



milk & honey



# Crowning Glory

Just when Napier thought it already boasted one of the finest sea front hotels on the east coast, the enterprising owners of The Crown Hotel have added a sparkling new wing to the city's five star jewel in the accommodation crown. And it's not just the visitors to Hawke's Bay who are enjoying the unique new experience.

**editorial** rick hopkinson **pictures** richard brimer

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⇒ The theory goes it's always a good idea to do as the locals do but it's surprising when you can apply this to a stay in a hotel! But that's exactly what's happening down on the Ahuriri waterfront, when a typical Crown Hotel weekend guest book often features an eclectic mix of 'out of towners' and locals alike.

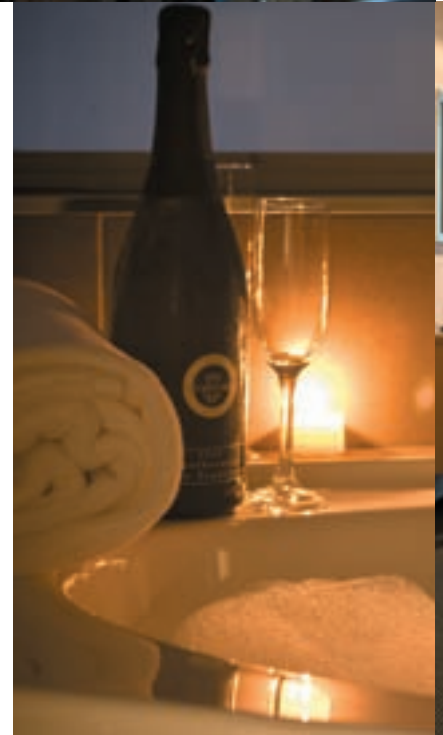
It seems more and more Hawke's Bay people are choosing to make an evening out on the town, an even more complete entertainment experience by staying the night in one of the hotel's superior luxury suites or spectacular sea view rooms. Word has definitely got out that the superbly refurbished and redeveloped three year-old Art Deco hotel, now offers the ultimate celebratory retreat or conference venue.

Business functions, anniversaries, birthdays, weddings or even a 'because we can' attitude, are just a few of the more obvious reasons that The Crown Hotel has seen a phenomenal growth in local stays. An intimate weekend away in your own town seems the ideal option

in today's economic climate. A soak in your very own sumptuous spa bath, glass of bubbly on your ocean view balcony and a romantic dinner at the adjoining Milk and Honey restaurant and you'll feel as though you've been transported to some distant, romantic holiday destination. After all Napier has now become just that for many international travellers so you can hardly blame the locals if they want to stay at home too!

#### **Growing in popularity**

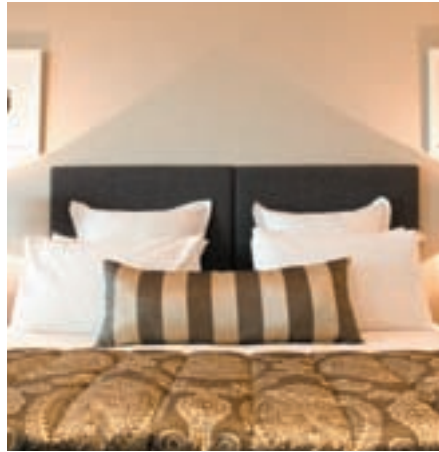
The recent opening of an ocean facing extension has seen the introduction of 12 superb new suites and the leasing of the self contained restaurant to celebrated restaurateur Sean Burns, previously at Craggy Range and Cape Kidnappers. This has also provided a major boost for the hotel's conference business, which has doubled in the last year. Two fully equipped, purpose built conference rooms can cater for up to 70 people and a 35 person



**CLOCKWISE: Subtle tones and welcoming dining atmosphere. Exclusive bed ware. Spectacular bedroom views. Relaxing spa baths with a touch of class.**

U-shaped boardroom comes complete with adjoining sunny courtyard for a natural break out area during the day.

It's hard not to be impressed by the individual flair and imagination that has gone into every one of The Crown's 39 boutique style rooms. One off designed sofas and locally produced cabinetry are complemented by commissioned artworks and photographs that adorn the hotel walls. Exclusive bed ware, euro pillows and rich fabrics exude a modern sophistication that satisfies the most demanding of tastes. Then there are the



bathrooms, some of the largest I have ever seen for a hotel anywhere in the world!

However it is the infusion of modern design with the heritage façade of the original building that has helped the Crown Hotel attain its unique position as Napier's leading Qualmark five-star rating hotel under the Self-contained and Serviced category.

Whether for business or pleasure, a stay at The Crown Hotel is a memorable experience fit for royalty or anyone else come to that!

[www.thecrownnapier.co.nz](http://www.thecrownnapier.co.nz)



## CROWNING MOMENTS

The original Crown Hotel opened for business in 1859 on the corner of Waghorne & Barry Street.

It was destroyed by fire in the 1931 earthquake while the new hotel was being built.

The building was to be three levels but was reduced to two levels due to the earthquake's damage. The client in 1932 was P.J. Annan Esq. The Architect was Arthur Williams of Napier. Landmac Holdings purchased the building in 2003 and leased back to the previous owner for six months before renovations were to commence.

Between 2003 & 2004 the directors considered various options for the renovations of The Crown Hotel:

- A Tavern Bar with basement wine cellar and Backpacker Accommodation on first floor - Apartment living

The directors settled on a hotel with resource consent being obtained in August 2004. The total complex reopened in November 2006. The building has a Heritage Protection and required a signoff from the Art Deco Trust. The balconies and colour scheme had to be approved.

The building has retained its Art Deco exterior and interior detail such as the unique mosaic foyer, leadlight windows and stairway. The mural in the Vautier Conference room was discovered under the wallpaper during renovations and was restored. They were thought to be originally painted on the walls in the 1960s. What was originally 17 letting rooms upstairs in the heritage building, are now three luxury heritage suites.

The Crown Hotel was the Winner of the 2007 Art Deco Supreme Award.

