

# virgin australia

MAGAZINE

WELL,  
HELLO THERE

# 2020

FIND OUT WHERE THE TIDE WILL  
TAKE YOU THIS YEAR

# hot / new

CHECKING IN

## WITH GEORGIA RICKARD



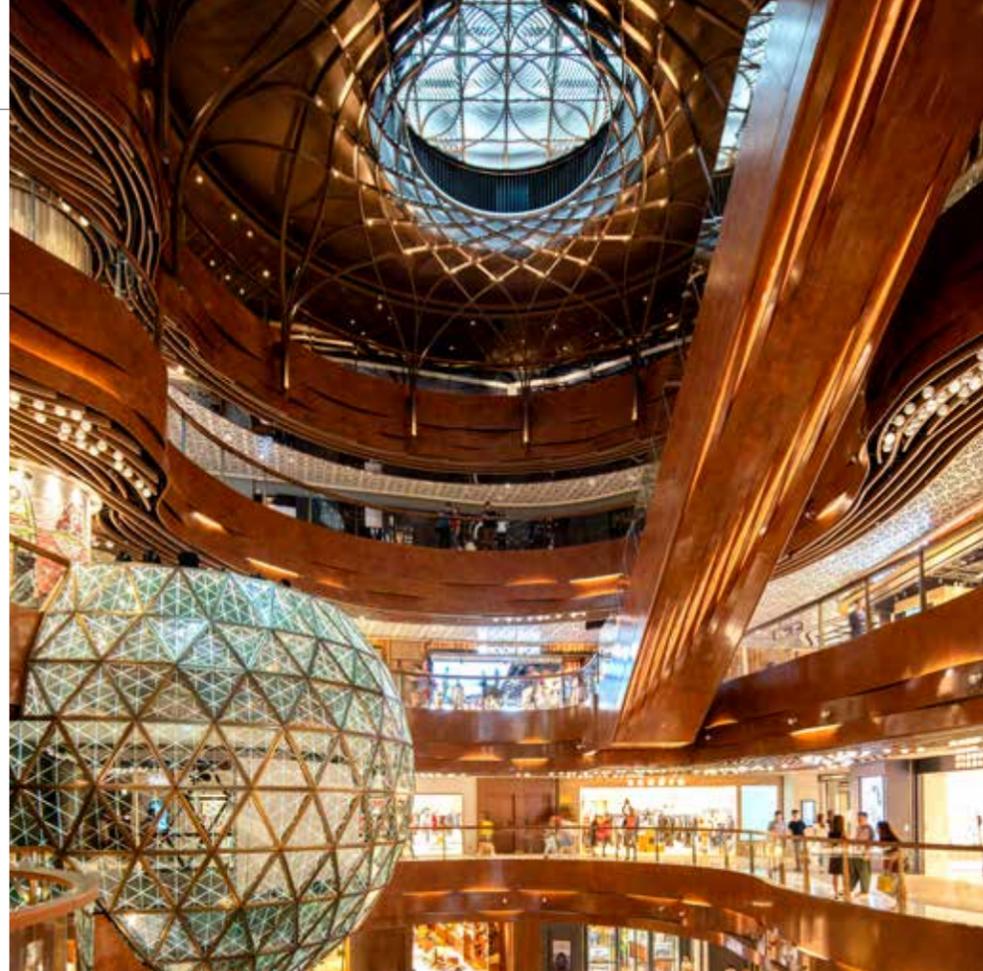
What's on your bucketlist this year? Me: not much. Is that a weird admission for a travel journalist to make? (Yes.) Allow me to explain ...

Look, you only have to scroll through a social feed to see that we're travelling more than ever these days. It's a privilege, of course. But I've begun to notice that in my race to tick that next entry off my list (and, usually, snap my photo-trophy while I'm at it), I sometimes end up feeling as though I've missed the point of the experience. (Insert adage about the journey being more important than the destination ...)

There are plenty of places on my 2020 visit list, of course. Chief among them: Tokyo, Las Vegas, Santa Monica, Monaco, Bali and anywhere in the Kimberley. But this year I've decided to loosen the reigns on exactly what I achieve when I get there. Some of the most memorable travel moments happen in times unscripted - and that's what I'm chasing.

With that in mind, there's a lot to inspire you in this edition. My highlight is 20 for 2020 (p. 42), featuring a selection of Australia's most exciting experiences to look forward to in the year to come. Pick yours and start planning - just make sure you leave some free time in the schedule to let the magic in. Happy New Year.

