

# IRISH TATLER

Carton House



## Autumn ESCAPES

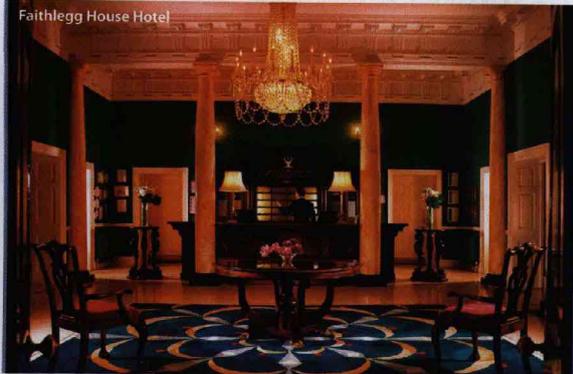
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE MID-TERM BREAK WITH THESE OCTOBER RETREATS

BY HOLLY LENNY

### CARTON HOUSE HOTEL, KILDARE

One of Ireland's most luxurious resorts nestled in peaceful woodland and surrounded by breath-taking countryside, Carton House is not just all about golf. The award-winning cuisine at the Linden Tree Restaurant showcases Irish cooking and local artisan produce with a menu that may not be daring, but offers seasonality with favourites such as rare breed pork and ham hock. For family activity there is the on-site adventure centre Xtreme.ie; the supervised camps offered by the hotel include team challenges, archery, high ropes and zip line. Family rates start at €508 per family room or enjoy two nights B&B in a superior room and a three-course meal at €180 per person sharing. [cartonhouse.com](http://cartonhouse.com)

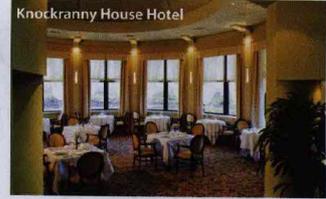
Faithlegg House Hotel



### FAITHLEGG HOUSE HOTEL, WATERFORD

Set in picturesque woodlands with sweeping views over the Suir estuary, Faithlegg House Hotel & Golf Resort in Waterford is offering sailing breaks for the bank holiday weekend. For two nights in a classic bedroom with breakfast you also get an afternoon out on the water, exploring the coastline on a 33 foot yacht, complete with gourmet picnic including Champagne. Follow this with an evening meal in the elegant and award-winning Roseville Rooms, prepared by head chef Jenny Flynn. Three-hour boat tour and two nights B&B with an evening meal starts at €225 per person. [faithlegg.com](http://faithlegg.com)

Knockranny House Hotel



### KNOCKRANNY HOUSE HOTEL, MAYO

The Wild Atlantic Way is the must-do Irish adventure this year. The polished, comfortable and luxurious Knockranny House Hotel makes the perfect base from which to explore everything Westport has to offer along this spectacular stretch of Ireland. The 90-minute Clew Bay cruise and stay package includes two nights B&B for two adults and two children under 10, while one dinner in the multi award-winning La Fougère restaurant starts from €192 per adult sharing. Golf and stay at Knockranny House Hotel includes two nights' bed and full Irish breakfast with one dinner in La Fougère, plus green fees at three of the finest Wild Atlantic Way golf courses from €289 per person sharing. [knockrannyhousehotel.ie](http://knockrannyhousehotel.ie)

Castlemartyr Resort



### CASTLEMARTYR RESORT, CORK

Castlemartyr Resort located in East Cork is the perfect midterm getaway location for a spooky break set amongst the 800-year-old castle ruins. Two nights in a luxurious family room, a full Irish breakfast each morning and one evening dinner in the brand new Italian restaurant, Franchini's, is available from €210 per night based on two adults and one child sharing under three years. The Halloween Kids Club (27 October to 2 November) is available to keep the kids occupied whilst the adults can escape to the 24,400-square foot wellness spa and fitness centre, including a 20 metre swimming pool and water room. [castlemartyrresort.ie](http://castlemartyrresort.ie)

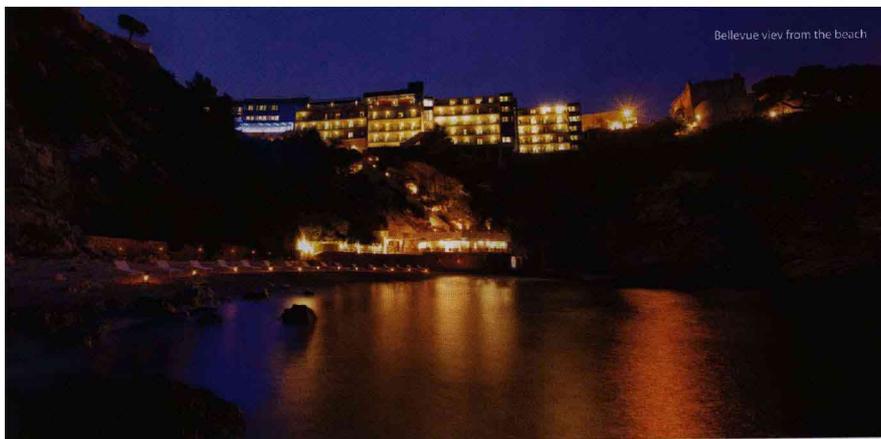
### THE BRIDGE HOUSE HOTEL, OFFALY

This is the ideal location this October break for the kids to be kept entertained with arts and crafts, sports and cooking at the Busy Bees Kids Camp (running from 27 to 31 October). The Bridge House Hotel is a relaxing spot for mum and dad to unwind whether that is with an afternoon retreat, a visit to the fully equipped gym and leisure centre spa, while the children can enjoy the cinema, fun centre or the bowling alley. Two nights' accommodation in a family room, full Irish breakfast, and one four course dinner for two adults and entry for two children to the Busy Bees Kids Camp is available from €279. [bridgehousehoteltullamore.ie](http://bridgehousehoteltullamore.ie)

