FAST FACTS

- Edinburgh is second only to London in terms of UK cities in which to hold an international association meeting
- In 2007-08, the ECB won or influenced 162 meetings, attracting 65,000 delegates

 The value of meetings and conferences won for the city by the ECB in 2007-08 was £72.8m, an increase of 6.2% on the previous year.

 The value of bookings secured by the ECB's Conference and Accommodation Booking Service in 2007-08 was a further £1.1m, handling the accommodation needs of 30 meetings ranging in size from 40 to 1,200 delegates

 Of the conferences and events secured by the ECB and taking place in the city during 2007-08, 24% were in non-residential venues, 27% in hotels, 26% in universities and 23% at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre

Latest developments

Dakota Forth Bridge Hotel

This stylish new hotel, conveniently located at the interchange of roads near the Forth Road Bridge, received the highest accolade as the 'Scottish Restaurant of the Year 2008' as well as 'Scottish Hotel Restaurant of the Year 2008' at the Scottish Restaurant Awards in January 2008. www.dakotaforthbridge.co.uk

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Norton House Hotel & Spa

Norton House Hotel, a stunning mid-Victorian country house hotel set in 55 acres of parkland in Ingliston, just to the west of Edinburgh, has unveiled a £13m refurbishment that includes 36 new rooms and luxury suites, as well as state-of-the-art conference and banqueting facilities. www.handpicked.co.uk/nortonhouse

Novotel Edinburgh Park

A brand new four-star hotel, Novotel Edinburgh Park opened in April 2008 with 160 bedrooms, a restaurant, bar, indoor swimming pool, gym and steam room. Perfect for a business trip, with WiFi internet and five meeting rooms, the hotel is located in Edinburgh Park. Easy to reach from Edinburgh Airport, the M8 and the City Bypass, the hotel also has excellent public transport links to the city centre.

www.accorhotels.com

Caledonian Hilton

As part of a £22m overhaul, one of Edinburgh's most beloved five-star hotels has fully refurbished over 200 bedrooms and suites (many with views of the 14th century Edinburgh Castle) with air conditioning and high speed internet access. www.hilton.co.uk/caledonian

Prestonfield Pavilion

For some events even the spectacularly lavish setting of Prestonfield's 500-seat circular ballroom isn't quite large enough. So Prestonfield has recently introduced the option of dinner in the Prestonfield Pavilion. Seating up to 1,000 guests for dinner, the Pavilion takes advantage of Prestonfield's city location and appealing parkland setting with Arthur's Seat and Royal Holyrood Park as the backdrop. www.prestonfield.com



Dakota Forth Bridge Hotel



Norton House Hotel & Spa lounge