

# Doxford Group set to open new Northumberland boutique hotel, bar and restaurant

Hospitality firm The Doxford Group is set to open a new boutique hotel, restaurant and bar on its 150-acre Northumberland country estate

The growing company already owns and operates wedding and events property Doxford Barns and quirky hotel Charlton Hall near Alnwick, Northumberland. Now founder Richard Shell is expanding the Charlton Hall estate, with the construction of a 15-bedroom venue called The Tempus.

The Tempus is set to open next spring, with the decor taking its inspiration from Lewis Carroll's famous story Alice in Wonderland. Once complete, the new venue will have 15 guest bedrooms including a boutique suite, two junior suites and king, superior king and family rooms.

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The company has worked with Jeffreys Interiors, based in Edinburgh, on look and feel of the property, which will also include a ground-floor bar, restaurant and orangery offering bistro-style dining and cocktails. Mr Shell, owner and director at The Doxford Group, said: "It's a very exciting time for us here at The Doxford Group with the announcement of the Tempus to Charlton Hall Estate.

"Since opening our wedding and events venue, Charlton Hall back in 2017, my vision has been to expand our offering and guest experience – whether it be in the form of an overnight stay, celebration event, intimate dining experience or a tipple or two in our hotel bar – something we can now offer thanks to The Tempus.



The boutique suite at Tempus  
(Image: The Doxford Group)

“We have seen a significant rise in demand for overnight stays in the area with Northumberland becoming a popular hotspot for holidaymakers and tourists all year round. The addition of The Tempus will increase the number of guests we can sleep on site to 86 and the new bar and restaurant will provide an exciting new culinary address for the area and all of Northumberland.”

Jo Aynsley, head of interior design at Jeffreys Interior, added: “It was an honour to be asked to work with The Doxford Group for the interiors of The Tempus having worked on the restoration of Charlton Hall back in 2017 and the interiors within the most recent accommodation in 2021. The children’s tale Alice in Wonderland and the current interiors at Charlton Hall were our main inspiration for the design concept for The Tempus.”

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