

STATUS UPDATE: THE RISE OF CULT CLOTHING

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The new faces of

STYLE

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VINTAGE GLAMOUR

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UK's Goodwood Revival



Capital Express

Canberra Airport will go international this month. We consider what it means for travellers.

Canberrans used to have to transit through other Australian capital cities to fly overseas. But, come 21 September, that will all change. Passengers will be able to travel from Canberra directly to Wellington or Singapore. The managing director of Canberra Airport, Stephen Byron, says that means Canberra Airport will become the international airport of choice for those living in the ACT region.

Initially there will be four weekly flights operated by Singapore Airlines, travelling from Singapore to Canberra, Canberra to Wellington and back. Flights between Canberra and Singapore, and Canberra and Wellington, will codeshare with Virgin Australia, which means New Zealand and Australia's capital cities are directly linked for the first time. The route has been coined the 'Capital Express'.

The change has been a long time coming. In 1998, the Snow family purchased Canberra Airport from the Commonwealth

with a goal to, among other things, schedule regular international flights. It required \$2 billion in infrastructure investment to build a new terminal and aviation improvements, but, it's likely to be the \$19-million fit-out that will get the most notice.

The new public departures 'lounge' will be open to anyone who travels internationally — the space has the capacity for a million people annually — and includes a bar and cafe, business lounges and spaces to relax.

"It is the critical piece of the evolution from little more than a shed in a sheep paddock," says Byron. "Now we are on the cusp of global connectivity."

It's not just good news for holidaymakers. "There is a lot of excitement in the region around the opportunities for freight that will eventuate from direct international flights. For example, oysters harvested from Australia's Oyster Coast could be delivered into Canberra Airport one day and sit on a dining table in Singapore the next," says Byron.



WHERE TO STAY WHEN YOU TOUCH DOWN IN THESE CAPITAL CITIES.

Wellington

QT

Wellington's famed Museum Art Hotel (above) will be refurbished under the quirky and fun QT brand and is slated to open late this year. www.qthotelsandresorts.com.

Ohtel

This is a design-led 10-room boutique hotel in Oriental Bay. www.ohtel.com.

Bolton Hotel

Great views and plenty of amenities make this centrally-located hotel a solid choice. www.boltonhotel.co.nz.



Canberra

Little National Hotel

Compact but well-designed rooms (above) in Canberra's Parliamentary Triangle. www.littlenationalhotel.com.au.

Avenue Hotel

Luxury digs in a central Northbourne Avenue location. www.venuehotel.com.au.

Hotel Hotel

This NewActon property redefined modern Canberra hotel design. www.hotel-hotel.com.au.

