

MEDIA RELEASE
29 November 2019



EXPLORE AND DISCOVER A MAGICAL CHRISTMAS WONDERLAND AT THE ROCKS
With a hidden Christmas Lane, Christmas markets, festive feasts, Christmas cheer and gifts galore

This Christmas, there's no better place to celebrate than in Sydney's oldest neighbourhood, The Rocks. With festive cheer and magic around every corner, Sydneysiders are invited to wander through the sparkling cobblestone streets and laneways, to discover an array of culinary delights, festive markets, memorable experiences, and unique gifts.

WANDER THROUGH THE MAGICAL CHRISTMAS MARKETS

From Thursday, 5 December to Sunday, 22 December, **The Rocks Christmas Markets** welcomes its Christmas transformation, filled with festive eats, unique gifts, and crafty creations. Wander through to find locally-designed prints, hand-crafted jewellery, and home-made baked goods. The Rocks Christmas Markets will also extend trading hours from 10am to 8pm on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays throughout December.

In the spirit of giving back this festive season, this year **The Rocks Christmas Markets** will also be grouping together a small selection of their sustainable and charity-focused stallholders in a 'Do Good' section of the markets, selling eco-friendly and sustainable goods. Stalls that will appear in this section across the course of the Christmas markets include eco-friendly homewares from **RetroKitchen**, upcycled cork bags from **By The Sea Collection** and reusable cloth food wraps from **Eco Food Wraps**.

Once you're finished shopping, be sure to stop by The Rocks Square to prepare all your goodies to be put under the Christmas tree with **Charity Gift Wrapping by Cure Cancer**, who will be wrapping gifts in exchange for a donation every day that The Rocks Christmas Markets are trading.

DISCOVER THE HIDDEN CHRISTMAS LANEWAY AND A POP-UP FESTIVE BAR

Step into a magical Christmas wonderland in the heart of Sydney via **The Rocks Christmas Lane**. The Rocks Christmas Lane sees Kendall Lane transformed with rows of sparkling Christmas trees, twinkling snowflakes and even glimpses of 'snow'.

Inspired by a European Christmas and French chalets, Sydneysiders can raise a glass at **The Rocks Pop-Up Christmas Bar**. Enjoy Soupe de Champagne, a premium French champagne cocktail with Cointreau, lime, sugar, and champagne, paired with freshly shucked rock oysters. Visitors can also enjoy premium French wines and champagnes amongst the lights and buzz of the Christmas markets. There's also the option for bar-goers to bring in any of the other tasty markets eats to enjoy whilst they sip their drinks at the bar.

NIBBLE AND SIP YOUR WAY THROUGH FESTIVE LANEWAYS AND SPARKLING STREETS

La Renaissance will offer a taste of a French Christmas with their 'Bûche de Noël', a traditional French dessert eaten in both traditional chocolate, and a raspberry and passionfruit iteration. The French patisserie will also entice Sydneysiders with their delicious Christmas mince pies, available throughout the holiday season.

In true Christmas Spirit, **Starbucks** will be serving up limited-edition Christmas themed sips! Get your coffee fix with their famous festive creations; Gingerbread Latte, Toasted White Chocolate Mocha and Peppermint Mocha, available until Thursday, 2 January.

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This Christmas season, **The Push** will bring three new bespoke festive cocktails to their menu including a Candy Cane Martini (\$19) with cream, creme de menthe, creme de cacao; a Christmas Old Fashioned (\$22) with Ketel One vodka, elderflower, cranberry juice and a Under the Mistletoe (\$19) with Bulleit Rye, Grand Marnier, orange bitters, and Christmas bitters. Visitors can also sit back and enjoy live piano performances, every Friday and Saturday, from 7:30pm.

For a hearty Christmas meal, head to Sydney's oldest pub Fortune of War's **First Fleet Bistro**. Enjoy their delicious Christmas Dinner (\$29) featuring turkey breast with sage and onion stuffing, roast potato, beans with bacon and gravy, followed by an Aussie Christmas staple, Pavlova (\$12).

With The Rocks Christmas Lane twinkling at its doorstep, enjoy the festive season at **Pony Dining**, feasting on wood-fired grilled meats, seafood, and small plates washed down by a selection of local and imported beers and a range of Australian and imported wines. After dinner, wander through the hidden laneways to continue the Christmas celebrations at **The Doss House**. Whisky-lovers can sip their way through an incredible selection of whiskeys and snack on native platters with friends.

For a unique setting, enjoy the house-made craft beer and delicious eats from the smoker at **Endeavour Tap Rooms**. Make your way there between 4:30pm to 6:30pm, from Monday to Friday to enjoy their famous 'tappy hour' pouring \$5 schmiddy's of beer, cider and wine.

GET WRAPPED UP IN CHRISTMAS WITH UNIQUE AND LOCALLY MADE GIFTS

For a truly unique Christmas gift for the kids, look no further than **Hunting Hue**. Grab a pair of locally produced and sustainable Draw On Swimwear and empower the little ones to become Picasso or Monet, drawing their own designs directly onto a pair of swimmers, creating their own wearable masterpiece to be enjoyed all summer long!

For the perfect Christmas outfit head to the pop-up luxury bohemian clothing brand **Camilla** down at The Rocks. Founded fifteen years ago in Bondi Beach, each treasured item from their growing collection is hand-cut and all embellishments placed by hand and made with love.

For a gift, showcasing local and creative talent, **FAID** is home to some of the most exciting emerging Australian-designed fashion and accessories brands. Thoughtfully curated and staffed by designers themselves, FAID invites visitors to learn, touch and explore their collection this Christmas.

Say a very special Merry Christmas with a custom piece of jewellery from award-winning designer **Jason Ree**, who specialises in Australian sapphires, Mokume-gane and engagement rings. Each piece is completely unique and personal, promising to be a present not easily forgotten.

For him, **AHW Studio** is the perfect option for a unique gift idea, selling steampunk jewellery with a contemporary artistic flair, all handcrafted in Sydney. Across the road, visitors can pick from the numerous artisan objects and diverse range of books on offer at the **MCA Store** to find the perfect gift for someone special.

Give the gift of wellness and relaxation with **Endota Spa**. From gift packs containing only the best wellness essentials, to gift cards so the lucky receiver can choose their own indulgence, Endota Spa has something for everyone. Or treat your loved one with a hand-poured candle from **DUX Collective**, where visitors can create their own personalised candle with complimentary gift wrapping.



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A new addition to The Rocks, **T Totaler** is the one-stop-shop for tea-lovers. Built upon a love of tea, T Totaler sells loose-leaf tea and herbal blends in beautiful amber glass jars, lovingly packaged and ethically sourced. But if you're looking for something for a little sweeter, celebrate by purchasing old favourites at **The British Lolly Shop**. Selling a range of quality confectionery and gourmet products from the UK, their products make for a delicious gift for those with a sweet tooth.

For more details and further information on all offers available to celebrate Christmas in The Rocks, visit therocks.com

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Trading Hours

The Rocks Christmas Markets

Thursday 5 December to Sunday 22 December

- Thursday - Saturday: 10am to 8pm
- Sunday: 10am to 5pm

The Rocks Pop-Up Christmas Bar Trading Hours

Thursday 5 December to Sunday 22 December

- Thursday: 5pm to 8pm
- Friday: 12pm to 8pm
- Saturday: 12pm to 8pm
- Sunday: 12pm to 5pm