Dining Highlights

Whether you want to sample the finest in Scottish produce or perhaps try tempting flavours from around the world, you won't be disappointed in Edinburgh.

If you are half way through your shopping, then there are many dining options along the Royal Mile including pubs, cafes and restaurants – but the city also offers rooftop terraces, basement bars; the finest in dining with Michelin stars and the most memorable of experiences from the Harvey Nichols Forth Floor to the rhythm and blues of Jools Holland's Jam House. Here are a few ideas...

Oloroso offers diners contemporary cuisine and a stunning view of the castle in the summer from its roof terrace on Castle Street. The a la carte menu changes twice a day and is available alongside a grill menu. The bar menu provides more relaxed dining options and a terrace snack menu is available during the summer. www.oloroso.co.uk 0131 226 7614

Plaisir du Chocolat's Salon de Thé, on Canongate in the city's Old Town, is an ideal spot to rest those weary shopping bags and enjoy a light lunch or tea in an authentic European setting. There are over 150 teas to choose from as well as delicious chocolate and other tempting desserts. www.plaisirduchocolat.com 0131 556 9524 At Harvey Nichols' Forth Floor Restaurant diners can enjoy lunch, afternoon and evening menus. There is also a brasserie and bar – ideal for casual lunches or evening drinks and cocktails. The terrace of the restaurant looks over St Andrew Square and the views out to the Firth of Forth make this an ideal venue for corporate entertaining as well. www.harveynichols.com 0131 524 8350

If you find yourself a little out to the north of the city centre at South Queensferry, an historic village on the edge of the Firth of Forth, then drop into **Orocco Pier** on the High Street – a hotel with an informal and relaxed restaurant offering a contemporary mix of styles with seafood high on the menu. Events facilities are also available. www.oroccopier.co.uk 0131 331 1298

The Witchery by the Castle, located on Castlehill, The Royal Mile, provides a stunning location in which to enjoy an exquisite meal. The restaurant is almost as famous as the Castle itself and is enjoyed by celebrities, locals and visitors alike. www.edinburghsbestrestaurants.com 0131 225 5613 Vegetarians should not miss David Bann on St Mary's Street, also off the Royal Mile. Some of the finest vegetarian recipes are on offer along with wine, beer and cocktails. www.davidbann.com 0131 556 5888

Leith is an ideal place to head for a meal by the waterfront and is also home to Edinburgh's first Michelinstarred restaurant – Martin Wishart. Located on The Shore, Martin Wishart specialises in contemporary French cuisine and is also a good location for a business lunch or special event. www.martin-wishart.co.uk 0131 553 3557

The Jam House, former BBC Broadcasting House, has been transformed by rhythm and blues legend Jools Holland and designer Neil Tibbatt into one of Edinburgh's most exciting music and dining venues. Live music is on tap seven nights a week including jazz, blues, soul, pop and new original music. Friday and Saturday night see the Jam House open into the small hours and special schedules run during the Edinburgh Festival and on special occasions such as Christmas, Hogmanay and Burns Night. www.thejamhouse.com 0131 226 5875

Did you know...?

Edinburgh offers more restaurants per head of population than any other city in the UK*. *Figure from Visit Scotland