

The Twelve Rooms of Christmas

A FREE FIELD GUIDE TO THE WORLD

FIELD GUIDE · ENGLISH 1.0 · NOVEMBER 2026 · FREE, NO SIGN-UP



ONE NIGHT IN DECEMBER

An old winter house opens twelve unlike rooms, and supper proves they were one household all along.

An old winter house opens only twelve rooms each Christmas. The song everybody knows is its filing system. Each verse was given to a different pair of hands, and none of them agreed on what it meant.

PEAR VESTIBULE

You do not need to visit every room

That is the first thing you are told, with your coat already gone and a cup of warm pear tea in your hand. A slim brass ring is offered on a cloth. Its gap is left open. Take it or do not; supper is the same either way.



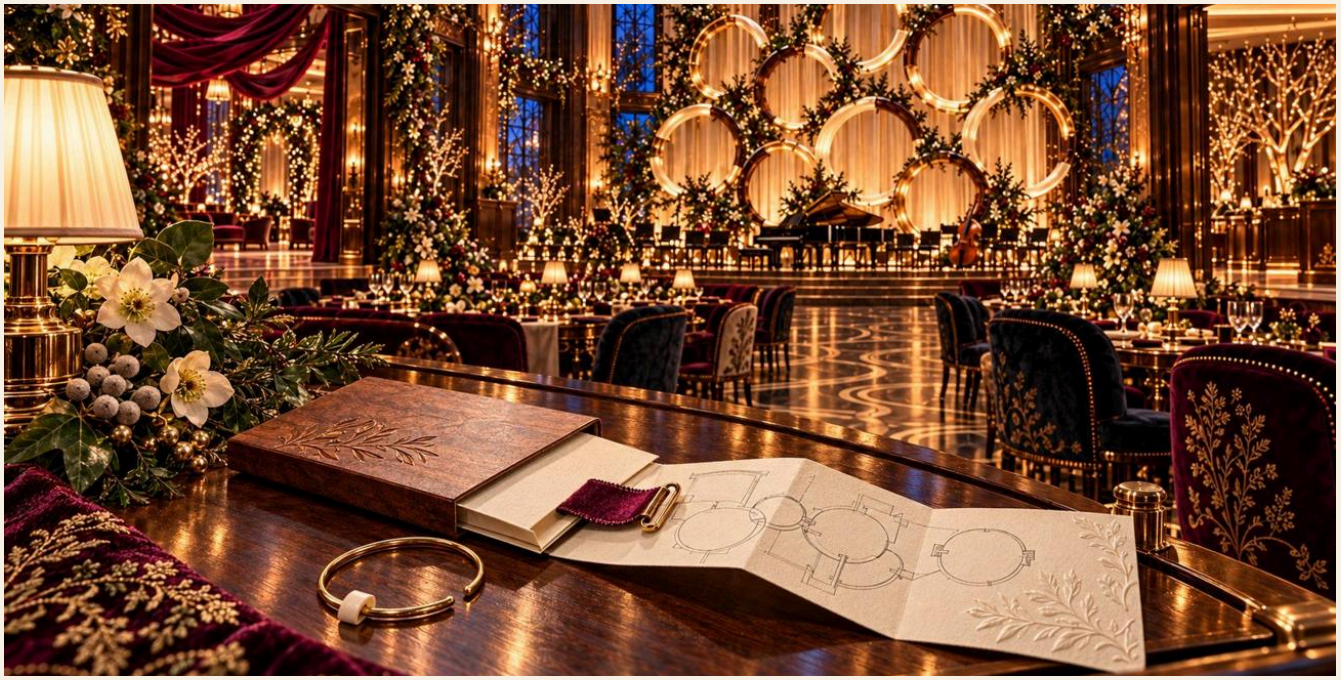


A FEW OF THE TWELVE *Thirteen environments, thirteen temperaments. Use this page when deciding which rooms your space can hold.*

ROOM BY ROOM

A few of the twelve

Pear Vestibule	Pearwood on every surface and a Y-shaped frame of bare branches with a gap kept clear at its heart.
Paired Correspondence	Two desks that agree on nothing but craftsmanship. A tartlet arrives as one of a pair.
Gold Ring Hall	Five fixed open rings and a counter where sparkling tea and sparkling wine are exactly equal.
Water Mirror	Two bare mirror islands and the softest seats in the house. Nothing has been added. That is the point.
Cream Kitchen	Bread torn by hand, butter stamped with an open ring, and one question: the recipe, or just the food?
Drum and Assembly	Long pearwood tables on an inlaid house plan, under twelve rings in three tiers.



At the door the ring comes back in its pearwood sleeve, clipped to the folded diagram. A host may have pressed a small notch into the ivory tab in passing, in the Atelier perhaps, but nothing is earned by notches and nobody counts them. The diagram prints all twelve rooms regardless. The line the house uses at this moment is the best one it has: the gap is left for whoever comes next.



