



Virgin Hotels Edinburgh Fact Sheet

Overview: Situated in the landmark India Buildings in Edinburgh's Old Town a stone's throw from Edinburgh Castle, the new hotel will feature 222 Chambers and Grand Chamber Suites: multiple dining and drinking outlets including **Commons Club**, Virgin Hotels' flagship restaurant and bar that acts as a modern day social club; **Eve**, a vibrant, all-day dining space, offering a progressive approach to late night entertainment in Edinburgh; and the **Funny Library Coffee Shop**. In re-envisioning the buildings, the designers have worked to preserve its notable elements while adding a sense of style and sophistication. The property promises a stunning mix of old and new to fully capture the character of the cultural city of Edinburgh.

Opening Date: 1st June 2022

Location: 1 India Buildings, Edinburgh, EH1 2EX

Design:

- Four-by-Two: Interior Design (Concept)
- ICA Studio: Architect & Interior Design
- Joelle Interiors: Interior Design (Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment), Eve, external courtyard and roof terrace.
- Studio Giftig: Mural Artwork
- Visto Art: Artwork curation confirming additional artwork

Guestrooms (Chambers & Suites):

With views of Edinburgh Castle and across to the Royal Mile, the hotel's Chambers & Suites have been infused with local city influences and modern touches. Key Chamber design features original Victorian era details and a soft neutral palette that all come together to create a comfortable residential feel. Thoughtfully curated artwork evokes Virgin's playful spirit as seen through the lenses of Edinburgh and greater Scotland.

The hotel's 222 Chambers have been infused with local city influences and modern touches. They span across ten floors with room types including Chamber King, Grand Chamber King, The Moroccan-inspired Kasbah Tamadot suite, Greyfriars Suite featuring immersive Old Town views and the property's largest suite, Eve Branson Suite, and Richard's Flat.

Ranging from 23 to 75 square-metres, Chambers are bright and airy with warm textiles and locally sourced furnishings, featuring Virgin Hotels' signature layout with two distinct spaces. **The Dressing Room** includes a full vanity, closet space big enough for two, makeup desk with a well-lit mirror, an extra-large shower with a built-in bench and toiletries by Arran of Scotland. A sliding door or drapery separates it from **The Lounge**, which features Virgin Hotels' patented ergonomically designed bed with a tufted headboard, a red SMEG mini-fridge generously stocked with a curated selection of local products, television and ample outlets for smartphones, laptops, or other devices. The Chambers and Suites' rugs have been made in partnership with Lälla London who specialise in ethically produced Moroccan rugs, supporting women's weaving cooperatives throughout the Atlas Mountains. The project supports over 180 female weavers in hard-to-reach villages, providing a necessary lifeline for the women and their families.

Virgin Hotels Edinburgh offers a selection of beautifully curated suites. The signature suite, Richard's Flat spanning over 73 square metres, features beautifully restored architectural details, a bespoke wet bar to entertain, along with Bose surround system and is furnished with contemporary pieces in order to strike the perfect balance for Virgin founder Richard Branson's home away from home and the Eve Branson suite, found under the bell tower of the restored mediaeval church, is the honeymoon suite, where the dramatic architecture, including exposed church eaves are tempered with a muted pallet in rich textures. Guests can also sleep under the stars, with the fibre optic effect over the bed. The ever-charming suite is a nod to Richard Branson's late mother. For guests looking for something a little different, there is the Moroccan-inspired Kasbah Tamadot Suite, with a duplex attic space design, guests are offered 44 square metres of space with stunning views over Victoria street. The design is also a nod to the prestigious Virgin Limited Edition property in the Atlas Mountains, with a secret second floor lounge tented in traditional fabrics and adorned with festive lanterns and sumptuous furnishings.

- Services/Amenities:** Guests are afforded access to amenities including, but not limited to:
- **The Know:** The brand's preferences and loyalty programme. By simply signing up, guests are granted access to room upgrades, member rate discounts, special event and dining offers, and a complimentary daily cocktail hour aptly called the *Spirit Hour* in Commons Club - all when booking directly with Virgin Hotels. The Know allows guests to personalise their stays with anything their heart's desire - from a perfectly stocked mini-fridge to just the right pillow.
 - **Lucy:** The mobile app, Lucy, allows guests to have a truly "touch-free" experience. Know members can check into their room and utilise mobile as their key, control lighting and temperature in the room, TVs, order room service, and check out all from their mobile device.
 - **One-of-a-kind beds:** All chambers have the brand's custom-designed and patented bed that features an ergonomically designed headboard and footboard.
 - **Minibars:** Each hotel room has a fully stocked SMEG® retro mini fridge featuring drinks and healthy snacks and local noshes available for guests to enjoy.
 - **Pet friendly:** Pets stay for free with no size or breed restrictions. Virgin Hotels offers "Pet-Menities" including dog beds, food and water dishes and a Virgin Hotels bandana.
 - **Fitness Centre:** A 24/7 gym and fitness centre with internet-equipped Technogym cardio machines.

