



For Immediate release
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Stand # 221

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Discover Your Select Destination within Australia:

Select, the marque of excellence in unique accommodation and travel experiences throughout Australia is spoiling their customers for choice with their member properties becoming destinations within themselves. **Select Hotels & Resorts International** is proud to announce at ATE 2008 their portfolio that is leading the way within the more diverse accommodation markets of Australia.

Arajilla Retreat, Lord Howe Island
Stand # 221

Nestled under a canopy of Kentia Palms and Banyan Trees just minutes from the beach, **Arajilla Retreat, Lord Howe Island** offers a lucky few guests a haven of tranquillity and relaxation. Less than a 2 hour flight from Sydney or Brisbane Airports, **Arajilla Retreat, Lord Howe Island** welcomes guests to spacious suites, a renowned restaurant and a sublime day spa: the perfect base to discover the extraordinary scenery and wildlife of World Heritage listed Lord Howe Island. With visitor numbers restricted life is relaxed with choices including bushwalks, swimming, diving and fishing, cycle around the island, play golf, lie on a deserted beach, enjoy a massage, savour fine food and wine or simply sleep in.

Tower Lodge, Hunter Valley, NSW:

Leaving the beach behind and just 2 hours from Sydney Airport is one of Australia's most distinctive and desirable destinations **Tower Lodge, Hunter Valley**. **Tower Lodge** is an exclusive haven that boasts 12 extraordinary guestrooms with an intimate lounge and bar, baronial dining room, cosy library and recreational facilities including The Dinks an 18-hole pitch and putt golf course, a 1.6 km walking track, a heated pool, a sauna, gym as well as a massage treatment room. With the renowned Robert's Restaurant serving the finest regional cuisine and the highly acclaimed Tower Estate Winery, **Tower Lodge** creates the perfect trinity that is Tower Estate. Boasting one of the most extensive cellars, The Lodge guest lounge and bar is open continuously serving the wines of Tower Estate as well as aged Hunter wines, imported Champagnes and a range of malt whiskies and cognacs.

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The Observatory Hotel, Sydney, NSW:

Coming into the Australia's most vibrant city Sydney there is no experience quite like **The Observatory Hotel** which sets the standard for Premier Sydney hotels. Just 30

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minutes from Sydney Airport, **The Observatory Hotel** is the ideal base from which to work and explore, superbly located near Sydney's historic Rocks and central business district, nestled near the vibrant harbour and the world famous Sydney Harbour Bridge. Spacious, elegant, beautifully appointed, the rooms and suites at **The Observatory Hotel** are designed to meet the needs of the most fastidious guest. Completing the inner city experience with a visit to The Day Spa, guests can be pampered with a wide choice of luxurious face and body treatments, ancient therapies and a flight reviver program to help international guests readjust to the new time zone. The hotel's 20-metre heated pool, mirrored by a ceiling of fibre optic lights designed to recreate the constellations of the southern hemisphere.

Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort & Spa, NSW:

While taking in the vibrant sights and tastes of Sydney City, escape to another famous jewel of Australia just 90 minutes drive west of central Sydney: The Blue Mountains, home to the only five star retreat in the region the truly spectacular **Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort & Spa**, .The historic home 'Lilianfels', built in 1889, has been transformed to its original splendour and now houses the award-winning restaurant, Darley's named after the original owner. Open fireplaces and chandeliers abound in this intimate setting perfected by lush scenery and polished service from Darley's award winning team. Set in two acres of English-style gardens, the adjoining 86 room Country House, the hotel is a breathtaking escape for romantics, a delight for gourmets and a wonder for lovers of nature. Lilianfels sits adjacent to The Three Sisters, one of the country's most acclaimed natural wonders. The Three Sisters symbolise the stature and pride of the Blue Mountains - towering escarpments, wide, deep blue-hazed valleys, incomparable views and impenetrable depths- they are awe-inspiring.

Select Hotels & Resorts International new Member properties Australia for 2008:

Paradise Bay, Whitsunday Islands, QLD:

Imagine arriving by helicopter to a secluded luxury island paradise, basking in the sun, swimming in tropical waters, dining on gourmet food and exploring the islands, coral gardens and deserted beaches under billowing sails ...

Paradise Bay is one of Australia's most unique and environmentally sustainable resorts, located in the beautiful **Whitsunday Islands**, just near the world famous **Great Barrier Reef**. **Paradise Bay** welcomes guests with the philosophy of relaxed eco luxury is peace, quiet, getting close to (and sometimes touching) nature, being able to see the stars in the skies, private beaches, wilderness and snorkeling in places where there is nobody else. Laze in a hammock or stretch out on sundowners, relax in a private waterfront bungalow surrounded by national park rainforest and private beach. For the more adventurous of heart guests are offered the chance to explore the waterways and the surrounding islands and reefs on **Paradise Bay's** own 34 foot catamaran. The resorts teams of gourmet chefs are waiting to delight guest pallets with fresh local produce, sea food and other tempting morsels. This is a very unique way to experience and explore Australia's most spectacular natural region, with a maximum of 16 guests, an all-inclusive tariff, gourmet food, no single surcharge, and no TV, phones, children or day visitors.

