

Save

Take-off



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SHOWCASE

Women travellers: are you tired of peering into a darkened bathroom to guess where your eyebrows are, or spending hours using that aged hairdryer bolted to the wall? MGallery by Sofitel, the boutique arm of the brand, found 80 per cent of its guests are women, and they want female-friendly hotels. Its new inspired by Her offering has created dishes, toiletries and even a tea service targeted at its female clients. Practicalities first: its emergency box is

What women want

packed with such essentials as tampons, make-up and nail polish removing wipes, hair ties, quality pantyhose and even a Clinique face moisturiser (and let's face it, who hasn't resorted to pimple-inducing body moisturiser at a pinch). Some items are free, some cost. There's also a cocktail and a dish inspired by a change-making woman. During our recent stay at Melbourne's Hotel Lindrum, the cocktail was a sweet Tea Time negroni -



Coastal cool

With a nostalgic nod to its retro past, the Shoal Bay Country Club sports a makeover worthy of its status as a Port Stephens icon. With pops of gelato colours and Mexican-inspired tiles, the historic hotel was built in the 1930s and has undergone a \$6 million revamp by Luchetti Krele to bring it back to its former glory. Expect retro signage, wicker and vintage furniture, palm-printed wallpaper, a terrazzo-topped bar and wood panelling repurposed



from the club's old dance floor. The sprawling, two-level venue boasts multiple eateries, an extensive cocktail list, a menu concocted by executive chef Atick Elahi (of Hotel Centennial and The Eastern Group, also owned by SBCC owner Andrew Lazarus) and regular live gigs. Order a strawberry highball and enjoy it on the sunny deck with stellar views over Shoal Bay. Seriously, who needs Walkiki with this in our backyard? See shoalbaycountryclub.com.au Sherlden Rhodes

SUBSCRIBER EXCLUSIVE

Special opening night screening of 'Aurore'

An audience favourite at the 2018 Alliance Française French Film Festival, *Aurore (M)* is a hugely entertaining romantic comedy about an everyday heroine on the road to rediscovery. Aurore is a middle-aged woman who begins to feel her life has come to a standstill - newly separated, unemployed, and about to become a grandmother - until she bumps into her teenage sweetheart. Exclusively for Herald subscribers, get a complimentary Prosecco on arrival with your ticket purchase.

Thursday 17 May, 6.45pm | Palace Central | \$12.50 adults | \$9.50 seniors

Book Now | smh.com.au/film



PALACE CINEMAS

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This offer is exclusive to subscribers of The Herald. Tickets to the subscriber-only opening night screening are \$12.50 for adults and \$9.50 for those aged 60 and over. Proof of age may be requested. Ticket purchases for the opening night screening are made via palacecinemas.com.au or at the Box Office. Screenings are subject to ticket availability. There is no limit on number of tickets purchased for monthly subscriber-only opening night screenings. Tickets are available for purchase until sold out. Each ticket holder will be entitled to a complimentary drink on arrival.

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