

**Media Release**

## High tea meets high art as Sofitel Sydney Wentworth marks the Archibald season

*Step into a world of elegance with an Archibald-inspired high tea, served with a touch of French hospitality, honouring Australia's most prestigious portrait award.*



Sofitel Sydney Wentworth, Sydney's hotel of the arts, is celebrating Australia's most prestigious portrait award, the Archibald Prize 2025, with an exclusive art-inspired High Tea experience at one of the city's most iconic venues, renowned for its unique High Tea tradition.

Breaking free from the conventional tiered tower, the reimagined High Tea experience blooms across the table in a luxurious display, resembling the iconic jacaranda tree and its purple-hued blossoms, which echo the colour palette of this year's Archibald Prize.

A culinary masterpiece between Michelin-trained Executive Chef Bektaş Özcan and Sofitel Sydney Wentworth's pastry team, the inventive delicacies pay homage to the nearby Royal Botanic Garden, situated between Sofitel Sydney Wentworth and its long-term partners at the Art Gallery of New South Wales.

Each creation is a work of art, with decadent sweet highlights including a flourless chocolate cake inspired by the meditative stillness of a botanical garden; a pistachio and chocolate opera cake reflecting the moss and stone in tranquil garden landscapes; and a jasmine macaron that captures the essence of delicate garden air. In addition, there is a blueberry choux that captures the gentle fall of jacaranda petals and a Wentworth cheesecake tart with almond frangipane to showcase the textured beauty of an ever-evolving garden.

Bringing together French hospitality with a modern twist, an artisan cart arrives at your table, unveiling savoury delights in a personalised and theatrical moment. With a glass of Pommery Champagne in hand, guests can select from curated cheeses, freshly baked baguettes, smoked salmon, charcuterie, and house-made quiches.

"The Archibald season offers our pastry and culinary team an opportunity to create something unique and special, drawing inspiration from Sydney's vibrant artistic community," said Sam Panetta, General Manager at Sofitel Sydney Wentworth. "Each intricately designed pastry invites guests to savour an artistic experience that is as beautiful to the eye as it is delicious."

The Archibald High Tea is hosted in the refreshed Velvet Room on Level 5 of Sydney's historic five-star Sofitel Sydney Wentworth, where guests will step into a space defined by rich red velvet tones and Parisian-inspired elegance, where the spirit of the Archibald season comes to life.

For 22 years, Sofitel Sydney Wentworth and the Art Gallery of New South Wales have created the perfect harmony for art, culture, and luxury hospitality, providing a gateway for immersive experiences. As its official hotel partner, Sofitel Sydney Wentworth has proudly sponsored the art institution's major programs and exhibitions, including Australia's most engaging annual art event, the Archibald, Wynne and Sulman Prizes.

"We are proud to once again welcome the iconic Sofitel Sydney Wentworth as our Official Hotel for the Archibald, Wynne and Sulman Prizes – one of the most anticipated events on Australia's cultural calendar. Our longstanding partnership with the iconic Sofitel Sydney Wentworth plays a vital role in helping us deliver meaningful arts experiences to more than 2.3 million visitors each year and we look forward to celebrating the Archibald Prize 2025 together," said John Richardson, Director of Audiences and Development, Art Gallery of New South Wales.

As Sydney transitions into the winter season, the experience will be available from May 10 to August 17, on weekends between 1 pm and 3 pm. Priced at \$69 per person, or \$89 per person with a glass of elegant Pommery Champagne, the High Tea is paired with a refined selection of teas.

**-ENDS-**

#### **Media Notes**

Reservations for the High Tea can be made [here](#).

Images can be found in the Dropbox [here](#).

#### **About Sofitel Sydney Wentworth**

The iconic Sofitel Sydney Wentworth is a heritage-listed architectural landmark, originally built by Qantas in the 1960s as Sydney's first international five-star hotel. Seamlessly blending French elegance with Australian heritage, it remains one of the city's most storied addresses, renowned for its distinctive curved façade and deep-rooted connection to Sydney's cultural and social scene. Ideally located in the heart of the city, the hotel offers a refined escape where timeless luxury meets modern sophistication. From beautifully appointed accommodations to vibrant culinary experiences, Sofitel Sydney Wentworth continues to be a destination of choice for discerning travellers, celebrating the art of hospitality with a uniquely French touch.

For more information, visit [www.sofitelsydney.com.au](http://www.sofitelsydney.com.au) or [@sofitelsydney](#).  
61, 101 Phillip St, Sydney NSW 2000.

#### **About Sofitel**

A pioneer of French luxury hospitality since 1964, Sofitel today embodies heartfelt and committed luxury with a French zest. A seamless blend of the richness of each local culture and the French joie de vivre, the brand delights travellers who appreciate delicacy and subtle refinement, offering them heartfelt and authentic service. At Sofitel, beauty is in the details: life's simple pleasures such as gastronomy and sleep are art forms for an incomparable experience. Sofitel now boasts more than 120 hotels, all elegant and unique, in the world's most sought-after destinations. Among its most remarkable properties: Sofitel Le Scribe Paris Opera, Sofitel London St James, Sofitel Dubai The Obelisk, Sofitel Mexico City Reforma and Sofitel Ambassador Seoul. The brand also offers a selection of heritage luxury hotels under the Sofitel Legend banner, renowned for their timeless elegance and fascinating history, such as Sofitel Legend Old Cataract Aswan or Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi. More recently, the brand also unveiled its first Sofitel Residences, redefining luxury living with prestigious properties that combine elegant design with Sofitel's renowned service and sophistication. Sofitel is part of Accor, a world leading hospitality group counting over 5,500 properties throughout more than 110 countries, and a participating brand in ALL - Accor Live Limitless – a lifestyle loyalty program providing access to a wide variety of rewards, services and experiences.

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