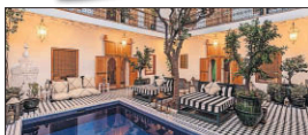


# the Sunday

• Lifestyle • Money • Motors  
• Puzzles • Deidre • Travel



● **LOOKING** to experience the madness of Marrakech but want a serene place to escape the crazy crowds? Look no further than Riad Botanica, a five-suite sanctuary in the heart of the city's famous Medina. The historic 10th-century Riad is owned by Australian and Moroccan couple Angela and Mohamed Melak, and comes complete with a

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● **YOU** might think the Alpine resort of Kitzbühel in Tyrol, Austria, is only good for skiing holidays, but you'd be wrong. As summer unfolds, and it sheds its winter allure, Kitzbühel emerges as a different destination. The three highlights include: The Kitzbüheler Horn, the Hahnenkamm and the Kitzbühel South Mountains. Discover the scenic beauty and regional cuisine on a three-course hiking tour through the captivating Kitzbühel South Mountains, from Bichlalm, through the Wildlife Park, ending at the renowned Hallerwirt. You can even take your clubs and play at the Alps' Golf Paradise. Stay at HENRI Kitzbühel, rooms from £76pp in summer. For eats try Les Deux Brasserie & Bar Kitzbühel, a contemporary French brasserie. See [kitzbuehel.com/en](http://kitzbuehel.com/en).

## 2 MORE PAGES

**hot spot** IT'S 29C in Corfu – seven nights self-catering in Villa Monastiri in Agios Mattheos is from £489pp leaving Edinburgh on June 13. Price based on six sharing and includes car hire. See [jet2holidays.com](http://jet2holidays.com) or call 0800 408 5594.

**hot spot** MALDIVES is 33C – a week all-inclusive in an island villa at the 5\* Coco Bodu Hithi Resort is from £2,148pp. Includes flights from London and seaplane transfer for travel in September. See [turquoiseidays.co.uk](http://turquoiseidays.co.uk).

Edited by **HEATHER LOWRIE**

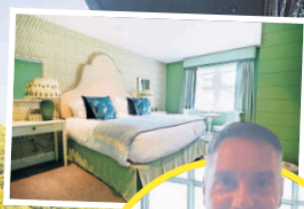
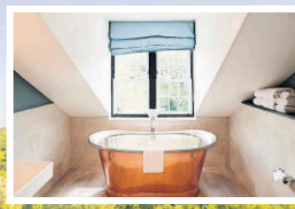
# travel



## ROMANTIC LAKES HAVEN IS POETRY IN MOTION



INSPIRING... Swan Hotel has fabulous accommodation



POOLING POWER... Swan Hotel's outdoor facilities

# Swan cloud nine

### "THE loveliest spot that man hath found".

In trying to do the majesty of the Lake District justice, poet William Wordsworth said it best.

And we found, nestled amid its breathtaking beauty, the jewel in its crown – The Swan Hotel & Spa.

This wonderful haven is located in Newby Bridge, right on the banks of the River Leven.

It's only a two and a half hour drive from Glasgow, and it proved the perfect spot for our first wedding anniversary.

My wife Yvonne had never been to the Lake District before, but thanks to the Swan Hotel's attention to detail, we've already booked a return.

From the location, to the accommodation, to the thermal spa and stunning scenery, this was the getaway we never knew we needed.

Whether you're seeking a spa break, romantic few days away, a family adventure, or just to simply lap up the Lake District, this remarkable retreat has it all.

The big plus – it also caters for your four-legged friends and we



### GO: LAKE DISTRICT

ROOMS at the 4\* The Swan Hotel start from £180 a night. See [swanhotel.com](http://swanhotel.com).

were over the moon to be able to bring our black lab Cooper along. The Swan has a total of 82 bedrooms, four luxury self-catering cottages, spa and wellness space and a traditional British pub and brasserie so there's no need to leave at all but the gorgeous surroundings will make that impossible.

The lovely staff upgraded us to "The Love Nest" – they must have heard on the QT it was our wedding anniversary. It's one of the four cottages that lie adjacent to the hotel and had everything we could have hoped for and more.

The Nests, left, are a little taste of luxury, accommodating up to eight, complete with log burners and private patios. The Love Nest for two has been created with, surprise, surprise, romance in mind and has its own terrace with outdoor fireplace for cosy nights under the stars. After

settling into our new surroundings and enjoying a brew on the terrace, we headed across to the hotel's impressive spa.

Set against the backdrop of the Lake District's rolling hills, it was the ideal spot to relax and enjoy the rejuvenating treatments on offer.

As well as the naturally filtered hydrotherapy pool, there's a state of the art steam room, as well as an outdoor Finnish sauna for those sun-filled days.

We both enjoyed a couple's massage, an amazing drift away half-hour treatment, where we were pampered into a near sleep.

