

am a massive fan of nights and weekends away, and I love going somewhere new I have not visited before. The Johnstown Esatate Hotel and Spa is not a new hotel, the 'Country Gentleman's Style' house was built back in the 1700s and the property has undergone a €10 million refurb recently.

When I heard about the hotel, and a quick Google search showed its location to be only two hours and 15 minutes away from Belfast, I booked in for a girlie weekend. Here's why you should check it out for your next staycation:

The Spa

I had one of best massages of my life (and I'm not exaggerating), under the soothing hands of therapist Kasia. Despite the firm pressure I even drifted off to sleep towards the end, I was that relaxed.

The price of a 30-minute massage starts from €55 and that includes the use of the spa facilities; steam rooms, outdoor hot tub, pool, Jacuzzi, caldarium (heated seats), and the relaxation room. "You could spend all day in there," my friend remarked and we certainly gave it a good go.

Judging from all the groups of ladies using the spa, it's clearly a popular spot for girlie getaways.

Kids' entertainment

Children will love exploring the newlyopened forest fairy walk.

Fairy-hunters follow the signs through the woods, passing miniature wooden houses hidden amongst the trees, toadstools, and brightly-coloured stones leading to a giant pink fairy door.

We made our way through the woodland

the only sound was of the crunch of the crisp fallen leaves underfoot. Despite not spotting any fairies, it felt magical.

the self-catering lodges, and the hotel's family bedrooms which are ideal for two adults and two children.

Located just 35 minutes from Dublin city centre, the hotel is ideal for exploring Ireland's capital. You can avail of public transport from the nearby village of Enfield in to the city.

Warehouse, Dublin Zoo, Tayto Park and Kildare Village are all nearby.

The dining experienceFoodies will love The Johnstown Estate. Fire & Salt restaurant specialise in steak and the signature dish is beef - 'dry-aged in Himalayan sea-salt, seared, sealed and sauce, it tastes every bit as good as it sounds.

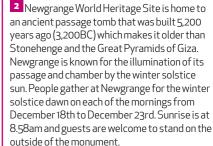
The Coach House bar offer pub grub classics. You can also book in for afternoon tea, and from November 30th the kids'

caramelized over embers in the custommade charcoal grill oven'. Served with



Or gift a loved one 'The Christmas Gift Box' experience, which includes dinner, accommodation, breakfast, and Prosecco and chocolate strawberries in-room on arrival. W

















The Guinness Storehouse, Chocolate



