



*A  
Hundred  
Thousand  
Welcomes*

DAXTON SUNWOOD |

THE PROMISE OF IRELAND'S  
**RITZ-CARLTON HOTEL**  
POWERSCOURT



*Back to the Future*



POWERSCOURT GOLF CLUB

The Powerscourt Estate of County Wicklow, located just 20 miles from Ireland's Capital City of Dublin, is an Irish country estate of antiquity known for its lush 47 acres of landscaped gardens, sparkling lakes, signature golf courses and even a timeless story behind its very own castle. And while the estate is today privately owned, it remains the home of the highest waterfall in Ireland, the Powerscourt championship Golf Club, and the dwelling of the newly restored Ritz-Carlton Hotel at Powerscourt.

The original 13th century castle held a position of extreme military importance in that its hilltop immanence controlled access to nearby footpaths, trails and rivers thus making the then 49,000 acre estate not only one of the largest in the world but, as importantly, impenetrable to invasion. The wedding cake like castle accommodated 68 rooms, an entrance hall of 12 meters and an avenue of beech trees lining its mile-long drive. It's 19th century gardens were fashioned after Versailles and are complete with their own Tower, Japanese gardens and Triton Lake thus drawing the Kings and Queens of Britain and beyond to the Viscount at Powerscourt's "wonder of wonders."

Set into the cathedral of history lays perhaps the single most panoramic glimpse of Ireland's past, The Ritz-Carlton Powerscourt. Her 200 spacious guest rooms include 124 suites with views and terraces connecting the look of her illustrious past to a modern sovereign state. With its close proximity to Dublin, visitors to the Republic of Ireland can enjoy superb shopping and world-famous attractions such as the Guinness Storehouse,

the Jameson Distillery, Trinity College and Dublin Castle while glimpsing the turn of its agricultural focus to a futuristic Knowledge Economy as led by Ireland's, President Mary McAleese. The Revolutionary leader Michael Collins who led the Irish Civil War movement to its emancipation in 1937, for instance, might have utilized the Ritz-Carlton's 10,000 square feet of meeting space in which to plan, prepare and to usher its present role as a modern state. And as the current day Parliamentary Democracy pushes into the European Community and beyond, companies such as Microsoft, Intel and Google are now immigrating to her shores. In fact, according to analysis by the US tax journal, Tax Notes, Ireland is the world's single most profitable country for US multinational corporations.

The look and feel of the ancient British Isles was never better portrayed than upon the hills at Powerscourt. While the crew did spend six weeks in Scotland, the major battle scenes in Mel Gibson's 1995 historical action drama, Braveheart, were principally shot in and around Ireland's Powerscourt Estate. Using Irish Army Reservists, up to 1,600 in some scenes, the story of William Wallace unfolds in very much the way revolutions do. Repression leads to revolution, always. And nowhere are these messages more vibrant than upon the hills at Powerscourt. From the Powerscourt Estate, to the Ritz-Carlton at Powerscourt, and on to the Powerscourt Golf Club, these three magnificent structures preside upon the clefts of County Wicklow like a collection of ideals and institutions connecting the past to the present. For

only here, in the world of true collaborations, can we hand pick from the past to create the promise of tomorrow.

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While the origin of golf is unclear, some historians trace the sport to the Roman Empire and its spreading through Britain and Europe a consequence of Rome's colonization. The original game, paganica, was thought to be played with a bent stick used to hit a leather ball. In fact, there are many accounts of the games origin with many taking credit and laying claim to the game's incarnation. However, the most widely accepted account is that the modern game of golf originated in 12th century Scotland when shepherds began routinely knocking stones into rabbit holes on the current site of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews. As of 2005 Golf Digest calculated that nowhere in the world is the game played more than in the British Isles. Partly, it holds, on account of the temperate climate and gradient clefts that both invite and challenge competitors on her shores thus marking Ireland one of the renowned and leading golf destination in the world. With 2 Powerscourt golf courses located on the Estate, the east and west courses combined offer 36 holes in one magnificent setting.

Yet another echo from the past is your escape to the Ritz-

Carlton's 30,000 square foot spa, ESPA. The modern day spa combines emotional retreat and physical relaxation into a chorus

of personal well being. The 20 treatment rooms and its signature 20-meter Swarovski crystal-lit pool immerse you into the initial stages of ESPA's invitation to personal renewal. Even the fitness rooms and relaxation areas are designed with Palladian windows and state of the art facilities that preside over the uninterrupted views of the Sugar Loaf Mountains. Only from this hilltop retreat can one truly reign, as did the castle's illustrious ancestry, over a realm whose reach continues to be felt in every possibility.

At days end, you might relax in one of the 3 exceptional dining facilities or even, as the Estate's forebears might have done, in one of the two private dining rooms. While McGills serves authentic single malts and Irish fare, the Sugar Loaf serves a bistro style menu in a sophisticated atmosphere. Brunch is served in the Lounge, as is the traditional Irish Afternoon Tea. And whether your passion is rustication, horseback riding or fly fishing along the River Dargle, the Ritz-Carlton Powerscourt intends to honor, accommodate and embrace you with Ireland's motto, A Hundred Thousand Welcomes, a belief born of fact, experience and ancient tradition. CHARLATAN