### Glad rags on

A quick shower to waken us and some glad rags on and we were ready for dinner in the restaurant at the very heart of the hotel.

Cosy and inviting, it offers traditional pub classics like fish and chips and signature burgers, alongside beers and premium wines.

For more elegant dinners, the River Room is a modern British brasserie serving palate-pleasing plates using locally sourced produce. The food in the Swan Inn was fantastic, the staff superb.

It was the perfect way to end our first day in the Lake District. The

following morning, after enjoying an equally delicious hearty breakfast, we set off to explore our wonderful surroundings.

Like the Highlands, there is something quite magical about the Lake District with plenty of adventures and activities on offer.

The hotel boasts its very own marina and from late March-October, guests can try paddle boarding or hire a boat to sail on the lake.

For adrenaline-seekers, the local Graythwaite Adventure offers everything from 4x4 off-road driving and clay pigeon shooting, to water sports, axe throwing and bushcraft in ancient woodland.

We settled for a walk in the countryside.

Journeying along the Lakeside & Haverthwaite Railway line – we were fortunate to catch the steam train rolling by – we were blown away by the scenery and our surroundings.

It was so peaceful and after a six-mile hike, it was back to the hotel to soothe our aching muscles once again in the Spa.

Next day as we said a very fond farewell to The Swan and the Lake District we both agreed that Wordsworth chap really knew what he was writing about.

ANDY DEVLIN

...**SAIL AWAY:** On an 11-night Northern Isles & Fjordland Adventure onboard Ambassador Ambition from £1,079pp leaving Liverpool on June 23, calling at Belfast, Isle of Mull, Staveland, Flann, Olden, Geiranger, Ålesund (all Norway) and Lerwick. See [ambassadorcruises.com](http://ambassadorcruises.com) or call 0800 1028701.

...**LANG-ING FOR A HOL:** A week B&B at the 4\* Rebek Island Resort & Marina in Langkawi, Malaysia, is from £1,249pp leaving Glasgow on selected dates in June. See [awayholidays.co.uk](http://awayholidays.co.uk).

...**HOUSE ABOUT THIS:** A night B&B at The Pierhouse hotel in Port Appin, Argyll, is from £200. See [pierhousehotel.co.uk](http://pierhousehotel.co.uk) or call 01631 730302.

...**JOIN THE CLUB:** A week self-catering at the 4\* Club Aida Apartments in Marmaris, Turkey, is from £541pp leaving Glasgow on July 10. See [tui.co.uk](http://tui.co.uk).

...**CARIBBEAN DREAM:** Seven nights all-inclusive at the 4\* Coya Beach Resort in Grenada, is from £1,472pp leaving Heathrow on June 15. See [virginholidays.co.uk](http://virginholidays.co.uk) or call 0344 557 3859.

...**TREE-MENDOUS:** One night self-catering for two sharing Craighead Howf Treehouse, with hot tub and loch views in Braco, Perthshire, is from £125. See [towan-deruk.co.uk](http://towan-deruk.co.uk).

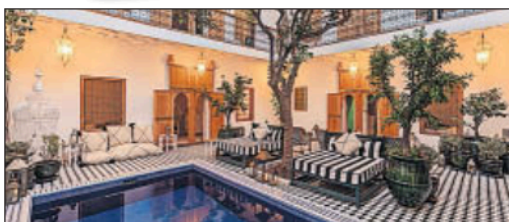
...**FAMILY FUN:** A nine-night Vietnam Family Adventure small group escorted holiday is from £795 per adult and £765 per child including accommodation, most meals, activities, including a visit to a primate centre, and transfers, departing July 21. Flights not included. See [familiesworldwide.co.uk](http://familiesworldwide.co.uk) or call 01962 302062.

...**MOROCCO-GO:** A week B&B at the 5\* adults only Jael Riad Resort in Marrakech, Morocco, is £493pp leaving Edinburgh on June 10. See [onthebeach.co.uk](http://onthebeach.co.uk).

...**AYRO OF LUXURY:** Three nights self-catering at Farrer Cottage in the Blairquhan Castle Estate in Maybole, Ayrshire, is from £799, six sharing during June. See [cottages.com](http://cottages.com).

...**WAVE GOODBYE:** A 10-night Spain and Portugal cruise onboard P&O Cruises' Ventura is from £1,249pp leaving Southampton on June 1, calling at Santander, Vigo, Lisbon, Leixoes and Guernsey. See [pocruses.com](http://pocruses.com) or call 0344 338 8003.

...**SUN AND SAND:** A week B&B at the 4\* Evalena Beach Hotel in Larnaca, Cyprus is from £569pp leaving Edinburgh on May 22. See [jet2holidays.com](http://jet2holidays.com) or call 0800 408 5594.



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