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## THE 'PERLE' OF SCOTLAND

If you're looking for a getaway to the scenic Scottish Highlands, look no further than luxury hotel, Perle Oban.

*LIVING* was invited on a two-night winter break and sampled the Eastern Mediterranean delicacies at the hotel's BAAB Meze and Grill restaurant.

Perle Oban, a grand 1800's building in the heart of the seaside town of Oban, has only been open about 18 months (since May 2017) but it's already building an enviable reputation. Boasting a bar and café, Eastern Mediterranean restaurant and 59 rooms with incredible views of the town, rolling countryside and dramatic coastlines, it's the perfect setting to explore the Scottish Highlands.

**Junior suite** - Whether you're heading away on a romantic getaway, family trip or off on your own to explore the Highlands, the Perle offers an ideal place to stay. Rooms range from single rooms to superior suites combining period features, high ceilings and original sash windows with contemporary decor and furniture for an elegant yet comfortable interior.

We stayed in the junior suite which had spectacular sea views. We were also impressed to find a Bluetooth Bose sound system, high-end designer toiletries and a Nespresso coffee machine, ideal for warming up after battling the wind and rain on Oban's seafront.

The suite has its own dressing room that is kitted out with all the essentials such as a full-length mirror, hairdryer, plenty of storage space, iron and ironing board. The junior suite also features the perfect chillout area to watch the sleepy town of Oban go by, and for guests looking to find their zen, there is even a yoga mat supplied.

In the bedroom we were treated to a spacious super king bed, a 40" flat screen TV mounted on the wall for superb viewing, 100% Egyptian cotton sheets and stylish decor along with the finishing touches inspired by the great outdoors. Leading from the bedroom is a modern ensuite with an enormous bathtub, powerful rainfall shower, L'Occitane toiletries and fluffy bathrobes and towels for a touch of luxury.

**Mediterranean feast** - On the Friday evening we were booked into the hotel's BAAB Meze and Grill restaurant to taste the Eastern Mediterranean menu. Unfamiliar with the cuisine, the waitress explained



that we should order two small plates, two large plates and a side dish between the two of us for the full Eastern Mediterranean experience.


To start, we opted for the falafel and the fried halloumi which was served with BAAB's signature chilli sauce to

awaken the taste buds. Next up on the menu was the large plates. We shared the melt-in-the-mouth lamb kebab marinated in cinnamon and nutmeg and the Chef's Special, Mussakhan. The Mussakhan consisted of traditional fresh bread topped with slow cooked onions, tomatoes, herbs, olive oil and cardamom chicken. As true Brits do we opted for fries as our side dish, and to finish we shared an indulgent walnut brownie with cinnamon ice cream.

After our fantastic dining experience at the BAAB, breakfast did not disappoint either. There was a wide selection of cereals, yoghurts, fresh fruit, bread, pastries as well as hot breakfast options. I chose the Eggs Benedict and my partner opted for the Full Scottish. Each dish was exquisitely presented and tasted even better. What's more, we could enjoy the stunning sea view as we sipped our coffee and devoured the home-cooked food.

**Oban** - The seaside town of Oban has many things to see and do. Situated behind the Perle, guests can climb Jacob's Ladder to reach the iconic McCraig's Tower for stunning views of the bay. Tourists can also explore Dunollie Museum, Castle and Grounds which is just a 30-minute walk along the seafront from the hotel, and on the way why not drop into the Oban War and Peace Museum to discover the history of Oban? The town is also home to the Oban Distillery, Finn Falconry and there's plenty of boat tours to spot puffins, seals and seabirds. If you're feeling a little more adventurous Oban is an excellent base for island-hopping too.

**For a luxury break to the beautiful Scottish Highlands, the Perle Oban hotel offers peace, tranquillity and opulence in the charming seaside town of Oban.**

**Prices start from £65.60 for a one-night stay at the Perle Oban hotel. Book online at [www.perleoban.com](http://www.perleoban.com) or call 01631 700301. **