

A Wedding Masterclass for brides – Lough Eske Castle Hotel, Sunday 26th and Monday 27th September

Ireland's top celebrity wedding planner Tara Fay to show brides how to plan the perfect day

Tuesday 22nd June 2010: Lough Eske Castle, which was recently voted the Irish Wedding Venue of the Year by Irish brides, will provide brides-to-be with the opportunity to learn from the wedding planner celebrities turn to.

The stunning hotel - Donegal's only five-star hotel and winner of the World's Best Luxury Country Hotel 2009 – has teamed up with Ireland's top wedding planner Tara Fay to deliver a two-day Wedding Masterclass that will cover the A-Z of wedding planning.

A range of specialist talks and workshops will be given to brides-to-be by some of the top wedding service providers in Ireland, including bridal fashion from Sharon Hoey, hair and beauty by Michael Leong and Zoe Clark, photography by John Ryan, floristry by Lamber de Bie as well as food and wine, ceremonies, stationery, cakes, jewellery, honeymoon advice and the all important first dance.

The masterclass will begin with a champagne reception and talk from Tara Fay on all the requirements for planning the perfect wedding. Award winning fashion designer Sharon Hoey will then follow with a bridal fashion workshop before the Lough Eske Castle Executive Chef and Sommelier host a dinner presented in the style of a wedding breakfast and share their food and wine expertise.

Day two comprises a series of workshops covering a range of topics as well as one-to-one consultations with the top industry specialists. The event concludes with a 'first dance' workshop and afternoon tea and wedding cake.

Andrew Turner, General Manager of Lough Eske Castle said that this event is the first of its kind to be held in Ireland and has been designed to provide all brides-to-be with access to the very best of advice and helpful hints and tips. "Every bride wants and deserves the perfect wedding and as the top wedding venue in Ireland, we wanted to do something to help brides-to-be create their dream day. The inspiration for the Wedding Masterclass came from our own Lough Eske Castle brides, many of whom said they would have really valued the opportunity to attend an event of this type.

"Organising a wedding is often a daunting task for brides-to-be. This two-day masterclass aims to help brides take the pressure off the process by pointing them in the right direction helping them to plan their perfect day while learning from the best in the business. Each bride-to-be is free to select the workshops which best meet her needs and she can make appointments to talk with the industry specialists privately on the day.

"We're delighted to be partnering with Tara Fay. As the leading wedding planner in Ireland, she has a wealth of expertise and experience to share with brides-to-be, whether that is for planning small intimate or larger weddings. Tara will be hosting a number of talks throughout the two days and will also have time to spend with brides on an individual basis."

Celebrity wedding planner Tara Fay, who has planned more than 1,000 weddings, said that the wedding masterclass will be invaluable to brides at every stage of the planning process. "This event is about giving brides-to-be the confidence and the ability to plan the day of their dreams no matter how big or small and irrespective of budget. Brides often find themselves bewildered by advice from family and friends and sometimes need to take time out to think about what they truly want and then how to achieve it within budget. This masterclass aims to provide just that along with a chance to talk individually with each of the speakers who will work with the brides-to-be to identify the things that will personalize their wedding and make it a real day to remember."

All brides-to-be and their guests are welcome to attend the event for one or both of the days. Tickets for both days, including one night's accommodation for two people sharing a deluxe guestroom including breakfast, are priced at €175 per person sharing; or €250 per person sharing for both days

and two night's accommodation. One-day only attendance (Sunday or Monday) is priced at €75 per person, per day.

To find out more or to book a place, please contact Lough Eske Castle Hotel on 074 97 251 00 or visit www.solislougheskecastle.ie

Ends.

For further information please contact Liz Burke at FD on Tel: 087 955 1655/Email: liz.burke@fd.com

Notes to editors:

About Lough Eske Castle

Lough Eske Castle Hotel, located just outside Donegal Town, is nestled within 43-acres of forest woodland hugging the shores of Lough Eske with the Bluestack Mountains providing a stunning panoramic backdrop. Boasting 95 spacious bedrooms and suites, an Aromatherapy Associates Spa, fitness centre and swimming pool, Cedars Restaurant, two bars and over 6,000 sq ft of conference and banqueting space the hotel is redefining the meaning of luxury in the North-West. It was named the 2009 World's Best Luxury Country Hotel, just two years after it opened its doors following meticulous restoration of the original 17th century castle; and the Irish Wedding Venue of the Year in early 2010. In the space of just 18 months the castle was transformed from a ruin into Donegal's only Five Star hotel by proud Donegal man Pat Doherty of Harcourt Developments. The hotel is managed by Solis Hotels & Resorts

The Solís Hotels and Resorts brand was developed by legendary hotelier Horst Schulze and his team of hospitality experts. Solís Hotels and resorts is a collection of resorts, hotels and residences offering a convergence of unparalleled designs, settings and experiences. Luxury "the Solís way" goes way beyond superbly appointed accommodation to reach Schulze's benchmark of elevated guest service.