

New lounges soar with style

AT A GLANCE

- ◆ **Location:** Sydney and Melbourne international airports
- ◆ **Project:** Qantas First Lounges
- ◆ **Developer:** Qantas
- ◆ **Design:** Designed by Marc Newson Limited with associate architect Sébastien
- ◆ **Builder:** Built
- ◆ **Built area:** 2,050sq m (69 per cent increase on previous Sydney lounge); 1,088sqm (80 per cent increase on previous Melbourne lounge)
- ◆ **Completion date:** May, 2007

Calling all first class passengers on Qantas Airways: the next time you're cooling your heels waiting for a flight at Sydney or Melbourne international airports, consider doing it in Qantas' new First lounges.

The new lounges have everything you need to relax and unwind before taking to the skies.

This comes as no surprise when you consider that celebrated Australian industrial designer, Marc Newson had his talented finger in the refurbishment pie.

The spacious new lounges are in the vein of luxury hotels – the only thing missing are the king-size beds.

The look is high on contemporary chic. Italian leather lounge chairs, recliners and sofas by Poltrona Frau in shades of burgundy, black and white are scattered throughout the high-flyer's haven.

Elegant Cappellini dining suites and lush Tai Ping wool carpets from Hong Kong vie for attention.

Both First lounges also do their bit in inviting the outdoors in, featuring eye-catching vertical gardens designed by famed French botanist Patrick Blanc.

At Sydney, the botanical arrangements showcase 8,400 individual plants, covering an area of almost 280sq m.

The Sydney lounge, which is believed to have cost \$20m, is located on a curve and comprises 10 dedicated purpose bays including a library, restaurant, entertainment zone and lounge area, all divided by soaring oak sculptures to create a sense of coziness and intimacy.

One of the best features is the 180-degree view that the lounge offers across the airport to the city and Botany Bay. The reclining seats at the windows help you soak it in.

At Sydney, there's a 48-seat open kitchen restaurant covering 160sq m and a separate restaurant bar. The Melbourne dining area is about half that size.

Kitchen king Neil Perry has designed special menus that focus on organic and seasonal fare. Chair-side dining and waiter service is available throughout the lounge and the first choice buffet throws up a delectable array of light self-service snacks.

The bar comes stocked with some of the finest beverages including, French champagne, Australian wines, Grinders Giancarlo premium coffee, a range of T2 teas, San Pellegrino and Aqua Panna water.

Equally refreshing is the day spa that helps passengers loosen up in the face of a long journey.

The spa offers fee facials and massages for 20, 30 or 50 minutes, depending on how much time you have on your hands.

The treatment rooms (with showers) and relaxation cabins are lined in Swiss quartzite for that extra luxurious touch.

Even the simple amenities at the Qantas First lounges are far from run-



The Qantas Sydney First Lounge is located on a curve and divided by massive oak sculptures.

'Equally refreshing is the day spa that helps passengers loosen up in the face of a long journey.'

of-the-mill. The individual shower suites (in the case of Sydney, a 250 per cent increase on the previous lounge) are finished in Carrara marble and feature individual stereo volume and lighting controls, as well as radiant heating to reduce condensation on the mirrors, and luggage racks. Moreover, they come stashed with Payot cosmetics and lotions and Kevin Murphy hair products.

Qantas is obviously focused on pampering the first class flyer in every possible way. Such is the level of services offered that the concierge can help customers book a restaurant in any city in the world, get tickets to the latest Broadway musical, or even send flowers around the world.

The lounges will be managed by hotel

group Sofitel, with staff undergoing training through its Academie Accor hotel school.

Qantas hopes passengers will arrive early for flights and spend upwards of 45 minutes in the lounges to fully experience the spa, dining and other facilities.

In recent times the airline may have been experiencing some turbulence in the boardroom but it is intent on sending out a message to its patrons that it's business as usual.

And as far as the new first class lounge go, it's the business of luxury. ■

Barnwell Cambridge powers on

Since its inception, Barnwell Cambridge has enjoyed working with Qantas and is proud to once again play a major role in completing the electrical services within the Qantas First Lounges upgrade at the Sydney International Airport.

This project was completed in an extremely tight program, requiring its staff to complete all their planning from day one of the contract, to ensure deliverables of the many special components required to make this an outstanding project.

The unique lighting concept supplied and installed by Barnwell Cambridge complements the exceptional finish of the lounge.

