

THE PIG'S REFRESHED LOOK. TEN YEARS ON

It's hard to believe it's only ten years since the first PIG in Brockenhurst opened its doors. At the time it brought a new take on country house hotels which has gone on to inspire many others since. The kitchen garden concept and 25-mile menu were embraced from the outset by the chefs, the kitchen gardeners and every member of the team at THE PIG - not forgetting the tens of thousands of guests who have eaten in the greenhouse restaurant in the past decade. This brainchild of Robin Hutson's was the very first in his much-loved collection of hotels.

Wind forward ten years and the hotel is as vibrant as ever. Yet designer Judy Hutson wanted to celebrate the 10-year anniversary by giving the original 12 bedrooms in the main house and public areas some special love and attention. "We wandered round the bedrooms in the house and felt that our look had moved on in our more recent hotel openings, so to us we felt it was time to freshen up parts of the original Pig. We wanted to bring the outdoors in even more; to embrace the forest and the natural surroundings. With The Pigs shut for Lockdown 3.0 this was the perfect time for a gentle facelift."

So, the entrance hall has enjoyed a lick of paint giving it a richer, smokier tone making it cosy and instantly inviting. Whilst the principal drawing rooms and sitting areas have had some additional love and attention with exciting new fabrics and colours to be enjoyed in the Library and Garden Room. The Pigs' local upholsterers of many years, Chilbolton Chair Company, have been kept very busy refurbishing armchairs and sofas not only for this project but for other Pigs too.

And the twelve bedrooms in the main house that have benefitted from Judy's magic touch now feature new dado height panelling in rich colour tones, dramatic wallpaper above and beautiful plain linen curtains from Designers Guild's Brera Moda range. There are 10 schemes in all which look as if they've evolved over the years rather than being a concept creation from a designer's studio. Each room makes you feel as if you're staying in a family home in the forest. Subtle palettes of colour from Spring to Autumn are found in the fabric and wallpaper patterns that draw in the outside forest and meadows.

These bedrooms sit very comfortably in their New Forest setting, and all deliver that much loved, lived-in, old-fashioned feel with a modern twist that has become the trademark of The Pig Hotels.

**Images by Jake Eastham can be found [here](https://www.thepighotel.com)
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