What’s new: venues and hotels
Edinburgh is a truly dynamic city, with new buildings and new facilities coming on stream all the time. Here’s a selection of some of the key developments currently underway:

Recently opened and soon to complete...

**Mercure Edinburgh Quay – May 2015**
Ideally located to take advantage of its proximity to the Edinburgh International Conference Centre, Haymarket Station and Princes Street – the newly built four-star hotel offers 120 modern and stylish bedrooms with Apple TV’s and complimentary high-speed internet access. Along with a bar and restaurant, Privilege Rooms will offer the guest the additional luxury of Nespresso coffee machines, robe and slippers.

**Old Town Chambers – expansion May 2015**
Operated by Lateral City, Old Town Chambers, which opened in summer 2013, added another 14 serviced apartments to its offering, making it the biggest collection of five-star serviced apartments in Edinburgh. Comprising a mix of studios and one bedrooms, the luxury apartments contain double smoked French oak wooden flooring and Italian tiling, alongside the latest home entertainment system and a 24 hour concierge service, making it one of the most exclusive places to stay in Scotland.

**24 Royal Terrace Hotel – July 2015**
Designed by the famous architect William Playfair in the 1820s, the 16-bedroom hotel has undergone a million-pound overhaul and is opening under new ownership. The restoration has retained the original architectural features of the building whilst introducing a bold contemporary interior design. Suited to both business and leisure guests, the rooms vary from spacious apartment suites to affordable single rooms. Bedrooms will be kitted out with several high-tech features such as high-speed internet, Samsung Smart TVs, and technology to allow guests to stream media from their devices or Netflix accounts.

**Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh – August 2015**
The £1.5 million revamp of a former Edinburgh University language school building, is transformed into three floors of event space, for hosting everything from private events and weddings to medical conferences.

**The George Hotel – October 2015**
Having undergone a major £20 million renovation, refurbishment and expansion in recent years which has included the stunning pillared façade, bedrooms and beautiful King’s Hall, which can accommodate up to 300 delegates, The George Hotel opened the Printing Press Bar and Kitchen in October 2015, serving the best of Scottish produce.

**G&V Hotel, December 2015**
Part of Carlson Rezidor’s the Quorvus Collection, G&V announced an extensive refurbishment of its 136 bedrooms, as a complete redesign of the bar and lobby areas of the five hotel. The hotel’s luxury suites will each be designed by leading Scottish designers including; innovative fashion designer Judy R Clark, artist Christine Clark, design duo Timorous Beasties, artist and textile designer Hatti Pattisson, local bespoke furniture designer, Holster.
HUB by Premiere Inn, Rose Street – February 2016

‘HUB by Premier Inn’ is a new generation of compact, city centre hotels where style and comfort are twinned with innovative digital connectivity. Modern, contemporary rooms are meticulously designed to utilise every space, whilst creating a calm haven at the heart of the bustling city, the new 127 bedroom hotel.

Premiere Inn, York Place – March 2016

Building work is almost complete for a 125-bed Premiere Inn at the York Place tram stop/terminus which would replace the former HM Revenue and Customs -building. The £17m project is due in spring 2016.

Royal College of Physicians - April 2016

Starting in January 2016, the Royal College of Physicians is undertaking an £8 million pound major refurbishment of its conference centre, meeting rooms and Sir John Crofton Room. At its heart includes a state of the art 300 seater auditorium and a spectacular glass atrium to link the historic and modern buildings. The venues historic rooms will still be available for hiring during this time.

Courtyard by Marriott – September 2016

A new £20million development next to the Edinburgh playhouse and close to the new St James development, the new four star 240 bedroom hotel will see a luxury refurbishment and extension of Category A Georgian townhouses in the heart of the city centre.

The Hilton Edinburgh Carlton – early 2017

Purchased by Amaris Hospitality in November 2015, the group is planning a £15 million transformation of the four star Carlton that sits on Edinburgh’s North Bridge to commence in 2016.

And future visions...

New Waverley - early 2017

Construction of the much-anticipated New Waverley development, at the heart of Edinburgh’s historic Old Town, has begun. Artisan Real Estate Investors, the developer behind the £150 million development, has confirmed that work on two Whitbread Premier Inn hotels, with a combined total of 257 rooms, is now underway with a completion date set for early 2016. Centred on a new £6.5 million civic square, New Waverley covers an area between Waverley railway station and the Royal Mile and is expected to include new hotels, shops, homes and an office complex.