"We would like to congratulate our staff, who have worked tirelessly to make this another successful project for the BC team," said Barnwell Cambridge managing director, John Cambridge.

The company has an ongoing relationship with Qantas Airways, having completed many major electrical projects in recent years, including The Check Bag Screening Project and The conversion of Hanger 96 to accept the new A380 Aircraft.

"Over the years we have played a small part and were proud supporters, being a major partner in the 75th year publication of the Qantas story of 1920-1995, and then a syndicate partner of the publication of the 50th Anniversary of the Longest Hop 1947-1997," said Mr Cambridge.

"We Congratulate Qantas on the new lounge and are sure that all that pass through will enjoy the new facilities," he said.

For more information regarding Barnwell Cambridge's services phone (02) 9556 1666.



The Qantas Melbourne First Lounge is a sight to behold with deep red, white, black and brown Italian leather sofas and plasma screen televisions.

A man with designs on luxury

Marc Newson has designed just about everything – from airplanes to bags – and as creative director at Qantas, oversees all Qantas product development, including aircraft interiors, onboard products and lounges.

Mr Newson's association with Qantas began with the design of the award-winning Skybed business sleeper seat in 2003.

Born in Sydney, Mr Newson studied jewellery and sculpture at Sydney College of the Arts, receiving a grant from the Australian Crafts Council after graduating in 1984.

He set up a studio in Paris in 1991, and won commissions from prestigious European manufacturers including Flos for lighting, and Cappellini and Moroso for furniture.

In 1997, Marc moved to

London, where he set up Marc Newson Ltd as a larger studio capable of tackling more ambitious industrial projects.

He has since designed mass-manufactured glassware for Iittala, kitchen and bathroom accessories for Alessi, and furniture and household objects for Magis and B&B Italia.

Mr Newson has also designed numerous aircraft interiors such as a Falcon 900B private jet, bicycles for Denmark's Biomega and a concept car, the 021C, for Ford.

As well as winning numerous awards, including six Good Design Awards from the Chicago Athenaeum, Mr Newson has exhibited extensively.

He created Bucky, a sculptural installation for the Fondation Cartier in Paris

in 1995 and a major retrospective of his work was held at the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney from August 2001 to February 2002.

His concept jet, Kelvin 40, was exhibited at the Fondation Cartier and was included in his first major European retrospective staged at the Groninger Museum, Holland, and London's Design Museum in 2004.

Marc's designs are part of most major permanent museum collections including the Museum of Modern Art in New York, London's Design Museum, Musée national d'Art moderne – Centre Georges Pompidou and the Vitra Design Museum.

He is adjunct professor in design at Sydney College of the Arts and in 2006, was named Designer of the Year at the prestigious annual Design Miami event. ■



The day-spa at the Qantas Sydney First Lounge features stunning vertical gardens by famed French botanist Patrick Blanc.

Built with a difference, and class too

Built's unique ability to blend form with function, backed by a clear process that ensures no detail is overlooked, sets this company apart from the competition.

Managing director Marco Rossi puts the company's success down to considered planning: "The greatest plan, the best artistic vision, can be worthless without a sympathetic and flawless execution."

Built's relationship approach to

business means working with clients to understand their needs and vision for a space, ensuring a premium outcome.

"To create something functional as well as aesthetically pleasing, you need a company that really understands what you are trying to achieve and will work with you to achieve it. It's that execution of a design that makes a good plan fantastic." Mr Rossi said.

Its clients appreciate the Built difference: over 60 per cent of its

business is with repeat clients.

"We've worked with the local architect for the Qantas First Lounges, Woods Bagot, on a number of refurbishment and fitout projects, including a graphic design studio in Melbourne," Mr Rossi said.

Clients also appreciate Built's understanding of business reality.

In one of its construction projects, 77 King St Street in Sydney, Built's early involvement led to addition of four

floors and extra retail space, a feat Mr Rossi is proud of.

"The first 5 per cent of a project's expenditure can affect up to 65 per cent of the eventual project costs. By being involved at concept stage, we can predict, control and reduce risk before onsite work commences – and add real value to the project," he said.

For more information, visit the company website, www.built.com.au or call on 02 8332 4111.

