

# CONCIERGE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2018



SOFITEL  
HOTELS & RESORTS

LONDON ST JAMES

## DEAR GUESTS

We wish you an enjoyable stay at one of Sofitel's luxury addresses, a symbol of French elegance around the world. This letter presents the Sofitel programme for the month of December. We are delighted to recommend some Magnifique local events related to Sofitel Art de vivre: culture, design and gastronomy. Please feel free to contact our dedicated Concierge team.

Joe Rodrigues,  
Les Clefs d'Or Head Concierge



## HOTEL EVENTS NEWS

### FESTIVE PACKAGE AT SOSPA

To prepare yourself for the hectic festive season, our Spa Manager has put together a package that will leave you totally relaxed and ready to make the most of your Christmas parties.

You will start your spa journey in the hammam with a 30 minute self-exfoliating session and the option to also enjoy the private Jacuzzi. Your spa experience will then continue with a 30 minute personalised massage followed by a 30 minute facial.

To conclude this blissful journey and take advantage of the soothing effects of your treatments, you will spend some time in So Zen, our relaxation room, before enjoying a chilled glass of champagne.

This package is available Monday to Thursday. Please contact SoSPA for more information.

## CITY EVENT

**DIANA: HER FASHION STORY**  
UNTIL 17/02/2019  
KENSINGTON PALACE

Only a few months left to enjoy this outstanding exhibition retracing the evolution of the Princess of Wales' style, which shows through her elegant and glamorous outfits how she grew in confidence over the years.

The exhibition explores Diana's personality with 26 garments on display, including the iconic evening gown worn at the White House when the Princess danced with John Travolta.

You will also discover a blue tartan Emanuel suit, worn for an official visit to Venice in the 1980s. On display for the first time, the suit was acquired at auction by Historic Royal Palaces.



## CITY EVENT

**GAINSBOROUGH'S FAMILY ALBUM**  
UNTIL 03/02/2019  
NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

Thomas Gainsborough is one of Britain's most famous painters and the greatest 18th century portrait artist who actually started as a landscape painter.

In this exceptional exhibition, the National Portrait Gallery presents over fifty paintings from public and private collections across the world and explores his career, from a provincial artist to a celebrated painter. Gainsborough regularly painted himself and his own family and you will discover the fascinating portraits of his daughters from childhood to adult life including "The Artists Daughters chasing a Butterfly" and the double full-length of "Mary and Margaret Gainsborough as sumptuously dressed young women".



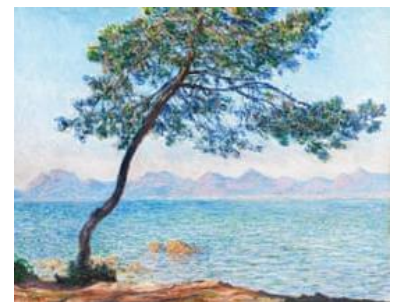
## CITY EVENT

**COURTAULD IMPRESSIONISTS: FROM MANET TO CÉZANNE**  
UNTIL 20/01/2019  
NATIONAL GALLERY

In collaboration with the Courtauld Gallery which is being refurbished, the National Gallery is showcasing an exceptional number of works from the Courtauld's private collection.

The exhibition pays tribute to Samuel Courtauld, a textile industry magnate, who, back in the 1920s, set up a fund to buy paintings by Impressionist and Post-Impressionist artists.

Showcasing 40 masterpieces from Daumier to Bonnard, it includes Cézanne's Card Players and Man with a Pipe, Toulouse-Lautrec's Jane Avril in the Entrance to the Moulin Rouge, Renoir's La Loge, Manet's A Bar at the Folies-Bergère. The exhibition includes a selection of works from the National Gallery's own collection such as Cézanne's Self Portrait and Pissarro's Boulevard Montmartre at Night.



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## TOURISM INTEREST

### HAMPTON COURT PALACE FOOD FESTIVAL

FROM 07/12/2018 TO 09/12/2018

This year again, Hampton Court Palace will welcome food festivals on the lead up to Christmas. The palace courtyard will be transformed and will welcome artisan producers selling seasonal treats.

In the candle-lit Tudor kitchen, you will be able to attend cookery demonstrations from top chefs and expert cooks.

Sing-along classics and Christmas carol singing by local choirs will create a festive atmosphere while you will enjoy delicious street food, hog roast and mulled wine.

Hampton Court Palace offers magical surroundings to soak the spirit of the season and to find delicious Christmas gifts for food lovers!



### CHRISTMAS CAROLS IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE

FROM 10/12/2018 TO 21/12/2018



On 6<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm, the countdown to Christmas will start with the lighting of the famous Christmas tree on Trafalgar Square. Every year, a 20-metre high and 50-60 year old tree is offered by the city of Oslo to the people of Britain to thank them for their support during the Second World War.

From Monday 10<sup>th</sup> to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December and from 4pm on weekdays and 2pm on Sundays, do not miss the carol groups singing beneath the Christmas tree that raise funds for charitable organisations. A magical place to listen to your favourite Christmas carols!

### CHRISTMAS AT LONDON ZOO

UNTIL 01/01/2019

This Christmas, take the opportunity to experience the London Zoo after dark when all the resident animals are fast asleep.

You will be welcomed by illuminated wild animal sculptures rising high into the night sky and a Light Vortex, made up of over 100,000 sparkling lights, will take you past glowing fountains in the penguin pool; while frosty snowflakes, wooden sledges, shimmering stars and gigantic baubles will appear where you least expect them.

While strolling along a one-mile long illuminated pathway, you will get a glimpse of father Christmas and his elves before discovering a vintage carousel and stop for a hot chocolate or mulled wine and roasted chestnuts.



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## LIFE IS MAGNIFIQUE...

### IN KRABI

#### FOCUS ON SOFITEL KRABI PHOKEETHRA GOLF & SPA RESORT

Set in a beautiful tropical garden, Sofitel Krabi Phokeethra Golf & Spa Resort is a few steps away from the beach and Andaman Sea. The 5-star hotel, which has 276 rooms and suites with their own balcony or terrace, combines western luxury with a warm and gentle Thai ambience.

Four restaurants and a café offer a large choice of dining facilities from Italian, Thai and Indian cuisine to BBQs by the pool. A 7,000 m<sup>2</sup> lagoon-style pool, the largest swimming pool in Thailand, is the highlight of this magnificent resort.

For a relaxing experience, you will head to SoSPA where you will enjoy an aromatic body wrap, a Thai massages or a personalised facial; while sports enthusiasts will like the floodlit tennis courts, the fitness activities such as Thai boxing or t'aichi, and of course the magnificent nine-hole golf course.

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## SHOPPING ADDRESSES

### GALERIA MELISSA

43 KING ST  
TUBE: COVENT GARDEN

Located in a beautiful building in Covent Garden, the ground floor is used as an art gallery where a LED structure gives a futuristic feel, while the first floor is a shoe shop.

The very comfortable Melissa shoes are made with PVC that can be 100% recyclable and provides flexibility and resistance. Started in 1979, the shoes have become so popular that they are now sold in more than 70 countries across the world.



### C. JOHN

43a S AUDLEY ST, MAYFAIR  
TUBE: GREEN PARK

Established in 1936 and located in the heart of Mayfair, C. John offers decorative, antique rugs, carpets and tapestries dating from the 17th century to the present time. They also provide expert hand-cleaning, restoration and conservation services.

In 1966, C. John received a Royal Warrant as supplier of carpets to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and have kept it since.



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