

## Hobart

NEW



### INSIDER TIP

Dedicated foodies should look up **Herbaceous Tours** to discover Hobart's hidden speciality grocers, learn secret recipes and find the ingredients needed to make superb dishes. [www.herbaceousoustours.com.au](http://www.herbaceousoustours.com.au)

### SHOP TALK

Savvy shoppers looking for unique, hand-made items frequent a monthly event known as **The Market**. Upcoming events are slated for 4 November and 8-9 December. 3 Sandy Bay Rd, [www.themarkethobart.com.au](http://www.themarkethobart.com.au)

### CHEAP EATS

Dine upstairs at **Harbour Lights Café** and take in the sights of the waterfront while enjoying favourites like scallop pie and the quirky salmon caesar salad. 29 Morrison St, [www.harbourlightscafe.com.au](http://www.harbourlightscafe.com.au)

### TOP TABLES

A short drive from the CBD is **Signal Station Brasserie**, which offers panoramic views, casual but elegant dining, and first-class coffee and cakes. 700 Nelson Rd, Mt Nelson, [www.thestationcafe.com.au](http://www.thestationcafe.com.au) ☹☹

### LATE & LIVELY

On Friday evenings, **Lark Distillery** is transformed from a whisky bar into a funky venue for the bluegrass stylings of house band Coyote Serenade. 14 Davey St, [www.larkdistillery.com.au](http://www.larkdistillery.com.au)

### OVERNIGHT

Boasting a stunning riverfront location, **Wrest Point** is home to five restaurants, six bars and a casino, and is just minutes from the CBD and Salamanca Place. 410 Sandy Bay Rd, Sandy Bay, tel: +61 (0)3 6225 7091, [www.wrestpoint.com.au](http://www.wrestpoint.com.au) ☹☹☹

## Melbourne



### INSIDER TIP

When the mercury rises, locals in search of quality waves head to the seaside town of **Torquay**, 90 minutes away on the Surf Coast.

### SHOP TALK

Built in 1891, the **Block Arcade** is a Melbourne icon, showcasing a range of quality shops and eateries, not to mention historically significant architecture. 282 Collins St, [www.theblockarcade.com.au](http://www.theblockarcade.com.au)

### CHEAP EATS

With the city's large Greek population, Melburnians are spoiled when it comes to Greek food. New on the scene is **Spitiko**, home to the best lamb gyros going. 270 Park St, South Melbourne, <http://spitiko.com.au>

### TOP TABLES

Melbourne's newest laneway restaurant, **Señoritas** offers authentic Mexican street food from regions such as Oaxaca and Yucatan. 16 Meyers Pl, [www.senoritas.com.au](http://www.senoritas.com.au) ☹☹

### LATE & LIVELY

Difficult to find but a treat when you do, this newly opened outdoor bar is all about craft beers and tasty burgers. When the resident DJs start to spin, tables at **Badger vs. Hawk** are moved to the side and a dance floor beckons. 333 La Trobe St, tel: +61 (0)466 699900

### OVERNIGHT

The real highlight of the **Stamford Plaza** is its laneway location, a short stroll from myriad bars and boutique clothing shops. Rooms are spacious and the service is excellent. 111 Little Collins St, tel: +61 (0)3 9659 1000, [www.stamford.com.au](http://www.stamford.com.au) ☹☹

## Perth



### INSIDER TIP

**Perth Arena** marks its opening on 10 November with an Elton John spectacular, followed a day later by Matchbox Twenty and later in the week by Nickelback. Wellington St, [www.pertharena.com.au](http://www.pertharena.com.au)

### SHOP TALK

Perth fashion queen **Ruth Tarvydas**'s shop on King Street, the city's top retail precinct, showcases the sexy and stylish creations that are her trademark. [www.ruthtarvydas.com](http://www.ruthtarvydas.com)

### CHEAP EATS

If you love burgers with first-rate toppings, **Jus Burgers** is for you. It was voted WA's best burger for the third year running at Foxtel's "I Love Food" Awards. <http://jusburgers.com.au>

### TOP TABLES

Scott O'Sullivan is named as Perth's Chef of the Year in the 2013 *Good Food Guide*, a ringing endorsement of **Red Cabbage**. 15 Labouchere Rd, South Perth, <http://redcabbagefoodandwine.com.au> ☹☹

### LATE & LIVELY

Perth's biggest nightclub, **Metro City** is always heaving on Saturday nights thanks to DJs and a stage show. It hosts visiting acts on other nights. 146 Roe St, Northbridge, [www.metroconcertclub.com](http://metroconcertclub.com)

### OVERNIGHT

**Sullivan's Hotel** is an intimate, family-owned inn just outside of town, just below Kings Park and close to the Swan River. Rooms are spacious, with simple furnishings. Use of bikes is free. 166 Mounts Bay Rd, tel: +61 (0)8 9321 8022, [www.sullivans.com.au](http://www.sullivans.com.au) ☹

## Sydney



### INSIDER TIP

Do your research and book yourself into one of the many **New Year's Eve parties** happening around town. Top picks include the Ivy, Opera Bar and Marquee.

### SHOP TALK

Find the offerings of all the best Australian designers in one place at the **Strand Arcade**, just off Pitt Street Mall. Trawl through the boutiques here and admire the grand Victorian architecture. 412-414 George St, [www.strandarcade.com.au](http://www.strandarcade.com.au)

### CHEAP EATS

Indulge your sweet tooth at **Flour & Stone**, a delightful little bakery famous for its panna cotta lamingtons and hand-iced gingerbread. 53 Riley St, Woolloomooloo, [www.flourandstone.com.au](http://www.flourandstone.com.au)

### TOP TABLES

The latest offering from celebrated Sydney chef Dan Hong, **Mr Wong** has a sepia-toned interior that sets the scene for a well-orchestrated menu of seafood, roasted meats and dim sum. 3 Bridge Ln, <http://merivale.com.au/mrwong> ☹☹

### LATE & LIVELY

The latest small bar on the York Street strip is **Uncle Ming's**, a 1920's Shanghai-inspired speakeasy touting Asian-themed beers, spirits and cocktails. 55 York St, [www.unclemings.com.au](http://www.unclemings.com.au)

### OVERNIGHT

**QT Sydney** is the city's newest designer hotel, home to an eclectic mix of artefacts, bespoke furniture and art. Enjoy luxurious bedding, walk-in showers and oversized tubs. 49 Market St, tel: +61 (0)2 8262 0000, [www.qtsydney.com.au](http://qtsydney.com.au) ☹☹☹

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