The airline's dream team

Qantas held that its new First Lounges at Sydney and Melbourne needed to have inputs from some of the best minds in the business. So besides giving designer Marc Newson carte blanche to work his magic, the company also brought on board Patrick Blanc, Neil Perry, Kevin Murphy, and Payot of Paris.

Patrick Blanc

Celebrated French botanist Patrick Blanc's attachment to tropical flora took seed at the age of eight when his mother took him to the Florales, Paris' international flower exhibition. Since then, his passion for botany – which found beautiful expression in his "vertical gardens" at the First lounges – has taken him across the world and won him global acclaim.

Mr Blanc developed his idea for a creating a self-sustaining vertical garden system while working as a scientist for France's national research centre, Le Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique.

Vertical gardens designed by Mr Blanc can be found dressing up the walls of many prestigious public and private buildings across the world, including the Musée du Quai Branly on the River Seine in Paris and the Caixa Forum Madrid in the Spanish city's Prado Museum cultural district. They have also featured in many international exhibitions.

For the botanist, these verdant

installations are a perfect way to bring nature into the city.

Neil Perry

Neil Perry isn't known as Australia's most innovative chefs and restaurateurs for naught. Since it opened in 1989, his Rockpool restaurant in Sydney's historic Rocks district has become one of the world's best-known dining experiences.

Mr Perry opened a second Rockpool restaurant in Melbourne in 2006.

This year marks a decade of the Qantas-Neil Perry partnership.

Over the past 10 years, Mr Perry has been responsible for the development of Qantas' innovative onboard and in-lounge menus. He has also played an integral part in developing the food and wine training of Qantas flight attendants.

Mr Perry's passion and the importance he places on quality produce are evident in all his dishes and the business projects he undertakes. Most recently, Rockpool won Australian Gourmet Traveller's Restaurant of the Year 2004 award, and has this year improved its ranking in UK Restaurant magazine's Top 50 Restaurants in the World by 12 places to finish at 30.

Kevin Murphy

Australian hair stylist Kevin Murphy has worked his mane magic on some of the world's

most beautiful women including, Cate Blanchett, Naomi Watts, Jewel, Claudia Karvan, and Kylie Minogue.

Working with top names has meant Murphy has also worked with the best photographers, styling for the likes of Patrick Demarchelier, Richard Bailey, Graham Shearer and Wayne Maser to name a few. His association with Qantas then hardly surprises.

A big hit in the world of grooming, his eponymous range of styling products, shampoos, conditioners and treatments use pure essential oils and ingredients.

Payot Paris

Nadia Payot created the Payot skincare range in 1920. Seven years later, she opened the first Payot Beauty Institute.

With the knowledge gained from degrees in medicine, dermatology and biochemistry, Dr Payot created a collection of luxurious products using herbs, plants and minerals to cater to all skin conditions.

Today, Payot products are renowned around the world not only for their scientifically developed formulas but also for their luxurious textures and beautiful fragrances.

All Payot products are non-comedogenic (or do not block pores), hypo-allergenic and contain no biologically active ingredients. ■



A view of the fine dining area at the Melbourne First Lounge, where master chef Neil Perry has rustled up innovative menus.

That's entertainment, and work

Qantas has ensured that the entertainment areas at both lounges appeal to the aficionado.

Giant plasma television screens flash local and international news, sports and weather, while the

two Sony PlayStation 3 setups (including portable PlayStation systems) keep gaming junkies occupied.

Those who prefer entertainment of a quieter sort can lose themselves in the library, which is a mobile phone-free area. With its rich leather floors, the library is stocked with general interest, travel and bestselling books, as well as a selection of international

and domestic newspapers and magazines. You could even try out your moves at chess or backgammon here.

And if while entrenched in all this luxury, you still feel the inexplicable need to turn to work, you don't have to go far. Both lounges are fitted out with workstation PCs that come with broadband internet and email facilities.

Add to that the complimentary secretarial service, photocopier, printer, fax, telephone, document binding and shredding facilities, and two private work suites equipped with conference capabilities and 42-inch plasma screen display units, and harried executives have all they need. ■



Marc Newson at the new lounge.

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Supplying and installing:

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on the Qantas First Class Lounges project

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Soft finish with JDC Flooring

JDC Flooring's long list of distinguished clients was enhanced with its assignment for the Qantas First Lounges.

Leather tiling was selected for the upgraded lounges, giving them a practical, workable and extremely beautiful finishing touch.

