

LOUNGE: THE OLD CLARE'S ROOFTOP POOL AND BAR

Cap off your day by watching the sun go down, gin and tonic in hand, from a rooftop pool in the middle of the city. Sound exclusive?

Happily, The Old Clare Hotel's rooftop bar isn't just reserved for guests of the hotel. It's the perfect spot to celebrate clock-off with a Chamomile Highball (Tanqueray, chamomile, elderflower, lemon soda), a Miami Vice (a blend of Piña Colada and frozen Strawberry Daiquiri), or both. *The Old Clare Hotel, 1 Kensington St, Chippendale, NSW, (02) 8277 8277, theoldclarehotel.com.au*

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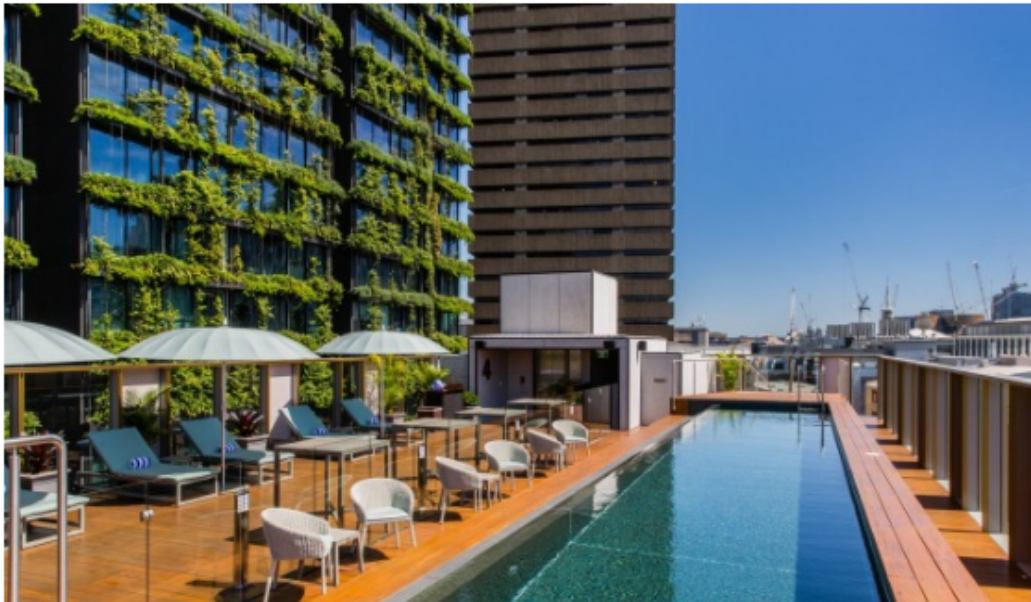


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Sydney's best rooftop bars 2016

CALLAN BOYS June 18 2016



The Old Clare Hotel's rooftop bar is one of the city's best. Stop by for a Jamsheed riesling and views over Broadway. *Photo: Nikki To*



Unless you're at a car park station, it's hard to have a bad time on a rooftop. Harder, yet if that rooftop has a bar and harder again if it happens to be summer. Whether you're after an open-air late-night dance floor, sanctuary from the CBD street-level bustle, a place to crack open champagne with a partner, or a casual boozier to cheers pints with mates, Sydney's rooftop bar scene has you covered.



The rooftop pool at The Old Clare, Chippendale.

NSW

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GRANT JONES, FOOD EDITOR, The Daily Telegraph

January 12, 2016 12:44pm

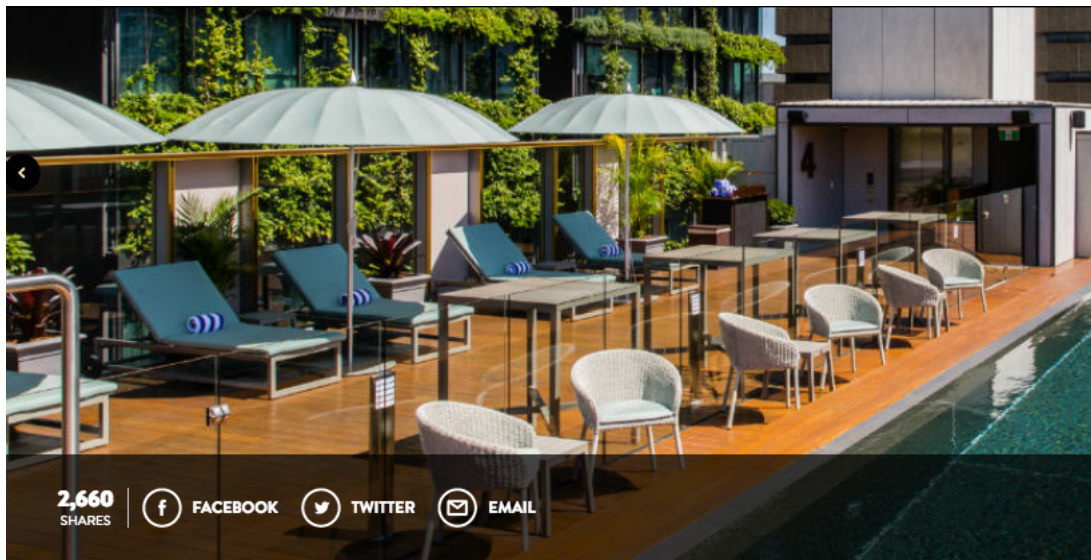
The Old Clare, Broadway

Have a swim and drink in the views around Broadway at this new rooftop bar above the beautifully renovated Old Clare hotel. Invite old friends over, make new ones or say hello to the neighbours in the Central Park complex.

