

belle

35 YEARS
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
TO US!

NATIONAL
TREASURES

ALEX PERRY
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THE VERY BEST OF
AUSTRALIA

DISCOVER OUR MOST AMAZING HOMES



32-PAGE KITCHEN & BATHROOM SPECIAL
INSPIRED IDEAS AND FRESH NEW LOOKS

ULTIMATE LUXURY
Bed linen & cushions

LOUNGE
Edited by KAY NETHERINGTON



Prime time

Want to paint the town red? Here's where.

SOHO, SO GO The Make design duo has transformed the Soho Bar Nightclub in Kings Cross recently. Offering four bars across two levels, the whimsical Lounge area (left) has quirky furniture and decor. www.sohobar.com.au

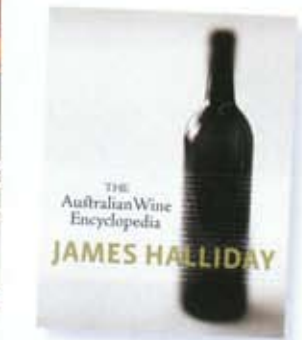
PRIVATE PANACHE Sydney's Martin Place Bar (below) has just revamped the Private Back Bar, a space that is 'downtown New York meets Sydney inner-city style'. Xorel fabric panelling and a feature wall light from Ici Et Là were picked by renowned design group SJB Interiors for instant luxe. martinplacebar.com.au



HISTORY CLASS Heritage-listed and newly refurbished, The Riverview Hotel (right) in Sydney's Balmain has been described as one of the few true 'gastro pubs' in Sydney, referring to the UK phenomenon of up-market pubs that offer stylish interiors and top-quality food, but still maintain that cosy and relaxed pub ambience. theriverviewhotel.com.au



FLYING START Sparrow Kitchen and Bar (above) is the third venture of young Adelaide restaurateurs Matthew and Olivia Trim. With a Hecker Phelan & Guthrie design, the name is inspired by the garden setting. Spaces are roomy with communal and individual timber tables, glazed terracotta lights, tile detailing and timber floors. Food is Mediterranean mod, with a strong tapas list. sparrowkitchenandbar.com.au



VINE READ *The Australian Wine Encyclopedia* is a "distillation of the knowledge I have accumulated over the past 40 or so years... a form of living history", says author James Halliday. It features 800 meticulously researched entries. Hardie Grant Books, \$60.



FRANÇAIS, POUR VOUS At the chic new French wine bar Boire (above) in Melbourne, details abound. Designer Ryan Russell (see page 60) has included a blackboard-painted wall with hand-calligraphed quotes, light shades representing a droplet of wine above each table, and a wine-inspired colour palette. A menu of pot-au-feu dishes is matched to the real focus: the wine list. boire.net.au

BELLE DIARY

- + Reserve a table at Matt Moran's just-opened **ovo** Restaurant in Brisbane. ariarestaurant.com.
- + Experience **ovatta** in Sydney's Darlinghurst for authentic Italian food and a great European wine list. omerta.com.au.
- + Book early for **ovatta** restaurant in Mollymook, NSW, after October 1, when Rick Stein becomes the new chef. www.bannisters.com.au.

AUSTRALIAN WINE LIST OF THE YEAR Congratulations to Sydney's Rockpool Bar & Grill, voted winner of Australia's Wine List of the Year 2009 by Fine Wine Partners and *Gourmet Traveller WINE*. The restaurant's world-class list is in two volumes and includes numerous rare collector's vintages. winelistoftheyear.com.au

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