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## Canberra's new vibe

If today has left you suffused with patriotism, then a trip to the nation's capital is in order. Try these hot hotel options

**SUSAN KUROSAWA**

### **HOTEL KURRAJONG**

THE 1926-built Hotel Kurrajong Canberra, designed by the architect of Old Parliament House, John Smith Murdoch, has reopened after a makeover that pays homage to the original art-deco theme, including restoration of pavilions, verandas and courtyards. The 147-room heritage property is in the thick of pollie territory, between Lake Burley Griffin and Capital Hill, and became famous as the "home" of prime minister Ben Chifley (1945-49) as he preferred its low-key style to that of the official Lodge. [tfehotels.com](http://tfehotels.com)



### **JAMALA WILDLIFE LODGE**

THE lure is to "sleep with the animals" at this just-launched lodge within the National Zoo & Aquarium; the "embedded" accommodation comes in three hubs — tree houses (feed giraffes from your lofty balcony); glass-walled jungle bungalows adjacent to wildlife enclosures (lions, cheetahs and sun bears) and the African-themed uShaka Lodge, with seven guestrooms, some of which have picture windows into ocean aquariums and shark tanks. Overnight tariffs include meals and tours. [jamalawildlifelodge.com.au](http://jamalawildlifelodge.com.au)



### **LILOTANG**

NAGASAKI-BORN head chef Shunsuke Ota, formerly of Nobu Melbourne, is creating innovative Japanese food matched with a sake rice wine menu at the brand-new LiloTang in the Burbury Hotel and Apartments in Barton's Realm Precinct. There's manga-inspired artwork on the walls and charcoal roasts on the robata grill; the freshly opened apartments within the contemporary hotel come in one or two-bedroom configurations and other on-site dining includes spicy Chinese fare at Malamay. [burburyhotel.com.au](http://burburyhotel.com.au)



### **HOTEL HOTEL**

THE star of the New Acton Nishi precinct, these lodgings with a stuttering name feature wow-factor design credentials and Canberra's coolest (and most dimly lit) guestrooms, even curved chambers in "meandering" style; Sean McConnell's Monster Kitchen and Bar is the fab in-house eatery while nearby options include the excellent A. Baker bistro and providore cafes such as Mocan & Green Grout. The adjacent Palace Electric Cinema has a Prosecco bar; hotel staff are hip and helpful. [hotel-hotel.com.au](http://hotel-hotel.com.au)

