

## Sydney Open 08 set to unlock Sydney's secret spaces

Some of Sydney's most exclusive addresses in the line-up for Sydney Open 08, an event that for one day only provides the public with the keys to the city's most famous locked doors.

Set to be one of the highlights of this year's program is access to the penthouse at Lumière Residences with its \$6.5 million views of Sydney from the 54th floor.

To be held on Sunday 2 November, Sydney Open will unlock the doors to 70 of the city's most prestigious landmarks, many of them accessible for the first and last time.

Inspired by similar events in London, New York and Toronto, Sydney Open is coordinated by the Historic Houses Trust to showcase the best the Emerald City has to offer on Australia's architectural stage.

Award-winning architecture, underground tunnels, towers, roof gardens and stunning penthouses with fabulous Sydney views are all on offer for this year's Sydney Open giving ticketholders the opportunity to discover, explore and appreciate places that are off limits or normally only enjoyed by a precious few.

Now in its seventh year, Sydney Open is the largest one-day architectural event staged in Australia and involves architects, designers, property managers and more than 400 enthusiastic volunteers.

Sydney Open 08 will open up the Central Station 'ghost' platforms, the Tank Stream and the bell tower at St Mary's Cathedral.

Deutsche Bank Place, with its 140 metre high glass atrium, is a striking recent addition to Sydney's skyline and is considered a must-see of Sydney Open, along with the new Westpac head office on Kent Street viewed by many as the ultimate contemporary office environment.

The Chief Secretary's Building on Macquarie Street known for its magnificent sandstone exterior with distinctive busts of significant British figures, and the National Mutual Building with its stained glass ceiling, grand staircase and banquet hall are Sydney Open hidden gems.

The roof top and penthouse of the Park Regis will also be opened up. Known as the tallest residential tower in the southern hemisphere when it opened in 1968 with its revolutionary concept of city living, the building is still a recognised landmark due to its iconic crowns.

This year's program invites you to see groundbreaking conservation work in the 1887 Tabernacle Church, as well as compare one of Walter Burley Griffin's first houses in Castlecrag with a contemporary house nearby that has been built around the natural escarpment with the sandstone penetrating its living room.

City Pass ticket holders can map out which sites they want to visit, in any order they like. Once they've purchased a City Pass, they can also book into in-depth Focus Tours led by architects or specialist guides.

**Tickets go on sale Wednesday 8 October T 02 8239 2211 [www.hht.net.au/sydneyopen](http://www.hht.net.au/sydneyopen)**

**City Pass:** General \$30 Concession \$25 Youth (under 30 years) \$25, Family \$85 **Focus Tours** \$20

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