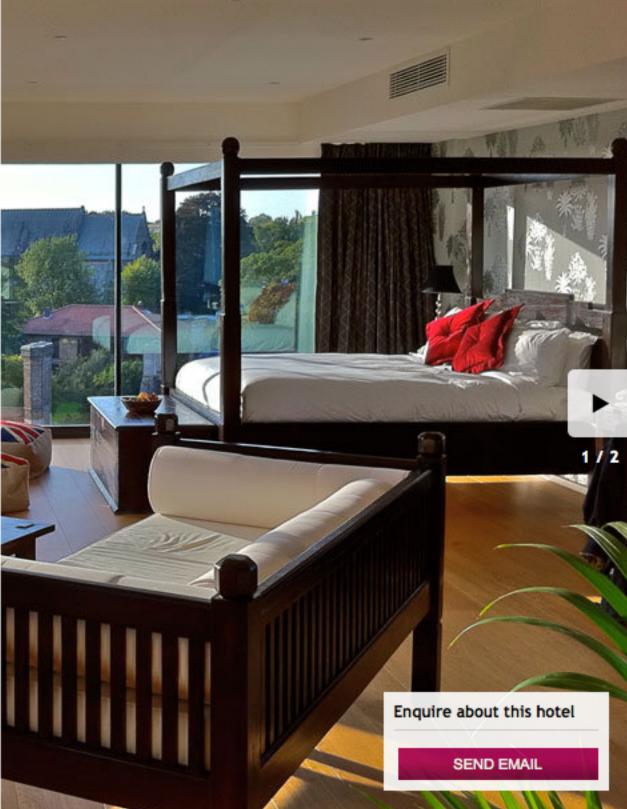
ELEMIS Free Elemis Fruit Active Mask for Redonline readers

BOOK PLACES TO STAY ASK AN EDITOR HOTEL DEALS DESTINATIONS HOLIDAY INSPIRATION TRAVEL NEWS

RED HOT, RIGHT NOW Buy six bottles of selected wine at M&S and get 25% off in store

HOME / TRAVEL / BOOK PLACES TO STAY / THE VARSITY HOTEL

BOOK PLACES TO STAY The Varsity Hotel Thompson's Lane Cambridge CB5 8AQ United Kingdom \*\*\* From £155



000000000000

Best room: 613 (Trinity), has a

free-standing tub and a large

Best dish: Lunch and dinner

Insider fact: Each of the four

sixth-floor suites is dedicated

to a famous alumnus of the

Lawrence aka Lawrence of

John's), Trinity Hall (Isaac

Newton), Robert Walpole

Arabia (Jesus), Wordsworth (St

college in question: T.E.

menus focus on steaks and

INSIDE TRACK: THE

VARSITY HOTEL

monsoon shower

grilled fish

(Kings)

TRAVEL Book places to stay: The Varsity Hotel

By Lisa Johnson

Why go? For great views, a great spa and great grub...

Oxford might be more vibrant, but Cambridge has the edge on beauty, especially when seen from the top of The Varsity Hotel, a new 48-room boutique hotel in a converted warehouse

overlooking Magdalene College.

The four sixth-floor suites have floorto-ceiling windows and breathtaking views over the antique city, from Midsummer Common to the Pepys Library and the Gothic spires of St John's Chapel. Views from the roof-top garden, which is open to all hotel residents, are even better.

All rooms are hi-tech, with oak floors, dramatic print wallpapers and Elemis amenities. The two penthouses (or master suites) are the best of the lot, though: 611 (St John's), is vast and has

near-panoramic views, while 613 (Trinity), has the fanciest bathroom; 614 (Jesus) is the smallest but most stylish of the four sixth-floor rooms. On the lower floors, four rooms have four-poster beds and seven have free-standing baths.

The River Bar Steakhouse & Grill is right on the river, with dramatic teapot-print wallpaper, navy-leather banquettes and a more private mezzanine level. Breakfast, eaten overlooking punters and swans, is buffet-style but they will do eggs to order.

The Glassworks health club, a state-of-the-art facility in a 300-year-old, brickand-wood interior, offers Aveda massages, yoga classes and hours of contented wallowing in the Jacuzzi watching the world go by on Magdalene Bridge (happily for all, the window is one-way only).

Highs:

- The views from the rooftop garden

- Complimentary access to The Glassworks Spa

- The buffet breakfast strikes a slightly wrong note

- Having to walk outside to get to the restaurant and Glassworks Spa

Facilities & Important Info at The Varsity Hotel

Number of rooms: 48 Check-in/check-out times: 3pm and 11.30pm

Room service: Yes

Swimming pool: No

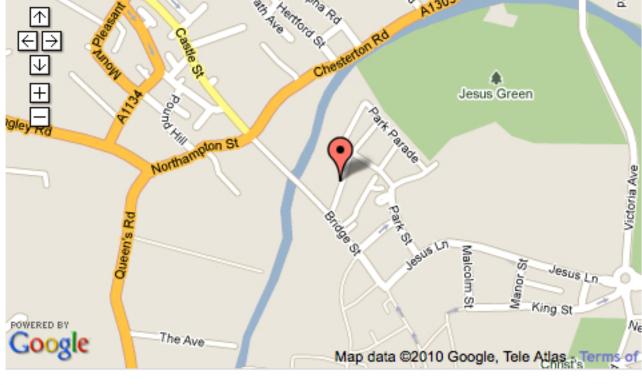
Spa: Yes

Child-friendly: Yes. Cots and extra beds are available on request, as are a selection of board games, children's books and DVDs. Super-king and above rooms are best as they are larger, but any would work. Dogs welcome: No

Restaurant & bar: Buffet breakfast and steaks and grilled chicken and fish at the River Bar Steakhouse & Grill; cocktails in the bar. Rates: Room rates are higher on Fridays and Saturdays

Location: Spend Saturday afternoon shopping on and around Trinity Street and in the Grand Arcade, dine at Côte brasserie on the corner of Thompson's Lane, and re-emerge on the Sunday for a chauffeured champagne-punt along the backs, or a riverside, willow-shrouded walk from Newnham to Grantchester for tea at The Orchard.

