

### 2022 NSW TOP TOURISM TOWN AWARDS // MUDGEE

MUDGEE IS LOVED AS A CONTEMPORARY COUNTRY DESTINATION, INFUSED WITH ART AND MUSIC, SERVING QUALITY PRODUCE AND WINE,

AND SHAPED BY A STRONG SENSE OF COMMUNITY. VISITORS ARE INVITED TO CONNECT RIGHT ACROSS THE REGION, INCLUDING THE NEIGHBOURING

TOWNSHIPS OF GULGONG, RYLSTONE AND KANDOS. THE COMMUNITY COLLABORATE TO SUPPORT THE SUSTAINABLE GROWTH OF TOURISM

IN KEEPING WITH A VIBRANT YET INTIMATE SETTING. VISITORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO SLOW DOWN AND RESET THEIR SENSES.

LOCATED LESS THAN 270KM NORTHWEST OF SYDNEY, THE FUSS-FREE JOURNEY IS ALL PART OF THE EXPERIENCE,

AND WHAT AWAITS IS A STUNNING MIX OF CHARM AND SOPHISTICATION.



## MUDGEE // FAST FACTS

#### LOCATION

Mudgee is 268km northwest of Sydney

#### POPULATION

25,000+

#### ELEVATION

454m

#### AVERAGE TEMPS

Spring: min 8° max 23

Autumn: min 9° max 23°

Winter: min 2° max 15

#### TOWNS + VILLAGES

Mudgee, Rylstone, Kandos, Gulgong

#### AVERAGE RAINFALL

670mm

# TRAFE LIGHT Nope!

## AFFIC MAJOR INDUSTRIES GUTS Tourism, viticulture, agriculture and mini



## ITINERARY AUDIEN(E // THE LOVED-UP (OUPLE



## For this loved-up couple, it is not just about romance.

Their Helix psychographic archetype is that of '**The Lover**'. This means they want a close relationship, to achieve intimacy, feel special and make others feel special too. They are passionate and unashamed in fostering relationships and expressing appreciation. There is also a sensual aspect to their lives. Anything that pleasures the senses — beautiful things, enticing smells, indulgent foods — give joy and delight to this couple.

#### Aspirational Millennial couple (26-40 years old) from Sydney

Ambitious, up—and—coming, culturally diverse young couples committed to creating a successful future. Now often choosing to travel domestically with more immersive moments in mind, including small—scale or boutique events, workshops and masterclasses as part of their overall experience of a destination. Quality local product, food and drink is important to them as well as boutique or short—term rental accommodation options, especially those located in more unique locations, such as natural settings. This market is highly engaged online and in social media. They follow social media influencers for recommendations and are often motivated by special offers and deals they can share with friends.

Their primary travel motivation is a relaxing and romantic getaway.

## GETTING THERE

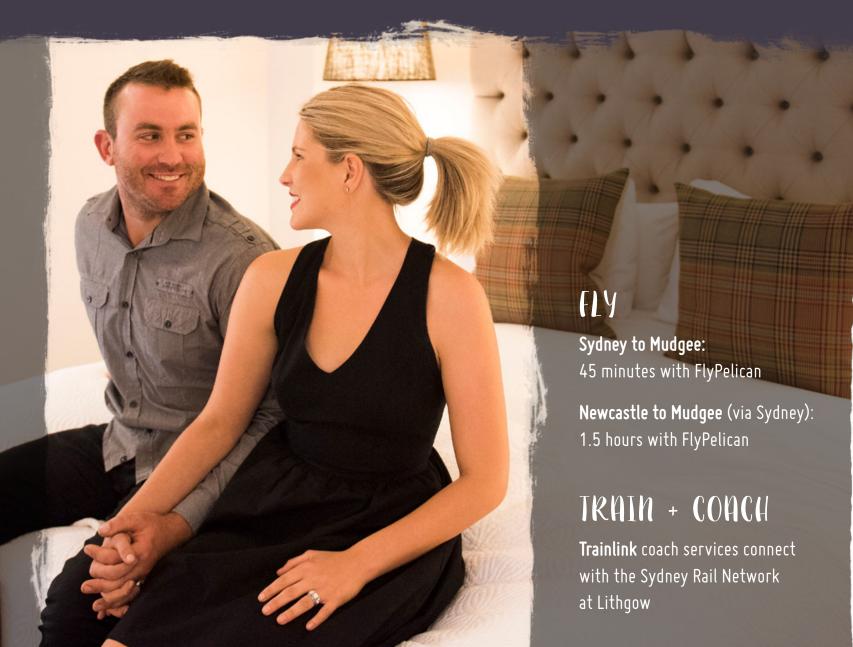
#### DRIVE

**Sydney:** 3.5 hours along the Great Western Highway via the Blue Mountains, or follow the Bells Line of Road via Lithgow

