

# hippest hoorays

From cute and cosy to grand and gob-smacking, there's a chic city venue that's perfect for your special celebration

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## APOTHECARY 1878

118 Hindley St, city, 8212 9099

**the vibe** Stepping into this hidden gem is like walking into an 1800s treasure-trove. The French salon-style front bar in this heritage-listed building is home to a 132-year-old pharmacy cabinet filled with drawers begging to be explored. Empty bottles of Louis Roederer Brut Premier sit atop the cabinet's polished surface, their faded labels telling stories of decadent nights past. Downstairs, candles flicker in the courtyard – Audrey Hepburn, cigarillo in hand, would be right at home here. Descend further, into the restaurant and cellar, and dramatic archways cast a romantic spell over diners. Like the antiques, the 1200 wines lining the wall were hand-picked by managing director Paola Coro. A function room

dotted with giant gold-rimmed mirrors and comfy chaises is where guests lounge while sipping nature's finest beneath Spanish chandeliers.

**the crowd** The dapper gents and well-dressed dames who mingle in this West End escape share a love of fine wine. Lock-ins keep the refined party people in and the Hindley Street rabble out.

**the buzz** Coro fell in love with the venue eight years ago and still enjoys the surprised look on faces when people see it for the first time. Party-goers can hire the entire venue or choose from one of the four entertaining areas. The team caters for any style of function, but if you're planning a hen's night leave the stripper and cream at the door. *Bar open Tues-Sat 4pm-late; restaurant open Tues-Thurs 6pm-10pm, Fri-Sat 6pm-11pm. Also try La Bohème, The Botanic.*