

# Room with a VIEW

STYLE DIRECTOR LIZ LAMB HEADS TO THE LAKES FOR A WEEKEND OF RELAXATION AND LUXURY.



As views go, the one from our bedroom at the Beech Hill Hotel, is nothing short of spectacular.

Boasting uninterrupted views across stunning Lake Windermere and with famed Lake District peaks in the background, it definitely has the 'wow' factor.

Location, location, location is everything in the hotel business, and with stiff competition from luxury hotels across the Lake District, Beech Hill's prime spot on the lakeside is definitely the jewel in its rather sparkly crown.

So much so, that we spend most of our weekend taking in the scenery by sitting enjoying coffee in our room to drinks on the terrace to bubbles in the hot tub and dinner in the restaurant with a

lakeside viewpoint.

The hotel is a stone built property dating back to the early 1900s with a traditional interior featuring antique furniture and an olde-worlde feel. A stark contrast to this is the modern spa area that boasts a sleek indoor pool alongside an outdoor hot tub-the perfect spot for soaking up the rays.

This really is a hotel of two halves-some of the interior is a little dated and tired but the spa is bright and contemporary. It was here we enjoyed a few hours relaxing in the sauna and steam room before jumping in the outdoor hot tub and taking in those enviable views.

The hotel gardens lead right

down to the lakeside so we enjoyed a pre-dinner stroll and watched people set sail across the lake. The weather was glorious so we headed to the outdoor sun terrace for drinks- a Bramble cocktail for me and a pint of San Miguel for the hubby.

The hotel restaurant, Burlington's, has an air of old-fashioned elegance with crisp white tablecloths and traditional British cuisine.

While perusing the menu we snacked on canapés of bruschetta, tortilla and bread twists before enjoying starters of crispy lamb breast confit that were served on a bed of tomato and topped with tzasiki and slices of cucumber. It tasted delicious and was just the right size portion.

For main I enjoyed roasted salmon pave served on a bed of fresh dill and petit pois risotto with Wye Valley asparagus and rocket pesto and finished with shavings of parmesan. The dish was delicious-a really marriage of flavours and wonderfully presented.

My husband is a real steak lover so an obvious choice for him was the fell-bred fillet steak with triple cooked chips, green peppercorn and blue cheese sauce and a grill garnish of mushroom, tomato and red onion. Having spent the last ten years sampling steaks in hotels across the UK, this was up there with one of his favourites. The quality of the meat was evident and it was cooked just how he likes it.

We decided to share a dessert and opted for sweet shots-a trio of desserts featuring mini pots of crème brulee, chocolate mousse and raspberry posset

wonderfully presented on a slate tray. All were absolutely divine.

To be truthful I never expected the food at Burlington's to be quite as good as it was. We were suitably impressed. Add to the mix those wonderful views, and the four-star Beech Hill Hotel is a great weekend escape.



LEFT: Beautiful views abound at Beech Hill

## TASTING NOTES

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