

Editors' CHOICE

The Lanesborough

THE LANESBOROUGH (WWW.LANESBOROUGH.COM), SITUATED IN LONDON'S prestigious Knightsbridge, is an icon of hospitality, offering residential-style service and elegant accommodations. It houses 95 guest rooms, including 43 suites, as well as a new restaurant, Apsleys, designed by the renowned Tihany Design company.

Apsleys features modern Italian cuisine created by celebrated chef Nick Bell, who traveled extensively in Italy to source the finest produce for the restaurant's inspired menu. Guests can personally select their wine from the cellar, decant it, and discuss their selection with sommelier Andrew Connor. The restaurant also has a wine preservation system that completely preserves the taste, body, and aroma of opened bottles of wine, which enables diners to enjoy some of the world's greatest wines by the glass.

Apsleys also hosts The Lanesborough's award-winning afternoon tea service, which has, for the second time, achieved one of the tea world's highest accolades – The Tea Guild's Top London Afternoon Tea Award for 2008. Guests can choose from a selection of more than 30 of the world's finest teas, personally recommended by tea sommelier Karl Kessab.

In addition to its lauded food and beverage operation, The Lanesborough offers many world-class services and amenities. All of the hotel's guest rooms and suites are outfitted with advanced – yet unobtrusive – technology, including wireless Internet access. Guests will also appreciate the property's 24-hour butler service. In addition, guests can stay in touch with those at home with unlimited complimentary landline calls to the U.S. and EU countries. The property's extensive list of concierge services also encompasses the use of a fleet of vehicles, which includes two Rolls Royce Phantoms as well as Mercedes S class, BMW 7 Series, and Mercedes V class vehicles.

Those in need of relaxation will delight in the hotel spa's selection of tailor-made therapies and treatments. For guests conducting business in London, The Lanesborough offers six venues for professional meetings and private entertaining. ●

Apsleys, the restaurant at The Lanesborough (below); afternoon tea at Apsleys (bottom right); a junior executive suite (right)