Newcastle: take the
Bylong Valley Way or
Golden Highway for a 4 hour
drive via Denman

Wollongong: around 4 hours along the Great Western and Castlereagh Highways

Canberra: 5 hours via Yass, Cowra and Wellington





## FOUR DAYS OF FALLING IN LOVE, WITH MUDGEE.

From the fertile farmland surrounds of the Mudgee Region comes great local produce available from a swag of epicurean outlets. It is from this rich source that chefs and winemakers draw inspiration and know how to make your taste buds sing.

This regional NSW town is loved as a contemporary country destination, infused with art and music, serving quality produce and wine, and shaped by a strong sense of community, supporting the sustainable growth of tourism in keeping with a vibrant yet intimate setting. It's worth the extra night or return visit to explore every corner of this place.

You can *feel* the love in the Mudgee Region, and you'll be all the better for it.



## DAY ONE // ARRIVE IN STYLE + GET (RAFTY

#### MORNING

Jump in your car from Sydney for a 3.5-hour road trip northwest, over the Blue Mountains and past Lithgow.

Welcome to the romance of the Mudgee Region. Breathe in fresh country air and take in the wide-open spaces. It's time to reset your senses.

Life is in the detour, 45 minutes before arriving in Mudgee, take a moment to explore one of the town's neighbouring charming country villages — Rylstone. Boasting extraordinary heritage streetscapes, unexpected food and wine delights, and a contemporary boutique shopping scene, you'll be eager to tell your friends about your gem of a find.





Drop into local favourite 29 Nine 99 for a bite to eat where owner and chef Na Lan has been serving authentic Chinese yum cha and tea since 2008. Here you'll find more than 30 types of dumplings, steamed buns and desserts. Located in the original Bridge View Inn with sandstone features and a charming outdoor courtyard, the dumpling house was named after the date Na Lan married her husband, a local Rylstone artist, on 29.09.1999. Still hand—making the delicious dumplings today, Na Lan loves sharing her little slice of Australian paradise with all who pass through.



As you stroll the heritage high street, browse Folkologie's collection of Australian handcrafted furniture, gifts and homewares and the Convent & Chapel Wool Shop who house a spectacular range of local and international yarns (getting crafty is très chic, and knitting is on point — pardon the pun).

When you arrive in the town of Mudgee, you'll find five star luxury in a self-contained cottage at boutique property Evanslea, just minutes from the centre of Mudgee but seemingly far from everything. You'll arrive in style as you enter the beautiful grounds, nestled alongside the Cudgegong River. Take time to explore and settle in, welcome to your temporary country home.



#### AFTERNOON

Take a stroll down Market Street to the new Mudgee Arts Precinct for a self-quided tour of the latest gallery exhibitions.

The architecturally designed building pays homage to the past and is also home to the multi-award-winning Mudgee Visitor Information Centre where the tourism crew are super helpful and passionate about where they live, they can give you a rundown on a few local hot spots and a copy of the FREE Mudgee Region Magazine and pocket map (to take home and share with friends or help plan your next visit) and purchase local produce, wine and wares from their country chic retail space.

If you forget



anything, no stress
— Mudgee Region
Tourism offers a
local produce online
hamper store —
you can get Mudgee
deliciousness
delivered to your
door year-round!

And just a short stroll away, try your creative hand at a <u>Mudgee Art House</u> workshop, like their popular pottery wheel classes (check their workshop schedule ahead of time to work in with your travel dates).



