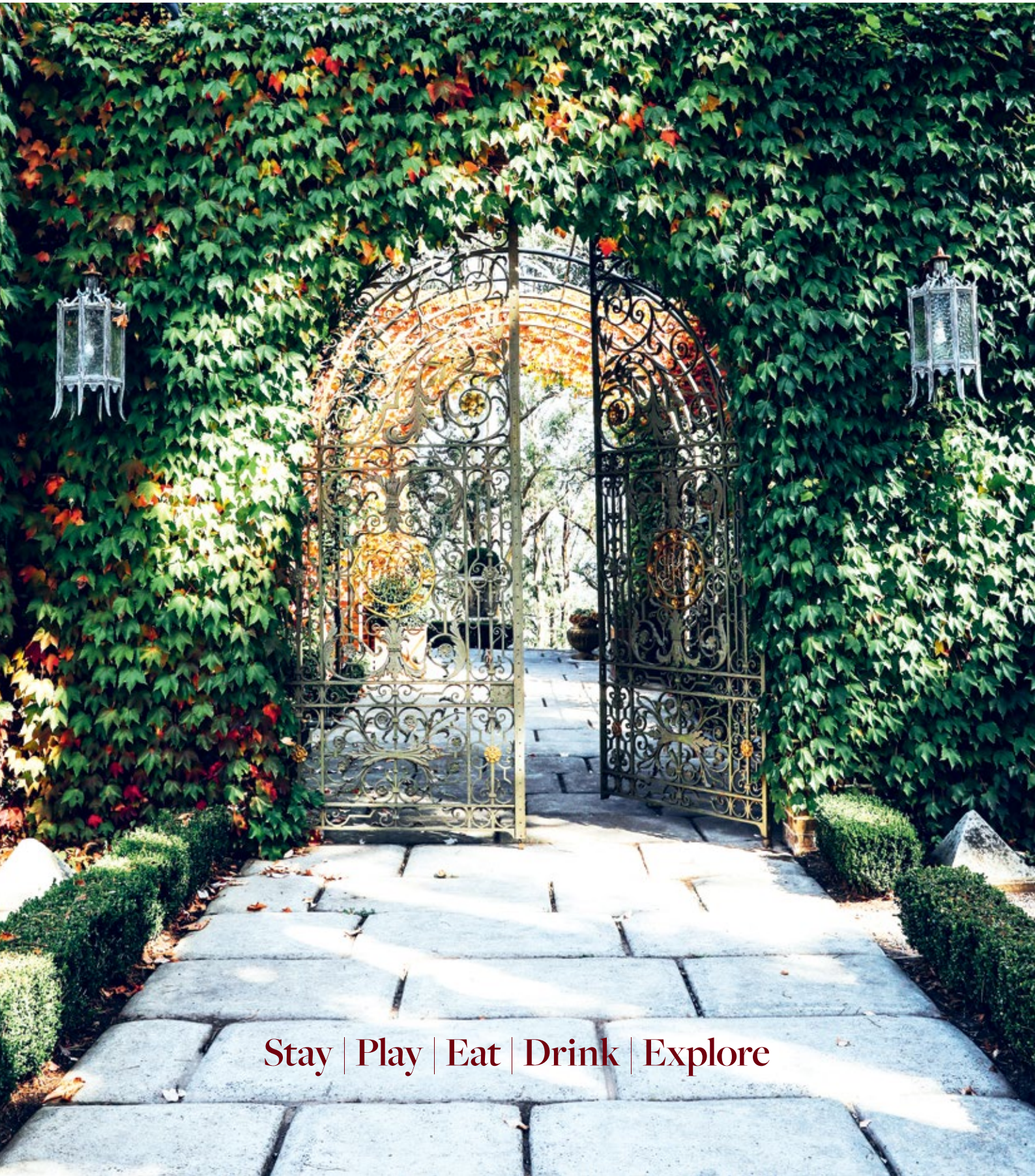


# Southern Highlands

ESCAPE



Stay | Play | Eat | Drink | Explore

# Bistro Sociale



A Classic European Bistro,  
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and gorgeous cocktails.

Bookings highly recommended.

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— BOWRAL SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS —

Located inside Berida Hotel,  
6 David Street, Bowral

02 4861 1177  
[beridahotel.com.au](http://beridahotel.com.au)



# Discover what's inside Berida Hotel

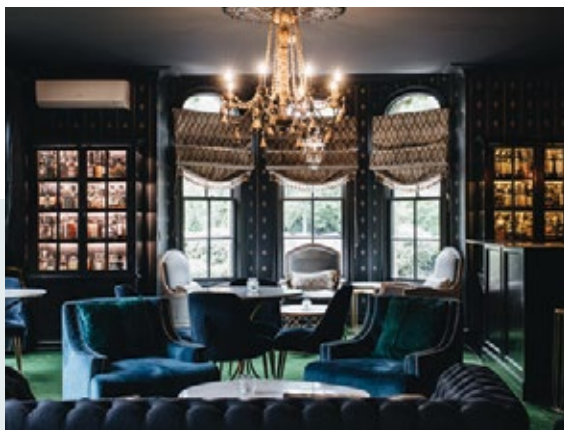
## JOURNEY INSIDE TO UNCOVER BOUTIQUE LUXURY

Experience the opulence of Berida Hotel, nestled in Bowral's heart. Enjoy bespoke accommodations and personalised service. Savour award-winning cuisine and unwind at Aspinalls Bar & Lounge or The Gin Trading Co. or explore our fully equipped gym and indulge in our rejuvenating day spa. We cater to your every need with extensive conference spaces, games room, private dining rooms, and eco-friendly initiatives. Secure your reservation for an unparalleled blend of sophistication and relaxation in the heart of the Highlands.



BERIDA HOTEL  
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Experience Aspinalls Bar and Lounge which specialises in and stocks over 250 whiskies from around the world.  
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# The Southern Highlands

Welcome to Gundungurra  
and D'harawal Country

*We wish to acknowledge the Gundungurra and D'harawal people, the traditional custodians of the lands in the Southern Highlands. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, whether resident or visitor.*

AVOCA	MERYLA
ALPINE	MITTAGONG
AYLMERTON	MOUNT LINDSAY
BALMORAL	MOUNT MURRAY
BARGO	MOSS VALE
BELANGLO	NEW BERRIMA
BERRIMA	PADDYS RIVER
BOWRAL	PENROSE
BRAEMAR	RENWICK
BULLIO	ROBERTSON
BUNDANOON	SUTTON FOREST
BURRADOO	TALLONG
BURRAWANG	UPPER KANGAROO VALLEY
BUXTON	WATTLE RIDGE
CANYONLEIGH	WELBY
COLO VALE	WERAI
EXETER	WILDES MEADOW
EAST KANGALOO	WINGELLO
FITZROY FALLS	WOMBEGAN CAVES
GLENQUARRY	WOODLANDS
GOODMANS FORD	YERRINBOOL
HIGH RANGE	
HILL TOP	
KANGALOO	
JOADJA	
MANCHESTER SQUARE	
MANDEMAR	
MEDWAY	

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Wingecarribee  
SHIRE COUNCIL  
*We're with you*

# *Welcome to* Our Backyard

*90 minutes from Sydney and Canberra, and easily accessible by car or train, the Southern Highlands is a world away on your doorstep.*

Made up of National Parks and bush wilderness, horse studs and vineyards, and charming historical villages alive with art, food and shopping choices – whether you're in the mood for a hike in the mountains, a weekend escape to the country or a new adventure to embrace, the Southern Highlands is a regional destination to discover like no other. **SH**

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**COVER IMAGE** - Elise Hassey  
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# OUR TOWNS & VILLAGES

## BERRIMA

Voted NSW's Top Tourism Town in 2021, Berrima is a historic picture postcard 1830s sandstone village boasting some serious history, and some of the finest surviving 19th century Georgian architecture in the country. Perfect for a Sunday visit or a weekend stay, it offers something for everyone. Want to investigate part of our brutal penal past? Book a tour at the statuesque Berrima Court House, and at National Trust-listed and locally restored house and garden treasure, Harper's Mansion, with one of the largest mazes in Australia. Enjoy excellent pub grub in the beer garden of the Surveyor General Inn, Australia's oldest continually operating hotel, or go more upmarket and eat at local favourites, Eschalot, Josh's or PepperGreen Estate's Tasting Room. Take the kids to Willow and Chai for ice cream cones or let them get their sugar fix at the perpetually popular Lolly Swagman while you stock up on jams and chutneys at Mrs Oldbucks Pantry. If hand grown, handmade or hand painted is your poison, Australian Alpaca, Berrima Village Pottery and Michael Reid Gallery are shopping musts but Berrima spoils for other choice too. Book an e-bike with Highland Bikes or travel on foot with Berrima Walking Tours. If you are a bibliophile, drop in at legendary Bendooley Estate with its one of a kind Book Barn... floor to ceiling books as well as a restaurant, cellar door, a wedding barn venue and smart cottage accommodation. [@exploreberrima](#) is a terrific resource to help discover Berrima.

## BOWRAL

Sitting at the foot of Mount Gibraltar, where precious rock, trachyte, was mined for 100 years to construct stately buildings such as the Queen Victoria Building in Sydney, Bowral is the largest town of the Southern Highlands. Home to historic buildings and wide tree-lined streets, Bowral was home to cricketering great Sir Don Bradman during his childhood. Be inspired at the Bradman Museum and International Cricket Hall of Fame. Bowral is also the home of Tulip Time in September, and horticulture and heritage marvels such as Retford Park and our regional gallery, Ngununggula, reimagined from Retford Park's former dairy. Also enjoy browsing Bowral's vintage, interiors, lifestyle and shopping choices. Meander precincts such as Dirty Jane's, Suzie Anderson Home, Green Lane and newcomer Coach House Collective as well as independent fashion boutiques, and galleries including The Milk Factory and Bowral Art Gallery. Eat at a plethora of crowd pleasers,

then head for the peak of Mount Gibraltar Reserve, the highest point between Sydney and Canberra, and admire the view below. Take one of the seven walking tracks from the lookout and walk amongst the canopies while looking over Bowral, and Mittagong on the northern side.

## BUNDANOON

A favoured place in the 19th century for Sydney society arriving by train to 'take the country air', Bundanoon is a community with character. It was the first town in the world to ban the sale of plastic water bottles in 2009. Today bushwalkers, cyclists and nature lovers are drawn to the surrounding magnificent Morton National Park with its culturally significant sites such as Erith Coal Mine, the spritely Fairy Bowers Falls, and the transcendental Glow Worm Glen. Bunker down at the newly revamped Osborn House, a 15 room hotel and reimagined 1892 mansion recently named in Travel & Leisure's Top 100 Best New Hotels in the World. Down the road, Bundanoon Hotel has comfortable rooms, beer on tap and an outdoor swimming pool in the beer garden. Visit in April with thousands of the Scottish diaspora to enjoy bagpipe playing and caber tossing at Brigadoon: the great Bundanoon Highland Gathering, or in July for Winterfest, a warming evening street festival. For body and soul, Quest for Life Foundation offers residential courses for those seeking solace, and nearby, the Sunnataram Forest Monastery in 40 hectares of bushland with plateau views holds retreats for those wanting to embrace Buddhism.

## BURRAWANG

Historical and upmarket, Burrawang is a little community with an Instagramable vignette, bolstered by the recent arrival of agrarian crusader café, The What If Society's Exchange. Stroll the main street with its smartly fronted renovated cottages and enjoy a pub lunch and a stay at the local, Burrawang Village Hotel with the best beer garden views in the Highlands. The 1883 School of Arts plays host to frequent events and the annual Burrawang Easter Market attracts 10,000 market goers each year. Take a leisurely drive through the rural backroads around Wildes Meadow and Avoca past paddocks with smart horse studs, potato farms, and Black Angus cattle.

## CANYONLEIGH

Situated on the drier western edge of the Highlands, Canyonleigh is made up of large rural properties, and increasingly, wine and olive groves. A unique place to bushwalk, head to Guula Nguurra National Park, acquired by the NSW State Government in 2019 to help secure the future of the Highlands' 3000 strong koala population. If you like hikes that exert, take the Mount Penang Loop Walk to the summit and take in its 360 degree views over the countryside. Stay at newly opened Canyonleigh Retreat and book a pony experience or a two hour trail ride with nearby Canyonleigh Trails. Looking for a unique wedding or DIY special event venue? Then make a detour to the Canyonleigh Community Hall. With its log-cabin feel set in bushland, this is an earthy self-catering option, complete with kitchen, wood fire, stage and Yamaha Grand Piano for visitors looking for a unique venue. Check out other local halls and community centres available to hire in the Southern Highlands [wsc.nsw.gov.au](#)

## COLO VALE

Colo Vale started life as a farming area and a station on the Main Southern Railway line during the 1860s. With rich soil derived from volcanic rock, it is home to many small holding farmers and acreage lifestyles today. Take the kids off-grid and book a farm tour with locals Connie and Will Mussett at their Mussett Holdings Regenerative Farm. Enjoy collecting eggs with their open range chickens, and learn about their bees, vegies and mushrooms. Stock up on more local fresh produce at Colo Vale's markets, the first Saturday of every month except January.

## EXETER

This upmarket leafy village with its primary school, railway station, cricket oval and community croquet lawn is served brilliantly by The Exeter General Store, post office, café and local produce store. Spend some unhurried time dining here before perusing the stocked shelves for a pre-loved book to take home. Visit nearby winery Dawning Day Farms and take home some great Highland's vintages. Exeter Village Market, the first Saturday of every month, is a foodies delight with more than 50 local producers, makers and sellers.



## FITZROY FALLS

The tiny hamlet of Fitzroy Falls, surrounded by wilderness and farmland and an increasing number of Group 1 racing winners, breeders and horse studs. The area takes its name from the magnificent 81 metre cascade in the encompassing Morton Nation Park. Park at the visitors centre and take one of the tracks out to the viewing platforms to appreciate the beauty. Keep an eye, and ear out for some of our shy neighbours such as koalas and the local superb lyrebirds. Masters of mimicry, male lyrebirds imitate up to 20 other species of local birdlife like kookaburras and whipbirds to attract a female. They also imitate camera shutters, your iPhone when its camera sound mode is switched on, and even car alarms going off. If mountain biking is your thing, take the 30 kilometre Fitzroy Falls to Kangaroo Valley one way track from the Fitzroy Falls Visitor Centre. You'll travel through scenic bushland with some adrenaline fuelled steep downhill runs. For more info [nationalparks.nsw.gov.au](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au)

## JOADJA

If you love history, put Joadja on your radar to visit. If you love history and whisky, visit immediately. This is one of the Highlands' furthest out, and most fascinating communities – a treasure steeped in history, intrigue and business ingenuity. Old Joadja township was founded more than 150 years ago, during the 1870s when hundreds of skilled miners from Scotland travelled with their families to overcome a skills shortage and mine shale oil for the Australian Kerosene Oil and Mineral Company. At its peak, the little community had a population of 1200, a School of Arts, a general store, pub, post office, church and a cemetery. Today, Joadja Distillery produces award-winning single malt whisky, gin, Pedro Ximenes sherry, brandy and rum. Time your tasting trip with one of the fascinating twice monthly guided tours of Joadja's historic township given by distillers and owners, Valero and Elisa Jimenez.

## MITTAGONG

Mittagong is the site of one of the first iron ore discoveries in Australia, and a busy, growing centre just off the Hume Highway. With parks like Lake Alexandra Reserve. With its lake, circular surrounding walkway and excellent children's playground, and bush track walks to nearby 40 or 60 Foot Falls, it is the gateway to the Southern Highlands. If you love vintage fashion make a beeline for emporium Twisting Vintage or if custom-made is more your poison, high tail it to Eden Craft Brewery and Burger Bar to sample a lager or stout. Cross the road to the beating heart of the famed Gumnut Patisserie success story. Spend time trying to choose (custard slice, almond croissant, chicken and leek pie – where to start?) and understand why queues out the door are commonplace at Gumnut's other outlets. Toshi's Japanese restaurant is Berrima resident, singer Jimmy Barnes' favourite and Paste Australia is run by Michelin star owner Bee Satongun. If history interests, stay at the cosy Fitzroy Inn and hear tales of convicts held in the in-house cell. Mittagong RSL offers a smorgasbord of dining options every day except Christmas Day, a large program of live music and entertainment and budget friendly accommodation. Visit Southern Highlands Visitor Information Centre for more information and make sure to stockup on a plethora of locally grown and made produce.

## MOSS VALE

Moss Vale is a down to earth, burgeoning town hemmed by vineyards and farming land. The annual agricultural show in March is one of the largest locally, with cattle showing, horse events, pavilion displays, woodchopping, side show alley, demolition derby and fireworks. Design, lifestyle, handcrafted and homewares abound here; take a stroll along Moss Vale's Argyle Street and relish the independent shops and retailers. Dine out at excellent local eateries Flour Bar, Highlands Merchant, The Post Café, Il Pranzo and nearby Moss Vale Hotel. Stay at Dormie House Hotel with its 1930 guesthouse vibe and Championship Golf Course. Go more unique boutique at the sumptuous Moss Manor Hotel, with its beautifully fitted and furnished rooms, and garden suites.

## ROBERTSON

Robertson combines a real pastoral setting with acclaimed produce such as potatoes, truffles, ewe's milk cheese, paddock raised meat and open range eggs. The Robertson Show every March is home to the famed Australian Championship Potato Race, a 400 metre sprint as competitors carry a 50 kilogram bag of spuds on their backs. Stay at The Robertson Hotel, atmospheric setting for recent television show, *The Traitors*, and dine at Moonacre (Farm, Kitchen and School) and the Euro inspired Pecora Dairy Cheese and Wine bar. The Robertson Public House and Kitchen does great food and live music events – catch local country singer Loki Hines and his Open Mic Nights and stay in newly renovated rooms upstairs. Book a class at nearby Green Door Studio and learn from acclaimed local artists. Check out more work from artists at Jennings Kerr Gallery.

## SUTTON FOREST

The Sutton Forest Hotel is the centre of this village of quaint cottages, and surrounding farms with late 18th century Georgian mansions. The local go-to, there's a front bar and the family restaurant out back has outside seating, swings for the kids and terrific views into neighbouring horse paddocks. Down the road Red Cow Farm, with its stunning English gardens, is an absolute must, as are ImaginArta's puppet shows every Sunday at 11am in the hall if you have kids in tow.

## WINGELLO

This village equidistant from Sydney and Canberra is centred around the railway station, national parks and Wingello Village Store, an excellent café and local hub with homecooked food and reportedly the longest lolly bar within cooeee. A mecca for mountain bikers, horse riders, trail runners, dog sledders and competitors in the annual Wingello Forest Endurance Horse Ride, Wingello is a must for those who want to enjoy and experience some of our great outdoors. [www.southernhighlands.com.au](http://www.southernhighlands.com.au)





Map not to scale. To be used as a general direction map of region. Southern HIGHLANDS VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE ©2024

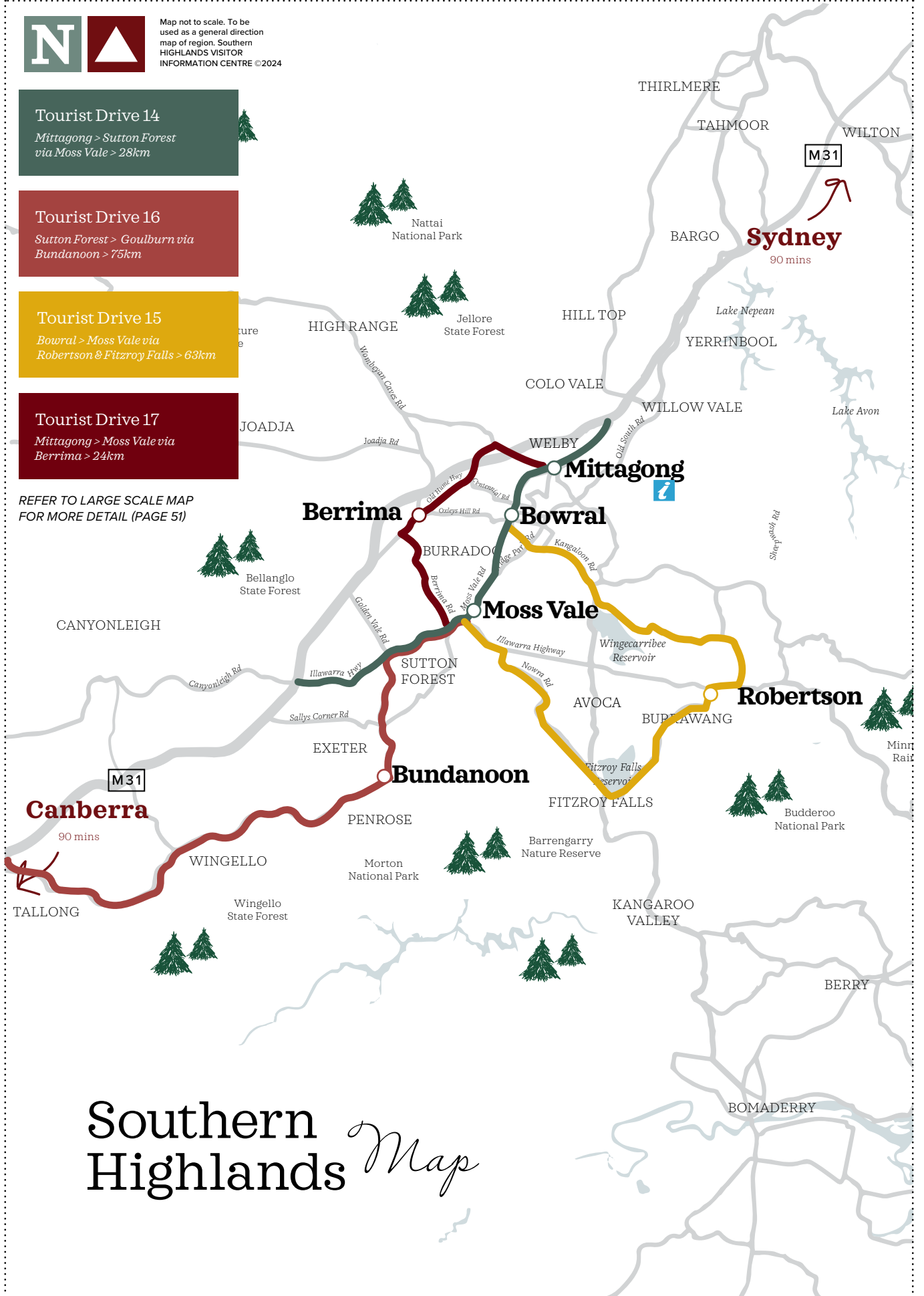
**Tourist Drive 14**  
 Mittagong > Sutton Forest  
 via Moss Vale > 28km

**Tourist Drive 16**  
 Sutton Forest > Goulburn via  
 Bundanoon > 75km

**Tourist Drive 15**  
 Bowral > Moss Vale via  
 Robertson & Fitzroy Falls > 63km

**Tourist Drive 17**  
 Mittagong > Moss Vale via  
 Berrima > 24km

REFER TO LARGE SCALE MAP  
 FOR MORE DETAIL (PAGE 51)

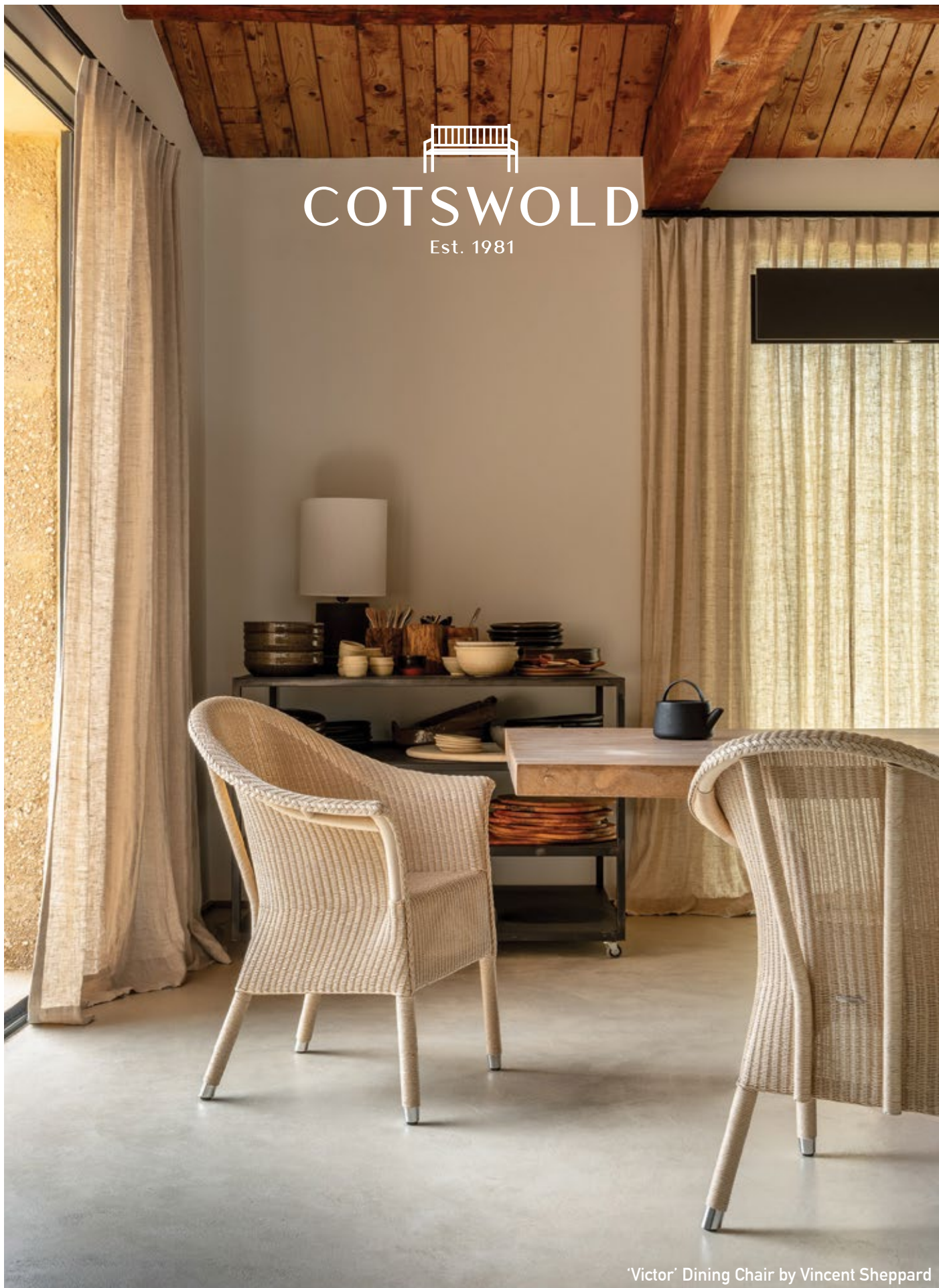


# Southern Highlands *Map*



# COTSWOLD

Est. 1981



'Victor' Dining Chair by Vincent Sheppard

VINCENT  
SHEPPARD

FAST

COTSWOLD  
TEAK

BarlowTyrie  
Est 1920

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# HIGHLANDS *Times*

Live your best life in the Southern Highlands and experience people, places and pastimes as you explore and enjoy our picture postcard place.