<http://www.paradisebay.com.au>

LOCATION: 1 hour 40 minutes direct from Brisbane Airport.

More.....

Q Station, Sydney, NSW:

Located at Sydney's North Head, **Q Station** (formerly the Quarantine Station) is a large historic site within the Sydney Harbour National Park, just 30 minutes from the CBD by water taxi or 45 minutes from Sydney Airport. Along with the Sydney Opera House, it is listed on the National Estate – one level below World Heritage significance. The April 2008 completion of a \$17.3million refurbishment offers guests a suite of lifestyle experiences ranging from accommodation and conference facilities with spectacular views of Sydney Harbour and **Defiance**, an immersion theatre experience. **Q Station** has the hallmarks of a contemporary resort, with conference facilities for 150, 75 rooms and six cottages, two restaurants and a 10-room spa that will open later this year. **The Boilerhouse Restaurant**, situated on Quarantine Beach, caters to all tastes with a modern international menu designed by Executive Chef, Reinhard Roithner who joins **Q Station** from Singapore, a member of the prestigious *Academie Culinaire de France* being counted as one of the exclusive 450 chef members worldwide. Guests at the Boilerhouse Restaurant can choose to dine indoors in the magnificent mezzanine overlooking the open plan kitchen or al fresco overlooking the harbour.

<http://www.qstation.com.au>

LOCATION: 30 minutes from Sydney CBD and 45 minutes from Sydney Airport.

Select Burnham Beeches, Dandenong Ranges (opening July 2009), VIC:

Select Burnham Beeches, Dandenong Ranges, is a superb example of Art Deco's Streamline Moderne style architecture and a unique reminder of that romantic and flamboyant era. Burnham Beeches was formerly operated as a boutique hotel from 1988-92 by the luxury Aman Resorts Group and, once restored to its former glory, will be operated by *Select* and feature 50 guest rooms and suites: some with balconies and all providing stunning views over the extensive gardens. Conference facilities for up to 100 will be developed to the highest standard and a spa and wellness centre are also planned. The hotel is situated in 56 acres of grounds adjoining the Alfred Nicholas Gardens and adjacent to the Dandenong Ranges National Park.

LOCATION: Sherbrooke Road; just 45 minutes from Melbourne's CBD.

Ralph Kelly, Select's Managing Director, says, *"We believe these outstanding properties will reflect and complement the unique quality of the authentic accommodation and travel experiences that make up the strong Australian Membership of Select Hotels & Resorts International."*

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For more information: www.selecthotels.com

More.....

Select Hotels & Resorts International Australia portfolio overview: www.selecthotels.com

Meadowlake Lodge, Milton, NSW:

With only 3 luxuriously appointed guest rooms, Meadowlake is a haven for a lucky few. This award-winning 5 star lodge is located in the fertile rural area of Milton and is set amongst beautifully landscaped gardens on New South Wales' beautiful south coast. The three spacious, light-filled guest rooms are in a private wing and the level of appointment is superb, with comfort a priority. All guest rooms look out onto the impressive garden, are individually styled and offer superior accommodation in a country manor. Each has a generous sized en-suite, which is flooded with natural light and have both a shower and separate bath. The calm and beautiful interior with its luxurious furnishings blends stylish sophistication with quiet country. The dramatic collection of artwork throughout the house is exceptional and is generously shared with the guests. The sitting room has an open fire for cool winter evenings and the dining table seats 8 with comfort. Meadowlake Lodge has been built with an exquisite eye for detail making it the ideal rural retreat from the noise and bustle of city life. The Lodge is only 10 minutes from Mollymook Beach and is close to the walking trails of Morton National Park.

LOCATION: 3 hours drive south of Sydney and 2.5 hours east of Canberra on the NSW south coast.

Kangaroo Island Wilderness Resort, Kangaroo Island:

Kangaroo Island Wilderness Retreat is perfectly located in the south western corner of Kangaroo Island, adjacent to Flinders Chase National Park discreetly nestled amongst 113 acres of pristine natural bushland and in close proximity to the major attractions on the island. The heart of the retreat is the courtyard where friendly wallabies, possums and birdlife frolic in the tranquil bushland garden. A unique mix of eco-friendly features, the retreat offers exclusive guest facilities, a range of accommodation from courtyard and spa suites to lodge apartments sleeping 5 people, a superb licensed restaurant, friendly wildlife and tranquil wilderness setting which combine to provide an unforgettable Kangaroo Island experience.

LOCATION: Kangaroo Island off the South Australian Coast.

Tarraleah Lodge, Tarraleah, Tasmania
ATE Stand # 334

Bordering the St. Claire National Park, The Lodge at Tarraleah combines a sense of history with the perfect location to explore Tasmanian wilderness. Dating from the 1930s as lodgings for the Hydro Electricity executives of the day, Tarraleah sits at the heart of the hydro scheme and relics of the past and combines with today's working plant to give guests a sense of this aspect of Tasmania's history. Each suite at the Lodge has been luxuriously crafted to showcase the finest in Tasmanian workmanship, whilst retaining the unique Art Deco exterior. Fine regional cuisine and wines are an expression of the Lodge's commitment to promoting the very best of Tasmania. From the Lodge, guests can branch out and explore the World Heritage listed wilderness, revel in some of the finest fly fishing in the world, play the Highland Golf Course, walk to spectacular waterfalls or simply relax by the fire and read a book.

