

PRESS KIT

QT AUCKLAND



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to your time to shine. Drumroll please.

The heart is beating, and we're dancing to our own tune. With a glint in the eye, we're serving shoreline shimmer.

The waterfront beckons and the bar is set for self-discovery. Here we make space to celebrate individual style and unearth hidden treasures.

We dare to explore what's behind closed doors, and discover beauty lies within. Come sip to surprise, and sample intrigue by design.

Find yourself in the far from ordinary.





SHORELINE SHIMMER

QT Auckland opened its doors in November 2020, welcoming guests to experience the heart of extraordinary across 150 rooms and suites, signature restaurant Esther in collaboration with Chef Sean Connolly and sixth-floor bar Rooftop at QT with sweeping views across the harbour.

Nestled in Viaduct Harbour, QT Auckland promises a luxuriously quirky escape that reflects its harbourside locale. Bursting with design-led details, the guest rooms and public spaces all tell a story of inner beauty and self-discovery, celebrating individuality in a world less conventional.

DESIGN-LED DETAILS

Inside QT Auckland, a visual feast unfolds with an ode to the oyster. An emphasis on first impressions, eyes are drawn to a lobby statement piece by New South Wales artist Minka Gillian. The hanging sculpture creates a joyful and intriguing world through found materials, while on the opposite wall, a beautiful composition by NYC-based digital artist Jennifer Steinkamp plays slowly on a large-scale LED screen. No area left untouched, visual stories of the mythical sea come to life in the lift cars and bathrooms, with bold bespoke wallpaper created by graphics collaborator, Toben.

Works by local artists such as Ilya Volykhine, Louise McRae and Max Patté are featured throughout the hotel's public spaces, as well as a collection of quirky and unexpected pieces by Auckland creative agency, Misterwolf. The collaboration for custom 'salon hang' art on each floor's lift lobby resulted in 90 bespoke works delivered in the iconic QT style – a mixed match of customised prints and artworks inspired by local history and culture.



DESIGN-LED DETAILS

Flow from the hotel lobby into Esther's airy marina-side bar and restaurant, with white and neutral tones recalling summers spent skipping from Southern France to Morocco. A custom-made statement art installation is suspended from the ceiling, a nod to Auckland's fishing industry.

A host of vintage found objects as mindful decoration complement the country-style kitchen, allowing for theatrical prep with an open hearth, gold Marana Forni discoball oven, and a Molteni stove in a custom green hue.



DIRECTOR OF CHAOS

An iconic presence at the doors of QT Auckland, guests are greeted with theatrical flair by a Director of Chaos armed with insider knowledge for guests to navigate the City of Sails.

A true people person, they spark joy with their authentic empathy. Quick to offer a helping hand, this is the most over-the-top concierge role New Zealand has ever seen.

Dressed in an empowering ensemble by local fashion label Maggie Marilyn and a custom makeup look by Aleph Beauty, Directors of Chaos and the front-of-house team are the starting point of the QT Hotel experience.