Whether you're looking for a fresh air fuelled vacay or a weekend country getaway of local pleasures, a visit to the Southern Highlands will have your curiosity firing, your senses sated and your memories made.

Top 10 ways to experience the super Southern Highlands

## 1. BEAUTY BONANZA

We all know leaving the city behind and getting out into the great outdoors is one of the best things we can do to live a happy, healthy and active life, and when it comes to beautiful spaces, we've got the lot! Take a walk beside the Wingecarribee River along The Bong Bong Track near Moss Vale or trek down through rainforest to the mystical, indigenously significant Fairy Bower Falls, Morton National Park, Bundanoon. In Bowral stroll arm in arm along Cherry Tree Remembrance Walk or make the gut busting climb up the stone steps to Mount Gibraltar Lookout in Bowral and survey the Highlands below.

## 2. FINEST FARE

We are spoilt for choice with a rich shared platter of restaurants, producers and dining choice here in the Highlands. If you are a gourmand, book a seasonal truffle hunt or a farm tour to see regenerative, open paddock and organic farming in practice. Sample local award winning patisseries and boulangeries, and delight in the finest locally made cheeses, as well as foodie workshops with leading Australian chefs.

## 3. WINES & VINES

With many vineyards as well as homegrown distilleries and breweries, a Highlands tour is a must. Sample single malt whiskies, and wines made from our signature grape, Pinot Noir. Enjoy cellar doors with spirit and wine tasting or book a local minibus tour and enjoy several in guided style.

## 4. SUMPTOUS STAYS

What's your accommodation fancy? From luxurious boutique hotels with every accoutrement on tap to working farmstays on acreage, friendly animals up close, secluded B&Bs with wood fires and outdoor bush baths, majestic 50 room hotels with colonial history and tiny homes with big plateau vistas, the Southern Highlands has beds for every head, and budget.

## 5. HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

Georgian buildings, convict crimes, the origins of colonial settlement. Take a tour of Berrima District Museum followed by a walk around this beautifully preserved village to enjoy its 19th century Georgian architecture. Learn about early law enforcement at Berrima Courthouse and enjoy Harper's Mansion's huge garden maze.

## 6. INTERNATIONAL ICONS

Revisit the sporting magic of the great Don Bradman, still hailed globally as cricket's premier sportsman, at the Bradman Museum, Bowral. Catch a live performance at Centennial Vineyards' Day on the Green and enjoy musical superstars in action. Visit Ngununggula, our regional gallery and enjoy Australian masterpieces.

## 7. SPLENDID DAYS

Locals will happily tell you, weather in the Southern Highlands is always four seasons in one day. Autumn however is always resplendent here. Catch the magic and magnificence of our centuries old trees changing colour along every tree lined road and footpath.

## 8. SHOPPING SPLENDOUR

The splendour in Highlands' shopping is the singularity of our retail outlets. Meander through vintage and antique emporiums, drool over local and Australian artisan made pieces and pick up providore goods. Warm yourself in boutique one-offs and join the crowds at our local weekend markets (see page 40) to stock up for your home pantry.

## 9. GLORIOUS GARDENS

Come spring and autumn, residents across the shire open their garden gates to show off their landscaped and designed gardens in the Bundanoon Garden Ramble, while other notables include Retford Park, Bowral, Harper's Mansion and Southern Highlands Botanic Garden.

## 10. RELAXED REPAST

Summer in the beer garden or winter in front of a roaring open fire, we do great pub grub in the Highlands. Head to longtime local hero, The Scottish Arms, Royal Hotel in Bowral or the newly revamped The Argyle Hotel in Moss Vale. The Burrawang Village Inn has the best beer garden views in the district, and the Robertson Public House and Kitchen does great food and live music. The Bundanoon Hotel has its own in-beer garden swimming pool, the Sutton Forest Inn has a terrific outdoor deck as does Briars Country Inn in Burradoo while The Surveyor General Inn, Berrima, is Australia's oldest continually licensed hotel. With a table of friends and the heat on your face or sun on your back, these are fabulous Highlands' go-to' lunch spots you will love as the locals do. **ST**

# EAT, DRINK *and* CELEBRATE



Bistro - Cafe - Terrace - Throsby's Bar - Beer Garden  
Private Dining - Functions - Events




# BRIARS



Southern Highlands, NSW

653 Moss Vale Rd,  
Burradoo, NSW  
[www.briars.com.au](http://www.briars.com.au)

 @Briars\_inn

 @BriarsBowral

# On your plate

The Southern Highlands is a foodies smorgasbord. From paddock to plate and fine fare to great pub grub served in front of a roaring winter fireplace, in an atmospheric contemporary restaurant or outside in a beer garden with sweeping paddock views, we have something for every taste, occasion and wallet.

## **BENDOOLEY ESTATE, BERRIMA**

If you love books, wine and chilled dining, Bendooley, set on 200 acres near Berrima, is a charming eating option. Started by the late great book man Leo Berkelouw decades ago, grab a lunch time table in the Book Barn restaurant surrounded by books old and new and soak up the buzz. If dinner is more your speed, Leo's by Night in the Cellar Door is Bendooley's latest offering for Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Sit outside under the stars warmed by a huge firepit or inside at the bar with a glass of one of Bendooley's vintages, created by award winning local vintner Jonathan Holgate, who took the former vineyard Tertini Wines to liquid heights. T: 02 4868 8788 W: [bendooleyestate.com.au](http://bendooleyestate.com.au)

## **BISTRO SOCIALE, BERIDA HOTEL, BOWRAL**

A restaurant of atmosphere and verve with the largest gin bar in the Southern Highlands, and you don't have to be a guest at the hotel to dine here, although that certainly makes getting home easier. This European inspired bistro has a relaxed menu. Gaelic dishes like duck a l'orange and rib-eye steak and pommes frites are perennial crowd favourites. Enjoy a roaring fire during winter months. T: 02 4899 7116 E: [bookings@bistrosociale.com.au](mailto:bookings@bistrosociale.com.au) W: [bistrosociale.com.au](http://bistrosociale.com.au)

## **BOTTEGA B RISTORANTE, BUNDANOON**

This long-running pizzeria serves great Italian food with seasonal produce and locally grown ingredients. Husband and wife team Antonio Mendes and Fiona Nicol serve up excellent pizzas like the pork and fennel job, or book in for one of Bottega B's Sunday night degustation nights. *Bellissima*. T: 02 4883 7722 E: [info@bottegab.com.au](mailto:info@bottegab.com.au) W: [bottegab.com.au](http://bottegab.com.au)

## **CENTENNIAL VINEYARDS RESTAURANT, BOWRAL**

Scottish chef Robin Murray's style is classical French with Mediterranean influences, and his dishes are a fine example of modern Australian a la carte cooked by a deft chef who trained at the Caledonian, Edinburgh and the famed Gleneagles golf and hotel resort. Ask for a table on the sunny verandah overlooking Centennial's hectares of vines and share a bottle of Centennial's Pinot Grigio from the cellar door next door while you study the menu. Book tickets to Centennial's next Day on the Green outdoor open air concerts include recent blockbuster artists James Taylor, Rod Stewart and Tom Jones. T: 02 4861 8701 W: [centennialvineyardsrestaurant.com.au](http://centennialvineyardsrestaurant.com.au)

## **DELILICIOUS, BUNDANOON**

Local Bundy boy Byren Norton Figtree is the chef and owner of DeliLicious along with wife Liezel. Always ready with a strong coffee, delicious homemade pies and soup or maybe an affogato (ice cream with a shot of coffee with biscotti) DeliLicious is the locals' haunt. And always a great local find for visitors who like their service friendly and their coffee exemplary. Monday to Friday 5.30am to 3pm weekends 6am to 3pm T: 02 4883 7001

## **ECCETERA TRATTORIA & PIZZERIA, BOWRAL**

This lively Bowral bolthole creates fabulous Sicilian food thanks to its chef Jonatan Fontecchio, who grew up in Palermo, Sicily, famous for its open air fish market, La Vucciria. Pasta lovers will relish the woodfired pizzas and handmade pastas including the gnocchi al ragu de salsiccia e porcini, gnocchi with slow-cooked ragout of Italian sausages and porcini. T: 02 4862 5988 W: [eccetera.com.au](http://eccetera.com.au)



*Eccetera Trattoria. Image Elise Hassel*



Flour Bar, Moss Vale

### ESCHALOT, BERRIMA

You need only need look at reviews delighted diners have left online to want to immediately book a dinner or lunch date Eschalot style. In a historic sandstone cottage in the heart of Berrima, chef Matty Roberts creates delicious modern cuisine based on ingredient seasonality and plates to be shared. His 'Chef's Feed Me' Menu is a shared delight for two or more and includes a range of meat and vegetarian plates like pork belly, caramelised pineapple, banana and capsicum to start; main, market fish, pipis, mole rojo and saffron, and to finish, lemon curd tart, meringue, vanilla bean ice cream. Accompanied by a wine list which includes vintages from local vineyards, Eschalot is a modern foodies' delight. T: 02 4877 1977

W: [eschalot.com.au](http://eschalot.com.au)

### ETHOS AT LINKS HOUSE

Chef Jason Hughes launched Ethos at Links Hotel in 2019 with a fine dining menu driven by sustainable local produce. Complemented by an intimate dining room and a boutique hotel fresh from a recent sophisticated makeover, Ethos is a dining experience for hotel guests, and incomers alike. Enjoy an aperitif with a small party in the adjoining bar before choosing from a seasonal a la carte menu, or book a private dinner for a close knit group of friends or a wedding party. T: 4861 1977 E: [enquiry@linkshouse.com.au](mailto:enquiry@linkshouse.com.au) W: [linkshouse.com.au](http://linkshouse.com.au)

### JOSH'S CAFE, BERRIMA

At this long-time stalwart, chef Josh Levings and co-owner Erika Smith are loved by locals and visitors alike thanks to Josh's talent in the kitchen, the Mediterranean inspired dishes he creates and the quirky, charming staff who serve them. Don't be dissuaded by the relaxed exterior – Josh's is always a fun, delicious meal out. T: 4877 2200

### FLOUR BAR, MOSS VALE

Ben Shepherd, his partner Nell and chef/baker Tim West pooled their talents last year and opened Flour Bar in the heart of Moss Vale. Part bakery, part licensed restaurant and part providore, this hard-working, welcoming establishment is open seven days a week for breakfast, lunch or dinner or drinks 6am to 10pm. Alongside its airy main street outlook, Flour Bar does excellent coffee, light meals and shared platters for informal long table get togethers and drinks. It also has a terrific wine shop curated under Ben's eagle eye. T: 02 4868 2552 E: [cheers@flourbar.com.au](mailto:cheers@flourbar.com.au) W: [flourbar.com.au](http://flourbar.com.au)

### LA PALETTE RESTAURANT, MOUNT ASHBY ESTATE, MOSS VALE

This lovely little lunch spot is a taste of France in the Southern Highlands, located a few minutes' drive from Moss Vale. Sit in the cosy fireplaced dining room with its Franco-inspired menu, or enjoy a twice cooked Gruyere soufflé or charcuterie board with a drop or two of Mount Ashby's homegrown on the sunny verandah outside as the resident geese feed in nearby paddocks.

T: 02 4869 4792 E: [events@mountashby.com.au](mailto:events@mountashby.com.au)  
au W: [mountashby.com.au](http://mountashby.com.au)

### MOONACRES KITCHEN, ROBERTSON

It makes sense that a restaurant started by certified organic farmers (in this case Phil and Lisa Lavers of Moonacres Farm, Fitzroy Falls) should use the freshest of the fresh from that very farm. Chef Stephen Santucci's pizzaz brings the best ingredients to life with among the best vegetarian options in the Highlands. The broccoli sandwich – charred broccoli with house made smoky chilli, cashew butter and Swiss cheese is sensational; or if omnivore is more your thing, Moonacres Kitchen's home dried meats and chillis and chutneys are great to take home. Book a cooking class or workshop at Moonacres School or book a farm tour at the nearby farm. Moonacres by Hearth is also serving its fine fare at Ngununggula Regional Gallery, Bowral T: 02 4885 1788 E: [info@moonacres.com.au](mailto:info@moonacres.com.au)

W: [moonacres.com.au](http://moonacres.com.au)



Moonacres Kitchen, Robertson. Image by Euse Hassey



*Pecora Cheese & Wine, Robertson.*

**ONESTA CUCINA, BOWRAL**

Owner and chef Luke Latimer and front of house, wife Gemma, have built up a loyal clientele among urbane diners, and Onesta Cucina (Honest Kitchen in Italian) with a new menu every day, is always high on Highlanders' recommendations for eating out. Transport yourself to the Ligurian countryside and go the traditional primi, pasta, secondi route – the 16 hour braised beef cheeks with carrot puree, artichoke, piselli and shiraz sauce are favourites. A warm and elegant restaurant with the custom of generations of families who return and return. T: 02 4861 6620 W: [onestacucina.com.au](http://onestacucina.com.au)

**THE PRESS SHOP, BOWRAL**

If you are one of the 82 million viewers who loves *Bridgerton*, you may well have carried it to Bowral in April 2024 to enjoy all the regency romance when some of Netflix's Series 3 was launched locally. Early opener The Press Shop is one of the charming establishments gussied up for *Bridgerton*, and it's always a place for heaving hearts swooning for good food. Try great lunch and breakfast favourites like Eggs Benedict and Acai bowls. Owners of Station House Coffee in Mittagong and new owners of Highlands Merchant Cafe in Moss Vale too. T: 02 4879 9244 E: [thepressshop@mail.com](mailto:thepressshop@mail.com) W: [thepressshopbowral.com.au](http://thepressshopbowral.com.au)

**TOSHI'S, MITTAGONG**

Southern Highlander Jimmy Barnes rates it as one of his favourites, and Toshi's Japanese restaurant has been part of our foodscape for 30 years plus. Sit on the floor for dinner in Toshi's authentic Japanese dining room and enjoy consummate sashimi, sushi, sake and a wagyu banquet prepared with all the delicacy and grace of Japanese food by Toshi and his team. T: 02 4855 2994 W: [toshis.com.au](http://toshis.com.au)

**HARRY'S ON GREEN LANE, BOWRAL**

Inspired by Sir Harry Veitch, the Victorian horticulturist and founder of the Chelsea Flower Show who motivated a generation of plant hunters, Harry's on Green Lane is a charming wine bar and dining salon. Order the blue swimmer crab linguine with garlic, tomato, chilli, white wine, lemon and herbs and a glass of pinot grigio (local of course), sit outside in the sunny courtyard and watch the passersby. T: 02 4862 2983 W: [harryswinebarbowral.com](http://harryswinebarbowral.com)

**PASTE, MITTAGONG**

Paste has been named one of Australia's most exciting regional Thai restaurants by the *Australian Financial Review* in 2021, and winner of a *Sydney Morning Herald Good Food* hat in 2023. Head chef, Bee Satongun and her partner in the kitchen and life, Jason Bailey, continue to delight Paste diners. Paste's food is innovative and intriguing, offering a more

refined take on Thai food. Like their Paste in Bangkok, which was awarded with a Michelin star, think modern fusion Thai created with contemporary twists, great imagination and cooking aplomb. T: 02 4872 2277 E: [booking@pasteaustralia.com](mailto:booking@pasteaustralia.com) W: [pasteaustralia.com](http://pasteaustralia.com)

**PECORA CHEESE & WINE, ROBERTSON**

This Euro inspired little bar open morning to night couldn't be more paddock to plate if it tried. Owned and run by farmers and cheese-makers Cressida and Michael Cains of nearby Pecora Dairy, pop into this glamorous little bolthole and share a platter of Pecora's handcrafted ewe's milk cheeses or a charcuterie plate with a glass of something cold and delicious. T: 0413 584 464 W: [pecoradairy.com.au](http://pecoradairy.com.au)

**PEPPERGREEN ESTATE CELLAR DOOR, BERRIMA**

An easily accessible and relaxed place to dine with an all day menu and breakfast served until 11am. Enjoy a wine tasting at the bar or dive into the French inspired menu by chef Mark Chance, with changing daily specials and shared plates on offer. Best enjoyed with a glass or bottle of Peppergreen's own vintage and some of the vineyard's locally grown olive oil with bread. T: 02 4877 1070 W: [peppergreenestate.com.au](http://peppergreenestate.com.au)

**THE WHAT IF SOCIETY STUDIO AND THE EXCHANGE, MOSS VALE AND BURRAWANG**

Inspiring chef Eilish Maloney founded The What If Society, a sustainable food collective and its premises The Studio and The Exchange to produce outstanding food, encourage zero waste, and to enter into ongoing partnerships with local producers who share the philosophy. Enjoy Eilish and her team's motivating message and menu; if you want to see awe inspiring food in action, creating community and connections, The What If Society is a must. W: [thewhatifsociety.com](http://thewhatifsociety.com)



*Eilish Maloney, The What If Society Studio, Moss Vale*



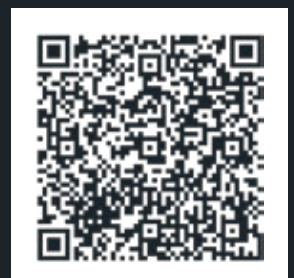


## THE ROYAL HOTEL

255 Bong Bong St, Bowral NSW 2576

(02) 4861 6686

Scan the QR code for our menu, trading hours, to book & more...





Sutton Forest Pub. Image: Elise Hassey

There is nothing like a good meal out at one of our great pubs to give you a true feel of life in the Highlands. Whether in winter in front of a roaring wood fire or outside on a deck or in a beer garden in summer, our pubs offer an experience to be savoured.

