

## Pack it! travel sun hats

Until Australian milliner Miranda Green created her innovative range of glamorous, travel-friendly hats, most fashion-conscious women were limited to squeezing practical but crumpled headgear into their hand luggage – or they faced the inconvenience of travelling with a bulky hat box.

Renowned in Australia for designing sculptural “wearable art”, Green was approached by fellow Perth-based swimwear designer Claire Metcalf of C. Design to develop an elegant sunhat to go with her resort couture swimsuits. Realising her classically designed dome-shaped hats with broad sweeping brims would be impractical to pack for long-distance travel, Green devised the Ava Resort Portable Glamour version.

Green used an intricate and innovative flat-stitching method, together with an inbuilt reversible brim mechanism, to allow the Ava Gardner-inspired hat to be rolled up to form a cone, without damaging its shape. Lightweight and compact, the rolled hat, secured by silk ties, is ideal for slipping into a handbag or packing for a weekend away. The brim is designed to hold its shape so it may be twisted or folded in different ways to create various styles.

The Ava Resort Portable Glamour is available with a 20cm, Hollywood-style brim (below; US\$275). An even-more flexible, 15cm style, called the Madison, costs US\$176. The Odette, an unusual Taj Mahal-inspired travel hat with a pagoda-shaped crown and pin-tucked “fluted” brim, has recently been added to the range, priced at US\$176.

The hats are available in black and a wide range

of rich hues such as steel blue or lime green with contrasting raw-silk stitching. Green accepts private commissions, tailoring hats to suit special requirements.

Place an order at [www.mirandagreenmillinery.com.au](http://www.mirandagreenmillinery.com.au); Hong Kong delivery is available.

*Catherine Shaw*