1 Kensington St, Chippendale, 8277 8277, theoldclarehotel.com.au

The Glenmore, The Rocks

The Glenmore has one of the best rooftop bars in Sydney, with stellar views of the harbour and CBD. Tuck into gourmet pub food including hot wings, pulled pork rolls and barbecued ribs.



THE OLD CLARE ROOFTOP POOL AND BAR IS NOW OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The rooftop pool we've been dying to cannonball into.

Summer is coming to Chippendale's Old Clare Hotel. The recently revamped luxury lodgings opened for business a few months back, wowing us with their [stylish interior and food offerings so good they border on offensive](#). To be honest, we didn't really *need* another reason to want to pay them a visit. But then who are we to say no to a high altitude pool and bar?

Officially open as of Friday, November 20, The Old Clare Rooftop Pool and Bar is located on the fourth floor of the boutique hotel, which occupies the site that formerly housed the Carlton United Brewery Administrative Building. Visitors will be able to enjoy killer views of the city while lounging around on deckchairs in the sun, before cooling off with a dip in the proverbial drink.

As for *literal* drinks, you can expect summer cocktails a plenty courtesy of Matt Fairhurst, who is also the beverage manager at the yet-to-be-opened Kensington Street Social downstairs. The Miami Vice, for example, is part pina colada, part frozen strawberry daiquiri, and seems like basically the most perfect poolside beverage that anyone could possibly imagine. They'll also have beers, ciders, spirits and gin & tonics with a twist, as well as fresh juice and non-alcoholic spritzers.



The Old Clare Hotel

Bars, Cocktail bars

Chippendale

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TIME OUT SAYS**DETAILS****WHAT'S ON****USERS SAY**

From the ashes of a famously sticky boozier rises an elegant mid-century cocktail bar

The Old Clare Hotel is full of ghosts – not the Stephen King kind, but the ghosts of parties past. If you listen closely you can probably hear echoes of Brit pop reverb and dropped bass lines ricocheting off the mottled yellow tiles that still line the room. Thank God for heritage listings. We're betting there are also trace elements of Jager bombs in the grout. But a whole new era has begun at the old Carlton Brewery site: where once was a temple to sticky carpeted uni shenanigans, now stands a vintage-styled cocktail bar beneath a slick boutique hotel, complete with rooftop pool.

About time too. A thirsty person was in danger of expiring before they found a decent spot for a stiff drink around Central – but our oasis has finally arrived and it's pouring \$11 pints of Reschs, or whatever is on the two craft taps.

Already the Old Clare is feeling the love from **UTS** and **ABC** crowds, and that's before you count the people actually staying in the hotel. Plus, with buzzy new restaurants **Automata** and **Silvereye** upstairs there's a fair whack of people enjoying a pre-dinner Martini.

The cocktail list changes weekly (on a Tuesday) but you can order favourites that have come and gone, which means a Clare Kahuna Colada is always on the cards. It's not a big, icy, tiki drink, but rather a short, amber reviver that balances the caramel sweetness of pineapple rum with the malty freshness of Batch Brewing's coconut brown ale. Maybe it's in reference to the history of the building, or maybe the bar team, headed by Simon Audas (**ex-Sokyo** and **Stitch**) just really like beer. What matters is, it works. Oh yeah, and that rooftop pool also has a bar that will change menus monthly. Summer sessions sorted.

Back down on street level, the huge oval bar in the centre of the room is clad in glowing Mondrian-esque panels in a citrus palette, there are ceramic liquor jugs lining the walls and the staff are a friendly, vintage-attired team who know how to do table service with proper care and attention. The tunes aren't playing to theme though. What starts in the '60s with Cream, slowly marches to the present day, ticking off the Buzzcocks and Donavon Frankenreiter before arriving at new indie soul darling Meg Mac.

Think about it this way – it's now fine if your flat is a cupboard-sized hovel decorated by

Donavon Frankenreiter before arriving at new indie soul darling Meg Mac.

Think about it this way – it's now fine if your flat is a cupboard-sized hovel decorated by Ikea; here you can kick back in a mid-century wingback chair with a glass of Le Blanc Plonk riesling beneath a vintage spotlight and let Instagram tell beautiful lies. Let's all go live the sweet life at the Old Clare Hotel.

BY: EMILY LLOYD-TAIT

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