QT





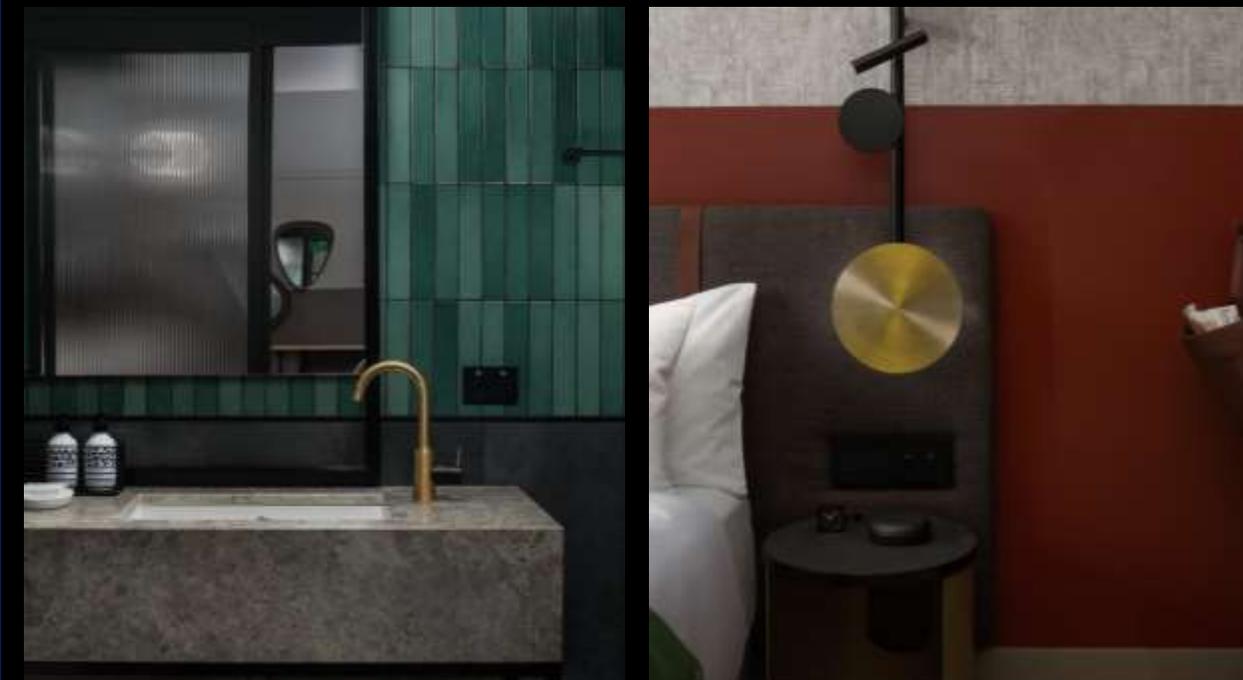
ROOMS & SUITES

Our eyes spied the sparkling harbour and we took dramatic style notes from nature. Rare beauty is celebrated in bold design that's strikingly off the wall. Drawing inspiration from the oyster and oyster trawler, designer Nic Graham has created a visual feast.

The oyster's influence can be seen throughout the design – the rough, raw and natural textures of the outside of the shell juxtaposed with the smooth, clean and luxurious nature of the inside. New Zealand's natural hues lend themselves to the colour scheme, mingling with bold block colours for contrast.

It's all in the details. You'll find resin soap dishes by Auckland-based Chan Andreassend, plus hand-blown Lava Glass lamps and bathroom cups that Graham found on a holiday in Taupo.

With nine room types across 150 rooms, each is a bit different than the next while still maintaining common design elements. Move from more than 50 QT King rooms featuring city and harbour views, to Deluxe and Executive options for additional space and 10 premium suites.





EATING & DRINKING

Led by renowned Chef Sean Connolly, QT Auckland features a highly creative food and beverage experience, combining locally-sourced ingredients with design-led interiors and signature service.

Get caught up in Esther's wanderlust where long lunches and lavish dinners drift up to cocktails on the Rooftop at QT.





ESTHER

With the warm embrace of humble tradition, Esther brings the authentic tastes of the Mediterranean's sun-soaked shores to Auckland's Viaduct Harbour.

Inspired by his travels chasing the food of the sun, renowned head chef Sean Connolly uses home-grown ingredients to share traditional techniques and flavours. He artfully mixes honest simplicity with a spritz of wonder.

The open country-style kitchen provides a homely welcome. Produce is theatrically prepped for a sustainable menu that focuses on local daily caught seafood.



ESTHER BAR

Travel a wine list both worldly and local at Esther, or order a drink mixed with Mediterranean mystique and served with a side of warming local banter.

