victoria Square** is Belfast's newest shopping haven, bringing a number of 'firsts' to the city such as a glossy Apple store and the much-loved House of Fraser, and offering a total of 75 stores including **Topshop, H&M, Reiss, Crabtree & Evelyn, Monsoon, Mamas and Papas, All Saints** and **Urban Outfitters**.
- There are unique and handmade gifts galore at **SPACE Craft** on College Street, a gallery and shop showcasing the work of artists and designers from across Northern Ireland, and **Coppermoon** on Fisherwick Place. Those wishing to turn their own hand to arts and crafts should head for **Craftworld** on Queen Street or **Forget Me Not Paper Crafts** on Pottinger's Entry.

Shoppers can then relax and unwind at The Fitzwilliam Hotel Belfast, with champagne afternoon teas served in the impressive lobby, stylish bar with a resident mixologist to create cocktails on demand, and dinner at the restaurant *Menu by Kevin Thornton*, which is overseen by the Michelin-starred chef.

The Fitzwilliam Hotel Belfast is offering a special *Winter Weekend* package for two from only £218, which includes two nights' accommodation in a double or twin room on a bed and breakfast basis, plus dinner one evening in the hotel's restaurant *Menu by Kevin Thornton*. To book, please telephone The Fitzwilliam Hotel Belfast on 02890 442 080, quoting the booking reference 'SHOPPING'. This package is subject to availability and also available midweek.

For further information on the Fitzwilliam Hotel Belfast, please visit
www.fitzwilliamhotelbelfast.com

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Note to editors:

The Fitzwilliam Hotel, Belfast is owned by Belfast businesswoman June Burgess of Graffan Property.

The hotel is a member of the Hotel Partners, Ireland's leading specialist hotel management company dedicated to delivering high-performance management solutions to the hospitality industry. Hotel Partners owns and operates some of Ireland's most successful properties and offers a full portfolio of management services including sales, marketing, human resources, financial and operational support. Hotels within Hotel Partners network include The Fitzwilliam Hotel Dublin, Park Plaza Belfast, Park Plaza Tyrrelstown and Trim Castle Hotel.