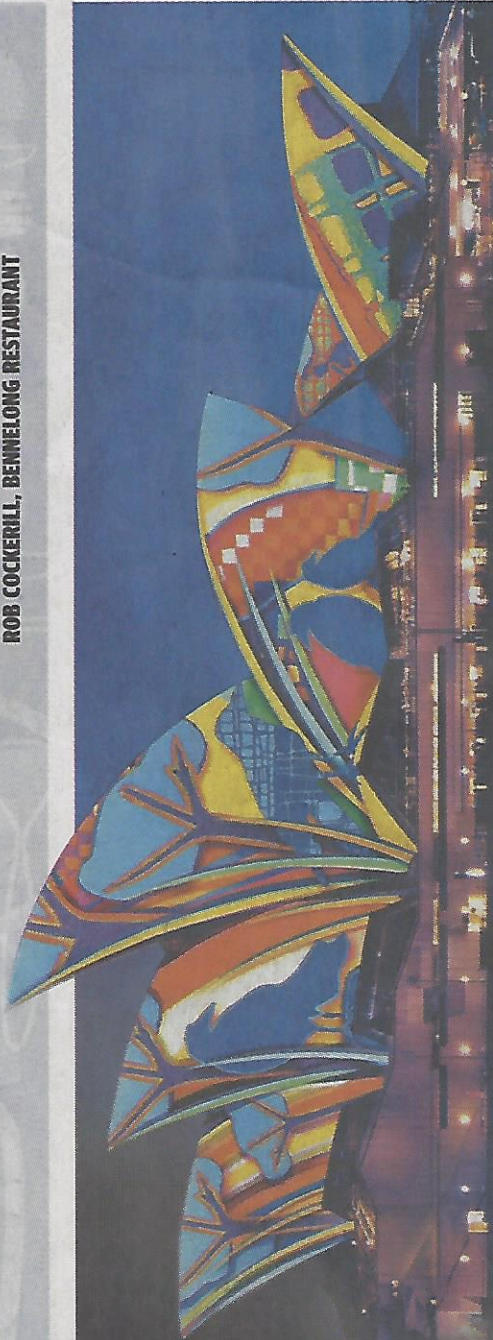


Vivid is a big fun thing for all Sydneysiders

ROB COCKERILL, BENNELONG RESTAURANT

The Opera House will be lit up for the eighth Vivid Sydney Festival.



MCA CAFE AND SCULPTURE TERRACE

On Level 4 at the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Vivid Glow Bar on the Sculpture Terrace overlooks the mesmerising views of Vivid's spectacular lights. Patrons will enjoy Vivid-inspired cocktails at the Glow Bar and a new menu at the cafe.

140 George St, Sydney, 9245 2461, freshcatering.com.au

THE THEATRE BAR AT THE END OF THE WHARF

An ideal spot to relax after talking in a walk around the harbour foreshore, with inspired Vivid cocktails and a line-up of food to enjoy, with signature dishes including slow-cooked lamb shoulder with wet polenta, tomato, fennel and gremolata, beer-battered fish and chips with salad and 1920s prohibition era-style cocktails

WALSH BAY

SIMMER ON THE BAY

There will be a pop-up barbecue stall with meats from chef Brigid Kennedy's farm at Berrima, including a slow-roasted lamb slider with crushed roast chestnuts plus fabulous spiced gluhwein. Shore 2/3 Walsh Bay, 13 Hickson Rd, Dawes Point, 9247 2457, simmeronthebay.com.au

BAR CYCLE

Bar Cycle has just launched a new wine bar and refreshes the blackboard menu daily. In addition to their coveted cubanos, Bar Cycle has introduced Italian-influenced share plates including arancini, antipasti, stuzzichini and charcuterie boards, as well as a classic Sicilian pizza, pastas, lasagne and cannelloni. And a cocktail and Italian wine list.

LOTUS DUMPLING BAR

Offering dumpling taste platters that are ideal to share on the go. Pier 6/7, 19 Hickson Road, Walsh Bay

other family-friendly food and drinks. Mains include local Palmers Island mulloway, roast tomato sauce, saffron potato and rouille (\$32).

SYDNEY CBD

QT SYDNEY

Exclusive access to a backstage tour of the Opera House and cocktails in the Deep Purple Pool Hall, with up-close views of the Opera House sails light installation, are just a few of the attractions of the Vivid sponsor QT Sydney's deal. To top it off, stay a few nights in a lavish QT King Deluxe room. Saturday, June 4 booked out: 49 Market St, Sydney, 8262 0000, qthotelsandresorts.com

FOUR ELEMENTS

Four Elements at Mercure Sydney Central is offering two courses with a Vivid cocktail (\$68) plus a cheese box to take to the festivities. 818-820 George St, Sydney, 9217 6666, mercuresydney.com.au

Eat streets for the festival of light

SYDNEY HARBOUR

FORT DENISON

Board a water taxi to this island for the \$112.50 two-course Dinner DELIGHTS overlooking the Harbour Lights boat parade and views of the cityscape. They're lighting the eastern side of the Bridge this year making for an ideal dinner-time view. Fort Denison, 9361 5208, fortdenison.com.au

ANANAS

Get your French brasserie fix at the relocated Cafe Ananas in Phillip St, its temporary home until it relocates to Darling Harbour and the ICC. Enjoy a pre- or post-vivid dining experience at a table for two or private dining room, for 10-25 guests. 2 Phillip St, Sydney, 8248 9600, ananas.com.au

