



CAPELLA SYDNEY IN AUSTRALIA NAMED NO.16 IN THE 50 BEST HOTELS 2026 AND BEST HOTEL IN OCEANIA

The highly-anticipated list celebrates hotels across six continents worldwide

16 September 2026 – Capella Sydney has been named No. 16 and Best Hotel in Oceania in the global ranking of The 50 Best Hotels 2026. The fourth edition of The 50 Best Hotels has been announced at an awards ceremony in Paris and features industry-defining hotels spanning six continents worldwide.

This evening's awards ceremony once again united the global travel and hospitality community to celebrate the world's finest hotels. For the first time in Paris, at one of the city's most unique locations, Les Salles du Carrousel, the event showcased experiences that will inspire consumers, travellers and hoteliers around the globe.

Located in the heart of Sydney's Sandstone Precinct, Capella Sydney occupies the beautifully restored former Department of Education building, originally designed by NSW Government Architect George McRae. Opened in 2023 as the first Capella hotel in Australia, the 192-room hotel brings together heritage architecture, contemporary design and a considered collection of more than 1,400 artworks. From Auriga Spa and its 20-metre heated pool to Brasserie 1930, McRae Bar and Aperture, the hotel offers a series of distinctive spaces and experiences that reflect both the character of the building and the energy of Sydney.

Faye Huggett, Director of Community for The 50 Best Hotels, says: "Bringing The 50 Best Hotels to Paris for the first time has been a privilege, and a fitting backdrop to celebrate the hotels shaping the future of travel. This year's list recognises not only extraordinary places to stay, but the exceptional people whose vision, craft and care create truly memorable guest experiences. Congratulations to every hotel honoured in 2026, thank you to our Academy whose votes shape the list and everyone who continues to make this a moment the industry look forward to each year."

Marc von Arnim, General Manager of Capella Sydney, says: "To be recognised once again among the world's finest hotels is a wonderful acknowledgement of what our team has built together. Since opening in 2023, our goal has always been to create a hotel that feels connected to Sydney, while staying true to the thoughtful and intuitive hospitality that is at the heart of Capella. This recognition belongs to our colleagues, whose care, curiosity and commitment shape every guest experience. We are incredibly proud to represent Sydney and Australia, and grateful to our guests for choosing to stay with us. Thank you to The 50 Best Hotels for recognising the work of our team."

The 50 Best Hotels 2026 was revealed as part of a live countdown from No.50 to No.1. The ranking is complemented by a series of special awards alongside the extended 51-100 list and reflects the very best travel experiences around the globe, collated from the votes of more than 800 anonymous experts. This voting panel – The 50 Best Hotels Academy – comprises a balanced mix of hoteliers, travel journalists, educators and seasoned luxury travellers, led by a group of industry-leading Academy Chairs.



About Capella Sydney

Capella Sydney occupies one of the city's most significant heritage buildings, the former Department of Education in the heart of Sydney's Sandstone Precinct. Opened in March 2023 as the first Capella hotel in Australia, the 192-room property brings together the character of its historic sandstone architecture with contemporary design, thoughtful hospitality and a strong connection to the city. Across its guestrooms and suites, original architectural details sit alongside bespoke furnishings and a collection of more than 1,400 artworks, while Auriga Spa, Brasserie 1930, McRae Bar, Aperture and The Living Room offer considered spaces for wellness, dining, culture and connection. The hotel is within easy reach of Sydney Harbour, the Opera House and Harbour Bridge, inviting guests to experience the city from a distinctly local perspective.

In 2025, Capella Sydney was named No. 12 in The 50 Best Hotels and Best Hotel in Oceania, less than three years after opening, establishing its place among the world's leading hotels. For more information, visit capellahotels.com/sydney | Instagram: [@capellasydney](https://www.instagram.com/capellasydney) | Facebook: Capella Sydney

About Capella Hotel Group

Capella Hotel Group elevates hospitality through stewardship and artistry. From Singapore, our two luxury brands—Capella Hotels and Resorts and Patina Hotels & Resorts—transform heritage sites into living culture and conscious travel into meaningful connection. Recognised globally for excellence, we craft hospitality icons and embed care for people and place throughout our portfolio. www.capellahotelgroup.com

About Capella Hotels and Resorts

Capella Hotels and Resorts embodies excellence in the craft of hospitality. Our constellation spans Asia Pacific with future openings in the Middle East and Europe. Each property is a custodian of heritage, reflecting meticulous restoration and unseen artistry to offer experiences that illuminate travel. Named Best Hotel Brand by Travel + Leisure for four consecutive years, Capella combines the highest levels of craftsmanship with personalised service to create bespoke luxury. Auriga Spa, our signature wellness sanctuary inspired by lunar cycles, brings holistic wellbeing to each destination. www.capellahotels.com

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About The 50 Best Hotels

Following the success of The 50 Best Restaurants and The 50 Best Bars, The 50 launched The 50 Best Hotels in 2023, marking the brand's first global launch since 2009. The list is created by The 50 Best Hotels Academy, an influential group of more than 800 independent leaders, each selected for their expert opinion of the international hotel scene. The 50 Best Hotels event programme – including the awards ceremony and unveiling of the list – provides a unique opportunity to unite hoteliers, restaurateurs, bar owners, media, business and luxury travellers at a captivating celebration of hospitality, passion and talent. The first edition of the awards was held in London, UK, in September 2023.

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