#### **THE SCOTTISH ARMS, EAST BOWRAL**

Book a table at the bistro of this 18th century inspired pub, tracing its origins back to the Scots who mined for shale oil in the 1860s at Joadja township. Admire the collection of Scottish regalia, or choose outdoor in the Scotland Yard beer garden, made with 150 year old ironbark beams from Sydney's Balmain wharf. Enjoy a great menu including a variety of hand crumbed chicken schnitzels. We like the Scottish Bell with tomato chilli sauce, bacon and mozzarella. Open 7 days for lunch and dinner [scottisharms.com.au](http://scottisharms.com.au)

#### **THE MITTAGONG HOTEL, MITTAGONG**

Enjoy a terrific pub meal at this restored 1890s hotel in Mittagong's main street, known locally for eons as the Top Pub given its location. Book a table inside in the newly revamped bistro, the front room or outside in the sunny courtyard and choose from the varied menu, a great selection of local wines and a great program of live music. Bubbles and Brunch is held every third Saturday from 10am to 12pm with brunch, bottomless bubbles and live music. With 14 rooms upstairs including a family deluxe suite which sleeps four, this is also a great place to stay for a weekend visit. Open 7 days for lunch and dinner [mittagonghotel.com.au](http://mittagonghotel.com.au)

#### **THE ROBERTSON PUBLIC HOUSE AND KITCHEN, ROBERTSON**

Built in 1887, the Robbo Pub as it is affectionately known, has long been the beating heart of this bustling little town. In summer, book a table outside on the sunny deck with friends and enjoy pub classics and great butcher's cuts and offerings like Spicy Saturday specials. A great live music venue with an Open Mic every second Wednesday of the month, enjoy a pint or two of locally brewed Highlander Beer made in Robertson and on tap at the Robbo pub. It's a great wedding and accommodation venue too. Open 7 days for lunch and dinner. [robertsonpublichouse.com.au](http://robertsonpublichouse.com.au)

#### **THE ROYAL, BOWRAL**

A loved local, The Royal in the heart of Bowral is the perfect place for a relaxed class of vino in the sun after some main street shopping or for a dinner out in the bistro. Enjoy some classic pub grub or Happy Hour and a DJ 5-7pm Fridays and live music on Saturday nights. Walk-ins welcome. Open from 11am. [royalhotelbowral.com.au](http://royalhotelbowral.com.au)

#### **THE IMPERIAL, BOWRAL**

A great choice for a wet or windy Highlands winter day. Book a long table in front of the Impie's roaring open wood fire and enjoy a great selection of woodfired authentic Neapolitan style pizzas cooked in a real woodfired oven Naples style. Enjoy a family game of pool while you wait. Open from 12pm [theimperial.com.au](http://theimperial.com.au)

#### **BRIARS INN, BURRADOO**

Highlands institution, Briars has been restored to its former glory and then some, following a devastating fire in 2018 that closed it for nearly two years. Built in 1845 by Charles Throsby, who also built the nearby Georgian beauty Throsby Manor, book a table outside on the heater warmed terrace, on the front lawn, in the bistro or tucked away in the more private Throsby Bar. The bistro menu includes chargrilled options and warming fare like the Beef Cheek Pie or Wagyu sausages. There are three private dining rooms upstairs for your special private occasions. The Lodge next door is a popular wedding spot with its conservatory and rolling lawns for receptions. Open 7 days for lunch and dinner. [briars.com.au](http://briars.com.au)

#### **SURVEYOR GENERAL INN, BERRIMA**

A centrepiece of Berrima, the Surveyor is not only the oldest pub in the Highlands (built in 1834), it is also the longest continually licensed pub in Australia. Relax by the fire over a glass of something tasty and local before enjoying hearty pub food done with flair in the bustling Bistro 1834 or take it outside to the buzzy courtyard. Join the fun for Locals Happy Hour 3pm to 5pm Thursdays, Live Music on occasion and keep your eye out for the monthly Raising the Bar Pub Choir, led by former *The Voice* finalist Darren Percival. Open 7 days for lunch and dinner [surveyorgeneralinn.com.au](http://surveyorgeneralinn.com.au)

#### **THE SUTTON FOREST INN, SUTTON FOREST**

Nearly as historic as the Surveyor General, the Sutton Forest Inn is another terrific, family friendly and affordable pub and a relaxed and bustling place to eat. Book a table on the outside deck or in the courtyard and enjoy gorgeous views over the green countryside or if it's colder, inside near the woodburning fire. Stock up on great local produce in The Deli, located in the front bar. Open 7 days for lunch and dinner. [suttonforestinn.com.au](http://suttonforestinn.com.au)

#### **BURRAWANG VILLAGE HOTEL, BURRAWANG**

With one of the best beer garden views and settings in the Highlands this little gem is another of our great spots for a lunch or dinner. Book a table with friends for lunch outside or bring it inside for a cosy evening meal by the fire. There is a great menu of specials like Friday nights Burgers and Beer and Sunday's Classic Sunday Roast. Enjoy live music in the background with Sunday Sounds 1pm to 4pm. Open 7 days for lunch and dinner. [burrawangvillagehotel.com.au](http://burrawangvillagehotel.com.au)

#### **BUNDANOON HOTEL, BUNDANOON**

A great place for an extended family stay with lots of rooms upstairs to suit any family's configuration, the Bundy pub has a relaxed atmosphere and great food. Eat in the bistro or on warmer days enjoy a Darling Downs Wagyu Sirloin or wood fired pizzas outside in the pub garden while the kids swim about in the onsite outdoor inground pool or play a game on the tennis court. Curry night is Tuesday night and live music on occasion on Saturday nights or Sundays. Lunch from 12noon Friday to Sunday. [bundanoonhotel.com.au](http://bundanoonhotel.com.au)



69 Boardman Road,  
Bowral NSW 2576  
Ph: (02) 48 614 333  
[www.scottisharms.com.au](http://www.scottisharms.com.au)



Located in the heart of East Bowral, the Scottish Arms is an 18th-Century inspired Scottish Pub dedicated to great drinks, delicious food and our Scottish heritage and culture.

Open 7 days  
from 12pm daily  
Lunch and Dinner  
Bookings recommended





Bendooley Estate, Berrima

## Liquid News *and Cellar Door Views*

Whether a day trip or weekend away, consider the Southern Highlands Sydney's on-tap cellar door. Book a date to visit some of our most productive and picturesque wineries, distilleries and cellar doors and enjoy imbibing our cool climate liquid views.

### **CENTENNIAL VINEYARDS, BOWRAL**

Centennial winemaker Tony Cosgriff has created a five star cellar door of breadth and pizzaz at this renowned pinot noir and chardonnay vineyard. Book a tasting in the cellar door and choose up to eight wines to try in this one hour experience. Or if you want to taste test DIY style, order a wine paddle and enjoy five of Tony's selections outside on the deck of the Terrace Bar. Add a cheese platter and provided blankets for our cooler Highlands days. Make a mental note to book tickets to one of Centennial Vineyards' sell out Day on the Green events. Rod Stewart, Tom Jones, Sting and James Taylor have all performed here recently with more global musicians to follow in 2024- 2025. Charge the Tesla at one of four on-site charging stations while you enjoy. Family and pet friendly. Open seven days 10am to 5pm. T: 02 4861 8722  
E: [admin@centennial.net.au](mailto:admin@centennial.net.au) W: [centennial.net.au](http://centennial.net.au)

### **BENDOOLEY ESTATE, BERRIMA**

Books have been at the heart of this bucolic bibliophiles' mecca for decades. More recently, weddings, and a focus on viticulture and fine paddock to plate food have added to the experience. Bendooley's new cellar door with its dinner restaurant, Leo's by Night, named after the late Berkelouw family patriarch, opened in 2023, and takes the whole wine and dine experience up a notch or two. In addition, acclaimed local wine maker Jonathan Holgate, who has been making Bendooley's wines for the past 10 years, recently joined the team permanently, adding a new gravitas to Bendooley's cool climate cellar varieties. These include a crisp, dry Bendooley Estate Prosecco 2023 and a Nebbiolo, aged in French oak barrels for 18 months prior to release. Book a daytime wine tasting in the lovely cellar door, designed and

decked out by local architect and weaver Natalie Miller, and pair it with a cheese or charcuterie board. Or why not savour the occasion and stay onsite in luxury accommodation with a dinner reservation at Leo's by Night where you can sample a bottle or two of Bendooley's Reserve selection made exclusively from grapes grown onsite. Cellar door and wine tastings seven days from 10am. Leo's by Night Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 6.30pm. Bookings essential T: 02 4868 8788  
W: [bendooleyestate.com.au](http://bendooleyestate.com.au)

### **DAWNING DAY FARMS, EXETER**

The founding of Dawning Day micro-vineyard was the realisation of a 20 year dream for owners Michael and Katrina Archer. The couple bought in Exeter in 2015 and planted a micro three acre vineyard with a vision to make wine and donate 10% of their proceeds to people less fortunate in our community. And nine years on, the Archers continue to make good on their vision, bottling some plucky cool climate wine varieties (and names to match) such as their Skin Shady, Garage Grenache 2023, Italian Stallion Sangiovese 2023 in this, their seventh harvest. Dawning Day also has its own range of spirits: gin, vodka, brandy and limoncello made onsite and helps out grassroots organisations such as Highland Grace, which donates fruit and vegetable boxes to those in need. Book in for a wine tasting at this bighearted cellar door and enjoy some homegrown wines with a tasting board while you stock up on local produce, such as pickles and relishes by Dawning Day and other local goodies from producers like Pecora Dairy. Friday & Saturday 11am to 5.30pm. Sunday 1pm to 5pm. T: 0401 715 772 E: [info@dawningday.com.au](mailto:info@dawningday.com.au)  
W: [dawningday.com.au](http://dawningday.com.au)



Artemis Winery, Mittagong

### ARTEMIS WINERY, MITTAGONG

Named after the Greek goddess of hunting and the earth, Artemis Winery is run by brothers, Anton and Mark Balog, who have worked hard to grow and create their own award winning wines. They also custom crush for other local vineyards. BYO your picnic rug and sit amidst the vines at Artemis' Live on the Lawns, a live music event featuring local musicians every Sunday 11am to 3pm (weather permitting). Monday to Friday enjoy local cheese platters in the cosy cellar door. Woodfired pizzas on offer Saturday and Sunday. Pair your selection with one of Artemis' signature pinot noir, pinot grigio or rieslings. Ever clever, Artemis also produces its own spirits onsite under the label 100 Souls Distillery as well as lager and pale ales to be enjoyed on tap from the cellar door. Book a one hour wine and spirits tasting and enjoy a selection of six varieties. 100 Souls Sicilian Orange Gin is popular. Seven days, 11am to 4pm. T: 0401 199 075 E: [cellardoor@artemiswines.com.au](mailto:cellardoor@artemiswines.com.au) W: [artemiswines.com.au](http://artemiswines.com.au)

### EDEN BREWERY AND DISTILLERY, MITTAGONG

Necessity is the mother of invention. Just ask Jacob Newman, who at age 18 was too young to buy beer in his home state of Texas, so he created his own. Fast forward a few decades, and today Jacob and wife Deb own and run Eden Brewery, Mittagong, where they brew 10 core beers; run a food truck, Boozy Burgers in the courtyard; make bourbons and moonshines onsite in their 200 litre still under their other brand, Renegade Spirits; and operate axe throwing outing, Highlands Hatchets right next door for those who want to practise a few of their *Alone Australia* skills in a Highlands warehouse. "It's a great stress reliever, we find," says Jacob, now also a certified axe thrower. "People come down and throw a few axes at our wooden targets, which seems to help them relax; and chops up our firewood for us." Ever industrious, Eden also continues to collaborate with neighbour Gumnut Patisserie (go to Gumnut and try an Eden Pie made with Eden's beer) or call into Eden on special occasions when they turn out a new beer, like the ANZAC, which contained ANZAC biscuits from Gumnut. Every cent Eden makes from The Good Ale goes to Forever Projects, a charity that empowers women in Tanzania. Best try a lager of Eden's Good Ale, Birch Wit or the bestselling Phoenix D Kottbusser with a Boozy Burger's Double Double Cheeseburger or the Crumbed Beer Braised Mushroom Burger on the side. And keep an eye out for Eden's Market in the Courtyard, held four times a year with other like-minded local entrepreneurial and community-minded artisans. Wednesday to Sunday, 12 noon to 8pm. T: 0422 366 561 E: [cheers@edenbrewery.beer](mailto:cheers@edenbrewery.beer) W: [edenbrewery.beer](http://edenbrewery.beer)

### JOADJA ESTATE WINERY, JOADJA

Siobhan Maloy and Matt Toomey left their city lives 10 years ago to become winemakers on Joadja Estate, the Highlands' oldest vineyard, with the help of Siobhan's parents, Maureen and Paul Maloy. The region's first vines were planted here more than 40 years ago, and they put the Highlands on the map of Australian cool climate wine regions. Joadja Estate's Summer Rosé, made from predominantly cabernet grapes, is a nice drop and is perfect to be enjoyed at some of Joadja Estate's frequent music events held in the courtyard like Music in the Vines and Locals Nights, held the last Friday of every month with wood fired pizzas and Joadja Estate wines and \$5 glasses of beer. Bookings recommended. Monday, Thursday and Friday, 12pm to 5pm; weekends 10am to 5pm. T: 0434 902 700 E: [greatwine@joadjaestate.com.au](mailto:greatwine@joadjaestate.com.au) W: [joadjawinery.com.au](http://joadjawinery.com.au)

### JOADJA DISTILLERY, JOADJA

Take a trip out to what surely must be one of Australia's most fascinating distilleries (book a tour around the historic site before you go) and get your stock of liquid gold sorted. Joadja's Single Malt Whisky Cask Strength, described by Tasting Australia Spirit Awards 2020 as 'restrained perfection' was one of distillers Valero and Elise Jimenez's first paddock to bottle offerings, made using their own water, barley and yeast. Or if you're looking for something with a fruitier nose, grab a bottle of Joadja Pedro Ximénez. This is a fortified wine with a 15 per cent alcohol kick, drawn from the sherry barrels the Jimenezes import from Jerez, northern Spain to mature Joadja's single malt whisky. If gin is your thing, Joadja's Dry Gin, with botanical notes of juniper, lemon myrtle, cardamom, angelica root, coriander and aniseed, comes highly recommended. For corporates, book a Joadja Distillery Intimate sit down with room for up to 40 people with a spirit tasting, distillery and old town tour and samples to try and take away. Tours and Tastings Monday to Thursdays from 10am. Calling ahead in case of road closure is recommended. T: 02 4878 5129 E: [hello@joadjadistillery.com.au](mailto:hello@joadjadistillery.com.au) W: [joadjadistillery.com.au](http://joadjadistillery.com.au)



Joadja Estate Winery, Joadja



#### PEPPERGREEN ESTATE, BERRIMA

Hank Chiu and Katrina Liao started their PepperGreen Estate, a 44 hectare olive grove and vineyard at Canyonleigh, and a cellar door tasting room in Berrima, eight years ago. Today, Peppergreen Estate's wines, extra virgin olive oils and its other offerings like its Olive Leaf Gin are exported to five major markets overseas and its cellar door offerings continually impress visitors to the Highlands. Book a taste test to try some of Peppergreen's 24 different varieties of wine including its Brut Method Traditionelle, made in French champagne style from Southern Highlands grapes. Tastings are centred around food pairings and shared platters by chef Mark Chance. Weekdays (closed Tuesdays), 10am to 5pm. Saturday and Sunday, 9am to 5pm. Wine tastings 11am to 4pm. W: [peppergreenestate.com.au](http://peppergreenestate.com.au)

#### MOUNT ASHBY ESTATE, MOSS VALE

A micro-vineyard started by furniture doyen Sally Beresford and the late Chris Harvey, Mount Ashby Estate sits by the French inspired La Palette Café, and Sally's Antiques and French Farmhouse showroom. Enjoy a French inspired lunch (confit duck à l'orange, green beans, fennel orange salad) with a bottle of 2019 Mount Ashby Pink Diamond Rosé on the outside verandah and watch the resident geese strut their stuff. Thursday and Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Monday 11am to 5pm. Lunch served from 11.30pm to 3pm with Wine and Grazing to 4.30pm. Closed Tuesday and Wednesday. T: 4869 4792 E: [events@mountashby.com.au](mailto:events@mountashby.com.au) W: [mountashby.com.au](http://mountashby.com.au)

#### SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS WINERY, SUTTON FOREST

Winemaking is in Eddy Rossi's northern Italian blood, and he has been making wines for more than 40 years. The vintner of 12 hectares of grapes, Eddy makes Southern Highlands Winery's Oldbury Rd and SHW Estate wines on site from grapes grown at his picturesque winery just outside Moss Vale. 16 different wines across the two brands, four reds and four whites in both, order yours online. And the favourite drop of the vintner himself? "If you asked me to choose, I'd say the Oldbury Rd Sauvignon Blanc 2023 and the SHW Estate Pinot Noir 2021." W: [southernhighlandswinery.com.au](http://southernhighlandswinery.com.au)

#### ST MAUR SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS ESTATE, EXETER

Nerio Panizzutti planted the first vines on his then dairy farm in 1998. Today his son, Marco, credits some of the vineyard's success to the cows and their fertilisation of the soil. Those vines are 25 years old and help Marco produce two ranges, the single estate Lot 41 from the mature vines, and the Saint Series. The smoky 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon Merlot, with its velvety texture and plum and chocolate flavours, gets the guernsey as a great winter drop. Cellar door open third weekend of the month 10.30am to 4.30pm. Tasting bookings essential. T: 02 4883 4401 E: [info@stmaurwines.com.au](mailto:info@stmaurwines.com.au) W: [stmaurwines.com.au](http://stmaurwines.com.au)

#### SUTTON FOREST ESTATE WINES, SUTTON FOREST

Winemakers Nick and Santina Lo Russo have grown and handpicked grapes on their boutique vineyard to produce award-winning wine varieties since 2002. Now aged 82, winemaker Nick continues to make their popular wines Sutton Forest Estate's Aged Pinot Noir Private Bin 2019 and Pinot Grigio 2021. Other recommendations from Nick include his Classic Forest Red 2021, a classic Chianti blend of Pinot and Sangiovese grapes. The Lo Russo family open their cellar door most weekends and welcome wine tastings, which are served with traditional Italian food like antipasto, focaccia and minestrone in their Italian-style courtyard cafe. Cellar door Friday to Sunday and public holidays 10am to 5pm. T: 02 4878 9278 W: [suttonforestwines.com.au](http://suttonforestwines.com.au)

#### MILLSHEDS DISTILLERY & BAR, BOWRAL

Recently rebranded Millsheds Distillery & Bar, the former Merrigans remains a great place to meet in the centre of Bowral for an onsite distillery made drink, a distillery tour or a cocktail and gin blending class. With a vibey inside bar and a sunny outside terrace deck, make a date for cocktail hour and taste test some of Millshed's vodka, gins and liqueurs. Shop 9/210-224 Bong Bong St, Bowral. Distillery Wed to Sunday 11am to 5pm. Terrace Bar Fri & Sat 11.30am to 8.30pm Sun & Thurs 11.30am to 7pm E: [info@millsheds.com.au](mailto:info@millsheds.com.au) W: [millsheds.com.au](http://millsheds.com.au)

#### CHERRY TREE HILL WINES, SUTTON FOREST

Winemaking runs through the veins of the Lorentz family, with a viticulture heritage spanning back four generations to regional Hungary. Patriarch and owner, Gabriel Lorentz, bought the Cherry Tree Hill property in 1980 and 12 years later he and son David planted Sauvignon Blanc, Riesling, Chardonnay and Merlot vines. Today Cherry Tree Hill has 24 hectares under cultivation producing wonderful vintages of riesling, chardonnay, pinot noir and grüner veltliner. Known for its cellar door's local tasting boards and gourmet pies expertly matched with Cherry Trees Hill's wines, and wines matched with salami or cheese or chocolate, Cherry Tree Hill is a lovely cellar door spot to grab a table outside and imbibe quietly in the sun overlooking the vineyards. Top pick? Special Vintage Cabernet Merlot 'Dave' 2016. Bookings highly recommended. Cellar door open seven days, 10am to 5pm. T: 0499 174 180 E: [cellardoor@cherrytreehill.com.au](mailto:cellardoor@cherrytreehill.com.au) W: [cherrytreehill.com.au](http://cherrytreehill.com.au)

#### TRACTORLESS WINES AT BLUEMETAL VINEYARD, BERRIMA

Jeff Aston, maker of Tractorless Vineyard Wines, operates his regenerative winemaking from Bluemetal Vineyard just outside Berrima. Using biodynamic vine growing techniques which integrates cattle and sheep into the vineyard. Taste the gamut of Tractorless gris, chardonnays, sparklings and pinot noirs. Cellar door tastings and tours Monday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday 11am to 3pm and Saturday 11am to 5pm. Tuesday and Wednesday by pre-booking only. W: [tractorlessvineyard.com.au](http://tractorlessvineyard.com.au) 

# THE Bradman MUSEUM



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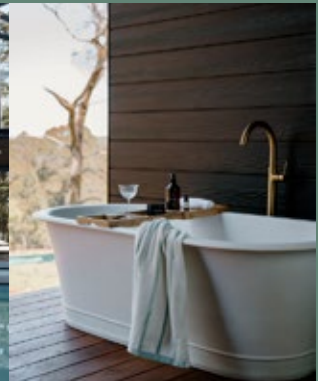


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# Stay

Vacay, mini break, farm stay, romantic tryst, school holiday detox, family time or simply a place to get away, the Southern Highlands has accommodation options for every activity, taste and budget. Here's a few favourites to spark your imagination and wanderlust.

For more: [visitsouthernhighlands.com.au](http://visitsouthernhighlands.com.au)





Links House Hotel. Image Abbie Melle

### **BUNDANOON HOTEL, BUNDANOON**

A low key, comfortable and affordable hotel, this refurbished 58-room hotel is in the heart of nature bound Bundanoon. Dine in the well-priced bistro or enjoy a wood-fired pizza in the beer garden as the kids take a dip in the outdoor swimming pool. Meet the locals and watch the races in the popular front bar. T: 02 4883 6005 E: [info@bundanoonhotel.com.au](mailto:info@bundanoonhotel.com.au) [bundanoonhotel.com.au](http://bundanoonhotel.com.au)

### **BERIDA HOTEL, BOWRAL**

Built in the 1920s and within easy ambling distance to Bowral's shops and restaurants, the Berida Hotel is an opulent and understated boutique getaway with suites and family rooms, and conference rooms for work weekends. Eat in the European inspired Bistro Sociale, finish with a single malt from Aspinall's Whisky Bar and cosy up in front of a roaring Highlands open fire. Enjoy a treatment and massage at in-house spa Sculptress while the EV charges at one of six charging stations onsite.

T: 02 4861 1177 [beridahotel.com.au](http://beridahotel.com.au)

### **BERRIMA BAKEHOUSE MOTEL, BERRIMA**

Gotta love a drive-up motel and Berrima Bakehouse Motel, with its 19 rooms on the Wingecarribee River, is an ideal spot to call home. Rooms are light and spacious with Scandinavian inspired design and welcome extras like the in-room espresso machine. Situated right in the heart of all there is to see and do in fascinating Berrima. T: 02 4877 1381

E: [info@berrimahotel.com.au](mailto:info@berrimahotel.com.au) [berrimahotel.com.au](http://berrimahotel.com.au)

### **BOOK BARN COTTAGE, BENDOOLEY ESTATE, BERRIMA**

If you love books, stay at Book Barn Cottage at Bendooley Estate, built on six generations' success of book sellers. This former gatekeeper's cottage sleeps five and is tastefully decorated, with books to read on shelves and mantelpieces. Or book into one of the five lakeview cedar studios. Dine at the Book Barn restaurant during the day while you stock up on new and

pre-loved books or book into Leo's by Night at the Cellar Door, named after the late great Leo Berkelouw, patriarch of the book family. T: 02 4868 8788 [bendooleyestate.com.au](http://bendooleyestate.com.au)

### **BERRIMA VAULT HOUSE, BERRIMA**

Berrima Vault House started life as a convict-built inn in the 1840s. It is owned by the Vault House Group which offers perks to private members. Member or not, book The Residence, the Vault House's luxurious fully self-contained accommodation for five onsite and enjoy easy access to the club's cocktail bar, cafe and restaurant or as a wedding venue with views out over Berrima's High Street and other convict buildings. T: 02 4877 1592 E: [concierge@vaulthouse.group](mailto:concierge@vaulthouse.group) [berrimavaulthouse.com](http://berrimavaulthouse.com)

### **BRIARS COUNTRY LODGE, BURRADOO**

Following a full face lift over the past few years, Briars Country restaurant, pub and beer garden continues to increase its custom and its firm place in the hearts of Highlanders and visitors alike. Sitting alongside, Briars Country Lodge provides spacious and comfortable accommodation, often to wedding guests of couples who choose to celebrate here on the lawns. French doors open onto lovely views of the lake and Bong Bong Common in the distance. T: 02 4868 3566 E: [bookings@briarscountrylodge.com](mailto:bookings@briarscountrylodge.com) [briarscountrylodge.com.au](http://briarscountrylodge.com.au)

### **LINKS HOUSE, BOWRAL**

The first hotel in Australia to lay claim to indoor plumbing, this charming boutique hotel opposite Bowral Golf Course (or Links, thus the name) has recently enjoyed a major touch-up. Relax in elegant rooms and suites, some of which are pet friendly. Dine and breakfast in Link's Ethos restaurant with local produce served up expertly by lauded chef Jason Hughes. T: 02 4861 1977 E: [enquiry@linkshouse.com.au](mailto:enquiry@linkshouse.com.au) [linkshouse.com.au](http://linkshouse.com.au)



Milton Park Hotel, Bowral. Image Elise Hassey

**MILTON PARK COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL & SPA, BOWRAL**

My Dears! There is nothing like one of the world’s most popular Netflix series, *Bridgerton*, with its heaving chests and unravelling corsets to bring global attention to one of our favourite luxury hotels, Milton Park Country House Hotel & Spa. The recent site for *Bridgerton’s* Series 3 launch party, Milton Park is all luxurious bridal suites, swooningly elegant drawing rooms, a ballroom and a Grecian styled indoor swimming pool building draped in Boston Ivy set within dreamy gardens and estate lawns. We cordially invite you to make a romantic date; book one of Milton Park’s stay and dine packages and live like royalty yourself for a few gussie days. T: 02 4861 8100 E: [reservations@miltonpark.com.au](mailto:reservations@miltonpark.com.au) W: [miltonpark.com.au](http://miltonpark.com.au)

