

Crystalbrook Collection coming to the nation's capital – new Canberra property set to open in 2027

Canberra, Australia - 28 March 2024: Crystalbrook Collection, Australia's largest independent five-star sustainably-led hospitality company, is set to make a new addition to its portfolio with a new-build hotel in the heart of Canberra, Australia's largest and fastest-growing inland city. Partnering with Tony Pan of TP Dynamics, a prominent Canberra developer, this collaboration marks another significant milestone in Crystalbrook's ongoing expansion across Australia.

The hotel will be located on Bunda Street, strategically positioned between Garema Place and Bunda Street, opposite the iconic Canberra Centre. The hotel will encompass the current Garema Arcade building and is set to redefine Canberra's skyline. The 10-storey mixed-use commercial and hotel development, covering 1500sqm, features 238 hotel rooms, multiple restaurants and bars, a central skylight atrium and gardens, a wellness centre, function rooms, and a ballroom.

Ghassan Aboud, Founder of Crystalbrook Collection said: "With the announcement of our new Canberra property and the continued expansion of the group across Australia with recent expansion into Adelaide and the acquisition of a second property in Sydney, my vision for Crystalbrook Collection as a truly national hotel group is coming to fruition. This growth of our brand across Australia is delivering a strong base for a future expansion of Crystalbrook Collection into overseas markets."

Tony Pan from TP Dynamics said: "Our collaboration with Crystalbrook Collection is a natural alignment. At TP Dynamics, we are committed to the vision for Canberra's evolution, and we are proud to contribute to the city's next phase of growth. Crystalbrook's ethos and values are consistent with our goals for central Canberra's revitalisation, and together we are delighted to build a legacy for the city.

Geoff York, CEO of Crystalbrook Collection said: "As the ACT Government continues their strategic plan to revitalise central Canberra, we at Crystalbrook are thrilled to be part of these efforts in collaboration with TP Dynamics. Canberra's increasing appeal makes it a perfect fit for Crystalbrook's commitment to delivering responsible luxury experiences."

TP Dynamics has secured building approval and the construction site is currently being prepared to commence the build. The ground-breaking is set to take place on 28 March 2024 with the project's ambitious timeline aiming for completion in the first quarter of 2027.

As the country's capital city continues to transform into a vibrant hospitality destination, its hospitality sector has become a significant player on the national stage. With a reputation for cultural abundance, and a burgeoning culinary scene, visitor numbers in the city are growing, with the tourism board reporting 5.7 million visitors in 2023 alone and bringing in a total of 3.7 billion in total expenditure.

The decision to establish a presence in Canberra is a core part of Crystalbrook Collection's strategic vision to align with up-and-coming markets, solidifying its status as a leading group in responsible luxury hospitality. The launch of the Garema Place hotel solidifies Crystalbrook's commitment to providing exceptional experiences, vibrant hospitality and rejuvenating wellness.

As part of the city's revitalisation efforts, the ACT Government's City Renewal Authority will upgrade the Garema Place Public Realm. This enhancement will create a modern and lively dining and retail precinct, offering increased green space, improved pedestrian flow, better accessibility, enhanced lighting, and more outdoor dining opportunities. ACT Chief Minister Andrew Barr MLA will be in attendance at the groundbreaking ceremony and will speak to the government's strategic plans to develop the precinct with high-quality places, taking a people and design-led approach.

The hotel's layout will boast an array of offerings across its various levels, including a rooftop bar and restaurant, ground floor award-winning high-end dining, a luxury retail operator, a ballroom with versatile partitions, meeting and function rooms, and dedicated areas for wellness with Crystalbrook's elegant Eléme Day Spa, pool, and gym facilities.

The first hospitality group in Australia to achieve 100% waste-free bathrooms, Crystalbrook's Canberra hotel will continue the brand's commitment to responsible luxury, with initiatives including 100% recycled coat hangers and key cards, zero-waste coffee capsules from TerraCycle, and the labelling of 'Climate Calories' across all of their restaurants, allowing customers to feel comfortable that they are mitigating their environmental impact.

Crystalbrook Collection continues to make significant strides in expanding its presence across Australia, and the announcement of its partnership with TP Dynamics for the Canberra property adds another exciting chapter to the brand's success story.

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About Crystalbrook Collection Hotels & Resorts

Crystalbrook is one of Australia's leading sustainably considered and innovative independent hospitality companies. Each hotel in the portfolio carries an authentic expression of its location, a passion for responsible luxury, considered design and a twinkle of fun for a uniquely enriching experience.

Crystalbrook's portfolio includes:

- Crystalbrook Riley, Cairns, Queensland
- Crystalbrook Albion, Sydney, New South Wales
- Crystalbrook Byron, Byron Bay, New South Wales
- Crystalbrook Bailey, Cairns, Queensland
- Crystalbrook Flynn, Cairns, Queensland
- Crystalbrook Kingsley, Newcastle, New South Wales

- Crystalbrook Vincent, Brisbane, Queensland
- Crystalbrook Sam, Adelaide, South Australia (opening 2026)

Affiliate Hotel

- Sydney Harbour Hotel - George St, The Rocks, from 1 February 2024

The Group also owns and operates a collection of sixteen restaurants and bars, three spas, and Crystalbrook Superyacht Marina in Port Douglas.

Responsible Luxury

[Responsible Luxury](#) and sustainability are at the forefront of the way Crystalbrook thinks and operates. At a glance:

- Operating a single use plastic free environment. No plastic straws, water bottles or single use bathroom amenity bottles (in the past two years the Group has saved over four million plastic bottles from entering landfill)
- Use of technology, such as in-room iPads and mobile check-in to create paperless environments and experiences
- Use of recycled and upcycled materials. Examples include key cards made from recycled wood, coat hangers made from recycled paper and toothbrushes made from sugarcane and corn starch.
- Working towards a target of sourcing 80% of fresh produce from within a three-hour drive of each hotel

Crystalbrook Collection and Ghassan About Group

Crystalbrook Collection is part of Ghassan About Group owned by international entrepreneur and philanthropist Ghassan About. The group is a multi-business conglomerate engaged in automobiles, real estate, hospitality, FMCG, food, retail, bespoke catering, media and logistics. In business for more than two decades, the group operates from its global headquarters in the United Arab Emirates with offices in Australia, Belgium, Jordan and Turkey.

TP Dynamics

TP Dynamics leads Canberra's property development sector, dedicated to innovation and community-centric projects shaping the city's future. As Australia's capital, Canberra plays a vital role in national development. We prioritise smart, sustainable buildings to enhance all occupants' quality of life. Our philosophy, rooted in collaboration and integrity, drives transformative initiatives.

Over the past decade, TP Dynamics has expanded from residential to major commercial projects at Coles Dickson/BTR. Our focus now includes the 9-hectare Yowani Golf Course redevelopment, integrating mixed-use elements in Canberra's inner north. Additionally, our forthcoming hotel at Garema Place showcases our evolving expertise in property development.