



Natal's R1m hotel

South Africa's most ambitiously planned hotel, the Rim Beverley Hills at Umhlanga Rocks opens with a bang on December 17. A big fireworks display is planned to mark the occasion. The hotel shown here nearing completion stands 10 storeys high atop a sharp rise immediately off the shoreline. The air-conditioned building will have amenities seldom seen outside America's plush millionaire playgrounds. These include: ceiling-high curtains which open and close at the touch of a bedside button, iced water on tap in every room, a billiards room, massage parlours, Turkish baths, hairdressers,

swimming pool (with poolside bar), two restaurants, three conference rooms, a ballroom, a secretarial service—and the chef from the old Carlton Hotel in Johannesburg. Each room has been wired for television—when it comes. The ground-floor lounge has been designed to make visual impact. It will have split levels, marble flooring, a spiral staircase, a waterfall and fountain, and massive, striking pillars chiselled by Herman Wald—pillars shaped to form embracing lovers, the goddess of the elements and Neptune. Wald (right) is seen discussing one of his carvings with a visitor.