**MOSS MANOR, MOSS VALE**

This beautiful Georgian Moss Vale mainstay, built in 1890 for the mayor, was restored, reimaged and opened as a small boutique art hotel in 2021. With ceiling to floor windows in the cosy living areas and eight lush suites upstairs, this is a charming snug for a luxurious stay away. Book in for one of Moss Manor’s foodie or health and wellness retreats or walk out the front door and explore Moss Vale. T: 02 4861 5668 W: [mossmanor.au](http://mossmanor.au)

**REDLEAF FARM, FITZROY FALLS**

Redleaf Farm is a working farm, a 10-minute drive from Moss Vale, set on 110 hectares bordering state forest with waterfalls and a swimming hole. Stay in one of Redleaf’s renovated train carriages, which sleep six or four or book in for a real glamping stay in a safari tent with cowhides, fairy lighting, a firepit, hammocks, and an outdoor bath. Wake to nature and birdsong. T: 0411 763373 E: [katrina@redleaf-farm.com](mailto:katrina@redleaf-farm.com) W: [redleaf-farm.com](http://redleaf-farm.com)

**OSBORN HOUSE, BUNDANOON**

Book in for a sumptuous stay at the luxuriously turned out Osborn House, a 15 room hotel and reimaged 1892 mansion recently named in *Travel & Leisure’s Top 100 Best New Hotels in the World*. With interiors designed by London based Linda Boronkay formerly of SOHO House, Osborn House is gleeful mix of luxurious colour, voluptuous texture and first class style. Book one of the four poster suites or venture out into one of seven forest lodges overlooking Bundanoon’s escarpment. Try a treatment at the spa and dine at George’s with its terrace views. Join one of Osborn’s monthly Fire Feast long lunches from April to November with local produce cooked Argentinian style over flames. T: 02 4883 6027 E: [hello@osbornhouse.com.au](mailto:hello@osbornhouse.com.au) W: [osbornhouse.com.au](http://osbornhouse.com.au)

**ROBERTSON HOTEL, ROBERTSON**

A fine establishment built during the roaring 1920s, Robertson Hotel makes for an atmospheric stay with powder rooms, grand ballroom, sweeping central staircase and a huge bridal suite. Perfect if you are in search of a wedding or celebration venue to book out for private use over several days, or for TV shows like *The Traitors* where the big country house feel only adds to the deceptive parlour games played out by duplicitous contestants. T: 02 4885 1111 E: [info@therobertsonhotel.com](mailto:info@therobertsonhotel.com) W: [therobertsonhotel.com](http://therobertsonhotel.com)

**MITTAGONG MOTEL, MITTAGONG**

The Mittagong Motel has 26 ground floor units and complimentary continental breakfast. This affordable, comfortable motel is a great spot for wedding guests, travellers passing through or families staying a few days to catch up with the rellies. A cosy little motel with great reviews online, it is also popular with golfers teeing off with their fairway buddies at nearby Highlands Golf Club. T: 02 4871 1277 E: [enquiries@mittagong-motel.com.au](mailto:enquiries@mittagong-motel.com.au) W: [mittagong-motel.com.au](http://mittagong-motel.com.au)

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0427 430 242 [contact@iscahouse.com.au](mailto:contact@iscahouse.com.au) @iscahouse

[www.iscahouse.com.au](http://www.iscahouse.com.au)

### PEPPERS MANOR HOUSE, SUTTON FOREST

This grand understated retreat has views over lush paddocks where horses and Angus cattle graze. Book into a cosy Highlands suite then enjoy 18 holes on the estate's Mount Broughton Golf Course or a game of tennis and a la carte dinner in Katers restaurant. T: 02 4860 3111 E: [manorhouse@peppers.com.au](mailto:manorhouse@peppers.com.au) [peppers.com.au](http://peppers.com.au)

### SCRIBBLY FARM, HIGH RANGE

Want to go luxuriously and exclusively bush in the Highlands? Scribbly Farm is a stay with a difference. Sleep in beautifully appointed domes with clear views outside that bring the beautiful bushland in; an in-bedroom log burning fire to warm the soul and a skylight that lets you fall asleep under a canopy of stars. Choose from a range of locals experiences and hampers to add to your stay or hire the whole farm and Scribbly Farm's Barn for your next family or work sit down function of up to 120 people. [scribblyfarm.com.au](http://scribblyfarm.com.au)

### WILDERNEST, WINGELLO

With the popularity of tiny house stays on the increase, this eco-friendly stayz option has three off-grid tiny choices. T1 & T1 are both set apart and privately in surrounding bushland, sleep two in a Queen bed and come with their Swedish fired outdoor wood tub, firepit and BBQ. Stringy Bark Hut is a renovated rustic bushy hut which sleeps four with luxurious linens, a wood burner fire, spectacular bush views and only the 100 year old gums, the kangaroos, lyrebirds, and wombats as neighbours. E: [hello@wildernest.com.au](mailto:hello@wildernest.com.au) [wildernest.com.au](http://wildernest.com.au)



*Redleaf Farm, Fitzroy Falls. Image Elise Hassey*













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Peppers Manor House offers an unparalleled escape from city life, with its blend of historic charm and modern comforts.

Known for its colourful gardens, diverse landscape, and rich heritage, this picturesque estate is 15 minutes from Bowral and a scenic 90-minute drive from both Sydney and Canberra. The fashionably repurposed homestead retains its original character, providing a range of leisurely pursuits including billiards, tennis, golf, and relaxing by the pool, ensuring a rejuvenating experience amidst nature's beauty.

Wedding Photographer - Dan Cartwright Photography



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-  High Tea
-  Weddings
-  Conferences
-  Private Events
-  Exclusive Events
-  Katers Restaurant
-  Country Markets
-  Golf
-  Open Fireplaces



# Gardens

Most of the Southern Highlands sits at more than 640 metres above sea level so we live the ebb and flow of the seasons. Spring is fragrant and lush. In summer, if the rains come, life is abundant. In autumn, nature puts on a spectacular show as our beautiful trees display their russet and amber leaves, and in winter, the land rests and prepares for spring. If you love gardening, or to wander in magnificent gardens, come and celebrate the Southern Highlands' brilliance.

## TULIP TIME

Bowral's Tulip Time Festival is one of the oldest flower festivals in Australia. It started in 1910 after local gardening lover Ada Corbett pushed the then council for empty land in Bowral to become a public park. A fabulous event to experience, this year's festival will include 80,000 tulips planted in Corbett Gardens, Bowral as well as 30,000 more tulips planted across the Highlands at Leighton Gardens, Moss Vale and at the Southern Highlands Visitor Information and Lion's Park in Mittagong. Tulip Time also includes Tulips After Dark, a night time event with live entertainment, food stalls and Corbett Gardens lit up to display burgeoning beds full of mass planted tulips. Tickets available at the gate via EFTPOS (no cash) or book online. Friday September 13 to Monday September 30. Corbett Gardens, Wingecarribee Street, Bowral. Pre-purchase tickets online at [tuliptime.net.au](http://tuliptime.net.au)

**HARPER'S MANSION, BERRIMA**

Harper's Mansion is a National Trust colonial Georgian house on two acres of gardens with more than 100 varieties of heritage roses, a woodland walk, a pond and a fabulous garden hedge maze, believed to one of the largest in the Southern Hemisphere. What was once the home of James Harper, the original owner of Berrima's Surveyor General Inn and the first publican of Berrima, is now a beautifully maintained historic gem, and opened by a group of committed local volunteers every weekend for visitors to enjoy too. Make a date to visit in November for Harper's Mansion's Wine and Roses afternoon and enjoy live music, food and local wineries stalls and roses in full bloom. Open Saturdays and Sundays, 11am to 3pm and public holidays. Adults \$15 and seniors \$12. Admission includes a tour of the house and a self-guided tour around the charming gardens. Cnr Wilkinson Street & Old Hume Highway, Berrima.

W: [harpersmansion.com.au](http://harpersmansion.com.au)

**BUNDANOON GARDEN RAMBLE**

The Bundanoon Garden Ramble is a much-loved event run by the Bundanoon Community Association and volunteers, and a great reason to plan a weekend stay. Stroll around the photogenic town to visit the eight private gardens on show for this weekend only. And keep an eye out for front yard entrants in the annual Lions Club's scarecrow competition. Tickets will be on sale online and there will be local markets in the Bundanoon Soldiers' Memorial Hall with gardening and arts stalls as well as stalls in some of the gardens. Entry price to all eight gardens is \$25 per person, or \$5 per single entry. Kids under 16 are free. Saturday October 26 and Sunday October 27, 9.30am to 4.30pm. For group bookings E: [info@bundanoongardenramble.org.au](mailto:info@bundanoongardenramble.org.au) W: [bundanoongardenramble.org.au](http://bundanoongardenramble.org.au)

**SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS BOTANIC GARDENS, BOWRAL**

The Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens is a blooming work of 13.43 hectares in the process of growing a garden of national significance. The foundation walk was planted in 2010 and the first two collections of birch and boxwood trees registered on the National Plants Collections Register in 2016. Take a stroll around the garden's sculptural collection. Also, keep an eye out for news of Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens annual Plant Fair, part of the Highlands annual Autumn Open Gardens which sees five private Highlands gardens, not usually open to the public, open gates for garden lovers. All funds raised go towards the dream of propagating the Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens and visitors centre. 9am to 4pm.

T: 0456 752 595 E: [info@shbg.org.au](mailto:info@shbg.org.au) [shbg.com.au](http://shbg.com.au)

**RED COW FARM, SUTTON FOREST**

Red Cow Farm is the life's work of Ali Mentesh and his late partner Wayne Morrissey and is a true gem of the Southern Highlands. Don't be deceived by the unassuming cottage front, as pretty as it is, because behind on the 2.2 hectares sits a botanical lover's delight of rare beauty. Meander through garden 'rooms' such as the Monastery and Abbess's garden, a woodland and beech walk where violet bluebells and forget-me-nots abound in spring, a lake with a Monet inspired bridge, a rose garden, a bog garden, an orchard and a kitchen garden. A nursery and shop also stocks offshoots from the garden and local produce and gifts. Open all year, seven days 10am to 4pm except Christmas Day. Entry \$15 for adults. \$10 concession and \$5 for children. Group bookings welcome. Please note no public amenities or picnic facilities, no pets, and children must be supervised please. T: 02 4868 1842


E: [info@redcowfarm.com.au](mailto:info@redcowfarm.com.au) W: [redcowfarm.com.au](http://redcowfarm.com.au)

**MILTON PARK COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL SPRING****AND AUTUMN OPEN GARDENS**

Around the house built in 1911 by Anthony Hordern, Milton Park's splendid gardens were designed and developed largely by Anthony's second wife, Mary Bullmore with a nod to the English School of Landscape, which swept away strict geometric constructs. Home to one of the largest plantings of cool climate plants, these gardens are home to

elms and weeping beeches, 400 rose bushes, 2000 metres of hedges and a bluebell wood, traditionally Milton Park opens its gardens during Tulip Time to fundraise for the Bowral & District Hospital Auxiliary Club. With the iconic hotel recently acquired by hoteliers, the Salter Brothers, who are planning a major upgrade, this custom is expected to continue. Dates have not been finalised so keep an eye on Milton Park's website for Garden Open Days for the public, although coach bookings for garden tours are welcome all year round. And while you contemplate your garden visit here, consider also booking in for an authentic High Tea experience with a selection of dainty sandwiches, scones with jam and cream and savoury and sweet pastries, all served overlooking Milton Park's heritage listed gardens. W: [miltonpark.com.au](http://miltonpark.com.au)

**RETFORD PARK, BOWRAL**

Retford Park is the grand former home and property of the late newspaper baron and art philanthropist James Fairfax, bequeathed to the community upon his death in 2017. The house is set within 34 hectares of magnificent gardens which include century old trees, hedged gardens and an iconic pool house by famed architect Guildford Bell. The gardens also host Ngungungula, the new Southern Highlands Regional Gallery, which was constructed in Retford Park's old dairy. Wander the gardens on a self-guided tour with a map provided on entrance or book a tour of the house run by local National Trust volunteers. Dogs always welcome on a leash, but why not join in celebrating James Fairfax's lifelong love of dogs on International Day of the Dog on Monday August 26, when four-legged friends on a leash are welcome to accompany you as you take a turn around the gardens. Retford Park's gardens are open every Thursday to Sunday from 10am to 4pm. One hour guided house tours are also on offer Thursday and Friday at 10.30am and Saturday and Sunday at 10am, 12.30pm and 2.30pm. Bookings essential T: 02 4861 1933 E: [retfordpark@nationaltrust.com.au](mailto:retfordpark@nationaltrust.com.au) W: [nationaltrust.org.au/places/retford-park](http://nationaltrust.org.au/places/retford-park) 



## Discover Retford Park

Over thirty hectares of natural wonder and beauty surrounding the elegant Victorian Italianate residence and former home of James Fairfax AC.

Gardens open Thursday to Sunday 10am – 4pm. House access by guided tour. See website for times.

For information and bookings visit [nationaltrust.org.au/places/retford-park](http://nationaltrust.org.au/places/retford-park)



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*Many of our best outdoor hot spots are in isolated locations, so it's always a good idea to tell someone where you are going, and always pack a handheld GPS tracker, a map and a GPS if you are going offroad.*

For more trails and maps, visit [www.southern-highlands.com.au](http://www.southern-highlands.com.au) or [www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au](http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au) or call in at Southern Highlands Visitor Centre, 62-70 Main Street, Mittagong. While there, pick up a copy of Gillian and John Souter's *Best Walks of the Southern Highlands*, a little gem of a book that gives detailed information on 45 local walks

Outside in the Southern Highlands is a nature and outdoor lovers' paradise. We have thousands of hectares of national parks to explore, with cool rivers and waterfalls to discover, and many of our towns and villages are bordered by walking tracks and cycling paths that meander through rolling countryside and grassy paddocks. Whether you like to hit the track by road or mountain bike, horse or feet with the kids and dogs in the fresh air, the Highlands is a beautiful place to be outdoors.

#### **BONG BONG COMMON, MOSS VALE**

After a recent upgrade, this fabulous walking/cycling/running track that borders the Wingecarribee River from just outside Moss Vale to Burradoo is now accessible to all. A formerly dirt carpark has been transformed into a multispace carpark, and a multipurpose playground with viewing platform and walkway, amenity block and picnic tables. The highlight is the fabulous 10 kilometre return walk. Start at the Moss Vale end and watch the Wingecarribee wildlife from new viewing platforms before passing by the gardens of some of Burradoo's river front homes. Look out for resident platypus and a plethora of local birdlife. Dogs welcome on-leash. A fabulous outdoor option for all ages and abilities.

#### **MANSFIELD RESERVE, EAST BOWRAL**

This very special 89 hectare reserve is a koala sanctuary and is therefore one of the best places to see resident Highlands koalas at home in the trees. Take a soul warming stroll through Highlands woodland and shale forests among a cacophony of wildlife and birdlife. Follow mown tracks along the banks of the Mittagong Creek and savour being so in nature just minutes from the centre of Bowral. Due to the nature of the very special residents here, dogs must be kept on leash at all times.

#### **HAMMOCK HILL RESERVE, EAST BOWRAL**

This is another easy outdoor option, minutes' drive from Mansfield Reserve. Meander down the easy dirt track resplendent with sculptures of local wildlife like wombats. Ascend Wombat Hill for lovely views out over Bong Bong race track.

#### **TOOTH'S WALKING TRACK TO BUNDANOON CREEK, BUNDANOON**

Trek down to Bundanoon Creek through the stunning scenery of Morton National Park to the swimming hole at the base. It's a steep walk three kilometres total out and back, so this one's for the cardio-fit or those happy to carry others who may need a hand.

#### **NELLIES GLEN AND BLUE POOL, BUDDEROO NATIONAL PARK, ROBERTSON**

Put your towel on one of the surrounding rocks at Nellies Glen and admire the water views. Nearby Blue Pool is good for little ones. Nearby Carrington Falls are spectacular.

#### **BERRIMA RIVER WALK & WEIR, BERRIMA RESERVE, BERRIMA**

On this walk, read the plaques about the German internees who spent days along this part of the Wingecarribee River during World War I. Or launch your kayak and slowly

paddle downstream. Keep your eyes peeled for resident birds and wildlife such as water dragons, platypuses, wallabies and waterfowl. For a different aspect, access Berrima Weir walking track from Berrima Road from Moss Vale and walk down to the man-made weir. Can be muddy so wear suitable footwear.

#### **GLOW WORM GLEN, BUNDANOON**

This magical place to visit is the Highlands' very own free light show. Park at the top of William Street in Bundanoon at sunset from December to February and make the 30 minute steep descent into the glen just as the larvae offspring of the fungus gnat begin to glow. Marvel at nature's magnificence. Before setting off, arm every walker with a torch. The walk is unlit.

#### **GUNROCK CREEK FALLS, MERYLA STATE FOREST, MOSS VALE**

Seek out this locals' favourite haunt on Gunrock Falls fire trail, which runs between Redhills Rd and Meryla Rd. The rough terrain in this state forest makes it a magnet for 4WD, motorbike and mountain bike enthusiasts. Continue on Meryla Road to reach Wombat Hill Lookout, from where you can take the 11 kilometre Griffins Fire Trail to Yarrunga Creek in the valley below.



**CASCADING WATERFALLS  
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ATTRACTION, THE 81 METRE HIGH  
FITZROY FALLS AND ITS SMALLER  
COMPANION, TWIN FALLS. MARVEL  
AT THE MAJESTY OF NATURE.**

**GOODMANS FORD, WOLLONDILLY  
NATURE RESERVE, WOLLONDILLY**

Reaching this fabulous spot on the way to Wombeyan Caves takes tenacity, especially since the 2019/20 bushfires closed the road. To reach it today, enter via the Taralga side of Wombeyan Caves. Whether you camp at the nearby private campsite, or visit for the day, the cool water of the Wollondilly River awaits. Pack your kids, swimming cossie, fishing rods, lilos and life jackets.

**MARES FOREST CREEK,  
WOMBEGAN CAVES**

Up the road, a short walk from Wombeyan Caves, takes you to this cave where you can explore. Wombeyan Caves is a wonderful must visit site; an extensive series of limestone caves set in a 417 hectare nature reserve. Please note no access via Mittagong and Wombeyan Caves Road which remains closed. Access via Goulburn.

**FORTY FOOT FALLS, MITTAGONG**

Start for Forty Foot Falls from Lake Alexandra, Mittagong and although family friendly, this walk requires good fitness as there are flights of stairs and scrambly downhill tracks to navigate. Pass along the

banks of the Nattai River to navigate rocks downhill to reach the waterfall. Take plenty of water and snacks. Set out for 60 Foot Falls along the recreation fire trail near Mittagong PCYC and pack your swimmers. This is a gorgeous place for a dip.

**BANGADILLY NATIONAL PARK, JOADJA**

A little visited treasure on our doorstep, Bangadilly National Park has the four Ws: wilderness, wildlife, walks and the Wingecarribee. Look up.. koalas live here.

**FAIRY BOWER FALLS, BUNDANOON**

Travel down Bundanoon Creek Track through rainforest scenery and take the left turn along Nicholas Pass to these magical falls.

**ERITH COAL MINE, MORTON  
NATIONAL PARK, BUNDANOON**

This walk leads to an old coal mine, operational from the 1860s to 1915. A track downhill to steep metal stairways goes past the old mine to the waterfall below. Paddle and frolic in the shallows of the waterfalls.

**MOUNT PENANG WALK. GUULA  
NGURRA NATIONAL PARK,  
CANYONLEIGH**

In the newly created Guula Ngurra National Park (the traditional owners' name Guula Ngurra translates to koala country), take the three kilometre loop walk for more experienced walkers, and keep your eyes peeled, upwards, for the eponymous arboreal locals.

**CLOVER HILL, ROBERTSON**

This beautiful walk goes through rainforest countryside and takes you through escarpment views and cool creeks. This old logging route is not an easy walk but persevere and come to Rainbow Falls and Clover Falls. This is one for the more adventurous as many of the trails are unmarked, and getting through to the falls via the gullies requires some scrambling. **SI**

# ASHBOURNE

*Moss Vale*



\* Artist Impression

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The Southern Highlands has a rich variety of artists, writers, actors, musicians, designers, curators, artisans and makers who lend their talents to colouring, inspiring and exploring our region for our community's enrichment and connection.

**NGUNUNGGULA REGIONAL ART GALLERY, BOWRAL**

Ngununggula is the culmination of a long-held vision by a dedicated community of art-loving locals to bring more art and major touring exhibitions to the Southern Highlands. Important artists, both local and visiting, now show their works at Ngununggula, which also attracts significant travelling exhibitions such as The Archibald and the Young Archies. Check out major community events held here as well such as Ngununggula's annual winter solstice MIDWINTER.

1 Art Gallery Lane, Bowral. Open 7 days 10am to 4pm  
[ngununggula.com](http://ngununggula.com)

**THE MILK FACTORY GALLERY AND EXHIBITION SPACE, BOWRAL**

This Bowral gallery was opened in 2005 as an exhibition space for Australian and international artists. A light, airy space with high ceilings and characterful charm, it is another great longtime supporter of locals and out-of-area artists. It runs a yearly program of mixed and solo shows in every medium. Gallery and shop open Thursday to Monday 10am to 4pm. 33 Station Street (rear), Bowral [milkfactorygallery.com.au](http://milkfactorygallery.com.au)

**RETFORD PARK, BOWRAL**

When James Fairfax bequeathed his Bowral home to the National Trust, in effect he created three new art spaces for our community. Retford Park, with its precious collection of Australian works by famed 20th century artists including Brett Whiteley, Grace Cossington Smith and Sidney Nolan. Ngununggula next door in Retford Park's old dairy, is our region's leading contemporary space, and The White Cottage Gallery at Retford Park also plays an important role supporting Highlands artists. Retford Park's gardens and The White Cottage Gallery are open to the public Thursday to Sunday 10am to 4pm. 1325 Old South Road, Bowral [nationaltrust.org.au/retfordpark](http://nationaltrust.org.au/retfordpark)

**BOWRAL ART GALLERY, BOWRAL**

This busy gallery has more than 500 active members and cheerfully supports our thriving Highlands arts community through 31 year-round exhibitions as well as an extensive program of ongoing evening, weekly and weekend workshops and classes. It also holds five prize exhibitions a year, including the John Copes Watercolour Prize Exhibition and the Bowral Sculpture Prize Exhibition. Daily 10am to 4pm. 1 Short Street, Bowral [bdasgallery.com](http://bdasgallery.com)

**THE SHAC, BOWRAL**

It started life in 2019 in Robertson's old sorting station for spuds as the Southern Highlands Artisans Collective (The SHAC), had a temporary move to Bowral and is now back in Robertson at new premises. Started as a not for profit organisation by local artists for local and other artists, The SHAC is manned by dedicated volunteers and offers Art Money, a 10 month, 10 payments, no interest payment scheme, founded in Australia in 2015 to help art lovers procure in pieces they love but ordinarily may not be able to afford. Thursday to Sunday 10am to 4pm. 74-76 Hoddle Street, Robertson [theshac.com.au](http://theshac.com.au)

Other great artistic goings-on to enjoy locally:

**For Music Lovers: The Southern Highlands Symphony**

**Orchestra:** Formed in 2014 the Southern Highlands Symphony Orchestra holds four concert series annually at its new home, the recently revamped Bowral Memorial hall. [shso.org.au](http://shso.org.au)

**The Bowral Autumn Music Festival:** A four day classical music fest held in March at St Jude's Anglican Church and its performing spaces in Bowral. On occasion the festival commissions and hosts the world premiere of new works by Australian composers, established and emerging. [bowralautumnmusicfestival.org](http://bowralautumnmusicfestival.org)

**A Day on the Green at Centennial:** A fabulous Sunday afternoon out surrounded by Centennial Wines' vines with international music acts such as Rod Stewart, Sting, James Taylor and Tom Jones, Keep an eye out for future afternoon events. [adayonthegreen.com.au](http://adayonthegreen.com.au)

**For Bibliophiles:** The Supper Club at Centennial: organised by The Bookshop Bowral this regular book event hosts acclaimed national and international authors with ticket price including one course and a glass of wine at Centennial Restaurant. Past guests include Michael Robotham, John Howard, Anna Funder and Charlotte Wood.