Aparthotel – early 2017

Global operator, Aparthotel Adagio has announced plans for a new 146-apartment property. With frontages onto both the Royal Mile and the Canongate, the design of the £150million four-storey aparthotel will reflect its setting, sensitively designed to integrate with the style of the area. Built behind an existing façade facing onto the Royal Mile, the aparthotel links to the Canongate and a new public square using a newly created pedestrian walkway inspired by the Old Town’s historic “Wynds”.
Hampton by Hilton - early 2017
Thanks to record breaking passenger numbers, plans for a new Edinburgh Airport hotel have been brought forward to 2016, with the hotel due to open early the following year. The £15 million Hampton by Hilton development will comprise 6,500sq ft, providing a minimum of 175 bedrooms of 3-star quality or above on Almond Avenue, close to the airport terminal.

West End Church – March 2017
One of the city’s most visible landmarks, The Church of St John the Evangelist, at the corner of Princes Street is set to undergo a £3.7m extension and refurbishment. Dating back to 1818, the Church has remained largely unchanged. A new glass and stone extension to the original hall will create flexible hall, performance and exhibition space with seating for up to 100 people. Internal alterations include new office space, meeting rooms and expanded retail and cafe space. www.stjohns-edinburgh.org.uk

MV Windsor Castle - 2017
Scotland’s first boutique hotel and a former lighthouse boat, the 239 foot long MV Windsor Castle is undergoing a £1m conversion into a luxury 25-bedroom hotel that will be moored up alongside the UK’s top visitor attraction, the Royal Yacht Britannia in Leith.

Fountainbridge
Union Hanover has submitted plans for a £35 million waterside Urban Villa hotel in central Edinburgh. The 180-unit project on Freer Street at Fountainbridge, by the Union Canal Basin, consists of studios, one bedroom and rooftop penthouse suites, designed by New York-based architect Grzywinski + Pons in association with Edinburgh-based Michael Laird Architects.

Market Street
A £15m boutique hotel development on a gap site in Edinburgh’s historic Old Town has been submitted for planning by jmarchitects. The project, which the Edinburgh-based practice has designed for the EDI Group, will create a hotel overlooking the gorge which runs through the city. The seven floor, 98-bedroom hotel, will include a resident’s lounge and executive area for guests on the top floor with panoramic views of the city. The new hotel will be situated in a prime location within Edinburgh’s Unesco World Heritage Site facing north towards the city’s New Town across the Waverley Valley.

The Haymarket
A £200m development with a mix of hotel, high-quality offices and retail space is to be built in Edinburgh’s Haymarket. A joint project between construction company Interserve and the landowners, Tiger Developments. Interserve will initially invest £10.5m in the project while the construction contract is for £150m. Serviced apartments provider StayCity has already signed up while food chains Prezzo and Pret A Manger have committed for the second phase of the development.

St James Quarter
A huge £850m development in Edinburgh’s city centre will get underway in 2016, completing in 2021. Along with 42,500 square metres of shopping space over three sweeping crescent-shaped levels, the development will also include a swathe of premium office space, an apart-hotel, a theatre and 138 flats.
with spectacular views. A central pillar of masterplan is a 210 room five star hotel – one of two stellar resorts featured in designs. The 12 story building offer panoramic views of the city from its roof top terrace and restaurant.
The unparalleled investment will see Edinburgh’s flagging sales sector transformed into a formidable retail force which could see the city overtake Glasgow as Scotland’s shopping heartland.

**St Andrew Square**
Following the opening of Ibis Styles Hotel in 2015, work continues apace at South St Andrew Square with the £75million development quickly taking shape. Designed to breathe lif into a site that lay vacant for over five years, confirmed retailers include a flagship TK Maxx and international restaurant chains opening their first premises north of the border including steak house, STK Rebel, Big Easy barbeque, lobster shack and Bombay-style café, Dishoom.

**Literary Quarter**
Plans have been drawn up for a ‘literary hotel’ behind the 121–year old landmark building of Edinburgh’s historic Central Library - which would also be dramatically modernised and extended. Disused vaults, gap sites and vacant offices would be transformed to provide links between the buildings, creating a complex to rival major libraries in Amsterdam and Seattle. Event spaces, a glass-covered cafe, bars and restaurants are considered to be part of this ‘hub’. Edinburgh is the world’s first UNESCO City of Literature and was given official status in 2004.

**South Bridge**
A £1.5 million luxury boutique hotel development proposed for Edinburgh's Old Town at South Bridge and could be open by next summer. Developers propose to transform the historic dwelling which is currently office space into a series of opulent suites and a top class restaurant. The ten apartment-style complexes would each boast a stylish lounge, kitchen, and en suite to give guests a “home from home” stay in the city.

**Ocean Point**
Proposed plans have been submitted for a new striking angular glass development in Leith, which has drawn comparisons with the iconic Flatiron Building on Fifth Avenue, New York. Situated beside the Scottish Government’s Victoria Quay headquarters, in Edinburgh’s old maritime heart, the proposed 250 room hotel is expected to attract an internationally recognised hotel firm.