



The Barb Wire

The newsletter for the discerning old Barbarian

Autumn 1999 Number 10

RICK'S BEEN STEIN HERE

Its what you've known all along – La Barbarie is the best place in Guernsey when it comes to culinary delights

After the whirlwind that was the “Ready Steady Cook Team” a couple of years ago and the quiet snores coming from Brian Turners room last year, May saw the appearance of another famous face at La Barbarie.

Rick Stein and his team stayed here while in the island to film that elusive mollusc, the ormer. They, along with local ‘ormerers’ spent a beautiful sunny day out on Saints Bay and the footage will be seen in his next series in 2000.

Mr Stein along with his producer Dave, enjoyed local lobster, bass and scallops prepared by Chef, Tony Lawson, and enthused about the quality of our local seafood.

And the local bitter.

AFC gleaned a few tips from the TV-seafood-maestro and, after purchasing (yes... purchasing) Mr Stein’s book “Fruits of the Sea” successfully reproduced “Sauteed Red Mullett with Parsley, Garlic and Spaghettni”. It was very yummy and even Mrs C said she liked it!



Mr Stein flanked by Tony Lawson and ‘the young number 9’* with General Manager Andrew Coleman out on the right wing. (how did that football analogy get in here?)

* Brian Clough called his son Nigel ‘the young number 9’ rather than ‘my son’.



The Seafood thing takes over! Regulars Mr and Mrs Lockwood enjoying our ‘Gourmet Break’ seafood extravaganza.

DIY SHORT BREAKS

Over the years many of you have commented on the rising cost of travel to the island. We have always tried to negotiate the best deals for you, but after much investigation it seems that, at times, you may well be able to secure better rates than we can! After talking to the carriers it has been suggested that the public 'do not ask the right questions'.

For example, "How much is a return flight to Guernsey?" will get a different answer to "What is your cheapest fare available for a return flight to Guernsey?"



So perhaps it is time for a 'DIY Job'. Listed below are the names of the carriers with their direct telephone numbers, together with details of the departure points available. If you can get your flights organised direct with the carrier for suitable dates, we will then guarantee you a 15% discount from our public tariff for your accommodation costs. Please check with us that we have accommodation available before you book your flights however!

Jersey European Airways

Tel: 0990 676676

*Belfast
Southampton
Gatwick
Exeter
Birmingham
Luton
Glasgow*

Aurigny Airlines

Tel: 01481 822886

Stansted

British Airways

Tel: 0345 222111

*Manchester
Glasgow
Gatwick
Bristol
Cardiff*

ALDERNEY MAKES THE HEADLINES (!)

Odd though it may seem, there are many people who have lived in the Bailiwick of Guernsey all their lives and never visited our most northern island. This isn't really any reflection on the place, it's just that Jersey is bigger and Sark is prettier.

This changed for many locals, however on August 11th. The eclipse brought fame to this little island, being in the path of totality and with slightly better weather than Cornwall, Alderney became a magnet for the world's media and the Royal Astronomical Society (and the Coleman family).

You wondered where the link would come in didn't you?

The boat that took us to our unfamiliar neighbour left Guernsey at 9.15am in brilliant sunshine. This gave us all a chance to try out our

free solar viewers and lifted the spirits of those who had been up since early morning, watching the weather forecasts!

An hour later, we were in Alderney and found our place



(near the beer tent) on Braye Common overlooking the harbour at it's busiest time ever. The clouds came and the eclipse came and it went dark for over two minutes and just as totality was nearly over – the clouds broke and everyone cheered – Alderney was the only place in the British Isles to see it!

Alderney itself had its first ever traffic jam – this lasted for four minutes and involved four cars. This says a lot about the size of the place and with a population of around 2000 spread around the island, the



town of St. Anne really does have the feel of a sparsely populated village. Aurigny Airlines fly from Guernsey throughout everyday, the flight only takes 15 minutes and makes a day trip well worth doing. Alderney actually boasts an 'interesting' nine hole golf course, loads of pubs and bars and some bleak but varied walks.