THE TURN

At a quarter to ten

Supper has been eaten. Cups and lamps are still on the table. For six minutes the light does one quiet thing: twelve fixed rings are picked out one by one, in room order, and a line runs across the floor joining every symbol you have walked past all evening. Nothing moves. The house was one household the whole time, and it left its circles open so there would be room for you.



THE HOUSE SUPPER

What is on the table

- Pear and aged-cheese gougère
- Butter-poached leek tartlet, hazelnut, cultured cream
- Three textures of beet with goat curd
- Clear consommé poured around four herb dumplings
- Seared scallop in a saffron potato ring
- Soft egg and winter greens in an oval cocotte
- Roast duck, pear mostarda, red cabbage, juniper jus
- Spiced cake, roasted pear, vanilla cream, almond crisp
- Late: pear and brown-butter hand pies

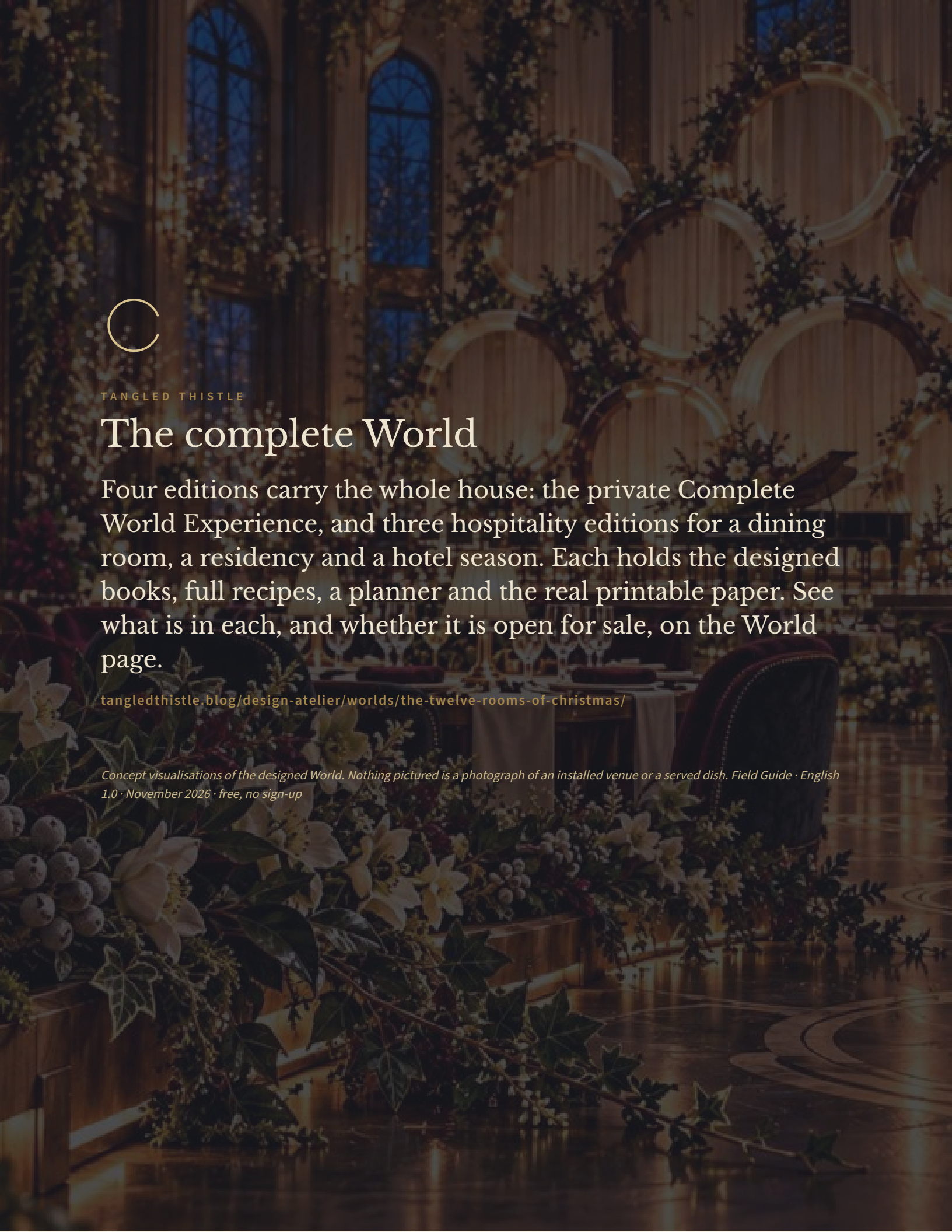
Every dish has a complete alternative, and every drink a zero-proof first choice. The full measured recipes are in the paid editions.



MAKE IT YOURS

One thing to steal tonight

Lay a single cream line along the floor from your front door to your dining table, and let it turn in at every doorway on the way. Ribbon will do. Guests follow it without being told to, the rooms it passes suddenly belong to one evening, and you have built the spine of this World for the price of a haberdashery receipt.



TANGLED THISTLE

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Concept visualisations of the designed World. Nothing pictured is a photograph of an installed venue or a served dish. Field Guide · English 1.0 · November 2026 · free, no sign-up