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GERMANY
and Austria

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**ARABELLA
STEINBACHER**
ENCHANTING VIOLIN VIRTUOSO

PLUS
THE GREAT COMPOSERS
SWISS LAKESIDE SPLENDOUR
ADVENTUROUS AUSTRIA
FASHION, CULTURE,
DESIGN & LIFESTYLE

THE MAGAZINE PROMOTING GERMANY, SWITZERLAND & AUSTRIA



Country Resort
of the Month
Germany

Feel like Lord of the manor

Enjoy the best of Mecklenburg-Pomerania in the historic manor house, where history comes alive and ultimate recreation is guaranteed. Grand and cosy at the same time, the Relais & Châteaux Gutshaus Stolpe is famous for its Michelin starred cuisine and authentic historic premises.

TEXT: TINA AWITANI | PHOTOS: RELAIS & CHÂTEAUX GUTSHAUS STOLPE

Driving up the grand cobble driveway towards the stately yellow 19th century manor house instantly makes one immerse into a grand country ambience. The North German location couldn't be better. Right along the river Peene the manor with its various outbuildings is nestled in one of Germany's finest nature parks. "Lifestyle in Stolpe is defined by the Peene European Destination of Excellence, one of the last and most diverse wildlife areas in Western Europe," Mathias Laux, Maître de Maison at Relais & Châteaux Gutshaus Stolpe says.

"During the different seasons we really live nature to the fullest, in spring the storks and the cranes return. In summer the meadows are blossoming as far as the eye can see. Autumn brings the harvest season and in winter an enchanting silence covers the land," he enthuses. Beavers and eagles are also part of the local neighbourhood, which is a sanctuary not only for fishermen, hunters, horse-riders or hikers.

The Relais & Châteaux Gutshaus Stolpe is perfect to relax and unwind. 32 rooms and

four suites are designed in a grand, yet very cosy, manor style, offering the ultimate comfort and stunning views over the ad-





featuring authentic regional specialties with a sophisticated twist. "The kitchen is the heart of our house. In our Michelin-starred Gourmet Restaurant, finest Lord of the manor cuisine awaits guests. Only hand-picked local products, among others are deer from our own hunting lodge that find their way to the tables," Laux says.



Wine lovers are catered for by sommelier Michel Buder, who skilfully assists on choosing the perfect wine - be it from the finest German vineyards or some of the best harvest from the old and the new world. And the intimate hotel bar is a cosy place for a digestive after an exquisite meal or a nightcap to finish the day in style.



A few yards away from the main building, and slightly more casual, is the rustic Stolper Fährkrug, named after the historic ferry crossing point and also part of the Relais & Châteaux Gutshaus Stolpe. "We serve coffee, tea and cake as well as authentic Pomeranian culinary delights. The beer garden outside overlooks the river Peene and stands exactly where, 350 years ago, the ferry to (back then) bordering Sweden took off," Laux explains. The Stolper Fährkrug is said to be one of the most beautiful and oldest restaurants in the country.



Culture and events in the historic stables

In autumn the stunning renovated historic stables are serving as a stage for the great musicians, who perform as part of

the Mecklenburg-Pomeranian Music Festival. Stars on stage in the Relais & Châteaux Gutshaus Stolpe include Kent Nagano and Götz Alsmann to name just a few. An amazing string of concerts is scheduled until Christmas. When not serving as a stage for the world's musical elite, the old equestrian quarters are used for private as well as corporate events. Equipped with the latest technology, they offer a truly inspiring ambience. Smaller groups may prefer the intimate Maltzan room, while up to 200 people can find space in the elegant Bülow hall. Weather permitting, a large terrace offers a romantic al-fresco backdrop for an unforgettable party under the stars.

Bring your own horse

Plans for the future include the modernisation of another historic building on site, which will provide further guest accommodation due to rising demand from a very special group of travellers. "We are looking forward to welcoming more guests with their own horses. Discovering the beautiful nature of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania's North on horseback is a dream come true for passionate riders. The Relais & Châteaux Gutshaus Stolpe not only offers two-legged guests and unforgettable country stay, but also the horses enjoy the ultimate treat. Horse-riding has long been a tradition on our manor grounds," Laux concludes.

www.gutshaus-stolpe.de

joining 11 hectares of parkland. Or the river Peene and the Elemente sauna and wellness area is ideal to recharge the batteries.

Michelin-starred gourmet delights and hearty Pomeranian cuisine

When it comes to great dining, guests are spoilt for choice at the Relais & Châteaux Gutshaus Stolpe. The exquisite and Michelin-starred Gourmet Restaurant does not fail to impress even the most discerning guests. Head Chef Björn Swanson and his team are in charge of the creative menu