Nganunggula Regional Art Gallery

**2024 - 2025 Season**

**Series 3, 2024**  
 Saturday 21st September, 2024 at 7.30pm  
 Sunday 22nd September, 2024 at 2.30pm

**Series 4, 2024**  
 Saturday 30th November, 2024 at 7.30pm  
 Sunday 1st December, 2024 at 2.30pm

**Series 1, 2025**  
 Saturday 22nd March, 2025 at 7.30pm  
 Sunday 23rd March, 2025 at 2.30pm

**Series 2, 2025**  
 Saturday 28th June, 2025 at 7.30pm  
 Sunday 29th June, 2025 at 2.30pm

**Bowral Memorial Hall** | **PH: 0416 380 567**  
 Bendooley St, Bowral | [shso.org.au](http://shso.org.au)

bowral autumn music festival.

**Fundraiser Concert & High Tea**

**Saturday August 24, 2024**  
 Arrive from 2pm St Jude's Church,  
 38 Bendooley St Bowral

Featuring the celebrated virtuosos  
**Vatche Jambazian ~ piano**  
**David Greco ~ baritone**  
[www.bamf.org.au](http://www.bamf.org.au)

bowral autumn music festival.

ST. JUDE'S  
 BOWRAL

St Jude's Music Association presents:  
 A celebration of sensational live music by some of Australia's finest Artists

**March 27-30**  
**2025**

[www.bamf.org.au](http://www.bamf.org.au)

**WHITEWALL ART PROJECTS, BERRIMA**

Sculptor Thomas Bucich opened his Whitewall Art Projects at the previously famed Bell Gallery, first opened by artist Roberta Bell-Howland. Whitewall's shows an eclectic calendar of shows and events with a stable of local and out of area artists. On occasion, Thomas also holds intimate workshops for up to four people to explore the art of lost wax casting for bronze sculpture. You can enjoy one of Thomas' sculptural collages, *We Remember Them*, at the Moss Vale Aquatic Centre. **11 Jellore Street, Berrima. Open Friday to Monday 10am to 4pm. [whitewallartprojects.com.au](http://whitewallartprojects.com.au)**

**MICHAEL REID SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS, BERRIMA**

Michael Reid added to his galleries in Sydney's northern beaches and NSW's Murrurundi with the opening of his Southern Highlands outlet in March 2022 in a lovely split level building in Berrima's main street. Enjoy perusing exhibitions and work here by a range of emerging and well established indigenous and contemporary Australian artists including some of our Southern Highlands own. **Monday to Saturday 10am to 5pm & Sunday 10am to 4pm. [michaelreidsouthernhighlands.com.au](http://michaelreidsouthernhighlands.com.au)**

**JENNINGS KERR, ROBERTSON**

Representing a renowned stable including some of our Highlands artists with a particular connection to their landscapes, husband and wife team James and Sarah Jennings Kerr were a welcome addition to the art scene in 2021. Enjoy frequent showings and exhibitions and community connection in this contemporary Robertson gallery. **Shop 4, 74-76 Hoddle Street, Robertson. Friday to Monday 10am to 4pm. [jenningskerr.com.au](http://jenningskerr.com.au)**

**SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS ART TRAIL POP UP**

Meet some of our working artists in the flesh in their studios in the Pop-Up Project, Established in 2021, The Pop-Up Project is a collective of around 40 artists who either live in the Highlands or have connections here. Come the June long weekend they open their studios on an art trail so you can meet them in person in their working spaces and buy direct from studios. Download the event's map at the [popupproject.com.au](http://popupproject.com.au) or pick up a hard copy from Destination Southern Highlands, 62-70 Main Street, Mittagong.

**FERRIS WHEEL, BOWRAL**

Located in the heart of Bowral, Ferris Wheel shows works by about 30 emerging and established painters and sculptors including indigenous painters from the Northern Territory. **10 Boolwey Street, Bowral. 10am to 4pm, 7 days. [www.ferriswheel.com.au](http://www.ferriswheel.com.au)**

**STURT GALLERY, MITTAGONG**

The future of Sturt, the oldest craft and design gallery and teaching centre in Australia, awaits its fate following a review of its current operating model by operator, girls school, Frensham's Board of Governors. Established in 1941 by founding Frensham headmistress Winifred West, Sturt ran a busy schedule of exhibitions, winter and summer schools and weekly classes as well the acclaimed School for Wood, which has produced some of Australia's finest furniture makers. [sturt.nsw.edu.au](http://sturt.nsw.edu.au)



# NGUNUNGGULA

Retford Park  
Southern Highlands  
Regional Gallery

Ngununggula  
Retford Park  
Southern Highlands  
Regional Gallery

1 Art Gallery Lane  
Bowral New South Wales  
2576 Australia  
02 4861 5348

Opening hours  
7 days 10am - 4pm  
[hello@ngununggula.com](mailto:hello@ngununggula.com)  
[ngununggula.com](http://ngununggula.com)



# Markets

*Weekend markets are the perfect places to get the vibe of our towns and villages; each one offers its own fun and flavour.*

**MITTAGONG MARKETS** *Third Saturday of the month, 8am to 2pm. Uniting Church grounds, Cnr Albert and Alice streets. Check dates December and January*

Held in the grounds of the Uniting Church, this market features a great section for green thumbs as well as collectables, fresh produce, children's toys and clothing along with handcrafted goods, jewellery, and items for the mind, body and spirit as well as lots of homemade goodies and local produce such as the Hill family's famous Robertson spuds.

**BERRIMA SCHOOLYARD MARKET** *Fourth Sunday of the month (except January) 9am to 2pm. Berrima Public School Oxley St, Berrima. Check dates for December market*

Find everything from fresh local produce to food served in the Stephanie Alexander 'Kitchen Café'. Also artists wares, homemade gourmet goodies for the pantry and food stalls serving French, Danish, Chinese and Japanese food plus a jumping castle for the kids and live music.

[theschoolyardmarkets.org](http://theschoolyardmarkets.org)

**EXETER VILLAGE MARKET** *First Saturday of the month (except January), 9am to 1.30pm. Exeter Village Hall and Oval, Exeter Rd, Exeter*

Enjoy high-quality wares from local producers, artisans, foodies and craftspeople in more than 60 stalls in a lovely community location. [exetervillagemarket.com](http://exetervillagemarket.com)

**ROBERTSON MARKETS** *Second Sunday of the month (except January), 8.30am to 2pm. School of Arts, 55 Hoddle St, Robertson*

A variety of stalls including vintage and antique treasures, food and refreshments at the School of Arts in the busy, engaged community of Robertson. Great trash and treasure finds, and of course, lots of local produce including Robbo's famous potatoes. [facebook.com/robertsonmarket](https://facebook.com/robertsonmarket)

**COLO VALE COMMUNITY MARKETS** *First Saturday of the month (except January), 8.30am to 1.30pm. Colo Vale Village Hall, Railway Ave, Colo Vale*

Friendly village market with lots of established and new stallholders, including handicrafts, handmade goods, jams, fresh local produce, and a BBQ and Devonshire teas. [colovalecommunity.org.au](http://colovalecommunity.org.au)

## **BUNDANOON MAKERS MARKET**

*First Sunday of the month (except January), 8.30am to 2pm. Bundanoon Public School, 124 Church Road, Bundanoon & third Sunday of the month (except January) Memorial Hall, Railway Parade, Bundanoon*

Sewers, knitters, woodworkers, photographers, leatherwork and silver jewellery make this a market for lovers of handmade. Also find fresh fruit and vegetables; freshly baked bread, strudels and bagels; Thai dishes, honey and eggs; cakes and pies. [makersmarket.com.au/bundanoon](http://makersmarket.com.au/bundanoon)

**BOWRAL MARKETS** *Second Saturday of the month (except January), 8am to 1pm. Bowral Bowling Club, 40 Shepherd Street, Bowral*

A lively and eclectic market with local produce and plants, jewellery, handcrafted toys and children's clothing alongside fabulous food stalls to suit every taste. [bowralmarket.com](http://bowralmarket.com)

## **MOSS VALE SHOWGROUND MARKETS**

*Third Sunday of every month 9am to 2pm Moss Vale Showground, 16 Illawarra Highway, Moss Vale.*

This market has makers, bakers, sewers and growers galore all showing off their talents in stalls of fresh flowers, plants, street foods, freshly baked breads, cakes, sweets and fresh local honey. Live music and entertainment for the kids during school holidays too including a miniature ride on train. [hivizmarkets.com.au](http://hivizmarkets.com.au)

**CROP SWAP** *Every Saturday, 9am to 10.30am. Robertson CTC Centre, 58-60 Hoddle Street, Robertson*

Bring your excess veg, fruit, magazines, empty or full jam jars, eggs, egg cartons or plants along to this great community healthy living initiative and swap with other local producers and gardeners and Robbo folk for whatever is on offer, or in season from others' gardens. All welcome but please be aware excess produce is swapped: no money changes hands. [facebook.com/groups/2749657568598674](https://facebook.com/groups/2749657568598674)

## **RAILWAY STREET FARMERS MARKET**

*Thursdays, 3pm to 5pm. Old Bowling Club green, Railway St, Moss Vale*

Pocket-sized produce market, with regular stalwart Moonacres Farm and on occasion other stalls with jams and pickles, plants and fresh bread.



# COMING SOON TO THE EMPIRE CINEMA

PALACE OPERA & BALLET presents

## Royal Ballet and Opera, La Scala & Opéra National de Paris

2024/25 AUSTRALIAN CINEMA SEASON

Empire Cinema is delighted to be bringing the 2024/25  
Palace Opera & Ballet season to Bowral

*Commencing this September*

Since 2009, Palace Opera & Ballet has proudly given Australian arts-lovers a prime seat for the best of what's on stage in Europe, including productions direct from London's *Royal Ballet and Opera*, *Opéra National de Paris* and Milan's *Teatro alla Scala*.

Screening only weeks after its live Northern Hemisphere cinema broadcast. The multiple camera vantage points capture the atmosphere in the theatre, taking viewers up close on stage and even behind the scenes for interviews and features with the key creative talent. It's the next best thing to being there in person.



For information & to register for updates visit  
[www.empirecinema.com.au](http://www.empirecinema.com.au)

327 Bong Bong Street Bowral (02) 4861 4676



# Historic Highlands

Sacred sites, convict connections and colonial architecture. Take a fascinating walk through some of our history pages and stages.

## **NUNGUNUNGULLA (JUBILEE ROCKS) ABORIGINAL PLACE, BUNDANOON**

Outside Bundanoon, Nungunungulla is a sacred place and cultural landmark to the Gundungurra people. In 2014 it was declared the 100th sacred Aboriginal site by the NSW government's Office of Environment and Heritage. The site has Aboriginal engravings, paintings and grinding grooves. Features record some of the ways the Gundungurra and coastal Tharwal, Dhurga, Waddi Wadi and Yuin First Nations peoples used the area when travelling their traditional pathways from the south coast to the Wingecarribee. Today the Gundungurra elders teach local school children details of traditional knowledge such as how parts of the rock formations were used to process foods and how fire markers were lit to assist groups travelling through at night. Today, the site sits on private land but it can be visited with a permit from National Parks and Wildlife. [nationalparks.org.au](http://nationalparks.org.au)

## **HIGHLANDS HERITAGE**

Do you have Highlands' heritage? Our First Nations' Gundungurra and D'harawal peoples have lived in the Southern Highlands for 60,000 years. The first Europeans arrived in the Southern Highlands in the 1830s from Sydney as explorers and expansionists. If you are doing some family

tree investigating call into the Berrima District Historical & Family History Society in Market Place, Berrima. Archivists have documented every person buried in the Highlands from the 1830s. A register is available for public viewing. [wsc.org.au](http://wsc.org.au) T: 02 4877 1130 E: [bdmuseum@bigpond.com](mailto:bdmuseum@bigpond.com) [berrimadistricthistoricalsociety.org.au](http://berrimadistricthistoricalsociety.org.au)

## **GRAVE TIDINGS CHRIST CHURCH, MOSS VALE**

The Highlands has more than 30 graveyards and cemeteries. Some are private, but most are open to the public. Heritage listed Anglican Christ Church in Moss Vale was built near the site of Bong Bong in 1845 by English architect John Verge. The land was given by Charles Throsby, who inherited from his uncle, explorer and naval surgeon, Dr Charles Throsby. Throsby Jnr built Georgian manor house Throsby Park, which sits splendidly surveying Moss Vale to this day. The Throsby family would routinely travel the half kilometre to church from their home, Throsby Park which you can see from a great vantage point if you turn left out of Christ Church and continue down Church Road across the trainline. A heritage listed Anglican church is the final resting place of Charles, his wife Betsey, who was one of only five survivors of the Boyd cannibal massacre of 1809 in New Zealand's Whangaroa Harbour, and many of their 17 children. At the church's centenary in 1945, 17 Bhutan cypress trees were planted in the church grounds to commemorate Betsey Throsby's 17 offspring. Many of those trees are still standing today. Etienne de Mestre, who trained two-time Melbourne Cup winner Archer, is buried here.

402-404 Argyle Street, Moss Vale. Christ Church, cnr Church Road and Argyle Road, Moss Vale.

# WHERE RAIL HERITAGE COMES TO LIFE

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**The NSW Rail Museum is a great day out for families and kids of all ages!**

Embark on a heritage train trip every weekend or come along any day of the week to explore the huge collection of trains and treasures from the

NSW Railways. We're located in Thirlmere, just an hour south-west of Sydney and within easy reach from the Southern Highlands.

 @NSWRailMuseum

 @nswrailmuseum

 1300 11 55 99

[www.nswrailmuseum.com.au](http://www.nswrailmuseum.com.au)

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**TRANSPORT  
HERITAGE**  
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### ROBERTSON CEMETERY, ROBERTSON

During World War I, more than 200 young men from the Southern Highlands lost their lives fighting on the Western Front. One was Bertie Vandenberg, from a large Robertson farming family, who was killed at Pozières in France. His body was never found but his parents, Henry and Mary Ann, erected a memorial in Robertson Cemetery, a beautiful site that overlooks the hills of Bertie's home. This is a fascinating and atmospheric beauty spot with spectacular views looking over the Wingecarribee catchment dam. 151 Missingham Parade, Robertson

### BERRIMA GENERAL CEMETERY, BERRIMA

This is the final resting place for many German internees housed at Berrima Gaol during World War I. You can see something of their fascinating lives mapped out on the German River Walk along the Wingecarribee River from the western end of Oxley Drive from Berrima picnic and camping ground. Also at Berrima Cemetery is the final resting place of naturalist Dr Charles James Meller, a veteran of the famous Dr David Livingstone's expeditions on the Zambesi in Africa from 1860 to 1863. In 1868, Meller returned to Australia and settled in Berrima. However, afflicted with recurrent fevers from his African adventures, he died aged 33. The inscription on his grave gives no hint of an extraordinary career. 583 Berrima Road, Berrima

### BONG BONG COMMON, MOSS VALE

Bong Bong Common, just outside Moss Vale, was the site of the first European settlement in the Highlands. A recent makeover includes a children's playground, viewing platforms and amenities. Strike out from the carpark along the walking track which borders the meandering Wingecarribee River. The former settlement site was erected between 1822 and 1832 and was predominantly government buildings for soldiers and convicts. It was abandoned in 1838 when a new road was built through Berrima, where seven inns provided accommodation to travellers passing through to Goulburn and Melbourne on horseback and coach carriage. Make the picturesque walk, bike ride or run along the Bong Bong Common track and enjoy spotting our native wildlife.

### BRIARS INN, BURRADOO

Just up the hill from Bong Bong Common, sits Briars Inn, first opened in 1845 under the name The Royal Oak. It replaced an earlier inn there that had been built in 1827. Over the nearly 200 years, Briars has had many reincarnations including a home to several generations of Throsbys, a boys prep, and Sydney Grammar Girls School for nearly 20 years where students were taught the 'art of housekeeping'. It 1979 it became an inn again and has remained so since. 645 – 653 Moss Vale Road, Burradoo  
T: 02 4686 3800 [briars.com.au](http://briars.com.au)

### HARPER'S MANSION AND SURVEYOR GENERAL INN, BERRIMA

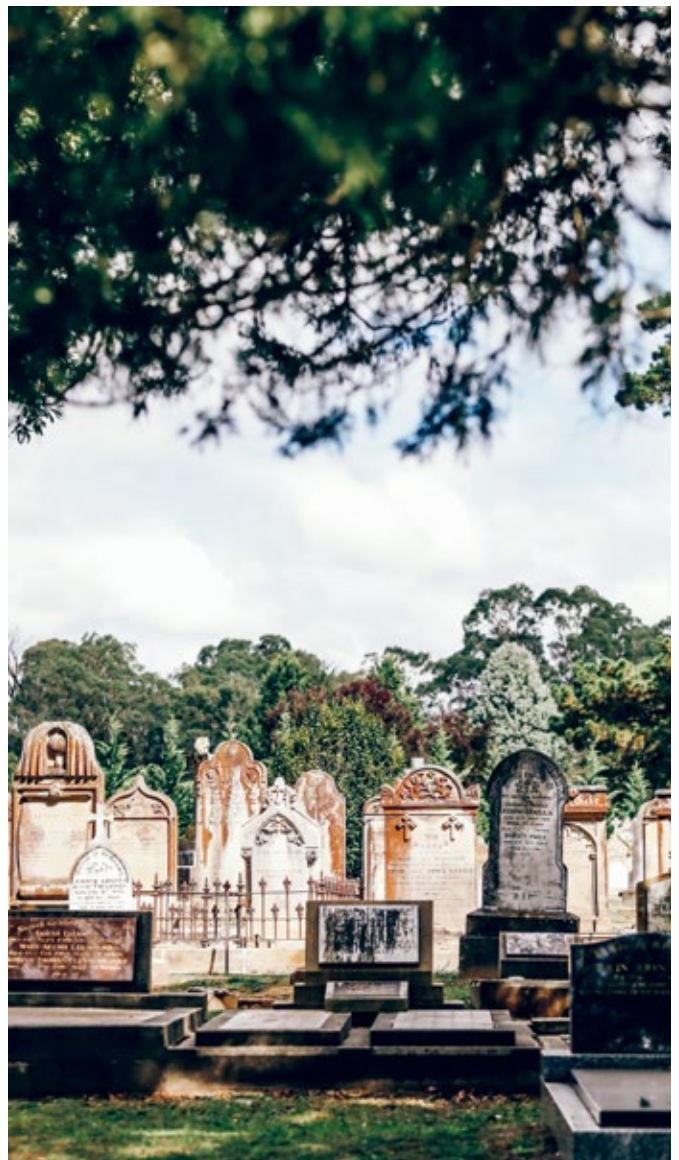
Harper's Mansion, a heritage listed house that overlooks Berrima, is one of Australia's finest examples of colonial Georgian architecture of its size. It was built by Australian-born James Harper and his freed convict wife Mary in 1834. James was also the first publican of Berrima at the Surveyor General Inn. The house was restored over seven years during the 1970s and 80s by the National Trust and is furnished in colonial style. Take a tour about the house before taking in the acres of English gardens, heritage roses and one of the largest hedge mazes in the Southern Hemisphere. Harper's Mansion Saturday and Sunday, 11am to 3pm.  
9 Wilkinson Street [harpersmansion.com.au](http://harpersmansion.com.au)  
Surveyor General Inn, 26 Old Hume Highway  
T: 02 4877 1226 [surveyorgeneral.com.au](http://surveyorgeneral.com.au)

### JOADJA DISTILLERY, JOADJA

*Uisge Beatha* translates as water of life from Gaelic and refers to that most ancient of Highlands spirit, scotch whisky. If history with whisky is your thing, take yourself to the end of the road at Old Joadja Town and visit Joadja Distillery. Learn about the 1200 Scottish miners who lived there and mined kerosene shale from the surrounding hills between 1878 and 1911 and imbibe in some true Highlands spirit from the award-winning whisky made by locals Valero and Elissa Jimenez. Saturday and Sunday, 10am to 4pm. Western end of Joadja Road, Joadja [joadjadistillery.com.au](http://joadjadistillery.com.au)

### MAPPED OUT

Go online to Southern Highlands Visitor Information Centre, [visitsouthernhighlands.com.au](http://visitsouthernhighlands.com.au) and download its very detailed and extensive Heritage Trail for the history of every village and town in the Southern Highlands plus walking trails, site details and locations. This comprehensive resource was put together with the help of the Berrima District Historical & Family History Society and includes significant buildings, monuments, conservation areas and memorials. Get in touch with the museum's researchers and archivists, who have an extensive archive and research collection, including more than 10,000 photographs. The team, which includes eminent historian Linda Emery, can carry out family and house history research for a nominal fee. [berrimadistricthistoricalsociety.org.au](http://berrimadistricthistoricalsociety.org.au)



## Berrima Walking Tours

Some of our best history is done on foot. Pick up a copy of the excellent *Heritage Trail by Destination Southern Highland* at the Mittagong Visitors Centre and go self-guided or for a deep dive into Berrima, the best intact 1830s village on mainland Australia, book with Berrima Walking Tours' Lynn Watson, who after retiring realised she wasn't quite ready to hang up her (walking) boots.

**BEING A LONGTIME BERRIMA LOCAL HAVE YOU ALWAYS LOVED THE HISTORICAL SIDE OF BERRIMA?** Before I moved to Berrima 20 years ago, I knew very little of the history. I just knew Berrima was a gorgeous little village where I enjoyed stopping when I travelled through.

**BEFORE YOU STARTED BERRIMA WALKING TOURS, DID YOU MAKE IT YOUR BUSINESS TO FIND OUT ABOUT THE PEOPLE AND HAPPENINGS OF BERRIMA?** Before I moved to Berrima 20 years ago, I knew little of its history but when I decided to start Berrima Walking Tours, I studied every aspect with new dedication.

**WHICH BUILDING DO YOU LOVE THE BEST AND WHY, AND WHAT'S SOMETHING YOU DISCOVERED THAT YOU DIDN'T KNOW?** Berrima Gaol and the Courthouse are extraordinary grand buildings for this tiny village, but I also love the impressive sandstone Inns and the restored 1830s homes and what I discovered was why this village, that was destined to be a large thriving town, was frozen in time for over 100 years. I discovered stories of the people who lived here during the 1830s and 40s: chain gangs, women prisoners, convicts on 'tickets of leave', mothers and Innkeepers.



**WAS IT A NATURAL TO BEGIN BERRIMA WALKING TOURS?**

Absolutely. Over the years, every time we've had visitors, I've said "I'll take you for a walk and show you what life was like in the early days of Berrima" so it was time to take the tours to a wider audience.

**WHAT DO YOUR TOURS CONSIST OF?** An easy walk around Berrima for 1 hour 10 minutes, while I explain the fascinating history.

**AND FINALLY, WHY DO WE HUMANS HAVE SUCH A FASCINATION WITH THE PAST?** I think we have an innate love of stories, particularly the stories about the people who lived here before us. I find understanding the past helps me make sense of life today. I love to discover how the human spirit managed life 200 years ago and realise what has dramatically changed and what has remained the same. [berrimawalkingtours.com.au](http://berrimawalkingtours.com.au)

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[INFO@HIGHLANDSARRIVALS.COM.AU](mailto:INFO@HIGHLANDSARRIVALS.COM.AU)

**Buyers Agent**  
Helping you make a home in the Highlands

**REBAA**  
REAL ESTATE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

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### NATURES NEST ON NARI, MOSS VALE

4 BEDROOMS | 2 BATHROOMS | 8 GUESTS

Escape to Natures Nest on Nari for a serene blend of tranquillity and luxury. Stay connected with modern amenities like Wi-Fi, smart TVs, and a dedicated office. Cosy up by the gas fireplace or enjoy year-round comfort with reverse-cycle air conditioning. Outside, relax around the firepit, soak up the sun on the sun deck, and barbecue in the covered outdoor area. Surrounded by lush gardens and farmland, you might even spot native animals. Plus, your furry friend is welcome to join in the fun!

