



An historic pub in Goolwa is hip, happy and peaceful writes **Christine McCabe**.

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Have dinner instructions for the busy office or
have packed anything as remotely useful as
a footstool.

MANY IS THE time I've dived
by the handsome Australian
Goolwa and wondered
what it was like.

The dense work log melts away the moment
we step inside. The hotel's busy restaurant
table, next door to a bar, is also becomes
enlightened as we take a seat in the air.

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WRITER	Christine McCabe
EDITED ARTICLE TEXT	<p>Juliet Michell and Deborah Smalley have transformed this circa 1858 building into a stylish bolthole that operates somewhat like a London club but has all the glamour of a hip Asian hotel.</p> <p>...as we take a seat in the airy, minimalist lobby...we are instantly relaxed and become even more so after being shown to our room upstairs, one of only five in the hotel, and each a little design gem.</p> <p>The Parlour could not be more delightful and for a moment I have to remind myself I'm in Goolwa, not Shanghai or Tokyo. There's a large, pod-like bathtub mounted on a wooden platform like some sort of art installation; a slinky shower room; and a handsome Chinese cabinet concealing a flat screen TV. Yukatas lie neatly folded on the bed...</p> <p>...down to dinner in the private dining room (open to the public on Saturdays) where Juliet's table d'hote menu is Asian themed and the décor once again more metro-cool than riverside rustic.</p> <p>Breakfast is fabulously discreet, delivered...on an old-fashioned trolley...Even the coffee service has a Japanese twist, with glass cups perched on a black laquer tray.</p> <p>This thoroughly grown-up boutique hotel is a welcome addition to the South Australian accommodation scene, providing a zen-like retreat...</p>