Distance to nearest train station/airport: The Varsity Hotel is 10 minutes by taxi from Cambridge train station, 45 minutes from Stansted airport or 1 ½ hours by car from London.



Like One person likes this. Be the first of your friends.

SHARE THIS W I 0 0 0 0 0 0







Print 🖃

BOOK PLACES TO STAY ▶

TRAVEL NEWS ▶ Swinton Park saves

cooks



Get One Night Free at Barnsley House Christmas for time-pressed

HOTEL DEALS ▶

SHOP RED DIRECT

BOOK PLACES TO STAY ▶

Tuddenham Mill

MORE IN TRAVEL



Barbara Coupe cushion, £45

MORE ON RED

NEWS & VIEWS ▶

'Uber Monday'

Cards at the ready... it's

Sanderson

Ruby & Ed embellished

Samantha Lou friendship bracelets, £18 each

Undercover travel-card

slippers, £35 SHOP NOW

**SHOP NOW** 

holder, £7.50 each

1-4 of 4

**SHOP NOW** 

**SHOP NOW** 

FASHION ▶ Laptop & iPad cases

LIVING ▶

Luxurious

COMPS ▶

Matches

BEAUTY ▶ AVON

Aromatherapy Associates

Launch New Range of

TRAVEL ▶ Tuddenham Mill



GIFT GUIDE ▶ What we want

FOOD ▶

Christmas

Heston's a hit this

**NEWS & VIEWS** Life's rosie Sam Baker's daily letter News from Red In the news

What the critics think

FASHION Editor's choice Trends Work style Fashion offers Dress code Can I wear this? Ask an editor Fashion news

BEAUTY Product reviews Expert videos Beauty news Beauty trends Hair ideas Treatments Ask an editor

LIVING Living news Inspiring rooms Easy to steal ideas Ask an editor Editor's choice Essential directories

FOOD Ask an editor Recipes What to eat tonight Step-by-step classics Food news Stylish entertaining find a recipe

TRAVEL Book places to stay Destinations Travel news Hotel deals Ask an editor Holiday inspiration

Red Women Gift Guide Red Direct Comps Offers

MORE ON RED

FOLLOW US Facebook Twitter EMAIL NEWSLETTER Sign up to the email newsletter RED MAGAZINE Subscribe to the magazine © 2010. Hachette Filipacchi(UK) Ltd. All Rights Reserved Advertising | Privacy policy | Terms and conditions | Contacts

Travel Terms and conditions | Privacy policy

Other hachette titles ELLEuk.com | Red Direct | Digital Spy | Psychologies | SugarScape | All About Soap | Inside Soap

HOME NEWS & VIEWS FASHION BEAUTY LIVING FOOD TRAVEL GIFT GUIDE RED DIRECT RED WOMEN SUBSCRIBERS COMPS OFFERS

Search keyword... RED DECEMBER ISSUE ON SALE NOW SUBSCRIBE TO THE MAGAZINE> RED EXCLUSIVES FOR SUBSCRIBERS >



RED DIRECT'S NEW COLLECTION NEW ARRIVALS AVAILABLE ONLINE



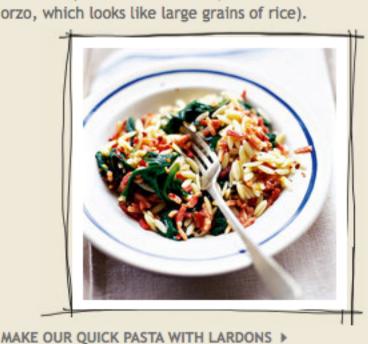
TODAY WE ARE... ...THRILLED THAT OUR FAVOURITE HOME LINENS SPECIALIST, THE LINEN WORKS, HAS LAUNCHED ONLINE. WE LOVE THEIR FANTASTIC RANGE INSPIRED BY



SHOP THE LINEN WORKS ▶

WHAT TO EAT TONIGHT QUICK PASTA WITH LARDONS AND SPINACH

Use small pasta for this salad (we used Greek orzo, which looks like large grains of rice).



66 WE'RE TWEETING... Let Louise Redknapp introduce you to Red Online with an exclusive discount voucher in this fabulous video...http://tinyurl.com/39vyvhf

Today we are\_thrilled that Linen Works has launched online! Check out their rustic fabrics, table linen and bedding (thelinenworks.co.uk)

Everyone who spends £100 or more at Red Direct today will receive a pair of This Works Mini Crackers absolutely FREE! www.reddirect.co.uk

**I** FOLLOW US ON TWITTER ▶





Redonline.co.uk has teamed up with Matches to offer one lucky reader the amazing chance to win a £1,000 shopping spree on Matchesfashion.com

ENTER FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN ▶



Red Direct's one-stop lifestyle shop is offering you the chance to win an Alex Monroe's bumblebee necklace worth £115 five up for grabs.

ENTER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN ▶

SUBSCRIBE NOW AND GET 6 ISSUES



SUBSCRIBE TODAY ▶

Get 6 issues for just £9.99 plus FREE Elemis Exotic Island Flower Body Balm, worth £26. A subscription is the ideal Christmas gift for friends, family - or even yourself.