From \$653/night



### QUE SERA, BOWRAL

4 BEDROOMS | 3 BATHROOMS | 10 GUESTS

This charming Bowral cottage is the perfect home away from home whilst visiting the Southern Highlands. Recently renovated with contemporary furnishing and transformed into a beautiful holiday retreat. There are raked ceilings throughout and superb garden vistas from all windows. Ideally located to walk to the Bowral Country Club golf course or a function at Park Proxi Gibraltar Bowral and only 5 mins drive to the town.

From \$924/night



### DUNCRAIG HOUSE, BUNDANOON

6 BEDROOMS | 3 BATHROOMS | 14 GUESTS

Nestled amidst serene countryside, Duncraig House offers an idyllic retreat for families and their furry companions. This elegant weatherboard haven boasts a plethora of amenities catering to all ages, from bunk beds and gaming consoles for the kids to an outdoor spa and gourmet kitchen for the grown-ups. Enjoy the nearby quaint village of Bundanoon, inviting exploration of local delights like wineries, cultural events, and outdoor adventures or indulge in the region's culinary delights.

From \$1143/night



### MISTY CREEK OF ROBERTSON

4 BEDROOMS | 2 BATHROOMS | 12 GUESTS

Misty Creek, nestled a mere 750 metres from town, is a tranquil retreat that offers the best of both worlds: seclusion and convenience. Enjoy a spacious backyard that leads to Caalong Creek's private lagoon, ideal for activities like yabbying, canoeing, and wildlife spotting. The modern Raymond Vincent-designed home ensures a relaxing atmosphere with meticulous attention to detail, perfect for unwinding or hosting guests. Experience the essence of nature while civilization remains within reach!

From \$608/night





### BLUE HEN, MITTAGONG

2 BEDROOMS | 1 BATHROOM | 4 GUESTS

Experience Blue Hen, a charming 2-bedroom cottage, offering modern amenities and a serene atmosphere. The property features well-appointed bedrooms, a cosy living space and dining area, with a smart TV and air conditioning for comfort. Outside, two seating areas provide the perfect spot for coffee or wine capturing the morning and afternoon sun. Located just minutes from Mittagong and Bowral shops, restaurants, and attractions.



From \$397/night



### EDEN FARM, EXETER

6 BEDROOMS | 3 BATHROOMS | 16 GUESTS

Experience luxurious comfort at this recently renovated retreat, where modern interiors meet original elements in a high-end, natural style. The dream kitchen features a large island benchtop and butler's pantry, opening to an outdoor deck for alfresco dining. Indoors, enjoy the games room with an 8x4 pool table and dart board, or cosy up by the gas fireplace with a hot chocolate. Outside, meet the farm animals, including sheep, alpacas, and bees and explore Exeter's charming local cafes and boutique shops.



From \$1406/night



### PROTESTANT HALL, WILDES MEADOW

3 BEDROOMS | 2 BATHROOMS | 6 GUESTS

This stunning 1874 sandstone cottage features raked ceilings, timber panelling, and north-facing windows, offering sophisticated country living. The main cottage includes 2 bedrooms and 1 bathroom, fireplace, and sunroom while a separate studio accommodates an additional 2 guests. Enjoy the tranquillity of the picturesque and private setting with landscaped gardens, including outdoor seating areas, wood-fired pizza oven and BBQ.



From \$597/night



### SUTTON FOREST RETREAT

29 BEDROOMS | 16 BATHROOMS | 60 GUESTS

This expansive retreat nestled in nature is perfect for large family groups, events, and conferences. Situated on 135 acres of tranquil bushland, this secluded haven provides a serene backdrop for relaxation and celebration. Features include a pool table, pizza oven, children's play equipment, basketball court, swimming pool, firepit and so much more. Jimmy's Homestead, Sophie's Farmhouse, and The Hideaway can be booked individually for 20 guests each or together for private group accommodation.



From \$4692/night

# Shopping



*The Old Bank Atelier, Moss Vale*



**THE BROWN SHUTTER, BERRIMA**

Could there be anything more lovely than a wicker basket for your home? Whether for your washing, your herbs, flowers or vegetables, your umbrellas or your food, there is a basket here for every use. Also, a wide range of homewares, beautiful nighties, kids' toys and playthings. **7 days 9am to 5pm, 9 Old Hume Highway, Berrima. @thebrownshutter**

The Highlands retail landscape is an exciting shopping bag of independent design, vintage, homewares, clothing and lifestyle boutiques. Here's just a few of our favourites to help you find your own takeaway Highlands' style.

**MRS OLDBUCKS PANTRY, BERRIMA**

In 1819, tea was included in the rations of the convicts who helped build Berrima, one of Australia's most intact colonial Georgian villages. No wonder really because a good cup of tea is the universal comforter. Mrs Oldbucks Pantry, owned by longtime local Carol, stocks a wonderful range of teas and everything else you need to master that perfect cuppa. You'll find teapots, cups, tea caddies and 180 different varieties of tea including your exotics like Darjeeling and Lapsang Souchong, chais, herbals, green and soul warming teas as well as Mrs Oldbucks range of pickles, chutneys, jams, preserves and honey. Also find mixed lolly bags as well as fabulous foodie gift hampers for every occasion. We love the bee motif Tea Set hamper that includes bee teapot, milk and sugar jugs, honey pot, honey dipper and mug – perfect for the Queen in your life. **7 days, 9am to 4pm. 4/15-17 Old Hume Highway, Berrima. mrsoldbucks pantry.com.au**

**STICKY BEAKS VINTAGE EMPORIUM, BERRIMA**

Do you love finding vintage and retro homewares, fashion, china, memorabilia and one-off pieces? This pet friendly treasure trove of 15 different store holders has something for every collector and vintage lover whether you are into vintage telephones, china wash basins, still life oil paintings or enamel jugs and cups and saucers. **Friday to Monday, 10.30 am to 5pm. 18 Jellore Street, Berrima. @sticky\_beaks\_vintage\_emporium** Open every day except Christmas.

**WILLOW AND CHAI, BERRIMA**

This delightful little space sells a delectable mix of new and pre-loved bits and pieces for children, for your home and your personage. Treat yourself to a delicious morsel like a curated vintage lace top or pair of drop earrings, a traditional French knife or calligraphy set or even a Maileg mouse for a little friend. Enjoy some me time with coffee and cake in the cosy alcove or secluded garden courtyard or for the kids an ice cream cone. **Open 7 days 9am to 5pm for shopping, breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea. 1/9 Old Hume Highway, Berrima. willowandchairberrima.com**

**BERRIMA VILLAGE POTTERY, BERRIMA**

If you love handmade by true artisans, don't miss this studio shop run by master potter Paul and his wife Louise Bruce (who also fronts fabulous local band, Ella's Holiday). There are hand-thrown mugs, bowls, platters and mugs with hand painted details as well as charming bird feeders and garden ornaments, sweet smelling soy candles and handmade soaps. If you want to show your friends what a maverick you are when it comes to homewares, procure one of Paul's made to order dinner sets and set yourself, and your entertaining, apart. **7 days, 10am to 4.30pm. 17 Old Hume Highway, Berrima berrimavillagepottery.com**

**BERRIMA'S OVERFLOW, BERRIMA**

While you're visiting, you may meet locals who talk about the weather - a lot. It's because we live four seasons in one day here often! If you're in need of something warmer or simply want to take home a cosy knit made in Australia, Scotland, Ireland or England, this is the sustainable stop to grab yourself an extra pair of socks, a scarf, a jumper, jacket, pair of gloves or woolly hat to deal with our temperamental temperatures. We especially love the Eribe knitwear from the Scottish borders. **7 days, 10am to 5pm. 11b Old Hume Highway, Berrima. Berrimasoverflow.com**

**THE GOOD YARN, BUNDANOON**

For nearly 50 years, volunteers at The Good Yarn, Bundanoon, have given local makers an outlet for their wares, selling everything from children's smocked pinafores to a beeswax wood polisher to handknitted woolly jumpers. And blankets. This little Bundy gem also stocks homemade jams and relishes, local eggs and honey. **Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 4.30pm; Saturday 9am to 3.30; Sunday closed. 3 Railway Avenue, Bundanoon**

**BESPOKE LETTERPRESS, BOWRAL**

Keep a diary and someday, when you are famous, someone might publish your scribes; think Samuel Pepys, Mark Twain, Helen Garner. Bespoke Letterpress's locally owned, designed and printed diaries and other couture stationery including gift cards, notebooks and double-sided wrapping paper are elegant affairs with gold foil printing, gilt edges, and satin ribbon markers. Bespoke Letterpress is the place for people who love words, paper and writing. **Monday to Saturday 9am to 5pm. Sunday 10am to 4pm. Shop 2B, 310-313 Bong Bong Street, Bowral. [bespokepress.com.au](http://bespokepress.com.au)**

**BARE BODY BEAUTY, BOWRAL**

Launched by local Donna Jennings in her Joadja kitchen, the Bare Body Beauty organic, plant based, cruelty free, sustainable range is handmade in Bowral. BB & Co recycles all its packaging and customers are given a discount when they bring in refillable tubs. Our favourites? The rose hand cream smells good enough to eat and the tub of scrub does what it says, affordably and naturally with an incredible choice of added fragrances including sandalwood, coconut and vanilla, and the delicious mango musk and molasses. **7 days 9am to 5pm. Shop 21, 310-312 Bong Bong Street, Bowral. [barebodybeauty.com](http://barebodybeauty.com)**

**BOOKS EVER AFTER, BOWRAL**

Reportedly the first bookstore in the world to sell only special and limited edition romance books, this nook is tucked away in Bowral's Grand Arcade. It has a huge audience of Gen Z's and Millennials following its every move on Instagram and TikTok. Swept up in the pages of its regency romances and heart-pounding page turners, and in the thick of Netflix hit, *Bridgerton's* Bowral visitation recently, Books Ever After, which was started by romance writer Kat. T Mason, has become a destination, and so much more than just a bookshop, to its avid legions of hot blooded devotees. **Thursday to Sunday 10am to 3pm, Shop 4, The Grand Arcade, 291 Bong Bong Street, Bowral**

**SOHI, BOWRAL**

If gin or vodka is your poison, SoHi Spirits is a must stop shop. Taste test maker Alex Doughty's two signature vodka's made from our iconic Hill family's Sebago potatoes, farmed in Robertson. Or if gin is more your thing, take home a bottle of SoHi's Garden Envy Gin, made with 12 botanicals, some grown locally at Southern Highlands Botanic Gardens. **Shop 3B/391-397 Bong Bong Street, Bowral. 11am to 5pm Thursday to Saturday and 11am to 3pm Sunday [sohispirits.com.au](http://sohispirits.com.au)**

**MS PEACOCK CHOCOLATIER, MITTAGONG**

Classically trained chocolatier Lisa Morley, aka Ms Peacock, sources all her chocolate from some of the oldest makers in the world in France and does everything by hand. "I don't have machines because I don't want to lose touch with the chocolate, and for it to become a process. It would be like an artist putting down her paint brush to create digital prints." **Unit 2, 6-10 Owen Street, Mittagong. [mspeacock.com.au](http://mspeacock.com.au)**



Mossy Stone - Mossy Gate Image - Elise Hassay



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Suite 4a, 11-13 Bundaroo St, Bowral NSW 2576



# LOCAL PRODUCE

## MADE BY OTHERS ART & DESIGN STORE, MOSS VALE

Made By Others was one of the original purveyors of contemporary design in Moss Vale's flourishing homewares precinct and a decade on it is still leading by example. Explore unique textiles, gifts, clothing, glassware and so many other goodies from leading designers around the globe including Finnish super brand Marimekko, Australia's Dinosaur Designs, Melbourne label Elk and the stunning textiles of Wallace & Sewell from the UK. Monday to Saturday 10am to 4pm; Sunday 10am to 3pm. 2/366 Argyle Street, Moss Vale; [madebyothers.com](http://madebyothers.com)

## MOSSY STORE, MOSS VALE

Mossy Store stocks an array of furnishings, ceramics, and botanical skin and home goods and is big on supporting local and Australian makers who create pieces that are useful, enduring and beautiful. We love this little gem's sustainable ethos: "We sell heirlooms, not landfill." Monday to Saturday 10am to 4pm Sunday 10am to 3pm. 394 Argyle Street, Moss Vale. [@mossystore\\_mv](https://www.instagram.com/mossystore_mv)

## BOWERBIRD ON ARGYLE, MOSS VALE

Bowerbird is a rich haven for home lovers in search of unique and individual homewares, décor and gifts including a mix of preloved vintage and new furniture, furnishings, clothing, art and design and home decor. Seven days, 9.30am to 5pm. 416 Argyle Street, Moss Vale. [bowerbirdonargyle.com.au](http://bowerbirdonargyle.com.au)


## SUZIE ANDERSON HOME & THE OLD BANK ATELIER, MOSS VALE

Both these stores on either side of Moss Vale's main street transfer you into a world of elegant dining rooms, bedrooms and lifestyles. Furniture, lighting, homewares, gifts, bath wares, clothing and tableware and other decor, much of it imported from Europe on frequent buying trips, Suzie Anderson Home and The Old Bank Atelier give a luxurious shopping experience. SA Home Monday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm; Sunday, 10am to 3pm. 409 Argyle Street. The Old Bank Atelier Monday to Saturday 10am to 4.30pm and Sunday 10am to 3pm. 396 Argyle Street, Moss Vale [suzieandersonhome.com](http://suzieandersonhome.com)

## NEST & BURROW, MOSS VALE

Unique treasure trove Nest & Burrow stocks an extensive and widely sourced selection of carefully curated giftware, children's and educational toys, cards, board games plus cookware and tableware, stationery, jewellery and toiletries for everybody and every occasion. A great store where any find is possible. Monday to Saturday, 9.30am to 4.30pm Sunday 10am to 3pm. 420 Argyle Street, Moss Vale. [nestandburrow.com.au](http://nestandburrow.com.au)

## SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE, MITTAGONG

Looking for a piece of the Highlands to give as a gift or to take away? A memento of our food and wine bowl, perhaps? Quick march then to Destination Southern Highlands Welcome Centre, Mittagong, where you'll find an impressive selection of locally made goods to eat, drink and wear all in one place. Monday to Friday, 9:30am to 4:30pm; Saturday 9am to 4pm; Sunday and Public Holidays 9:30am to 3:30pm. 62-70, Main Street/Old Hume Highway, Mittagong. [visitsouthernhighlands.com.au](http://visitsouthernhighlands.com.au) 



## BARE | BODY | BEAUTY co.

**Bare Body Beauty co.** is a company founded on principles of natural ingredients and sustainability. Our store is a destination for all ages who will be welcomed with an abundance of knowledge on natural and sustainable skincare and wellness. We also have beautiful spaces where we hold informative and engaging natural beauty, gut health and wellbeing workshops of all varieties. Our interactive play station where you can try all of our products and chat amongst friends is not to be missed. We look forward to spending some time with you in our Bowral or Byron Bay store.

Natural products, handmade with love, right here in the Southern Highlands.



### STORE LOCATIONS

#### Bowral

OPEN 7 DAYS: 9am-5pm  
Shop 21, 310 Bong Bong Street  
Bowral NSW 2576  
Phone: 0477701243

#### Byron Bay

OPEN 7 DAYS: 9am-5pm  
Shop 2B, 6 Jonson Street  
Byron Bay NSW 2481  
Phone: 0407031511

**Learn more about us and our products,  
book a workshop or shop online:**

[www.barebodybeauty.com](http://www.barebodybeauty.com)



**Springetts**  
ARCADE

**Springetts Arcade is the shopping destination of choice in the Southern Highlands for both locals and visitors.**

Located in the heart of Bowral on Bong Bong Street, this iconic Bowral property is a must visit while in Bowral. Food, Fashion, Beauty and Lifestyle. Shop in air conditioned comfort.

Open 7 days

Find us on Facebook and Instagram

302 Bong Bong Street, Bowral  
02 4862 2222 • [management@springettsarcade.com.au](mailto:management@springettsarcade.com.au)  
[www.springettsarcade.com.au](http://www.springettsarcade.com.au)

# Bowral Crafts Unlimited

Serving the Wingecarribee community since 1972



*Providing your wool,  
patterns and accessories in  
the Southern Highlands*



Our membership of 65 volunteers provide creative and artistic, quality handcrafts. These unique items make the perfect gift for family, friends or simply just to spoil yourself.

*The profits are used to support our local community services.*

The local beneficiaries have included the local hospital, palliative care services and the Rural Fire Service through our wonderful business and donations.

CORBETT PLAZA • 22 WINGECARRIBEE STREET, BOWRAL • PH 4861 6771





# FITZROY INN

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## Historic Boutique Hotel

### ABOUT US

Step into history where elegance meets timeless grace at The Fitzroy Inn, Mittagong, offering boutique accommodation that seamlessly blends old-world charm with contemporary luxury.

Explore the rich heritage of Australia's early days within the walls of The Cellar kitchen, hailed as 'the finest example' of its kind by historians.

Marvel at the craftsmanship of the convict masons evidenced by the hand-cut 'water-well' beneath the structure, while the presence of original iron shackles in the adjacent convict cell offers a tangible connection to the past.

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info@bowralfinejewellery.com.au  
www.bowralfinejewellery.com.au

PROUDLY SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

**The Southern Highlands Visitor Information Centre in Mittagong is your one-stop shop for planning your dream getaway.**

**Friendly, local experts:**

Let our knowledgeable staff answer your questions and craft the perfect itinerary, from must-see sights to hidden gems.

**Local treasures:**

Discover unique gifts, regional produce, exquisite cool-climate wines, spirits and local beers – all available for purchase at the Centre.

**Free Wi-Fi and visitor resources:**

Plan your adventure with brochures, maps, and access to the internet – all under one roof!



Visit us at the **Southern Highlands Visitor Information Centre**,  
62-70 Main Street, Mittagong - we're open 7 days a week.  
Call us on **1300 657 559**  
Email us at [tourism@wsc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:tourism@wsc.nsw.gov.au)



A full-page photograph of a wedding couple dancing in a field. The groom, on the left, is wearing a dark blue suit jacket, a white shirt, a patterned tie, and light grey trousers. He is smiling and looking at the bride. The bride, on the right, is wearing a white lace wedding dress with a deep V-neckline and a full skirt. She is also smiling and looking at the groom. They are holding hands and dancing. To the left of the couple is a large, tall arrangement of pink flowers, possibly Grevillea, with green foliage. The background shows a grassy field with trees and a clear sky.

# Weddings

Is there ever a more magic reason to get away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life than to come together for a day or a weekend with loved family and friends to celebrate the matrimonial magic of two people marrying.





Peppers Craigburn, Boural. Image Mica Pohl

*The Southern Highlands is a very special wedding destination. With grand heritage estate mansions, luxurious hotels, outdoor wildernesses and private rural properties, we have something for every couple looking to make their dream wedding come true.*

#### **ROBERTSON HOTEL, ROBERTSON**

Opened in 1924 for Sydneysiders wanting to take the Highlands air, owners Con and Lisa Kotis have transformed this majestic hotel back to its glory days. Just minutes stroll from charming Robertson's heart, this hotel on five and a half hectares offers many unique indoor and outdoor ceremony and reception locations. These include wooded glens and a grand ballroom. The dining room seats up to 130 guests. Outdoor locations can cater for up to 200 guests. Accommodation for up to 100 guests, as well as a luxurious bridal suite and groom's lounge. Book the entire hotel for a wedding or occasion to cherish.

T: 02 4885 1111 E: [info@therobertsonhotel.com](mailto:info@therobertsonhotel.com)

W: [therobertsonhotel.com](http://therobertsonhotel.com)

#### **GROWWILD, ALPINE**

GrowWild is a petal of a wedding place, set on a 10 hectare native flower farm on the northern side of the Highlands near the village of Alpine. Marry anywhere on this Wildlife Land Trust sanctuary including beside the dam, in the marquee, in the rustic barn or in the secluded bush haven known as Secret Valley. Then sit down with

up to 120 guests in the onsite marquee with its outdoor patio. Owners Jane and Lukas Szymanek will happily recommend a caterer from their list of four favourites, and GrowWild offers a BYO option and an onsite cool room. The barn, which is equipped with a music system and is yours to decorate, has a fully decked out bridal retreat with bathroom, vanities and storage room for the bride and groom and their attendants. A lovely outdoorsy/indoorsy option T: 0447 101 190

E: [jane@growwild.com.au](mailto:jane@growwild.com.au) W: [growwild.com.au](http://growwild.com.au)

#### **THE SECRET GARDEN, WILDES MEADOW**

The Secret Garden is a still quite secret, day ceremony only garden in which to tie the marital knot. Choose from an array of garden rooms: the Wedding Gazebo, Marquee Lawn, Wisteria Arbour, Rose Lawn, Birch Walk, Fountain Garden, Cherry Blossom Walk and Megan's Garden. Great for people wanting to go the DIY wedding or smaller wedding option route, The Secret Garden has no minimum guest requirements and offers a blank canvas to create your perfect wedding ceremony. Put up a Sperry tent for guests to enjoy champagne and nibbles while you have photos taken before departing for your reception locally. The Secret Garden is flat and easily accessible, so it's good for guests of all ages.

