

rive in time for lunch, you can keep traveling another few miles to Hopetoun House near South Queensferry and can dine in the palatial grandeur of an 18th-century Adam mansion, home of the Marquess of Linlithgow. Set in 100 acres of parkland within view of both Forth bridges, Hopetoun House is open for viewing by the public, and the ballroom — which holds 500 for a reception and 200 for a banquet — may be rented.

If a trip to Hopetoun sounds tiring after traveling to Edinburgh, you might instead enjoy an ample smorgasbord lunch — all you can eat for a flat charge — at the Perigord Room of the George Hotel followed by a tour of the New Town in the afternoon.

In the evening, dine at historic Prestonfield House Hotel — a mansion built for Sir James Dick, friend of King James II, in 1687. While in its days as a private residence Prestonfield hosted such guests as Dr. Samuel Johnson, James Boswell, and Benjamin Franklin, the current visitors in its few guest rooms are more likely to be such celebrities as Paul and Linda McCartney. Prestonfield has its own parkland (decorated by strutting peacocks) within view of Arthur's Seat, the lionine hill that rises in the center of Queen's



Park behind Holyrood Palace. In good weather, the grounds may be used for garden parties accommodating up to 800 people. Food at Prestonfield is excellent, and the surroundings are spectacular. Two Georgian dining rooms, each accommodating some 60 diners, are graciously furnished while motherly but very professional waitresses see to your every need. Private dining rooms are available for smaller groups. You will take your coffee and liqueurs upstairs in either the Tapestry or Leather room — or, if your group is large, the management will open the wide doors between the two rooms for a single function.

On day two, wake up to a hearty breakfast — bacon and eggs, porridge, kippers, or kedgeree. Then you're off to see Edinburgh. Along the Royal Mile you can stop