Where the cocktails are shaken with European inspiration, and an extensive list of New Zealand and international wines are available on pour. Float by for a premium pre-dinner drop or sip pretty until late, enjoying Esther's menu of snacks and bar bites.



ROOFTOP AT QT

Trip the light fantastic at Rooftop at QT, with a peak drink and dine experience set bold against a backdrop of stunning city and harbour views.

Mezze and match from a spread of Mediterranean snacks, classic and contemporary cocktails and a wine list to suit elevated tastes.

With one airy bar inside and a second open to the sky, light – whether sun, moon or star – is ever on the menu at the Rooftop. Lenticular spectacular design cuts an elegant setting for afternoons and evenings of stylish indulgence. For those with horizons a little broader than most, we'll meet you at the top.



MEETING ROOMS + EVENT SPACES

Dripping in natural light and embellished delight, QT Auckland venues and events dazzle with a sense of special occasion. Come raise the roof for a grand soiree or indulge in deliciously exclusive private dining.

Welcoming spaces cater to all unique tastes, with champagne mood and bold QT flavour. Limáni 1 & 2 can suit out-of-boardroom experiences or posh private parties for 40 to 80 guests. For a more intimate affair, the Premier Harbour Suite sets a shore-side scene for up to 15 guests, or Esther's private dining room seats 10 of your nearest and dearest. Take it up a notch at Rooftop at QT, where all events come laced with eccentric QT style and an enchanting open-air energy.

COLLABORATORS

Meet the minds behind QT Auckland's design, food & beverage experience, fashion influence and more.



NIC GRAHAM

Designer

Nic Graham has made a name for himself delivering the cool and quirky interiors of QT Hotels & Resorts.

Nic has been running his own studio in Sydney with a small team and has worked in all of the traditional design categories including architecture, furniture and product design and interiors.

Nic and his team are passionate about the finer details in their projects, and continue to collaborate with artisans, artists, furniture makers, graphic designers and engineers to make memorable spaces and noteworthy design 'moments'.

Each QT hotel is different but the DNA is always connected with a narrative centred around its locality.



SEAN CONNOLLY

Creative Director of Food & Beverage

Renowned Chef Sean Connolly, inspired by his extensive travels throughout the Mediterranean, has developed QT Auckland's new signature restaurant concept at Esther. Sean's culinary style is centred around simplicity, evident in his dishes inspired by his travels in the Mediterranean, each dish maintaining the authentic integrity of the region.

British born, Sean's experience in the kitchen spans the globe, from cooking on the QEII to working in high profile restaurants across Sydney, Adelaide, Dubai and here in Auckland, which he refers to as his second home.

Earning celebrity chef status, Sean has an impressive collection of awards and chefs' hats, plus his own broadcast and documentary series.



MAGGIE MARILYN

Fashion collaborator

Designing fashion to empower, Auckland label Maggie Marilyn, curated a customised look for the local-focused, design-driven hotel.

The playful and optimistic elements of the Maggie Marilyn label married beautifully with the quirky Director of Chaos role to inspire spunk and sureness, spirit and poise across the front of house team. One of the pieces in the Director of Chaos collection is even called the 'You Give Me Strength' coat.

Designed by Maggie Hewitt (pictured), the Maggie Marilyn label believes style, sustainability and comfort should go hand in hand.



RUSSELL PROPERTY GROUP & LOCKWOOD PROPERTY GROUP

Owners and developers

QT Auckland is owned and developed in collaboration with Russell Property Group and Lockwood Property Group. Brett Russell (pictured) and Steve Lockwood had their eye on QT's quirky luxury as a brand they felt would bring a new vibrancy to Auckland.

Experienced developers intrinsically connected to the Auckland community, they were confident in the Viaduct Harbour location and the need for accommodation to support the city's growing tourism industry.

As each QT is designed with its locality in mind, a strong Auckland ownership coupled with the creative team behind the QT brand will ensure QT Auckland becomes a destination favourite for locals and visitors alike.

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