AQUA DINING

Celebrate the return of Sydney's most unique festival with an opening night special four-course degustation menu, designed by head chef Davide Rebeccato (\$125). Optional matched wines available (\$65). Paul and Northcliff Sts, Wilsons Point, 9964 9998, aquadining.com.au

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM

The museum presents The Nautilus And The Sea roof projection, with free weekend access to Action Stations and weekend night pop-up bar, 6pm-11pm. Yots cafe will serve tapas and drinks on weekend nights. Darling Harbour, 9298 3777, anmm.gov.au/vivid

THE TERNARY

Novotel Sydney's Darling Harbour restaurant, with panoramic views of Sydney Harbour, will be offering a special menu. Chef Anthony Flowers will showcase the restaurant's three offerings: The Grill Kitchen, Asian Kitchen and Wine Bar, with a two- (\$55) or three-course (\$65) menus including cocktail, wine, beer or soft drink. Children 4-15 choose from an a la carte menu, and receive a mocktail, gift pack and Vivid map. 100 Murray St, Pyrmont, 9934 0000, theternary.com.au

Q DINING

This fine diner offers refined modern cuisine with a spectacular backdrop of the Harbour and Bridge showcasing the Vivid extravaganza. Enjoy the kaleidoscope of colours as you dine on a seasonal menu. Mezzanine Level, Pullman Quay Grand Sydney Harbour, 61 Macquarie St, Sydney, 9256 4044, pullmanquaygrand.sydneyharbour.com

SCARLETT RESTAURANT

Located in the heart of the Vivid event, Harbour Rocks Hotel, MGallery by Sofitel, offers a two-course dinner at Scarlett Restaurant by executive chef Joey Dela Victoria. Choose from entree and main or main and dessert (\$50) from the new winter menu. Harbour Rocks Hotel, 34 Harrington St, The Rocks, 8220 9999, harbourrocks.com.au

FERRIS WHEEL, LUNA PARK

View Vivid from on high with free ferris wheel rides for The Deck diners. Head chef Michael Roper has crafted a menu especially for the event with starters of Moroccan spiced lamb and medjool date pie or spanner crab pasta, mains of roast pork belly, coq au vin, and parmesan gnocchi or a signature paella, plus desserts. Choose a two- or three-course menu (\$55-\$69) with sittings at 5pm-7.30pm and 7.30pm-9pm. 1 Olympic Drive, Wilsons Point, 9033 7670, thedecksydney.com

INTERCONTINENTAL SYDNEY

Each guest receives a glass of sparkling wine at Cafe Opera. Enjoy a taste of Australian seafood, including mussels and prawns, a host of mains, garden-fresh salads, roast of the day, desserts and live cooking station. Monday-Thursday, \$65, Friday-Sunday, \$89

117 DINING

The hotel's 117 restaurant has a three-course seasonal, local menu with wines to complement each dish. To complete your evening, head up to the Supper Club to enjoy the spectacular Harbour light show. \$95 per person (excluding matching wines), Supper Club Wednesday-Saturday

VIVID LANEWAY

Normally a sellout, the Vivid Laneway pop-up features a three-course feast, free-flowing beverages, live music and a vibrant atmosphere. 117 Macquarie St, Sydney, 9240 1260, icsydney.com.au

promotioner-style cocktails. Pier 4, Hickson Rd, Walsh Bay, 9250 1761, freshcatering.com.au

THE GOVERNORS TABLE

Indulge in a special fixed-price menu alongside the full a la carte menu, with mains from \$29, plus a glass of wine, or a two- (\$35) or a three-course dinner (\$45). There is also a children's menu (\$12) including main course and dessert. Cnr Phillip and Bridge Sts, Sydney, 9241 1788, freshcatering.com.au

SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

In keeping with the stunning sails animation Songlines, Bennelong will celebrate our nation's culinary heritage by showcasing locally-sourced produce. Chef de cuisine Rob Cockrill and bar manager Aaron Gaulke have combined their ideas to create The Bennelong Billy cocktail (\$24) to go with executive chef Peter Gilmore's red claw yabbies (\$34) from Mandandjji country in southwest Queensland, served with lemon jam, cultured cream and buckwheat pikelets. Gaulke's Bennelong Billy is an Aussie rum-based cocktail with river mint and strawberry gum served over crushed ice.

OPERA BAR

Paying homage to the long history of local Aboriginal women gathering on the site to shuck oysters, chef Danny Nguyen will serve oyster shots (on today's cover) with indigenous berries, finger limes, lemon myrtle and smoked macadamia nuts (\$20). A GIF photo booth, projections and lights will add to the atmosphere.

WESTERN FOYERS

If you're on the go, chef Lauren Murdoch offers a pop-up food and drink stall on the forecourt, which will serve hot dogs, jaffles, soup and

WOOLLOOMOOLLOO

The Tilbury has an early-bird dinner of two courses with a schooner or a glass of pinot noir (\$40). After dinner, journey through the Garden installations and 3D-mapped projections which create a shimmering wonderland. 12-18 Nicholson St, Woolloomooloo, 9968 1955, tilburyhotel.com.au

MARTIN PLACE

8Bits+Bytes is a line-up of burger joints. The Milk Bar by Cafe Iish, Pub Life Kitchen, Mary's, BANGBANG and Sammy's Burger Bar, curated by Motti-Smith and Paper Moose, which visitors can devour and score. vidsydney.com.au