

COUNTRY LIFE

EVERY WEEK

NOVEMBER 23, 2022

Advent calendar special



Glorious food, desert-island wines,
great gift ideas and Britain's best toymakers



▲ Dress to impress

The Suhana tablecloth, £85, is block printed on unbleached pure cotton, traditionally made by artisans in India and available from Faro Home (www.farohome.com)



▲ Hand printed

These hand-printed Christmas Robin cotton napkins, £42 for a set of six, are by artist Lottie Day, inspired by the birds that visit her parents' garden in Norfolk, from Rhubarb & Hare (www.rhubarbandhare.co.uk)



▲ Smart set

Classic in shape, but bold in colour, this Reds 12-piece cutlery set, £130, is made of four placements, combining knife, fork and spoon in burgundy, red, yellow and pink, from Matilda Goad & Co (www.matildagoad.com)



▲ Handmade elegance

Hand-painted porcelain plates grace the table—these Foret Bird dinner plates, £1,050 for a set of six, are crafted by Herend as an imaginative take on the classic Rothschild Bird pattern, from Bonadea (020-8088 2009; www.bonadea.com)



▲ Festive fare

Dress the table in style: Gold Beaded Shell decorations, £12 each, Vintage-style Glass dinner plate in Soft Pink, £19 each, Rose Tint wine glasses, £43 set of four, Khaki Stripe paper napkins, £5 set of 16, all Rockett St George (01444 253391; www.rockettstgeorge.co.uk)

► Portable light

The Amelia rechargeable table lamp in Antique Silver, £120, has a battery life of at least 10 hours and is ideal for lighting the dining table—with no need for a trailing cable to a faraway socket. Shown here with a 20cm (8in) empire shade in Verdant Arrows, £40, from Pooky (020-7351 3003; www.pooky.com)



Festive fair

From December 1–3, Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour, London SW10, presents its first Twinkle of Christmas Fair. It promises to be an inspirational festive shopping experience in the Design Avenue, which will be transformed into a winter wonderland dusted with powdery snow, complete with 30 traditional wooden cabins. A pop-up shop from the Design Centre's showrooms will offer seasonal gift ideas, plus demonstrations and hands-on crafting workshops to inspire you to create handmade decorations, personalised presents and seasonal table centrepieces. The fair will also offer an opportunity to celebrate our canine companions—and discover the secrets of creating a pet-friendly home—at 2pm on December 1, when COUNTRY LIFE's Giles Kime chats to Georgina Montagu, author of the lavish new book *Top Dogs*, and interior designer Lucy Hammond Giles, associate director of Sibyl Colefax & John Fowler. Expect an amusing, joyful session as they discuss the special relationship between beloved dogs and their devoted owners and hear insider tips on making the best decorating decisions for you and your four-legged friend. Tickets to the talk cost £5.



Opening times: December 1, 10am–7.30pm; December 2–December 3, 10am–5.30pm

Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour, London SW10

Entry to the Twinkle of Christmas Fair 2022 is free; talks extra (020-7225 9166; www.dcch.co.uk)

From top:

Tableware selection, Fiona Finds; Tatiana Alida 'Butter Please' dish, £85, Tatiana Alida; Top Dogs by Georgina Montagu (Triglyph Books, £60)