SPECIAL OFFERS & BREAKS

RESIDENTIAL COOKERY COURSES

Introducing a series of 4 night residential cookery courses presented by Tony Lawson, our Head Chef, Salon Culinaire Judge and ex Chef to the Palace of Jordan

22 to 26 Nov 1999 • 21 to 25 February 2000 • 13 to 17 March 2000

Dates are inclusive and the price of £375 per person includes: Flights from Gatwick or Southampton (excl. departure tax), free parking (max. four days), half board accommodation at La Barbarie, lunch on days 2 and 4 and a free hire car for the duration. (Petrol and insurance extra)

ITINERARY

Day 1 Arrival day at leisure
7pm Dinner

Day 2
7.30 - 8.15 Breakfast
9.30 Demonstraton – seafood main course
a) Quality points of fish, varieities, filleting techniques
b) Demo of 5 different dishes
c) Tasting sessions
d) Matching appropriate wines
12.30 Buffet luncheon
3.00 Trip to Oatlands Craft Village to visit Chocolate Factory, see local Cheese making and indulge in a tradtional Guernsey Cream Tea.
7.30 Dinner

Day 3
7.30 - 8.15 Breakfast
Day of leisure to perhaps visit St. Peter Port for VAT free shopping!
7.30 Dinner

Day 4
7.30 - 8.15 Breakfast
9.30 Demonstrating desserts in association with Tony Leck, Guernsey's leading Pattissiere
a) 6 different desserts hot and cold
b) Sugar work techniques
c) Chocolate work
d) Tasting of dessert wines
12.30 Buffet luncheon
3.00 Trip to G Orange Limited wine cellars for tasting of New World Wines
7.30 Gala Dinner

Day 5 Departure day

*3-Day Millennium
Break - £575pp*
(30th - 2nd Jan. 2000)

Thursday 30th Dec 1999
Christmas Treasure Hunt.
7.30pm Gourmet Dinner

Friday 31st Dec 1999
6.30pm - Meet for canapés and bubbly
7.30pm - 8 course Gala Dinner and dancing

Saturday 1st Jan 2000
2am - Smoked salmon and scrambled eggs
8.30 - 9.30am Buffet Breakfast
12 Noon - Buffet brunch

*3-Day Christmas
Breaks - £285pp*
(24th - 27th Dec. 1999)

Friday 24th Dec 1999
6.30pm Champagne and canapés
in the bar, followed by dinner .

Saturday 25th Dec 1999
At noon - Yuletide Punch, followed by our
superb traditional Christmas Lunch.
Sumptuous candlelit buffet at 7.30pm.

Sunday 26th Dec 1999
Boxing Day only means one thing, er... two
things - 'treasure hunt and quiz day'!!



What's this? Some highly dubious characters trying to nick Jean's car? No – it's just 'the golfers' pretending that they've won a Porsche for getting a hole-in-one!

Just time for a quick... hello to Mrs Smith. Still off the fags? You should try those patches - put them on your eyes and you can't find your cigs!

**PRICES HELD
FROM 98/99!**

Gourmet Autumn & Winter Breaks

3 nights for £210 per person

(This offer is based on two people sharing a twin or double room, booked on a half board basis)

Staying here at La Barbarie Hotel with its Award Winning Restaurant in a beautiful country setting, we are pleased to offer:-

- Gourmet 3 night break featuring:
- Seafood Extravaganza on the last night!

*(Seafood Platter to include: Lobster, Chancre, King Prawns, Scallops, Clams, Smoked Salmon, Smoked Halibut, Cockles, Peeled Prawns, Langoustine - accompanied by hot buttered new potatoes and seasonal salads)
(All these are, of course, subject to seasonal availability)*

This offer also includes:

Return flights from Southampton or Gatwick

(excluding airport departure tax, including FREE parking in Southampton and Gatwick maximum 4 days) Other airports available.

Half Board Accommodation

and a FREE hire car!

Only £210 per person available 1st October 1999 - 16th April 2000
Excluding Christmas (Extra nights available £20 per person bed & breakfast,
Half Board – £32 per person per night, Car Hire from £10 per day)

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<http://www.hbgroup.com/labarbarie>