The Bridge House Hotel



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Bellevue view from the beach

## CITY BREAK

### FANTASY FIX

It is going to be a long wait until April when *Game of Thrones* returns to our screens, but that doesn't mean you can't get your fantasy fix in the meantime. Dedicated fans will know that the setting for Westeros capital, King's Landing, is in fact the beautiful city of Dubrovnik in Croatia. Hotel Bellevue, a nautical boutique retreat situated atop cliffs overlooking the Adriatic Sea has created an exclusive *Games of Thrones* package (£166, approx. €208 per person sharing per night) includes luxury accommodation in a sea view room, a replica of the 'key to the city' along with an all-access Dubrovnik City Card, so you can visit all the best museums, galleries and attractions in the Old Town, as well as the sets where the show is filmed. [adriaticluxuryhotels.com](http://adriaticluxuryhotels.com)



### LONG HAUL: BACK EAST

Fancy somewhere far flung and tropical for October? Try East Lombok, Indonesia. While rainy season usually picks up in October, it is drier than neighbouring Bali, and between showers (it never rains for more than an hour or two) you can expect bright blue skies and plenty of sunshine. Offset your long-haul carbon footprint, by staying at Jeeva Beloa beach camp, which consists of just eleven Beruga Pantai (villas), each handmade using recycled wood and bamboo, and featuring a private covered terrace and oversized daybed. As it sits in an untouched secluded cove, guests can enjoy views over pristine white sand beaches. Interestingly, it is situated off the main power grid, so the beach camp focuses on sustainability and avails of its local resources; solar power provides electricity, while fresh water is supplied through rain catchment basins. [Luxurylink.co.uk](http://luxurylink.co.uk) has great offers for October to April such as £847 (approx. €1062) for full board based on two people sharing, including airport transfers, complementary use of snorkeling equipment, sea kayaks and bicycles for those in search of active adventure on their trip.

### BOHO BREAK

#### PACK...



Silver cuff (€393.60) by Pamela Love @ Net-a-porter.com



Python Bag (€23) @ Next



Printed Dress (€195) by Finders Keepers @ BT2



### SHORT HAUL PICK OF THE CROP

Every year, the Italian wine region of Marche welcomes wine enthusiasts from around the world for the annual wine grape harvest. Experience the fun of grape picking, possibly the most authentic way to immerse yourself in the culture, tradition and the beautiful green landscape of the farming province of Pesaro and Urbino. For three nights, from 5 to 8 October, Flavour of Italy Travel ([Flavourofitaly.net](http://Flavourofitaly.net)) will play tour guide to you as you make your way to the harvest, stopping to explore some of the region's hidden gems along the way such as the medieval town of Gradar, Urbino one of the capitals of the Italian Renaissance, and Pergola, famous for its truffles. From €525 per person excluding flights.

### THIS MONTH...

#### IF YOU NEED AN EXCUSE TO INDULGE

in a tipple, then make it London Cocktail Week, which runs from 6 to 12 October. Pick up a wristband for £10 on [Londoncocktailweek.com](http://Londoncocktailweek.com) for access to special tastings and bespoke £4 cocktails in 200 of London's coolest bars.

### GO NOW



### NEW ORLEANS

**BECAUSE...** October is one of the best months to visit as it's the driest month of the year and the temperatures cool off nicely. Halloween in New Orleans is an all-out celebration complete with a parade, music festival and, if you're game, plenty of voodoo magic. Music fans should pencil the Crescent City Blues and BBQ Festival (from 17 to 19 October) into their diaries, when both grills and guitars will be fired up. **EAT...** At Restaurant R'evolution, the brainchild of Louisiana-born chef John Folse and Chicago native Rick Tramonto. These regional gastro-giants joined forces to create classic Cajun and Creole cuisine with a fine dining twist. Beer-battered crab beignets and rotisserie duck with foie gras rice are just some of the stand-out dishes all complemented by a truly exquisite wine menu. End things on a sweet note with a white chocolate bread pudding crème brûlée. [revoluntiomola.com](http://revoluntiomola.com) **STAY...** At the edge of the historic French Quarter at the Ritz-Carlton. The charming 1908 Beaux Arts Maison Blanche building also boasts the city's largest spa; the perfect meeting of modern comfort and local tradition in a central location. Deluxe double guest rooms are available from \$299 (Approx. €227) per night. [ritzcarlton.com](http://ritzcarlton.com)

### DON'T LEAVE WITHOUT...

The Foodspotting app, free on iTunes. If your wanderlust is of the gourmet variety, and you find yourself craving a certain local dish then this app will direct you to the best joint. As it is driven by photos snapped by diners, there are plenty of delicious food images to drool over too.

