

DO I VILL

Maggie Wicks sings the praises of a boutique Auckland hotel.

VENUE:

MOLLIES

6 Tweed St, St Mary's Bay, Auckland.
Ph (09) 376-3489.

WHAT DOES IT COST?

From \$485 for the junior suite to \$685 for the premium villa.

UNIQUE SELLING POINT:

Utter decadence – this is how the truly privileged live. Chomp on seared tuna to a live opera performance for fewer than 20 guests. Eat breakfast on your rooftop balcony overlooking the harbour. Slip into embroidered sheets after a four course five star meal.

ROOM SERVICE:

Breakfast in your room is carried in by two people, who will lift the silver covers with a flourish. Make sure you know where you want to eat – the tray is astoundingly heavy.

IT'S A ROOM WITH A VIEW OF:

A perfectly manicured private lawn, the suburb of St Mary's Bay and the Waitemata Harbour. Not bad.

DISTANCE FROM AUCKLAND:

Right in the middle, Mollies is a five minute drive from Ponsonby Rd, just opposite a nursery.

THE BED BOUNCE TEST:

Quite incredible – you can get some serious height on these mattresses. If you really can judge any hotel by its bed, Mollies is probably as good as you're going to get. Clean soft linen, mohair blankets, plenty of pillows, and a resident pussy cat.

DO:

Save up and splash out on dinner. The set fee is \$95 and there is live opera to enjoy. The dining area is gorgeous – only glass walls separate you from the quiet street outside.

DON'T:

Run late. You'll miss the complementary early evening canapes and opera performance like we did.



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