T: 0407 100 898 W: [thesecretgarden.events](http://thesecretgarden.events)



Milton Park Hotel & Spa, Bowral, managed by Elise Hassey

**MALI BRAE FARM, MOSS VALE**

Shelley and Greg Dark moved from Sydney after buying 1860 farm Mali Brae near Moss Vale and hosted their first wedding here in 2013. Now the couple, aided by daughter Amelia, have worked hard to create a stellar wedding venue, and have now been privy to the happy matrimonyes of hundreds of couples. Named in the Australian Small Business Association’s National Champion Wedding Services Award a few years ago, Mali Brae is a picturesque 35-hectare property set in a private location with dams, a private jetty and five ceremony sites, including a large indoor barn pavilion with a large open fireplace, and the purpose built, Augustine Room for micro wedding receptions of up to 55. Mali Brae also caters for receptions of up to 110 seated guests in the designer barn. Two on staff chefs cater for guest’s every dining and beverage requirement including a food over fire Argentinian grill option for weddings of more than 70 guests. There is also accommodation for the new couple in a renovated historic cottage onsite. Packages include venue hire with food and beverage options. T: 0457 538 303 E: info@malibraefarm.com.au W: malibraefarm.com.au

**BENDOOLEY ESTATE, BERRIMA**

Bendooley Estate’s wedding centrepiece is The Stables, an architect-designed, purpose-built venue in Australian hardwood with seating for up to 180 guests. A short walk away, Bendooley’s magnificent Book Barn seats 250 guests. All catering packages are looked after by Bendooley’s busy team of chefs. Wedding ceremonies or vow renewals can be held near the original homestead or near the lake. If you want to keep all your guests in one place, or perhaps are looking for a business weekend away, Bendooley also offers accommodation on site, including the pet friendly Book Barn Cottage and six other luxury one, two and three bedroom

cottages. E: events@bendooleyestate.com.au bendooleyestate.com.au

**MILTON PARK COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL & SPA, BOWRAL**

Milton Park is set in one of the oldest, most precious cool climate gardens in the Southern Highlands. Home to more than 10,000 beautiful trees, it also has a rose garden and bluebell wood, for your ceremony and photos. Bought in 2023 by the Salter Brothers of Spicer Retreats fame, if intimate is your wedding desire, Milton Park’s grand dining room or Orangery each seat from 20 to 40 guests for a mirco mid-week affair while the ballroom at the bottom of the garden is perfect for up to 160 guests. Acclaimed Highlands chef Ben Bamford, formerly of BIRCH is on hand to design your celebratory marital menu. And with 41 luxe rooms, guests can stay onsite to enjoy a weekend of celebrations. T: 02 4861 8100 E: events@miltonpark.com.au W: miltonpark.com.au

**PEPPERS CRAIGIEBURN, BOWRAL**

Historic Peppers Craigieburn is set on 36 hectares in the leafy streets of Bowral with a classical vibe, and atmospheric wedding elements. These include a grand sweeping staircase to make your entrance, a secret rose garden and lawns for your ceremony and heritage listed stables, perfect for your wedding photographs. Go for the Carrington Room for up to 180 guests or the cosier Minters 1910 restaurant and bar with its ceiling to floor windows and garden views for up to 40 guests, or indeed pre-reception drinks. 72 rooms ensure guests can stay together on-site, and the nine-hole private golf course is perfect for bucks and hens activities. T: 02) 4860 3108 E: carrie.blunt@peppers.com.au W: peppers.com.au/craigieburn

# *The Robertson*

H O T E L

GETAWAYS | WEDDINGS | CONFERENCES

[www.therobertsonhotel.com](http://www.therobertsonhotel.com) - 02 4885 1111

[info@therobertsonhotel.com](mailto:info@therobertsonhotel.com) - @therobertsonhotel



**HOPEWOOD HOUSE, BOWRAL**

Hopewood House sits on 4.5 hectares and is home to the Storriers, Janet and acclaimed Australian artist Tim. Make your vows in the sprawling grounds replete with tennis court, swimming pool, sculptures and wandering chickens. Return with your guests after your wedding reception and stay in four accommodation options; Serendipity, Wayfarer, Arcadia and Mandalay, all named after Tim's paintings. Sleeps up to 14 guests in two and three-bedroom cottages, and two one-bedroom studios. E: [events@storrier.com](mailto:events@storrier.com) W: [hopewoodhouse.com.au](http://hopewoodhouse.com.au)

**FITZROY INN HISTORIC GUESTHOUSE, MITTAGONG**

This handsome, historic 1836 Georgian boutique hotel, with its rich history, sandstone and original features including a convict cell, is a memorable place for a wedding getaway. Hold your ceremony in the gardens, set within two hectares of lawn, or marry on the weir, under the spacious verandah with its stone features, or in one of the charming drawing rooms inside. Hold your reception in the glamorous grand marquee outside. With 11 cosy bedrooms in the main hotel and four more in the Old School Master's House, bed is close by for guests who don't want to party into the night. T: 02 4872 3457 E: [bookings@fitzroyinn.com.au](mailto:bookings@fitzroyinn.com.au) W: [fitzroyinn.com.au](http://fitzroyinn.com.au)

**LINKS HOUSE, BOWRAL**

This boutique hotel has a new look and is a charming and intimate place for a bespoke marital affair. With a choice of rooms and outdoors areas like the front garden or courtyard for your ceremony, Links House is also great for a cocktail and canapes wedding, or a sit-down dinner for 50 catered by inhouse chef Jason Hughes. Book out the entire hotel for your wedding weekend and really make it an occasion to remember. T: 02 4861 1977 E: [enquiry@linkshouse.com.au](mailto:enquiry@linkshouse.com.au) W: [linkshouse.com.au](http://linkshouse.com.au)

**PARK PROXI GIBRALTAR HOTEL, BOWRAL**

The Park Proxi Gibraltar is a new build hotel with 76 rooms, a day spa, leisure centre, cocktail piano bar with live music open 'til late, its own 18-hole golf course and an enormous ballroom that looks over the greens to host a celebration wedding or discuss a wedding package for a more micro matrimony. Take your vows lakeside in 40 hectares of grounds and lawns in leafy Bowral overlooked by Mount Gibraltar and enjoy the urbane feel of this contemporary establishment. T: 02 4862 8600 E: [hello@parkproxibowral.com.au](mailto:hello@parkproxibowral.com.au) W: [parkproxibowral.com.au](http://parkproxibowral.com.au)

The Robertson Hotel, Robertson. Image Elise Hassey

The Robertson Hotel, Image Elise Hassey

# Bendooley

— Estate —

EAT. DRINK. STAY. MARRY. MEET. READ.



Bendooley Estate is a destination for wine, food, architecture and book lovers alike. Home to the iconic Berkelouw Book Barn restaurant and bookstore, a spectacular Cellar Door which houses Leo's by Night restaurant and our luxurious accommodation.

## THE LARDER CATERING

Enjoy the exquisite cooking from the Bendooley kitchen in the comfort of your own home with our fantastic catering menu. Perfect for small gatherings with family & friends or larger celebrations at your place.

## CELLAR DOOR

The ultimate destination in the Highlands for wine tastings, private events or our Signature Bendooley Lunch Experience to celebrate any occasion. Discover the beauty of this venue today.

3020 Old Hume Highway Berrima NSW 2577  
(02) 4868 8788 · [events@bendooleyestate.com.au](mailto:events@bendooleyestate.com.au) · [bendooleyestate.com.au](http://bendooleyestate.com.au)





Somerleys, Sutton Forest

#### **PEPPERS MANOR HOUSE, SUTTON FOREST**

Tucked away in the pastoral surrounds of lush Sutton Forest, this upmarket historic hotel is a romantic retreat, perfect for a grandiose or micro country wedding for 20 to 180 guests. Say your vows under the canopy of the 100-year-old London plane tree, then capture your first moments as newlyweds on manicured lawns as your guests enjoy drinks on The Estate Terrace. Celebrate afterward in style in the grand Estate Room with its six chandeliers and cathedral chairs for up to 180 guests, expertly catered for by Katers Restaurants. Guests can stay on-site in Manor House's 43 rooms and get into pre and post wedding pastimes like tennis, golf on the estate's private course, swimming in the outdoor pool and lazing in front of inside, and outside fireplaces and pits. T: 02 4860 3111 E: [carrie.blunt@peppers.com.au](mailto:carrie.blunt@peppers.com.au) W: [peppers.com.au/manor-house/](http://peppers.com.au/manor-house/)

#### **SYLVAN GLEN, PENROSE**

Take over this 25 hectare property in rural Penrose on the southern side of the Highlands and spread your wedding getaway over a weekend. With garden locations and a fabulous under cover chapel to exchange vows, Sylvan Glen caters for 140 seated guests in its reception centre with a

dance floor and bar and whisky lounge next door. Onsite accommodation includes the Guest House with ensuite bedrooms and can provide extra beds to sleep up to 42 while Scribbly Cottage set in another corner of the property sleeps an extra 20. There is also a fabulous new Hideaway for couples only – fabulous for your first night as a couple. Includes nine hole private golf course and outdoor settings to chill. T: 02 4884 4306 E: [weddings@sylvanglen.com](mailto:weddings@sylvanglen.com) [sylvanglen.com](http://sylvanglen.com)

#### **SOMERLEYS, SUTTON FOREST**

Built in 1875, this Victorian mansion has seen its share of parties, first as a private home that reputedly entertained the likes of Dame Nellie Melba, prime minister Billy Hughes and the Duke of Edinburgh, and latterly as a wedding venue. Owner Nadine Rose caters for wedding couples wanting a swish individual affair. The property contains a magical 100-year-old wood, and its ceremony spaces include the circular lawn, the woodland, forest, meadow and stables. Seated receptions for up to 95 guests are held in the Garden Room. The pavilion tent caters for larger parties of up to 150 and there is onsite accommodation for up to six guests in the Guest House. E: [enquiries@somerleys.com.au](mailto:enquiries@somerleys.com.au) [somerleys.com.au](http://somerleys.com.au) **SH**



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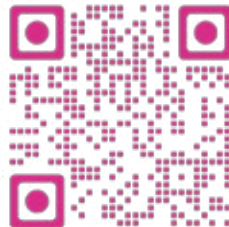
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[www.dormiehouse.com.au](http://www.dormiehouse.com.au)



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(02) 4868 1811 or visit  
[www.mossvalegolfclub.com.au](http://www.mossvalegolfclub.com.au) for more information



MOSS VALE  
GOLF CLUB

# Golf

*Tee off and enjoy our many fantastic golf courses. Don't forget to check out our clubs' great dining and entertainment offerings.*

## MOSS VALE GOLF CLUB & DORMIE HOUSE HOTEL

**18 holes – par 71** Arthur Street, Moss Vale. Open to the public seven days around competitions. Bookings essential. **Professional:** Davyd Reeves **Cost to play:** \$50 for 18 holes weekday, \$60 weekends. Clubs and carts available for hire. **Lessons:** From \$60. Groups and clinics catered for. **Dress:** Neat golf attire. **Hardest hole:** 18th – 378m, par 4. dog leg hole turning left around a large gum tree with a natural waterway in front of the green. **Toughest green:** The 3rd. Slopes back to front – important to keep ball below the hole. **Additional facilities:** The Dining Room at Dormie serves breakfast and lunch 7 days and dinner Wednesday to Saturday, all golfers welcome. Dormie House also has accommodation which is undergoing an exciting facelift. Also available for weddings and functions and conferences. **Contact:** Golf reservations 4868 1503 or 4868 1811; mossvalegolfclub.com.au

## BOWRAL GOLF CLUB

**18 holes – par 69** Kangaloon Road, Bowral. Open to the public seven days, including competitions. Bookings essential. **Professional:** Darryl Purchase **Cost to play:** Visitor 18 holes \$50, twilight \$20 for 9 holes. Clubs and carts available to hire. **Lessons:** \$55 for 30 mins individual. Groups and beginner clinics catered for. Lessons on demand. **Dress:** Neat golf attire. **Hardest hole:** 5th – 393m, par 4. A long hole with a dog leg to the right. **Toughest green:** 16th. Two bunkers and a right to left slope. **Additional facilities:** Putting green, practice area, croquet lawn. Full club and bar facilities. Functions catered for. Available for weddings. **Contact:** 4861 1042; bowralgolfclub.com.au

## MT BROUGHTON GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

**18 holes – par 72** Kater Road, Sutton Forest. Open to the public seven days around competitions. **Professional:** Larry Canning **Cost to play:** Weekday \$45, weekend \$60. Clubs and carts available for hire. Lessons available. Groups and clinics catered for. **Dress:** Neat golf attire. Strictly no denim. **Hardest hole:** 2nd – 227m, a long par 3 with lots of water. Often plays into the wind. **Toughest green:** 15th. Slopes right to left and guarded by

two big bunkers. **Additional facilities:** Full driving range, chipping and putting practice areas. Full club and bar facilities. Functions catered for by Southern Highlands Winery. Accommodation available at Peppers Manor House, and a la carte food at Katers Restaurant. See website for membership specials. **Contact:** 4868 3200; mtbroughton.com.au


## PARK PROXI GIBRALTAR COUNTRY CLUB

**18 holes – par 70** Boronia Street, Bowral. Open to the public seven days around competitions. Bookings essential. **Cost to play:** Weekday \$20 for 9 holes or \$30 for 18 holes. Cart and club hire available. **Lessons:** Groups and beginner clinics catered for. **Dress:** Neat golf attire. No denim. **Hardest hole:** 9th – 380m, par 4. Uphill all the way. **Toughest green:** 2nd. A tough slope back to front and bunkered on the right. **Additional facilities:** Putting green, practice area, full club and bar facilities. Driving range and aqua range facilities available. Five star accommodation at Park Proxi Gibraltar with functions and weddings catered for. **Contact:** 4862 8615; parkproxibowral.com.au



**PEPPERS CRAIGIEBURN****9 holes – par 32** Centennial Road, Bowral.

Open to the public and guests seven days.

**Cost to play:** \$15 for 9 holes. \$15 for club hire.Free for guests. **Lessons:** On request. **Dress:** Neat golf attire.**Hardest hole:** 4th – 180m, par 3. Up a hill and over a ridge. To make par you can have only one shot on the approach to the green.**Toughest green:** 4th. Needs a good approach.**Additional facilities:** Full club and bar facilities. Weddings, functions and conferences catered for. Luxury accommodation available at Peppers Craigieburn. **Contact:** 4862 8000; peppers.com.au/craigieburn**SYLVAN GLEN PENROSE COUNTRY GOLF CLUB****9 holes – par 32** Kareela Road, Penrose.Privately owned and exclusively for staying guests of Sylvan Glen Country Estate. **Dress:** Neat golf attire. **Hardest hole:** 5th. Plays over water to a narrow green with a steep face.**Toughest green:** 5th. Rolls back to front with a steep bank. **Additional facilities:** Exceptional wedding, accommodation and function facilities available at Sylvan Glen Country Estate. A fabulous place to enjoy an extended weekend wedding and a round of Highlands golf.**Contact:** 4884 4306; sylvanglen.com.au**KANGAROO VALLEY GOLF & COUNTRY RESORT****18 holes – par 71** Mt Scanzi Road, KangarooValley. Open to the public seven days; both members and visitors are welcome to play in competitions. **Cost to play:** Weekday \$50, weekend \$60 + \$60 motorised cart hire. Clubs and additional carts available for hire.**Dress:** Neat golf attire. **Hardest hole:** 8th – par 4. 160m water carry to the fairway and then an extra 170m to the narrow green with big drop off to left. Exceptionally picturesque.**Toughest green:** 13th. Slopes back to front with two tiers. **Additional facilities:** Practice fairway, chipping and putting practice areas. Full club and bar facilities with newly opened Italian restaurant serving pasta and antipasto, perfect place for a post-match drink or lunch on the outside deck with views over the valley. Functions and conferences catered for. Accommodation is available in rustic wood cabins and luxury two and three bedroom villas located right around the resort. See website for Stay and Play packages. **Contact:** 4465 0200; kangaroovalleygolf.com.au**HIGHLANDS GOLF CLUB****18 holes – par 70** Old Hume Highway,Mittagong. Open to the public seven days around competitions. **Professionals:** Anthony Storich and Luke Bessant. **Cost to play:** Weekday \$45, weekends \$50. Clubs and carts available to hire. Lessons available. Groups and clinics catered for, and guests and social players welcome seven days. **Dress:** Neat golf attire. **Hardest hole:** 6th – a long 390m drive slightly uphill to a raised green guarded by fairway bunkers. **Toughest green:** 14th. Features treacherous slopes to the left and right.**Additional facilities:** Full club fitting service, driving range, putting green, pro shops club and bar and restaurant The Glass Bistro open seven days. Wedding and functions catered for.**Contact:** 4871 3274; highlandsgolfclub.com.au 



**DIRTY JANES, BOWRAL**

The granddaddy of vintage and antiques in the Highlands, take your time to browse the 90 individual stalls selling a plethora of old and pre-loved such as furniture, clothing, bric-a-brac, homewares, books, art, sculpture. A treasure trove for those who love to discover and uncover [dirtyjanes.com](http://dirtyjanes.com)

# Vintage & Antique Shop Stops

*It makes sense in a region with so much history and historical intrigue that the Southern Highlands enjoys an abundance of independent and eclectic retail outlets plying vintage and antique buys. Here's a few must visits on your retail route.*

**LYDIE DU BRAY ANTIQUES, BRAEMAR**

Longtime French importer of classic pieces from France, Belgium and the rest of Europe. Treat yourself to a pair of 19th Century Louis XV styled chairs or a duck tureen in jade green. All housed in a charming French decorated Highlands settlers cottage. [lydiedubrayantiques.com.au](http://lydiedubrayantiques.com.au).

**THE OLD POT FACTORY, MITTAGONG**

Everything antique and vintage you could ever need for your home and garden including fabulous cast iron planters for your plants or gateway drive and garden urns and statues galore. [theoldpotfactory.com](http://theoldpotfactory.com).

**THE BRONTE TRAM, BOWRAL**

Recently moved to the vintage district in Bowral, find whatever feature piece you need here to make your home sing like a multi display antique medicine chest, an antique French Armoire or a wall sized apothecarist's cabinet. [@thebrontetram](https://www.instagram.com/thebrontetram)

**COACH HOUSE COLLECTIVE, BOWRAL**

The ivy fronted amalgamation of seven charming homewares and antiques speciality shops selling everything from exquisite handmade old shop counters to vintage Tiffany jewellery and 19th century portraits. [@coachhouse\\_collective](https://www.instagram.com/coachhouse_collective)

**THE POTTING SHED GARDEN SHOP, GREEN LANE, BOWRAL**

Part of the Green Lane shopping precinct, The Potting Shed specialises in vintage pots, gates, benches, garden furniture and courtyard features. [greenlanebowral.com](http://greenlanebowral.com)

**BOOKTOWN, SUTTON FOREST**

If you love books of every persuasion and war memorabilia as well as vintage bric-a-brac, jewellery and handmade Scottish shortbread, call into this former butcher shop and stables, now a thriving bookshop on the corner in Sutton Forest. Open Saturday and Sundays.

**THAT BEAUTIFUL SHOP, MOSS VALE**

A furniture and upholstery shop with preloved vintage pieces and French styled settees as well as original vintage paintings and bits and pieces. [@thatbeautifulshop.mossvale](https://www.instagram.com/thatbeautifulshop.mossvale)

**THE COOL ROOM EMPORIUM, ROBERTSON:**

Eclectic two storey gem with 50 stallholders selling everything from vintage vinyls (back in a big way), pre-loved cookery books and kitchen wares to retro collectable pieces, memorabilia and vintage and designer clothing. [@thecoolroomemporium](https://www.instagram.com/thecoolroomemporium)

**TWISTING VINTAGE, MITTAGONG**

An iconic shop full of vintage couture clothes, handbags, shoes and accessories from the 1950s through to the 70s and beyond to lust over including Dior, Hermes, Lacroix, Diane Von Furstenberg and Marc Jacobs to name but a few. [@twisting\\_vintage](https://www.instagram.com/twisting_vintage)



# Foodie Tastes Tours & Trails

*We have sustainable farms, restaurants, cafes, wineries, distilleries and markets on tap for gourmands and gastronomes. For those who like to investigate the origins of what we eat, read on.*

## **BOWRAL BEEKEEPING**

Get up close and personal with some Highlands bees on a one hour tour at a local apiary, taste six different honeys and learn about these fascinating and vital pollinators. Book the introductory beekeeping workshop if you would like to learn beekeeping. Pre-order and you can even take your colony home at the end of the workshop. [bowralbeekeeping.com](http://bowralbeekeeping.com)

## **ROBERTSON TRUFFLES**

The truffle season is fleeting, June to August, so get in quick if you want to join a two hour tour to see how black Périgord truffles are harvested. Tours run Wednesdays and Saturdays. Or book a place at the table for a cooking demonstration or at The Truffle Long Lunch in August. [robertsontruffles.com.au](http://robertsontruffles.com.au)



## **MUSHROOM TUNNEL TOUR**

Earlier this year, the Highlands lost one of its food pioneers, exotic mushroom expert Dr Noel Arroll who developed and started growing mushrooms for the Australian market in a disused Mittagong train tunnel nearly 40 years ago. Join a walking tour into the fascinating mushroom tunnel and learn about everything you didn't know about mushrooms. [fungico.com.au](http://fungico.com.au)


## **MUSSETT HOLDINGS REGENERATIVE FARM TOURS**

Get along to one of these great farm tours on Connie and Will's off grid working farm just outside Colo Vale, for 90 mins of learning about the Mussetts' open paddock laying hens, packing some eggs, tasting their range of raw honeys and chemical free homegrown veggies and mushrooms, and meeting some chickens, Maremma dogs, goats and jersey cows. A fabulous family outing for all ages to see up close how great food is produced. Saturday mornings and school holidays. [mussettholdings.com.au](http://mussettholdings.com.au)

## **REDLEAF FARM AT FITZROY FALLS**

Katrina Sparke was raised to know about healthy eating and ethically raising farm animals; her mother is Australia's most respected nutritionist, Rosemary Stanton. Join Katrina, husband Sam and their family on this 1.5 hour farm tour. Learn how the family produces its ethically raised and prize winning pork and lamb. Meet animals like some hairy Highland cows plus chickens, ducks, heritage breed pigs, geese, peafowl and a donkey who loves cuddles. Bookings essential. [redleaf-farm.com](http://redleaf-farm.com)

## **MOONACRES KITCHEN & FARM**

Moonacres is a local success story, a thriving organic farm intent on sharing its extensive knowledge of sustainable farming. Book one of many fascinating workshops at Moonacres School and explore the connection between creativity and cooking and art and regenerative farming practices with passionate chefs, artists and practitioners. Visit Moonacres Farm on a three hour experience and see where the growing magic happens. [moonacres.com.au](http://moonacres.com.au) 

# Schools

*Every child deserves the best education and the trick, experts say, to help your child reach their learning potential, is to find the right school. Here in the Southern Highlands, we are fortunate to have a wide choice of outstanding government and independent schools.*

**CHEVALIER COLLEGE, BURRADOO**

Greg Miller, principal of Chevalier College, a Catholic co-educational secondary college owned and operated by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, is not a proponent of relating hours spent in school to results achieved. “I was reminded recently in a presentation with Professor Pasi Sahlberg, based out of the University of Melbourne, that we prescribe more hours in Australian education than any other country in the world and yet the correlation with international results is not there, so more hours doesn’t mean better learning.” Earlier this year, Chevalier introduced its Future Facing Learning agenda, including flipped

classroom teaching, which it believes to be the best way to prepare students for the rapidly changing world they will navigate post school. The flipped learning method is thought to increase student engagement by making pupils more accountable for their learning, and deeper thinking when in the classroom with teachers. In practice it means Chevalier students in Years 10, 11 and 12 are afforded the opportunity to learn at home on 26 out of 38 Mondays of the school’s calendar year if they achieve the necessary self-regulation credentials and have parental consent. The approach, says Mr Miller, introduces learning material, and surface level learning up front, for students to complete before class time. Time in class with a teacher is therefore freed up to deepen students understanding through peer discussion and collaborative in-class tasks. Other initiatives in Chevalier’s Future Facing Learning agenda include the early commencement of HSC subjects in Year 10, or Year 9, rather than Year 11; the implementation of timetabled wellbeing lessons for all students; and a new subject, SIMS (Strength Interests and Motivation) to help students understand individual strengths, and how to apply them to create a better world. “After a series of engagements with staff, students and parents, those things have

come together into our Future Facing Learning agenda, and in hand with that, there’s been an increased focus on developing learner agency as a capability for all students,” explains Mr Miller. As well as increased precision around best use of time for timetables, many senior students are reporting finding the learning changes helpful, he added “For those students who have the opportunity to learn from home after they achieve the micro-credential in self-regulation, they are telling us they are spending additional time recuperating from the weekend with the added Monday at home to still get their work done. “There’s also been an unexpected benefit of increased wellbeing anecdotally, and while we are not measuring wellbeing per se, students are telling us that they feel better prepared for Tuesday to Friday because of what they are doing in preparation on Monday.” Founded in 1948 on 40 hectares in Burradoo, Chevalier has to date educated 13,000 local students. It enjoys strong and long lasting community ties. “Chev is a good place built on relationships, increasing HSC results and a rigour around learning,” says Mr Miller. “These new changes to our learning are all about enhancing and value adding to our school.” **11 Charlotte Street, Burradoo [chevalier.nsw.edu.au](http://chevalier.nsw.edu.au)**

**LOCAL SCHOOLS**

AVOCA PUBLIC SCHOOL

BAMBINOS

BERRIMA PUBLIC SCHOOL

BIRRAHLEE

BOWRAL HIGH SCHOOL

BOWRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

BOWRAL STREET PRE SCHOOL

BUNDANOON PRE SCHOOL

BUNDANOON PUBLIC SCHOOL

BURRAWANG PUBLIC SCHOOL

CHEVALIER COLLEGE

COLO VALE PUBLIC SCHOOL

CUBBY HOUSE PLAYGROUP

DONKIN PRE SCHOOL

EXETER PUBLIC SCHOOL

FAMILY DAY CARE

FRENSHAM

FRENSHAM JUNIOR

GIBBERGUNYA

GLENQUARRY PUBLIC SCHOOL

GUMNUT PRE SCHOOL

HIGHLANDS SCHOOL

HILL TOP PRE SCHOOL

HILL TOP PUBLIC SCHOOL

KAMALEI

KANGALOOON PUBLIC SCHOOL

LITTLE PEOPLES

MITTAGONG PRE SCHOOL

MITTAGONG PUBLIC SCHOOL

MOSS VALE HIGH SCHOOL

MOSS VALE PUBLIC SCHOOL

MT GIBRALTAR PRE SCHOOL

OXLEY COLLEGE

PENROSE PUBLIC SCHOOL

ROBERTSON COMMUNITY

PRE SCHOOL

ROBERTSON PUBLIC SCHOOL

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

ST PAUL'S INTERNATIONAL

COLLEGE

ST PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

ST THOMAS AQUINAS PRIMARY

SCHOOL

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STEINER

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# Events

Dive into the spirit and generosity of country life in the Southern Highlands by marking these dates in your diary.



