



A Marriage of Two Great Houses *Ballyfin Comes to The Merrion*

Wednesday 29th January – Sunday 2nd February 2020

November 2019 – This January, Dublin's finest hotel will bring together two iconic houses of Ireland's rich tapestry of history as Ballyfin in County Laois comes to The Merrion. This five-day spectacle of culinary delights and historical insights will take place from Wednesday 29 January to Sunday 2 February 2020.

The Merrion is delighted to welcome Ballyfin's acclaimed chef, Sam Moody, whose culinary creations won him a Michelin Star at the renowned Bath Priory before joining Ballyfin in 2016. This exciting collaboration will see Chef Moody bring the tastes of Ballyfin to The Merrion where he will whip up an array of dishes in the hotel's atmospheric Garden Room Restaurant.

Each evening guests will be greeted with a glass of champagne, to be sipped alongside themed conversations about the life and times of these historical houses, hosted by notable experts, before sitting down for a stunning five course tasting menu, prepared by Chef Moody. The very best of Irish ingredients will be showcased with menu highlights such as seared scallops, Dexter beef, brioche and truffle crusted halibut.

Following a lunchtime feast on Sunday afternoon, Chefs Sam Moody and Ed Cooney will join guests for a coffee conversation about their love of food, the privilege of working with Irish ingredients, and how they create their signature dishes, plus the latest food trends – all peppered with tips to take home.

This five-day long culinary event is accompanied by a range of talks by cultural luminaries who will bring the history of these two Irish gems to life. Bridget Hourican will lift the lid on Irish love letters of the past; William Laffan will explore the renowned art collections of the two hotels; Gemma Tipton will reveal how Ballyfin and The Merrion were once owned by a pair of brothers, one of whom was no less than the Duke of Wellington; while Robert O'Byrne will look at how women created the Irish Country House as we know it today.

Ballyfin is one of Ireland's most enchanting country hotels and The Merrion is Dublin's finest 5* address, making this event an unmissable date in the culinary calendar.

The price for this feast for the mind, senses and spirit, including a complimentary glass of champagne, is €75.00 per person. Add an extra bit of luxury to your evening and check in for an overnight stay and fall into a sumptuous sleep, followed by a delicious full Irish breakfast the following morning.

For more information please visit www.merrionhotel.com

Or call The Merrion on 01 603 0600 or email marketing@merrionhotel.com

About The Merrion – Dublin's finest five-star address, The Merrion stands directly opposite Government Buildings in the heart of Dublin's historic city centre. On the doorstep is Upper Merrion Street, where Government Buildings, The National Gallery and The Natural History Museum are located. A short walk leads to the adjacent "golden mile" of lively pubs, shops and restaurants dotted around St. Stephen's Green. Grafton Street is a leisurely stroll away for all the latest designer shops. The Merrion is a member of The Leading Hotels of the World.