Dining: The hotel offers guests three dining and drinking options including the brand's flagship restaurant, bar and lounge, Commons Club, Eve, and Funny Library Coffee Shop.

Located on the ground floor, **Commons Club** is designed to feel like a modern social club in a playful, sophisticated environment. Featuring an elevated bar experience delivering classic cocktails with a twist, alongside a restaurant, found one floor below on L5. Commons Club restaurant features locally-sourced, seasonally-driven cuisine prepared with classic techniques.

The restaurant's original stone walls and arches have been retained and combined with modern fixtures to create a refined, contemporary effect, while an underground wine cellar with soft seating creates a cosy private dining space in contrast to the light and airy kitchen across the corridor.

The hotel also features **Eve**, a vibrant all-day dining space and bar, serving breakfasts, brunch, lunch, and sociable sharing suppers through to late night drinks. With a regular roster of homegrown entertainment, Eve represents a progressive approach to late night entertainment in Edinburgh.

Located on the ground floor, **Funny Library Coffee Shop** offers a selection of teas, coffees, house-made pastries and sandwiches. The coffee shop is a cosy, communal space with original timber wall-to-wall shelving, boasting a range of local literature to enjoy next to the roaring fire.

**Meeting & Event
Space:**

Virgin Hotels Edinburgh has plenty of flexible meeting and event space. The hotel site is home to a mediaeval church, now known as Greyfriars Hall, that has been beautifully restored and repurposed as a special event venue. A 198 square metre standalone venue space featuring a central event venue for up to 120 seated guests, as well as two separate meeting spaces. It will be available to host weddings, banquet dinners and corporate events as well as hosting live entertainment as part of the hostels' entertainment programming.

Founder's Room | 42 square metre/max occupancy 10

The Sandbox | 26 square metre/max occupancy 10

The Study | 22 square metre/max occupancy 20

Pre-function | 54 square metre/max

Art Collection:

The hotel worked with **Visto Artwork** to curate the art throughout the hotel which includes numerous artworks created by local artists alongside works inspired by the unique character of Scotland and the Scots. The history of the location played a key role in developing the pieces, intertwining the heritage of the building with the contemporary character of the hotel design. Illuminating the walls and ceilings throughout Eve, guests will find **'Mary in Space'** by Studio Giftig, inspired by Mary, Queen of Scots, a cultural icon who also lived for some time in Edinburgh Castle. Wearing modern clothing, Mary makes for an interesting image as past, present and future worlds are imagined to collide.

On a separate wall is another piece **'Space Glove'**, featuring two astronaut gloves and the head of the statue of Venus de Milo, who symbolises the strength of beauty of women. The juxtaposition between the rough gloves and the sophistication of the statue makes the image powerful through its contrasts.

Other significant pieces of note are the "Chandelier" by Arthur Mamou-Mani. One of the world's first bioplastic 3D printed sculptures of this scale, measuring 3 metres wide, hangs in the nave of the former mediaeval church known as Greyfriars Hall. In addition, a large-scale painting was commissioned by artist Alan Macdonald for the mantle in the Commons Club bar. This work is rich in symbolism not only of the Virgin brand and what it represents, but of the site and the history of the area.

Reservations:

To book, visit virginhotels.com/edinburgh.

Social Media:

Facebook: @virginhotelsedinburgh

Instagram: @virginhotelsedi

Twitter: @virginhotelsedi

YouTube: [Virgin Hotels](https://www.youtube.com/VirginHotels)

LinkedIn: [Virgin Hotels](https://www.linkedin.com/VirginHotels)

Commons Club Instagram: @commonsclubedi

Commons Club Facebook: @commonsclubedi

Eve: Instagram: @eveedinburgh

Eve Facebook: @EveVHEdinburgh

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