In association with US company, Edelman Leather, JDC Flooring took the policy that a careful selection of resilient hides for flooring is crucial.

For the tiles at the Qantas lounges, only the centre portion of the hide, where the thickness is uniform and the fibres strongest, can be used.

The weight is around nine ounces, aniline dyed, while vegetable tanning adds extra life and

resilience to the hides.

Along with the leather tiles, JDC Flooring installed both non-slip Altro Vinyl and PRF rubber tiles to the back-of-house and kitchen areas.

JDC Flooring Pty Ltd is a 40-year-old family owned business, which continues to be a major commercial supplier and installer in Sydney.

Due to constant contact and assessment of both manufacturers and their products, JDC Flooring is well placed to offer independent advice for any assessment.

Services that JDC Flooring can provide include:

- Maxiflor seamless flooring
- Self-smoothing and pumpable underlay systems

- Sub floor preparation and advice
- Distributors of Flexitec rubber pavers
- Commercial sheet vinyl and vinyl tiles
- Commercial carpet and carpet tiles
- Commercial safety flooring
- Counter topping
- Floating timber floors
- Rubber flooring and soft-fall play surfaces
- Parquetry and solid timber flooring
- Cork floors; and
- Floor sanding and sealing.



Dedicated entertainment areas at the Qantas Sydney First Lounge keep television and gaming aficionados happy.

Small, innovative company builds relationship

ACD Enterprises is a small but innovative family company located at Tuggerah on the New South Wales central coast. May marks ACD's eleventh year of operation.

The directors, Andrew and Anthony Dash and their wives

'ACD offers a level of service, quality and trust to its customer's experience'

are actively involved in the day-to-day operation of the business, planning and driving ACD into the future.

The philosophy of ACD Enterprises and its staff is to build strong, lasting and fruitful relationships with their clients and associates, by conducting themselves in an honest, ethical and friendly manner.

ACD offers a level of service, quality and trust to its

customer's experience, creating an environment that is focused on the "total package". ACD believes this is conducive to building mutually profitable businesses.

ACD's involvement with Built at the Qantas First Lounges has been the culmination of a close working relationship that has seen ACD Enterprises complete a number of challenging projects.

Projects include simple structural work at Phoenix shopping centre in Rhodes, Stocklands display office at Swansea, infill of a void area at Sydney's Darling Harbour food court, and the current project at The Post Potts Point in Sydney.

At the Qantas First Lounges fit out, ACD:

- Installed the wall stiffeners for the hebel blocks.
- Manufactured and installed the vegetal wall frames.
- Strengthened existing columns.
- Manufactured and installed steel to support glass balustrading and stonework around escalator void area.

ACD Enterprises appreciated the professionalism and positive approach that Built displayed in every facet of their operation.

Precision hi-tech system lands

The Qantas Group's new precision landing system – GPS Landing System (GLS) – uses satellite technology to make landings more efficient, accurate and ultimately environmentally friendly.

Qantas chief pilot, Captain Chris Manning said the landmark technology behind the new system had been developed by Boeing, Honeywell and AirServices Australia, with proving and testing undertaken by Qantas.

Captain Manning said GLS:

- Had more accurate and stable tracking information than conventional approach systems.
- Could be coupled to flexible, curved approach paths, providing more fuel-efficient and environmentally-friendly flight paths to the runway.
- Provided accurate approach paths to runways that were previously unable to accommodate conventional Instrument Landing Systems for siting, infrastructure or economic reasons.

The system is supported by Ground-Based Augmentation Systems (GBAS) located at

airfields, which provide GPS information to the aircraft via a datalink system and allow for a tracking accuracy typically less than 1m.

One GBAS provides for up to 90 approaches within a 23 nautical mile radius, unlike conventional Instrument Landing Systems which require an installation for every runway. For instance, the three runways at Sydney Airport require two Instrument Landing Systems for each runway.

Captain Manning said GLS was the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) approved replacement technology for the now 50 year-old Instrument Landing System that was expensive to install and maintain.

"Qantas is proud to be an industry leader in the deployment of these advanced capabilities," Captain Manning said.

The technology is now available on a large number of the airline's fleet of Boeing 737-800 aircraft, and the Boeing 787 and Airbus A380 will also come equipped with this capability.



Qantas' new Melbourne First Lounge resembles a luxury hotel.