A PASSION FOR EXCELLENCE

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Elevating expectation, reaching new heights

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EXTRAORDINARY KING'S

- a unique and prestigious venue, steeped in atmosphere
- outstanding, innovative food and eclectic wines
- superlative service, surpassing clients' expectations
- an education for the senses in a world-famous seat of learning

Wander through the front court and admire the Chapel – one of the world's finest examples of gothic architecture and home of an internationally renowned choir. Walk in the footsteps of King's alumni who have helped change the course of history. Since 1441 King's has set the standard in scholarly excellence. With the same dedication to excellence, King's College Conference & Dining has a justified reputation for exceptional food and wine in an exquisite historical setting.







SPLENDOUR

Set on the banks of the River Cam, at the heart of the city of Cambridge, King's provides an unrivalled, versatile venue for a broad spectrum of events – residential conferences, corporate dinners, executive entertaining, receptions, awards ceremonies, celebratory events and more. Let your imagination and our commitment to service define your expectations. Despite King's high standards, we do not rest on our laurels. We are constantly evolving to improve the food and service we offer. Always a step ahead in the world of dining and events, King's is the meeting ground of traditional elegance and contemporary expertise.





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"We have had the pleasure of experiencing the inspiring historical milieu, the excellent food and the first-class service offered by King's College. The central location of this prestigious college, its diverse and flexible facilities and its ability to organise formal lunch and dinner functions for large groups of over 300 people all contribute significantly to making our events a huge success." *Gulf Research Centre*

The cutting edge of hospitality: tradition with a contemporary twist

"...Nothing is ever too much trouble" *Davis Langdon*

DEDICATED

At King's our core value "a passion for excellence" shines through everything we do.

From your first enquiry to the day of the event, our attentive and friendly service will take all the stress of event organisation off your shoulders. We pride ourselves on a personal touch that has our clients returning year after year. Relax and know that you are in expert hands.



Our clients' experience is the single most important element of our business:

"The food was outstanding, the best I have had yet, and many similar comments were made by guests. The service was professional at all times and of a high standard. We look forward to returning to King's." **Cambridge Judge Business School**

"We have chosen to hold our high profile annual client event at King's College for over 15 years... Nothing is ever too much trouble." Davis Langdon

"The staff were brilliant and made the day so easy, relaxed and seamless."

Private Event

"Very pleased with both service and food... wouldn't hesitate to use this venue again. The evening was a great success."

Johnson Matthey

"The service that we received both before and during the event was outstanding. We would certainly recommend King's College for any future event."

Thoratec Europe Limited

SUBLIME

Come to us for a gastronomic experience that is out of this world. The key to our know-how with food lies in our ability to balance the combination of flavour and texture. Add to this a pinch of science, imagination and the highest-quality produce, and each dish becomes a culinary marvel.

Forget any notion of stolid college fare. Our team of inspired chefs has developed a fantastic range of menus taking in contemporary cuisine and inventive dishes as well as menus designed for the season and occasion. Tradition is given a sizzling twist to offer our dining clients fresh and startling sensory experiences, a sophistication to savour – literally.

For our chefs, to eat is to live, and they take great pride in getting the most from the freshest of ingredients by developing





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unexpected and delightful flavour combinations. Science plays an important part in our kitchens: we have the latest cooking technology at our disposal, and plenty of experience in blending the best of both traditional and modern culinary techniques.

In keeping with the beauty of our surroundings, we serve visual drama on the plate too. You can feast your eyes as well as your palate on our beautifully presented meals.

We pride ourselves on the quality of our food. Nothing but the best produce reaches our kitchens where it is prepared by a team of expert chefs: the results are quite exceptional. Each plate is individually and swiftly prepared in meticulous detail by a highly skilled team of expert chefs so that it looks as exquisite as it tastes

On 25 March 1851 the Provost and Fellows consumed 14 bottles of Sherry, 7 bottles of Hock, 17 bottles of Port and 8 bottles of Best Sherry

VINTAGE

For many, the image of sherrysoaked Fellows and champagneguzzling graduates is emblematic of life at King's. Wine has certainly played a large role in college life and activities.

In the early days of Cambridge University, beer was plentiful but there was no allowance for wine until 1446 when Henry VI granted King's College an annuity of 256 gallons of Gascon wine which



doubled after a few years. This annuity continued up to the 17th century.

Today King's has its own wine steward who travels to wine tastings far and wide and fills the college's cellar with some of the best wines and ports from across the globe.

The Fellows' cellar contains some of the finest wines in the world, bought on release and aged in the temperature-controlled cellars under King's. The oldest soleras date back to the 19th century and most of the finest vintages from the major wine regions are represented. The cellar's range of wines includes world-renowned classics such as Château Latour of the First Growth Bordeaux family, 'Super Tuscans' such as Sassicaia and a new generation of regional superstars from up and coming areas in Spain and France.

