

FOOD AND DRINK

24 ENTERTAINMENT seven

Picture: David Griffen Photography
www.davidgriffen.co.uk

ARMED WITH GOOD FOOD



YOU don't need to be survival expert like Ray Mears when it comes to foraging for food in the New Forest. Thankfully the National Park is home to the Michelin-starred Montagu Arms restaurant and the culinary talents of Matthew Tomkinson.

Set in the picturesque Beaulieu village the Montagu Arms is a beautiful 17th century country house. With a 200-year history, the building has played host to a whole range of clientele, even royalty sampling the world-renowned service and hospitality. To this day some of the original features and characteristics still remain within the building, including solid oak flooring and antique fireplaces, making it a perfect setting for a truly relaxing dining experience.

The only Michelin Starred establishment in the New Forest and undoubtedly the focus of every guest's visit, the Terrace Restaurant is well known for serving

some of the best food in the South East.

Using, where possible, locally sourced or home grown ingredients, charismatic and innovative head chef Matthew Tomkinson, a previous Roux Scholar, designs and creates fantastic seasonal dishes to showcase what the area has to offer.

Matthew Tomkinson tells 24SEVEN why he has always been passionate about using local ingredients wherever he can:

"This has to be one of the best regions for sourcing ingredients locally.

"Free-range meat and game are plentiful in the forest, the south coast provides all the fish and seafood we need and being so close means it arrives

into the kitchen hours after being caught, while the climate here provides a perfect balance of sunshine (although not this summer) and rain for growing tasty fruit and vegetables.

"We also utilise our own Kitchen Garden for producing some of our vegetables and herbs, whilst our flock of chickens provide our guests with the best free range eggs for our menu."

Sandbanks Beach Cafe, Poole
THIS year has seen Sandbanks officially recognised as the best beach in the country. The golden stretch is the first in the UK to be awarded Blue flag status 25 years in a row. Come rain or shine why not take in the award-winning sea air with a warming coffee or ice cream to eat at the Sandbanks Beach Cafe.

The Durley Inn, Harvester, Durley
Chine Road, Bournemouth
FOOD snobs might scoff, but this pub is ridiculously popular with an ever-bustling atmosphere. While the food is what you might expect from an affordably priced pub chain menu. The real highlight is the stunning sea views and family friendly vibe.



Pizza Express, Poole Road, Westbourne
THERE is always a nice atmosphere and the large glass frontage allows you to watch the world go by. Check out the new range of leggera pizzas, which are less than 500 calories and come with a leafy salad.