## **SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS WRITERS FESTIVAL – JULY**

Snuggle up with a good book next to one of the many cosy fireplaces throughout the Southern Highlands. Add a glass of red and you're ready to go! Each year, the town of Bowral plays host to some of the country's top authors and writers. Catch your winter glow while stimulating your grey matter. **W:** [shwf.com.au](http://shwf.com.au)

## **BUNDANOON WINTERFEST – JULY**

Celebrate our colder months at this three day, family-friendly celebration. Warm yourself with a hot chocolate, groove at the street party, enjoy the winter markets or Christmas in July dinner and let the kids have a blast on the amusement rides. No one does winter like the Southern Highlands. **W:** [bundanoonwinterfest.com.au](http://bundanoonwinterfest.com.au)

## **FIRE FEASTS AT OSBORN HOUSE – APRIL THROUGH NOVEMBER**

Experience the age-old South American tradition of live fire cooking at the luxurious Osborn House. Each month its talented chefs ignite the flames of their extraordinary Asado, guiding you on an unforgettable open-fire feast journey. This is no ordinary BBQ - this is high-end grilling (and bubbles) at its best! **W:** [osbornhouse.com.au](http://osbornhouse.com.au)

## **SAVOUR THE UNEXPECTED – JUNE**

A winter festival featuring a series of intimate and bespoke dining offerings by the region's top chefs and winemakers. Each curated event is held at fascinating venues or locations and feature immersive artistic performances to entertain while you enjoy a one-of-kind food and wine experience.

**W:** [growsouthernhighlands.com.au](http://growsouthernhighlands.com.au)

## **MIDWINTER, NGUNUNGGULA GALLERY – JUNE**

The centrepiece of this winter solstice festival is a hand-crafted burning man effigy designed by artist Ben Quilty. Hosted by Ngununggula Art Gallery, MIDWINTER is one of the region's signature events filled with morsels a plenty from the area's top restaurants and chefs, jovial cocktails and warm beverages, live entertainment and a rotating itinerary of surprises to delight. Book your accommodation early. This one is not to be missed!

**W:** [ngununggula.com.au](http://ngununggula.com.au)

## **TULIP TIME – SEPTEMBER**

The region's top Instagrammable event, and one of Australia's biggest floral festivals, Tulip Time attracts tens of thousands of visitors. The town of Bowral bursts to life each spring

with a massed display of tulips and annuals in Corbett Gardens. The festival goes beyond floral delights, offering live music performances, boutique market stalls to explore, and a diverse array of delicious refreshments. On weekend evenings explore Tulips After Dark. As the sun goes down, the lights come on to illuminate the tens of thousands of blooms of Tulip Time. The bar is opened, complemented by an array of yummy food options while lively music fills the air to offer a wonderfully different perspective to the garden display.

**W:** [tuliptime.net.au](http://tuliptime.net.au)

## **FOOD & WINE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS – OCTOBER**

The October long weekend sets the stage for the region's signature food and wine festival, highlighting its numerous winemakers, distilleries and brew masters. But wait, there's more. Add to this smorgasbord of beverages, a variety of delicious morsels from some of the top food purveyors and you'll understand why the Southern Highlands is often referred to as Sydney's cellar door.



### **SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS ARTS TRAIL & POP-UP PROJECT – NOVEMBER & JUNE**

Meet some of our working artists in their private studios during the Pop-Up Project in June or in November as part of Southern Highlands Arts Trail. The events are a collective of over 60 artists who either live in the Highlands or have connections here. They open their studios on an arts trail so you can meet them in person in their working spaces and buy direct from studios. **W:** [thepopupproject.com.au](http://thepopupproject.com.au) [visitsouthernhighlands.com.au](http://visitsouthernhighlands.com.au)

### **FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS – DECEMBER**

Each year the Southern Highlands community comes alive with holiday spirit. Shopfronts and gardens throughout the region twinkle and glow, offering unique gifts for your loved ones. Meander throughout the various villages, offering the best in homewares, clothing, specialty and luxury items. Or visit one of the many wineries and food purveyors and build your own 'taste of Southern Highlands' gift basket. **W:** [festivaloflights.com.au](http://festivaloflights.com.au)

### **DAY ON THE GREEN – JANUARY THROUGH APRIL**

Get a group of friends together for a weekend away filled with your favourite tunes as Centennial Vineyards hosts one of Australia's most popular and premier outdoor concert series each year. Experience a day of good food, fine wine and great music from international touring artists. It's the Big Day Out for grown-ups. **W:** [centennial.net.au](http://centennial.net.au) & [adayonthegreen.com.au](http://adayonthegreen.com.au)

### **BRIGADOON – BUNDANOON HIGHLAND GATHERING – APRIL**

For one day every year the mythical village of Brigadoon rises from the mists, and Bundanoon in the Southern Highlands become Brigadoon - one of the southern hemisphere's largest Highland Gatherings. The event includes hundreds of bagpipers and drummers, a street parade, massed bands, Highland Games (toss the caber!), and hundreds of stalls, displays and activities. Whether you are of Scots ancestry or looking for one of the most enjoyable and

interesting of days out with the family, a trip to Brigadoon will be a day to remember.

**W:** [brigadoon.org.au](http://brigadoon.org.au)

### **BURRAWANG EASTER MARKETS – APRIL**

Come to the Southern Highlands and explore a world of handmade products that tell the stories of the people who created them. Browse racks of one-of-a-kind fashions, find unique gifts and treat yourself to something weird and wonderful that couldn't be found anywhere else. Enjoy delicious food and breathe in the wonderful atmosphere of a delightful village.

**W:** [burrawangeastermarket.com](http://burrawangeastermarket.com)

### **PIE TRAIL – JUNE**

June = Pie season in the Southern Highlands. With over 30 cafes, pubs and restaurants honouring the Aussie Pie tradition, you'll be spoiled for choice. Warm up next to a cosy fire or 'pie hop' from village to village. This award-winning activation is the perfect excuse for a weekend away or family day trip.

**W:** [visitsouthernhighlands.com.au](http://visitsouthernhighlands.com.au)

### **BOWRAL CLASSIC – OCTOBER**

Get ready to pedal through the rolling hills of the Southern Highlands. The Bowral Classic has become a staple fixture in the cycling calendar. With three road cycling courses, all showcasing the most beautiful scenery you can experience on two wheels, there is something for cycling enthusiasts of all levels.

**W:** [cyclingclassics.com.au](http://cyclingclassics.com.au)

### **TRUFFLE HUNTING – JUNE THROUGH AUGUST**

Winter means truffle season in the Southern Highlands and you are invited to take part at Robertson Truffles near Robertson. Visit the truffière, where you will watch truffle dogs finding these underground treasures. Then it's your turn for a hands-on truffle-hunting experience, expect to get dirty! Finish the day off by taking home some of the delicious black diamonds you have unearthed. Or join in the end of season Truffle Long Lunch.

**W:** [robertsontruffles.com.au](http://robertsontruffles.com.au)



### **COUNTRY FAIRS & SHOWS**

Dive into the spirit and generosity of country life by experiencing one of the many country fairs and shows throughout the year. Celebrate the bountiful produce of the Southern Highlands; everything from gourmet food and wines to locally made produce, the region's top equine events, working dog trials, wood chopping, sheep, wool and cattle showing to all the delights of the pavilion's displays judging. The kids will love the farm animals, carnival rides, showbags, and fireworks.

**Bowral Show – January**

W: [bowralshow.com.au](http://bowralshow.com.au)

**Robertson Show – March**

W: [robertsonshow.org.au](http://robertsonshow.org.au)

**Moss Vale Show - March**

W: [mossvaleshow.com.au](http://mossvaleshow.com.au)

### **ROBERTSON POTATO FESTIVAL – MAY**

A festival about potatoes? Yes, but this is no small P potatoes. This is Robertson, the home of the Big Potatoes and some of NSW's best potato growers. Expect concerts by national touring artists, masterclasses by celebrity chefs, potato sack racings, 'hessians on the field' fashion events, a plethora of food, drink, family-friendly entertainment and amusement rides. Sure, it sounds quirky, but as the thousands of attendees will attest, it all mashes up to make a spud-tacular time! W: [potatofestival.com.au](http://potatofestival.com.au)

### **SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS AGRISHOW – AUGUST**

Bring the family to the region's Small Farm Field Days and enjoy true country hospitality. A community day connecting people living on the land, small acreage farmers and farming professionals. Live music, demonstrations, seminars and activities for the whole family, and those looking to make a treechange.

W: [agrishow.com.au](http://agrishow.com.au)

### **BONG BONG PICNIC RACES - NOVEMBER**

Come and enjoy a day of country racing at its best in the heart of the Southern Highlands. Put on your race day attire, pack your picnic basket and rug and join in the fun. Or enjoy the local

BBQ and food stalls with beverages available from the bars. Just one caveat, make sure you become a Member to access tickets to this exclusive annual event.

W: [bongbongprc.com.au](http://bongbongprc.com.au)

### **ARCHIBALD PRIZE @ NGUNUNGGULA - NOVEMBER THROUGH JANUARY**

Filled with famous faces and much talked about works, the country's most revered portrait prize, The Archibald makes its summer road trip to the Southern Highlands. This year's collection is an opportunity to see the finalists in the Archibald Prize 2024 and includes a plethora of famous faces to local heroes. W: [ngununggula.com](http://ngununggula.com)

### **CHRISTMAS IN JULY - JULY**

Only 90 minutes from Sydney or Canberra, it's a short drive to experience the crisp sunny winter days, cool evenings and frosty mornings of the Southern Highlands. You'd not be wrong thinking you've been transported to the northern hemisphere Christmas time. Each July, the region rolls out a full itinerary of offerings for you to enjoy. With fireplaces a plenty, warm up with a delicious meal and your favourite tippie, be it in one of the numerous pubs, fine dining restaurants or hotels and accommodation offerings. Feel the festive excitement and romance in the air! W: [visitsouthernhighlands.com.au](http://visitsouthernhighlands.com.au)

### **BOWRAL AUTUMN MUSIC FESTIVAL- MARCH**

The perfect reason for a visit to the Southern Highlands for any fine music lover. Enjoy a weekend filled with concerts and recitals from noteworthy classical chamber artists.

W: [bowralautumnmusicfestival.org.au](http://bowralautumnmusicfestival.org.au)

### **BUNDANOON FOLK FESTIVAL - NOVEMBER**

Three days of folk music bliss. With over 60 artists on 9 stages, this is a folk festival Southern Highlands style. Enjoy extraordinary musicians in intimate indoor venues all within easy walking distance of the Bundanoon village shops. Camping available.

W: [bundanoonfolkfestival.com.au](http://bundanoonfolkfestival.com.au)

**HORSE TRAIL RIDING AT CANYONLEIGH TRAILS, CANYONLEIGH**

Got a horse-mad kid desperate for some saddle time? Book 'em in for some horse time at Canyonleigh Trails, about 20 minutes' drive from Moss Vale. For children aged 2 to 10, there's the Pony Experience where kids get to pat, brush, feed and ride on a Shetland pony or book a two hour trail ride for kids (and adults) aged 11 and over and enjoy the lovely bushland of Canyonleigh owned by Canyonleigh Retreat, which is a great family stay destination for those wanting to connect in quiet luxury. **Seven days** [canyonleightrails.com](http://canyonleightrails.com) [canyonleighretreat.com.au](http://canyonleighretreat.com.au)

**NSW RAIL MUSEUM, THIRLMERE**

The rail museum at Thirlmere is a fun day out. More than 125 exhibits follow the development of NSW's railways from the 1800s and there are lots of interactive displays and levers for kids to pull and buttons to press. Every Saturday and Sunday there are 40 minute steam train rides from Thirlmere to Buxton and back. Keep an eye on the website for special Thomas the Tank Engine and the Fat Controller days at the museum, with a jumping castle and face painting included plus the option to take a 30 minute steam train ride to 'Sodor' with engine Donald. **Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm; Saturday and Sunday, 9am to 5pm.** [nswrailmuseum.com.au](http://nswrailmuseum.com.au)

**BRADMAN MUSEUM, BOWRAL**

Anytime is cricket time if you've got a sports mad kid in your family and the Bradman Museum is to cricket lovers of all ages what the MCG is to AFL fans. Wander through the celebrated Bradman Museum and International Cricket Hall of Fame to see legendary Sir Donald Bradman's first bat, enjoy the interactive screen and audio recordings of the great man himself and watch as the kids have a crack at the Don's famous cricket stump on the water tank stand simulation. Marvel at the fact The Don was the greatest batsman who ever lived and the greatest cricketer of the 20th century. St.Jude Street, Bowral. **Seven days, 9am to 4pm.** [bradman.com.au](http://bradman.com.au)

**ILLAWARRA FLY, ROBERTSON**

Want your kids to test themselves? In real life, not screen life. Whizzing through the rainforest 30 metres off the ground attached to a wire will do it every time. The Illawarra Fly, a quick drive from Robertson, is perched on the top of the Jamberoo escarpment and is Australia's highest zipline tour. With three flights and two suspension bridges to navigate, it's hair-raising fun for those aged 4 and up. Join the kids and you can also take the Treetop Walk, a slightly

gentler swaying option, on a 1.5 km loop track. Both options give stunning views out over the South Coast and Pacific Ocean. Keep an eye out for school holiday programs that kick off from early September or take a Treetop Sunrise Walk or After Dark Zipline Tour and guide beneath the illuminated canopy. Also let them have a crack at The Fly's new Archery experience. **Monday to Friday 10.30am to 3.30pm Saturday and Sunday 10am to 4pm.** [illawarrafly.com](http://illawarrafly.com)


**BERRIMA COURTHOUSE, BERRIMA**

Kids love hearing about the colonial convict history of Berrima, and sometimes, the gorier the better. Head along to Berrima Courthouse, built in 1839, and take your kids on a tour, which includes a visit to the prison cells and a sound and light show. If the kids are over 15 and not fainthearted, head back in the evening for the once a month interactive ghost hunts, usually on a Friday evening, held by APPI Ghost Hunts. These include trying to listen to the dead. **Courthouse open 7 days 10am to 4pm** [berrimacourthouse.org.au](http://berrimacourthouse.org.au) Book for monthly ghost hunt at [appghosthunts.com](http://appghosthunts.com).

**LOLLY SWAGMAN, BERRIMA, BOWRAL SWEETS & TREATS & WINGELLO VILLAGE STORE**

There aren't many good old fashioned lolly shops around anymore, which is probably just as well given the cost of dental work. However, the kids are on a break, right? Visit the equally fabulous Lolly Swagman in Berrima and Bowral Sweets & Treats and let them go wild like a kid in a lolly shop. Both shops have an excellent choice of yesterday's, today's and tomorrow's best-selling candies, lollies and confectionary; special note, the homemade fudge at the Lolly Shop is to die for. If you fancy going on more of a sweet hunt, head out to the Wingello Village Store & Cafe. It has a great menu of all day breakfast and lunch with something for every appetite AND reportedly one of the longest mixed lolly counters in the Southern Hemisphere. Take a bag away with you as you checkout Wingello's great new play area and pump track for little bike riders at nearby Casburn Park. [@lollyswagman](https://www.instagram.com/lollyswagman) [bowralsweetsandtreats.com.au](http://bowralsweetsandtreats.com.au) [wingello.blogspot.com](http://wingello.blogspot.com)

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

**FLIP OUT** – Mittagong. **IMAGIN ARTA & SYDNEY PUPPET THEATRE** – Sutton Forest. **HIGHLANDS ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE** - Mittagong. **AQUATIC CENTRES** – Moss Vale, Bowral & Bundanoon. **TABATINGA** @ Mittagong RSL – Mittagong. **HIGHLANDS MINIATURE RAILWAY** – Moss Vale. 

# Kids

*Visiting the Highlands with the kids? Here's some activities to get them off their devices, and connected to our fresh Highlands air.*



# Love it *Like a Local*

Want to learn the places and faces the locals show off to their visitors? We spoke to a few well known Southern Highlanders to share their favourite Out and About places to go and do ... so you can too!



**VICKI & TRACY NICKL**

**Business owners, Gumnut Patisserie**

Vicki and Tracy Nickl began working together in 1995 but never imagined their dream of owning a patisserie would grow into the iconic Highlands institution, Gumnut Patisserie, with shops in Mittagong, Bowral and Berrima. Success is sweet but the couple, and their dedicated team continually strive for perfection to produce Gumnut's award-winning showcase of more than 200 savoury and sweet, delectable delicacies.

**OUT:** "Toshi's Japanese Restaurant is a family favourite as is Onesta Cucina. Bistro Sociale at Berida Hotel is great for larger groups and The Parting Glass in Bowral is a perfect spot for a sneaky cocktail and a share plate. Josh's Café in Berrima is always a great meal and Bendooley Estate never disappoints with its great food."

**ABOUT:** "We love to walk so we always take friends on a local bushwalk to one of the beautiful lookouts we have around the Southern Highlands."

**ANDREW FORD**

**ABC National Radio presenter**

Composer and writer Andrew Ford is the renowned host of ABC Radio National's The Music Show and says the Highlands is home to very good musicians. "My local pub, Robertson Public House and Kitchen, has an Open Mic Night every third Monday night of the month. Singer-songwriter, Loki Hines, who runs it, is very good indeed and has an album coming."

**OUT:** "Everyone knows about the great bread and inventive menu at Moonacres Kitchen, which we are lucky to have in Robertson, along with Pecora Dairy's Wine and Cheese. In terms of places to eat, we probably don't deserve such ready access to places of the calibre of Paste in Mittagong, and Onesta Cucina and Leila's in Bowral."

**ABOUT:** "I always tell people visiting to go to the Robertson Cemetery. Its eerily beautiful and the walk from town is good for you (unless you have a heart condition) and Ngununggula Regional Gallery is the other place we are particularly lucky to have; not only for its exhibitions but for its regular workshops and classes too."



**DANIE MELLOR**

**Celebrated artist**

Danie Mellor is a renowned Australian artist with work in the National Gallery of Australia. Danie often finds inspiration in the Southern Highlands' breathtaking landscapes, particularly the sunsets and sunrises, which he photographs and uses for reference material.

**OUT:** "The Nattai River gorges are inspirational, and some of the areas around The Box Vale Track near Mittagong are refreshingly isolated and there are incredible rock formations along the river, although it does take time to get out there. Places closer to Bowral and Mittagong are easier to reach, like Gibbergunyah Reserve and the walking track past Lake Alexandra Reserve with its trails to Sixty and Forty Foot Falls. For amazing views, head up Oxley Drive or the stone steps at the top of Cliff Street in Bowral and Jellore Lookouts on Mount Gibraltar, or Oxley Hill to the west of Bowral."

**ABOUT:** "While there are many go-to destinations in the Southern Highlands, I always tell people to consider a trip to Berrima. It's a unique and historic village with well preserved colonial Georgian architecture along with other attractions like the Harper's Mansion maze. Visitors have great choices in town for a meal or just to look around and stroll along the main street."

## RA SPRATT

### Acclaimed author

RA Spratt is the acclaimed children's author of many fabulous and funny books including her three different series, Nanny Piggins, Peski Kids and Friday Barnes. "I love that you can always get the skinny on all drama if you know the right old lady to ask; seniors have the best gossip", RA often stages joyous, energy-packed book readings locally (and afar) for her hordes of devoted followers. She often finds inspiration for her writing from within her Highlands homelands.

**OUT:** "The Big Potato in Robertson features heavily in the Peski Kids series, although my fictional Giant Potato has a much more action packed life. It gets impaled by an animatronic T-Rex then ends up on wheels being driven down the main street in a parade before taking off in a high speed chase after a gang of terrorists. Beloved local icon, Mary Dunk (who I know from bellringing at the Uniting Church) makes a cameo appearance as an octogenarian shoplifter in 'Hamlet is Not OK'.

**ABOUT:** "People have to go to Gumnut Patisserie and get the party box (a box of miniature cakes so you can try more variety), then go to Bowral Sweets & Treats for the pick and mix (or a giant pickle if you prefer). Kids need to tell their grown-ups they're struggling with literacy and their teacher says they have to read more so they take them to The Bookshop Bowral to buy them a book; the ladies behind the counter are brilliant at recommending books."



## PHIL LAVERS, Farmer and owner, Moonacres Kitchen, School and Farm.

Phil Lavers was one of the first in the Highlands to start organically growing vegetables and selling his produce to local restaurants. With Moonacres Farm at Fitzroy Falls now grown to include Moonacres Kitchen and School in Robertson and Hearth at Ngununggula Gallery in Bowral, Phil is all about helping others enjoy the naturalness of the Highlands.

**OUT:** "When I started growing food at Moonacres, I didn't foresee the extent people have become concerned about where, and how their food is produced. I was aware there was a clear difference between food that was well grown and most food but didn't see the big shift we are seeing in concern – but sticking to who you are pays off. Eilish Maloney at The What If Society's shops, The Exchange in Burrabung and The Studio in Moss Vale, is someone who I know is going to great lengths to manifest what she knows is important.

**ABOUT:** "The nature that surrounds us in the Highlands is amazing to simply spend time in. Any of the bushwalks are beautiful and spending time with nature is the best thing you can do for your mind, body and spirit." **SH**

## GAI WATERHOUSE

### Group 1 Winning Thoroughbred horse trainer

Gai Waterhouse is one of Australia's most successful thoroughbred racing horse trainers. When not trackside training any number of Group 1 winners, Gai, her husband Robbie and their family are often found decompressing at their Highlands farm enjoying life.

**OUT:** "In the 11 years we have had our farm, numerous equestrian centres and privately owned horse arenas have popped up and because the Highlands is so accessible, Sydney people can bring their children down to enjoy the whole Highlands experience with pony club, dressage, gymkhanas and of course, show jumping. We love watching our grandchildren ride at James Arkin's Rosthwaite Farm near Moss Vale and we enjoy the community spirit at the Berrima District Pony Club. The Highlands also seems to be an environment conducive to breeding champion racehorses. We have seen this with John and Trish Muir at Milburn Creek and the successes of Steve and Elizabeth Grant at Silverdale Farm."

**ABOUT:** "We love dining out at Toshi's one of the finest Japanese restaurants and also adore Onesta Cucina in Bowral. I love being pampered by Rodney at the Joh Bailey salon in Bowral, the most talented hairstylist and a beautiful equestrian rider. I also love pastries from Gumnut Patisserie and having manicures and pedicures from Susan at Savoir Faire Hair and Beauty in Bowral. The people of the Highlands are warm and friendly with a real community and country feel."



# Local Business Directory



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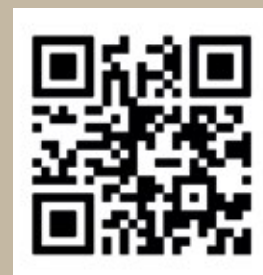


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