

Creating Christmas in 12 days at Lake District Hotels Ltd

It takes just 12 days to create Christmas in six hotels, that's the target set by Tricia Irving, Interior Floral Designer at Lake District Hotels Ltd.

December 1, 2011 (FPRC) -- But that's just hanging the decorations in the six hotels within the Lake District Hotels Ltd group. Tricia spends almost a year preparing for Christmas, selecting new decorations and planning new colour schemes for the six hotels.

Last year the challenge was to create a Russian fairytale at the Lodore Falls Hotel, Borrowdale with a Nutcracker Ballet theme. It was so successful that the theme has been continued this year – and Tricia has added another six handmade tutus to the chorus of ballerinas already on display. Her deadline to complete the Lodore décor was Saturday 5th November – just in time for bride, Helen Wright and Tommy Barclay from Whitehaven to enjoy her winter fairytale wedding.

Tricia and assistant Sheila Beattie has also completed a new look to Christmas at the Skiddaw Hotel with Nordic blues and burgundy; they are now working their way through the remaining hotels, starting completing the George Hotel in Penrith last week and now working on the Borrowdale Hotel which is due to be completed in time for the weekend.

Tricia said “Every year we introduce a new theme at one of the hotels, that way we keep the decorations fresh and interesting for our guests. We try our best not to lose any and individually wire every bauble to the trees – that way they are less likely to drop off or mysteriously disappear. This year the Skiddaw Hotel Keswick with its new blue and red theme works very well with the Keswick blue mountain street light theme. Our last stop is the Inn on the Lake at Glenridding which is having a refurbishment in the bar in time for Christmas. I'm really looking forward to dressing it and seeing plans for the new look lounges – it will give me inspiration for their new decorations for next year.”

The Lodore Falls Hotel is currently serving Hot Brandy Apple Pimms with toasted tea cakes served with butter and jam (£4.95). All the hotels launch their festive menus in mid November – and there's everything from hot Winter Pimms Punch, hot chocolate with Baileys and hot tea with rum, to goose, turkey in all variations (sandwiches, baguettes, in jacket potatoes and Christmas dinner) and of course Christmas cake, mince pies and mulled wine too.

Kit Graves, Director of Lake District Hotels Limited said “I think we are the only independent hotel group in Cumbria to invest so much money and effort into Christmas. Our decorations make the festive season extra special but it's the wide array of festive fayre that guests look forward to most.”

Most of the hotels filled their Christmas breaks early in the spring, with ‘just a few rooms left at the Inn’ for Christmas and New Year. For more details on festive activities and beaks visit <http://www.lakedistricthotels.net>

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