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Join Claris the Mouse for the chicest high tea in Sydney this winter

(Sydney, July 29, 2019) Ooh la la! Calling all mini-fashionistas and stylish young – and young at heart – francophiles, Sofitel Sydney Darling Harbour is hosting decadent high teas this winter, inspired by Australian fashion illustrator Megan Hess' acclaimed children's book character, Claris, the Chicest Mouse in Paris.

Every Saturday afternoon from 1-4pm through December 21, Atelier restaurant on Level 3 of the French-inspired Sofitel Sydney Darling Harbour will be transformed into a wonderful world of tea cups, madeleines, choux and macarons, filled to bursting with style, Parisian chic and plenty of roses in the prettiest pink – Claris' favourite blooms.

Created by acclaimed Australian fashion illustrator Megan Hess, Claris is everyone's favourite mouse, whose tales of compassion, courage and innate sense of style are brought to life in the beautifully designed and popular rhyming picture books of *Claris: the Chicest Mouse in Paris* and now the highly anticipated follow-up, *Fashion Show Fiasco*.

"I was inspired to write about Claris after one of my trips to Paris," says Hess. "I was sitting on my hotel balcony and I thought I saw a little mouse on a neighbouring rooftop scurrying across the building. I remember thinking how wonderfully chic it would be to live in Paris, even if you were only a tiny little mouse! At that moment I realised that this needed to be the story for my first children's book, which is something I had wanted to write for years following on from the joy I have had developing my fashion books."



But nothing matches fashion quite like compassion, which is why Claris is inviting all her readers to share in her high tea and enjoy some of her favourite French pastries, including delicious macarons, marshmallows, and delicate choux, all served on her specially designed, limited-edition fine porcelain plates with matching cutlery. And luckily for grown-ups, the experience is not just for children but for all those who appreciate a delicious French-inspired gourmet experience, washed down by the finest tea or French bubbles. *Bon appétit!*

“Being able to bring to life the colourful world of Claris with an iconic French brand such as Sofitel, which epitomises elegance and free-spirited *joie de vivre*, was just the perfect match,” Hess adds.

The Claris the Mouse High Tea menu has been specially created by Sofitel Sydney Darling Harbour’s Head Pastry Chef, Puti Firmansyah, responsible for all the delicious dessert creations at the hotel.

Greg Brady, General Manager, Sofitel Sydney Darling Harbour, comments: “Sofitel is all about living the French way – indulging in and celebrating life’s little pleasures, and having an innate appreciation of beauty, elegance and style. This is why we are delighted to be partnering with Megan Hess. With her intimate understanding of Parisian chic and prestigious collaborations with Dior, Cartier and Ladurée under her – stylish – belt, Megan was the perfect creative partner to design this French-inspired culinary experience.”

The Claris the Mouse High Tea at Sofitel Sydney Darling Harbour costs \$69 per person (\$35 for children 11 and under) and includes free-flowing tea and coffee, pink lemonade for younger guests, a selection of savoury and sweet treats, and a chocolate fountain. Younger guests attending High Tea will leave with a Claris the Mouse gift bag. AccorPlus members enjoy a 15% discount.

A special “**Claris, the Chicest Mouse in the House**” accommodation package is available every Friday and Saturday night to December 21 from \$336 a night (prepaid) in a Superior Room, including an overnight stay, late check-out 1pm, breakfast in Atelier, the Claris High Tea on Saturday, and special amenities designed with young mice in mind. Children 11 and under booked with this package enjoy complimentary breakfast and complimentary High Tea. AccorPlus members enjoy a 10% discount. For information and bookings, please visit the [website](#) or call (+61) 2 8388 8888

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Media: images are accessible on [dropbox](#)

For further information or to experience the Claris the Mouse High Tea, please contact:

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About Megan Hess

Megan Hess is a Melbourne-based, internationally acclaimed Australian fashion illustrator who works with some of the most prestigious fashion designers and luxury brands around the world, such as Chanel, Dior, Cartier, Montblanc and Tiffany and Co. She has illustrated for Bloomingdales New York, and completed the cover artwork for all of Sex and the City author Candace Bushnell's books, as well as a private commission for Michelle Obama, and has collaborated with Gwyneth Paltrow for the 'Blo' Blow Dry Bar campaign.

About Sofitel

Sofitel Hotels & Resorts is an ambassador of modern French style, culture and art-de-vivre around the world. Established in 1964, Sofitel is the first international luxury hotel brand to originate from France with over 120 chic and remarkable hotels in the world's most sought after destinations. Sofitel exudes a refined and understated sense of modern luxury, always blending a touch of French decadence with the very best of the locale. The Sofitel collection includes such notable hotels as Sofitel Paris Le Faubourg, Sofitel London St James, Sofitel Munich Bayerpost, Sofitel Rio de Janeiro Ipanema, Sofitel Washington DC Lafayette Square, Sofitel Sydney Darling Harbour and Sofitel Bali Nusa Dua Beach Resort. Sofitel is part of Accor, a world-leading travel and lifestyle group which invites travelers to feel welcome in 4,800 hotels, resorts and residences, along with some 10,000 of the finest private homes around the globe.

About Accor

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