LOCATION: 2 hours 15 minutes from Hobart Airport, Tasmania.

More.....

Kims Beach Hideaway, Central Coast, NSW

Visitors to Kims Beach Hideaway often remark that being here is like stepping into another world, the reality is an exclusive and enchanting seaside hideaway on the Central Coast. Family-run Kims has been here since 1886 on the sweep of golden sand that is Toowoona Bay. There are 28 modern bungalows each individually designed and with its own private sundeck, just outside the door is a world of whipbird-song, a lush hillside jungle of palms, hibiscus and century-old Norfolk Island pines. Privacy and tranquillity are constants for guests whether it's enjoying the view from their own private Jacuzzi deck or absorbed in a good book beside the open fire in Kims' lounge. Guests can choose from a relaxing massage at Kims "Pampering Place", venture into the natural environs that native wildlife, birds and peacocks know as home or a walk on the beach. And if a little social activity is required, the legendary buffets of home style cooking served three times daily in the central dining room overlooking Toowoona Bay are just the thing. Kims is the perfect place for relaxed, understated seclusion and peace.

LOCATION: Two hours drive north from Sydney Airport.

Couran Cove, South Stradbroke Island, QLD
ATE Stand # 40

Couran Cove Island Resort on Queensland's South Stradbroke Island deluxe apartments and villas cluster around a central lagoon and are connected to each other by broad timber decks. Stretching across South Stradbroke Island – 'Straddie' – the 151-hectare resort is a truly Australian-styled retreat that's perfect for families, couples and conference goers. There's an award-winning restaurant (one of several dining outlets), a top-line day spa, two freshwater pools and an array of fitness facilities and water toys. Guest's accommodation is open-plan with a casual tropical décor, outside the door agile wallabies graze on the lawn and bandicoots scamper through the paperbark trees. For guests eager to explore the surrounds bicycles are provided by the resort and reception can arrange a light shuttle train. Children are particularly well catered for at Couran Cove, with the Kites Kids Club, featuring fully qualified instructors who host two-hour theme sessions that offer fun and educational experiences. While their children play parents can relax and be pampered in the Day Spa, where massages, facials, manicures and many other treatments are available.

LOCATION: 70 km from Brisbane airport; 30 km from Gold Coast airport; 5 km from Surfers Paradise.

Select Member properties for 2008 are:

AUSTRALIA: Q Station, Sydney, NSW; The Observatory Hotel, Sydney, NSW; Lilianfels Blue Mountains Resort & Spa, Katoomba NSW; Tower Lodge, Hunter Valley, NSW; Kims Beach Hideaway, Toowoona Bay, NSW; Arajilla Retreat, Lord Howe Island, NSW; Meadowlake Lodge, Milton, NSW; Hotel Lindrum, Melbourne, VIC; Select Burnham Beeches, Dandenong Ranges, VIC; Hotel Pension Grimus, Mount Buller, VIC; Kangaroo Island Wilderness Retreat, Kangaroo Island, SA; The Lodge at Tarraleah, Tarraleah, TAS; Couran Cove Island Resort, South Stradbroke Island, QLD; Paradise Bay, Whitsunday Islands, QLD

NEW ZEALAND: Carrington Resort, Karikari Peninsula, Northland; Kourawhero Country Lodge, North Auckland; Mangapapa Petit Hotel, Hawke's Bay; Braemar Lodge, Hanmer Springs; Grasmere Lodge, Arthur's Pass; Huntley House, Christchurch; Otahuna Lodge, Christchurch; Millbrook Resort, Queenstown; The Spire Hotel, Queenstown; Fiordland Lodge, Te Anau; Edgewater Resort, Lake Wanaka; Corstorphine House, Dunedin

PACIFIC ISLANDS: Fiji Orchid, Nadi, Fiji; Nukubati Island, Great Sea Reef, Fiji; Toberua Island Resort, Fiji; Royale Takitumu Villas, Rarotonga, Cook Islands; Tikehau Pearl Beach Resort, French Polynesia; Manihi Pearl Beach Resort, French Polynesia

ASIA: Saman Villas, Bentota, Sri Lanka; The Regency Wing of Galle Face Hotel, Colombo, Sri Lanka; Mom Tri's Villa Royale, Phuket, Thailand; Veranda Resort and Spa, Hua Hin, Thailand; Wanakarn Beach Resort & Spa, Phuket, Thailand; 88, Xiandi, China

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MIDDLE EAST: Al Maha Desert Resort & Spa, Dubai, UAE;

Bookings: res@selecthotels.com or www.selecthotels.com or 1300 368 925 toll-free within Australia or elsewhere (non toll-free): +612 8968 2777

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