

## CHECK IN... CHECK IT OUT...

TODAY we visit **PRIORY BAY HOTEL** on the Isle Of Wight.

**What's it like?** It's a little slice of seaside heaven with the appearance and service of a posh country house hotel but without any of the airs and graces.

You can indulge in some of the best food on the island in either of two award-winning restaurants – The Island Room, for formal dining, or Priory Oyster, where you can relax on the terrace. Kate Moss and

her hens had lunch here after partying at this year's Isle Of Wight festival. The 70-acre estate includes a six-hole golf course and a private beach.

**Rooms any good?** Take your pick from individually designed rooms, all decorated in unique styles. They make the most of the gorgeous sea views.

There are also two family rooms in the main building with double beds and a separate sleeping area for the kids. Plus larger groups are catered for in the tithe barns and cottages are in the grounds. This year they added luxury camping.

**Eat there or grab a pizza?** Anyone who stays at Priory Bay and doesn't eat in their restaurant will be missing a treat. Seafood plays a huge part, with scallops and

lobster regularly on the menu. Afternoon tea on the terrace is also a treat.

**What else?** Check out the private beach, hire one of the tennis courts, play croquet or take a dip in the outdoor pool. It is the perfect hotel for couples or families who want to explore the area.

**So you'd go back?** The peace and sea air makes it the ultimate weekend retreat.

**What's the damage?** Rooms from £160 for two B&B this September. Visit [priorybay.co.uk](http://priorybay.co.uk) or call 01983 613146.

Red Funnel has vehicle and passenger ferries from Southampton to East and West Cowes. Return vehicle ferry prices start at £45 and return passenger ferries at £7.60. Call 0844 844 9888 or visit [redfunnel.co.uk](http://redfunnel.co.uk).

**ERICA DAVIES**