Unlike most Cambridge colleges, at King's there is no distinction between the Fellows' cellar and the wines made available to outside guests. Great care in the selection of all wines, and frequent tastings to assess maturity and the condition of the wine, help to create the best run and most eclectic cellar in Cambridge.

DRAMATIC

Step into our magnificent Hall – the ceiling an imposing 13.6 metres above, the portraits of former King's Provosts gazing down from oak-panelled walls, the air virtually echoing with the elated voices of thousands who have celebrated in this Hall over the past two centuries. You may need a moment to catch your breath at the drama of it all. Tables glow under gold candelabra, and glasses glitter among row upon



row of immaculately placed table settings. Soak up the atmosphere of this most impressive of dining venues, whose recent guests have included Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Let us help you create an event that will leave your guests awestruck – why not add an opera singer or an electric violinist for a bit more razzmatazz? With your imagination and our resources, the possibilities are legion. From simple lighting effects to the latest production technology, we can ensure you deliver your event in style.

"A splendid evening in an awesome setting with delicious food – what a recipe for a memorable occasion!" John Lewis







SPECTACULAR

Where else could you entertain your guests with a fifteenthcentury Chapel, a world-famous example of Tudor architecture no less, as a back drop? The outdoor potential of King's as a venue is just as exciting as what we can offer our clients indoors.

In the heart of Cambridge, and yet cloistered by buildings of outstanding beauty, with the River Cam slipping by quietly at its western boundary, the back lawn offers possibly one of the most serene and photogenic sites in the country. From drinks and canapé receptions to large-scale marquee events, astonish your guests with unique and lasting memories of King's magnificent architecture and ambience.





Feast your eyes on a magical setting... Create memories that will never fade





SOPHISTICATED

Not every celebration calls for the grandeur of the Hall. If you are looking to host a more select occasion then the charming and traditional Saltmarsh rooms could be the ideal solution. Situated on the first floor of the Wilkins building these three interconnected rooms are fine examples of Georgian grace and proportions. The ceiling-high sash windows give views of the Chapel and the front lawn to the north and Webb's court to the south.

The rooms are available as a set or individually, a versatility that can conform to the particulars of your event, offering, for example, a break-out room, a meeting room and a dining room. John Saltmarsh was elected a Fellow of King's in 1930 at the age of 22 and became a full lecturer seven years later. Spending the rest of his life in the same set of rooms, he earned an affectionate reputation as an eccentric bachelor don. After his death, to avoid any conflict in deciding who should have his beautiful rooms, the College Council pronounced them common rooms, now called the Saltmarsh suite in his memory.





INSPIRED

Hold your conference at King's and catch the spirit of excellence in our inspirational grounds and rooms. Let your delegates pace corridors once trod by our numerous famous alumni such as John Maynard Keynes, the influential and celebrated economist, after whom the lecture theatre is named. Take advantage of the variety and flexibility of the rooms and facilities on offer: awards ceremonies with stage and screen in the Hall, debates in the Keynes lecture theatre; training sessions or corporate events in our seminar rooms and refreshments in our historic courtyards. Whatever your requirements, our dedicated team can accommodate your every need.





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"The combination of the excellent venue and the professionalism of the service ensured a memorable evening for my staff, helping to promote the ethos of excellence to which our own organisation continually aspires." *Granta Dental*





ENHANCE

For a memorable start to your occasion, treat your guests to a guided punt tour along the Backs where they can appreciate the history of the colleges. A timeless view of the site awaits as their punt approaches King's private river banks, away from the hurly burly of the town.

Host your drinks reception in the ante-chapel: admire the astonishing ceiling – the largest span of fan-vaulting in the world – during an exquisite organ recital while sipping on chilled champagne. In the summer, open the west doors to reveal the beautiful back lawn and punts floating past.

Let members of the world-famous King's College Choir serenade your guests at dinner, or begin it in fine tradition with sung Grace.





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Add a little extra to your event at King's...

CULTURAL

When King Henry VI founded King's College in 1441 he was only 19 years old. His vision was to build the largest and best college in the land. It took three years to buy and clear the land to make way for the new college. The college was linked to another of the King's foundations: Eton College, begun as a school for poor scholars who would progress to King's College at the age of 14. The foundation stone of the iconic King's College Chapel was laid in 1446 by King Henry VI. Seventy years and four monarchs later, it was completed. It is now regarded as one of the great architectural glories of the world. It has the world's largest fan-vaulting, and the Chapel's stained-glass windows and wooden chancel screen are considered some of the finest of their era. The Chapel's choir, composed of male students at King's and choristers from the nearby King's College School, is one of the most accomplished and renowned in the world. Their "Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols", broadcast around the globe every Christmas Eve since 1918, is listened to by millions.









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