

**Apex Waterloo Place Hotel****January 09**

The Apex group is opening its fourth four-star hotel in Edinburgh on Waterloo Place at the east end of Princes Street in January 2009, with 180 beds, conference space for 180 delegates and five additional meeting rooms, as well as a new bar and restaurant.

[www.apexhotels.co.uk](http://www.apexhotels.co.uk)**Scotch Whisky Experience****March 09**

This highly popular visitor centre at the top of the Royal Mile, offering whisky tasting as part of their corporate events packages, is undergoing a £2m refurbishment and will launch an exciting new visitor experience from March 2009.

[www.whisky-heritage.co.uk](http://www.whisky-heritage.co.uk)**2010 - 2012****Caltongate**

A new development in the heart of the city's Old Town, around the east end of the Royal Mile, is the £300m redevelopment of the Caltongate area. This spectacular site will see the provision of new residential housing, restaurants and leisure facilities, along with a five-star Sofitel 200-bed hotel and an impressive new 1,200 sq m conference centre.

[www.caltongate.com](http://www.caltongate.com)**The Royal Museum Project**

The Royal Museum of Scotland on Chambers Street has closed for a major refurbishment programme that will take three years and cost £46m. On re-opening in 2011 its current 750 capacity for a gala dinner will increase to 900.

The Museum of Scotland, including the entire modern Museum of Scotland

building and the West Wing of the Royal Museum building with the Connect and Communicate galleries, will remain open throughout. The Hawthornden Court can host receptions for 750 and gala dinners for 120, and the Bute and Board Rooms remain open for meetings of up to 24 people.

[www.nms.ac.uk](http://www.nms.ac.uk)**Edinburgh International Conference Centre**

The multi-million expansion of the EICC is also planned to come on stream in the next few years, featuring a computer controlled moving floor that can transform itself from a flat floored exhibition hall or banqueting space to a tiered seating auditorium or arena for 1,600 people at the click of a mouse. It will be linked to the existing 1,200-seat purpose-built conference centre and will enhance the EICC's reputation as one of the most technologically advanced meetings and entertainment spaces in Europe.

[www.eicc.co.uk](http://www.eicc.co.uk)**Tynecastle Stadium**

There are plans to redevelop the Tynecastle Stadium, home to Heart of Midlothian Football Club, with an associated hotel.

**Tram**

Trams are returning to Edinburgh. From mid-2011 a new tram line will link the airport in the west of the city to the port of Leith, via the centre of Edinburgh along Princes Street. The sleek new trams will offer a fast, reliable and environmentally friendly way of travelling around the city as part of an integrated transport system designed to reduce congestion, pollution and noise.

[www.tramtime.com](http://www.tramtime.com)**Haymarket**

Redevelopment of the Haymarket area will see the investment of £200m designed to transform the western gateway into the city. It includes a 16-storey InterContinental Hotel, next to Haymarket railway station, a three-star Travelodge and 300,000 sq ft of offices, restaurants and shops.

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