# Michelin-starred chef Simon Rogan to take over restaurants at Midland Hotel Manchester



Two-Michelin-starred chef Simon Rogan is to take over the management of two restaurants at the Midland Hotel in Manchester.

The chef-proprietor of [L’Enclume in Cartmel](http://simonrogan.co.uk/), Cumbria, and [Roganic in London](http://roganic.co.uk/Roganic/Welcome.html), will take over the running of the former Michelin-starred French restaurant as well as the hotel’s second, larger bar and dining room, which is currently called the Colony.

Rogan’s appointment coincides with a £400,000 investment taking place at the Midland Hotel. This will include a complete refurbishment (1) of the 50-seat French, which will close in January and reopen late in February.

At the French, Rogan will serve his renowned L’Enclume-style cuisine focused on British only ingredients. The second, larger restaurant, which is yet-to-be-named, will seat around 150 diners and offer a more casual menu not exclusively based on British ingredients.

Michael Purtill, managing director of Q Hotels, owner of the Midland Hotel, said : “Simon is a culinary genius and we’re really proud to be associated with one of the UK’s finest chefs. This partnership marks a new chapter for the hotel, in particular the French, in modernising our offering within the city.”

Rogan, who also runs Rogan & Co in Cartmel, as well as the Pig & Whistle pub, will continue to be based in Cumbria and is in the process of putting together a brigade to oversee the day-to-day running of the operations at the Midland Hotel.

The French was one of Britain’s first Michelin-starred restaurants back in the 1970s, when Michelin relaunched its UK guide in 1974.

“There is huge affection for the Midland hotel in Manchester and I want to help bring its restaurants back to their former glory. It’s a wonderful challenge,” Rogan said.

L’Enclume gained its second Michelin star in the 2013 guide to Great Britain and Ireland, which was published in October. The restaurant also scored a perfect 10/10 in the latest Good Food Guide, ranking it top in the UK together with Heston Blumenthal’s Fat Duck.

By Kerstin  Kühn

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From: *Caterer and hotelkeeper*

 (1) **refurbishment : rénovation**