



Clockwise from top right: Donna at the gelato bar; crispy salt and pepper chicken; Saskia from Grandiflora; a scene from the country retreat; Bondi lifeguards; stylist, Lucy, combs the beach.

Organising the perfect party for 400 people is no easy task. And when you're organising that party for an international guest of honour to showcase the best your city has to offer, the pressure is certainly on. And so it was that Donna was invited to act as creative director for Oprah's 'Welcome to Sydney' party in December 2010, where she was responsible for executing a vision of the city to present to Oprah and her guests. This mammoth task covered the look, feel, theme and styling as well as the food and menu for the night. Donna assembled a cast of hundreds to contribute to the success of what was to be a magical event.

The theme was about celebrating Sydney's best assets. "I wanted to show our American visitors why I've always chosen to live in Sydney and everything that's fabulous about it," says Donna. "You have the glamour of an international city, but the beach is right on your doorstep – you can go for a swim after work, or head to the bush or the highlands on the weekend."



sunset on the beach



Clockwise from above: A splash of Porfidio silver tequila in cocktails cools a balmy night; the laidback chic of the country retreat; mini Aussie burgers; deck chairs adorn the beach; fresh herbs make for place settings in the country retreat.

