

9<sup>th</sup> October 2017

## **Experience Best Western's most haunted hotels this Halloween**

There's a frighteningly good chance Best Western Great Britain guests can have a spooky encounter this Halloween season, given the number of historic, characterful hotels featured among the group's portfolio of more than 250 independently owned properties. And this year for the first time one Best Western hotel is taking matters into its own hands, giving guests the fright of their lives... with the help of a little artistic licence. Here are the most spine-tingling experiences Best Western can provide for people who like to push their paranormal boundaries:

### **Terror in the Trees at Best Western Beamish Hall**

[Best Western Beamish Hall](#), 10 miles from Durham, is staging an innovative new event this October, called Terror in the Trees. It will run for three weeks, from Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October to Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October – in the woodland area adjoining the 13<sup>th</sup> country house hotel – and aims to give people a real scare in a thrilling way. Those who dare will embark on a truly terrifying journey through the woods, gripping tightly to their loved ones for dear life as they follow a winding trail that carries a threat of evil at every turn. The live action scare fest costs £21 per entry, and a head torch will be provided to guests. Christiano Crawford, sales and marketing director, Best Western Beamish Hall, says: "I'm very proud to be able to create something so unique and exciting in the North East. And Beamish Hall is the perfect setting for such an event in a grand scale like this."

Prices start from £109.00\* based on a stay for two people including breakfast on the Flexible Bed & Breakfast Rate on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

### **A screaming maid at Best Western Walworth Castle**

All great castles have intriguing ghost stories and [Best Western Walworth Castle Hotel](#) near Darlington is no different. The thick walls of the turreted Library Tower on the ground floor are said to hide the ghostly apparition of a maid who once worked in the castle. As the story goes, she was the mistress of one of the lords. She fell pregnant, and was killed when he discovered her condition and flew into a violent rage. 'People say they have heard her screams and have seen her come through the wall,' says hotel general manager Surinder Singh. 'We also had one gentleman who stayed in the room above the library and woke up to find her sitting at the end of the bed.'

Prices start from £76.50\* based on a stay for two people including breakfast on the Saver Prepaid Rate on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

## **A dripping ghost at Best Western Lord Haldon Country Hotel**

Another dastardly aristocrat is responsible for the most common ghostly sighting at [Best Western Lord Haldon Country House Hotel](#) near Exeter. Witnesses have reported seeing the distressed and soaking figure of an 18th century servant girl wandering through the hotel. It's believed she was made pregnant by an aristocratic house guest and he drowned her in a lake in the grounds to avoid scandal and parental responsibilities. Other reported ghostly apparitions include a burly man with rolled up sleeves, who appears in the window of the lounge, formerly the stables, and a young girl who knocks on guests' doors in the middle of the night.

Prices start from £94.50\* based on a stay for two people including breakfast on the Saver Prepaid Rate on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

## **A mad maid at Dean Court Hotel, BW Premier Collection**

Built in 1855, [Dean Court Hotel, BW Premier Collection](#), has a worthy history to excite ghost hunters, who are naturally drawn to York as one of the most haunted cities in England. The Mad Maid is a regular visitor to the hotel's basement kitchen – mediums have picked up that she used to work as a cleaner in the guesthouse that existed before three buildings were merged to make the hotel. Room 36 is the one to book for brave souls who want to chance experiencing slamming doors, feeling pressure on their chest, and terribly cold spots even in the height of summer.

Prices start from £153.00\* based on a stay for two people including breakfast on the Saver Prepaid Rate on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

## **Smugglers' dark secret at Best Western The Vine Hotel**

The oldest building in Skegness, [Best Western The Vine Hotel](#) was once used by smugglers to hide their bounty. When work was done to the hotel, builders discovered an eerie skeleton bricked up in one of the walls. Judging by the rings and buttons identifying him as a customs and excise officer, popular opinion points the finger of blame for his demise at the hands of the smugglers. Paranormal activity is most intense in rooms 23 and 8, with reports of items being moved and a radio being switched on when nobody is there.

Prices start from £100.00\* based on a stay for two people including breakfast on the Flexible Bed & Breakfast Rate on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

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### **Editors' notes:**

\*The hotels featured are showing a price on the **Saver Prepaid Rate** on a bed and breakfast basis (excluding the Best Western Beamish Hall Hotel and the Best Western The Vine Hotel which is showing a price on the Flexible

Bed & Breakfast Rate. This rate is cancellable and payment is made on departure). The Saver Prepaid Rate is full prepay, non refundable and non cancellable. The prices are correct as of **2pm 9<sup>th</sup> October 2017**. The **Saver Prepaid Rate** discount is applied to each hotel's public fully Flexible Rate. Hotels may review and change their Flexible Rate on a daily basis, affecting the price and availability of the Saver Prepaid Rate. The Saver Prepaid Rate is available to book three days before the day of arrival and is full prepay, non refundable and non cancellable. All rates are subject to availability.

**Child Policy Terms & Conditions:** The free children's accommodation offer is subject to the availability of a room large enough to accommodate up to 2 adults & 2 children (minimum two paying adults). Children who are aged 12 or under at the time of their stay eat breakfast for **free** in conjunction with the purchase of an adult breakfast (as part of a breakfast inclusive rate). A breakfast inclusive rate **must** be booked in order to benefit from the offer. For full Child Policy terms and conditions, visit <https://www.bestwestern.co.uk/policies/terms-of-use> and visit the Child Policy section.

Best Western GB represents the largest collection of independently owned and family run hotels in Great Britain, with over 250 properties across the country. From beach front properties and mountain views, to city escapes, rural retreats and both modern and listed buildings, each hotel is different. What brings them together is their commitment to the quality, value and standards of service that every guest receives.

Best Western GB is a retained-profit membership organisation that helps hotels maintain their independence. Committed to representing the views of its independently owned member hotels, Best Western GB tackles key industry issues on their behalf, including the effects of Government policies and legislation, industry changes and environmental impact on the heartbeat of the Great British hospitality industry.

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