

**design : DINING**



## Underground Wine

Crown Wine Cellars' innovative use of wartime bunkers makes for a magical evening.

By Alexandra Young

Designed to protect soldiers in wartime, these former bunkers now protect some of the most valuable wines in the world. Crown Wine Cellars, a members-only club on Victoria Peak in Hong Kong, boasts six of these underground bunkers-turned-wine cellars, each equipped with the world's most sophisticated technology to ensure wines are stored in a consistently ideal environment. The complex also features a clubhouse, conservatory, dining room and library. The entire venue is wired with state-of-the-art technology.

The clubhouse comprises three reception areas, two of which are 600 feet underground. Communi-

cation is never a problem, with 42-inch plasma screens, video cameras and wireless broadband Internet, a projector, professional speaker layout and public address system. The wine cellar retains original fixtures such as iron-steel doors and passageways between chambers. Crown Wine Cellars' latest addition is a striking above-ground glass atrium-style conservatory, which stands in stark contrast to the facades of two concrete bunkers. The conservatory serves as an inviting entrance through which guests pass en route to enjoy a magical celebration of wine in a truly unique and historic setting.