Editor-at-large  
@georgiarickard #vamagazine



## Inside Hong Kong's incredible new designer playground

It doesn't happen very often, so when an entire neighbourhood's worth of Hong Kong real estate gets redeveloped, you know it's going to be good. So it is with Victoria Dockside, where the gem in its revamped crown has just been unveiled after a decade of planning. More than a shopping precinct, K11 Musea (it takes its name from the muses of Greek mythology) is a cutting-edge, grown-up playground of dining, shopping and sustainable design by 30-something Hong Kong billionaire Adrian Cheng.

Among its many highlights is an urban biodiversity education park, Asia's first Fortnum & Mason store and an entire level dedicated to street fashion and graffiti, but we're especially loving the sustainability element. Developed in collaboration with the Jane Goodall Foundation to prove that retail can be sustainable, the project holds the equivalent of 18 tennis courts' worth of living 'green walls' and features architecture designed to foster social connection ... and, yep, we'd say it provides some talking points! [k11musea.com](http://k11musea.com)

### I'M READING ...

this month's interview with *Monocle* founder, Tyler Brülé. I'm 100 per cent on board with his take on data versus intuition - instinct counts for so much in business. Read it on p. 89.

### I'M SCROLLING ...

through the hilarious observations of *Overheard LA*, featuring conversation snippets from the streets of Los Angeles. (How good is In-flight WiFi!) Find it on Instagram at @OverheardLA.

### I'M WEARING ...

Hermetica's cult perfume *Source 1*, all over me. Green in scent and by nature, it's vegan and alcohol-free, and comes wrapped up in sleek recycled glass and sand. \$329, [beckerminty.com](http://beckerminty.com)



### WHILE I'M FLYING

ON THIS MONTH

## YOUR NEW TO-DO

Scratch this month's travel itch with one of these brilliant ideas ...

### NOW OPEN GLAMP OUT IN WINE COUNTRY

Who's up for a night under the stars (with nothing but vines for company)? Welcome to the Hunter Valley's sweetest new stay: an exclusive, single glampsite at Boydell Estate. The wine label has also unveiled a new cellar door and restaurant in nearby Morpeth. We see a weekend in wine country ahead ... [boydells.com.au](http://boydells.com.au)



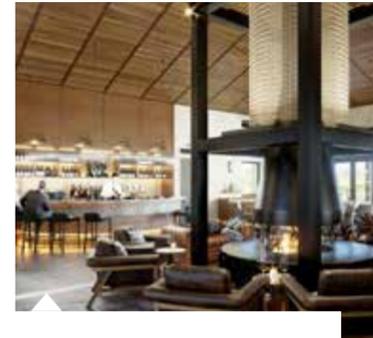
### 15 JANUARY ATTEND A CRAZY-FABULOUS FIRE FEST

Japan's Nozawa Onsen Fire Festival sees men climb to the top of a huge wood stack - which is then set alight - before they attempt to battle their way off in a gleeful, sake-fuelled dual with the crowd below. Fun (to watch, anyway)! [nozawaholidays.com](http://nozawaholidays.com)



### TAKING RESERVATIONS CHECK IN FOR A SPOT OF VINO THERAPY

You already knew Kiwis made great wine, but what about great wine with a splash of spa? Queenstown's brand-new five-star stay, Gibbston Valley Lodge & Spa, set on its eponymous winery, offers not only 'vinotherapy' spa treatments but a side of South Island scenery with every stay. Yes, please. [gibbstonvalleylodgeandspa.com](http://gibbstonvalleylodgeandspa.com)



### BOOK IN ADVANCE CATCH UP WITH SNOOPY IN JAPAN

Ever visited Snoopy Museum Tokyo and thought, 'This should be twice as big'? No? Well someone did: this month Snoopy Museum Tokyo opens its doors in a new location double its original size. See the whole Peanuts gang in animation, comics and more. Brace for crowds. [snoopymuseum.tokyo](http://snoopymuseum.tokyo)



### 31 JANUARY - 7 MARCH SEE A CONCERT IN A ZOO

Grab the kidlets, chill the rosé and make tracks: Sydney's Twilight at Taronga Summer Concert Series kicks off this month, featuring headliners such as Pete Murray performing in the zoo surrounds against Sydney's ridiculously good-looking harbour. All proceeds go to conservation work, too. [taronga.org.au](http://taronga.org.au)



Introducing The Expandables: no, not a superhero genre but a new suitcase range. (Woven nylon and clever zips are pretty super, though.) From \$375, [awaytravel.com](http://awaytravel.com)

FILE THIS UNDER TRAVEL GOALS

'90s fans, rejoice: *Jagged Little Pill* is now a musical. Alanis Morissette herself doesn't star in it (boo) but all your favourite tracks do: see it on Broadway, NYC.

[broadway.com](http://broadway.com)



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