MUDGEE ART HOUSE WORKSHOP, MUDGEE

#### EVENING

Time to let your taste buds do the talking at <u>Three Tails Brewery</u> – you'll find 18 taps of fresh craft beers and a huge selection of local wines sourced from independent producers. Dine on-site with <u>Smokin Bro & Co.</u> for a drool-worthy low and slow BBQ experience cooked with fire, smoke and passion.



DUROC HOG

## DAY TWO // WINE-DOWN + INDULGE-UP

#### MORNING

Wake-up next to your love and get ready to immerse yourself in Mudgee's iconic local produce and wine scene.

Take the short drive into town and fill your basket with local produce, to prepare a self-cooked breakfast back at your accommodation. Visit the Itty Bitty Bread Shop to grab some local Mudgee Sourdough and right next door you'll find more than your average corner store, at Mudgee Corner Store, where they're all about keeping it real, delicious and fuss-free. There you'll find a sustainable selection of incredible local produce including fetta from award-winning High Valley Cheese Co., Steins Farm Produce, Farmer Brown Pastured Eggs, The Little Big Dairy Company milk and Fish River Roasters barista coffee.



Or if making it yourself doesn't float your boat, get the crew at Mudgee Corner Store to whip up one of their locally famous bacon & egg rolls — yum!



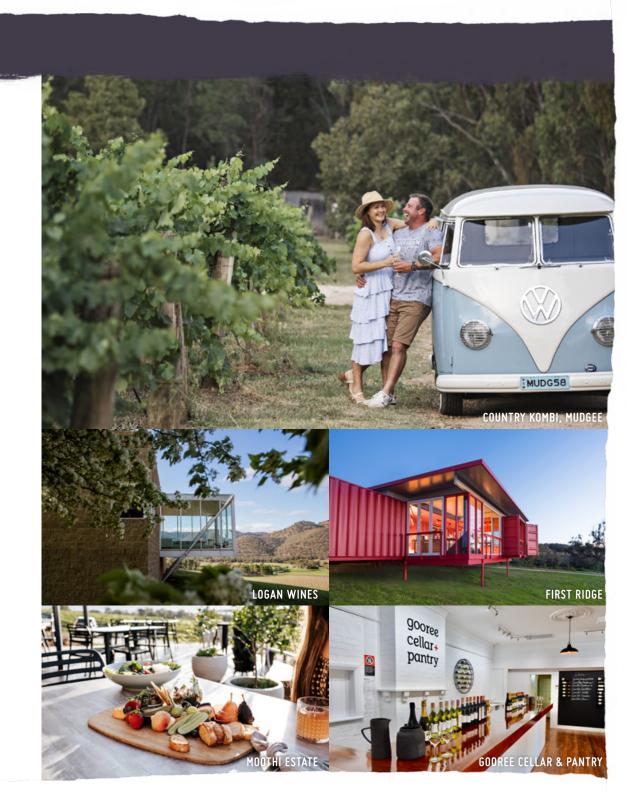
Back at your accommodation, and after brekkie, <u>Country Kombi</u> will collect you at 10am for a private full day 'Foothills Wine Tour'.

Situated on the western slopes of the Great Dividing Range, Mudgee Region has some of the highest vineyards in Australia, ranging from 450–1180m above sea level. Frosts and cold nights delay budburst; rainfall and humidity are low, sunshine hours are great, and irrigation is essential on some of the most favoured sites.

Many tree changers now call the region home, taking a slice of their city life and gently connecting it with the authenticity of the country. What this means is visitors have an abundance of sophisticated yet grounded experiences to indulge in.

The tour winds through Mudgee's famous foothills in 'Sabrina' — Mudgee's famous split-screen Kombi. Born in 1958 to proud VW parents, Sabrina had been on a long journey before she found the love she was looking for in current owners Stu and Kersti — restoring her to her previous glory and finding her a new home in Mudgee.

The tour takes you to an amazing line—up of boutique cellar doors; Logan Wines, First Ridge, Skimstone, Moothi Estate (includes lunch), Burrundulla Vineyards and Gooree Cellar & Pantry.





#### AFTERNOON

You'll return to your accommodation around 4:30pm.

Relax in the comfort of your cottage, sip on a glass of local wine and simply take time to reconnect.

You're on wine time now.

#### EVENING

For an insta-worthy degustation dining experience head to <u>Pipeclay Pumphouse</u> by chef Andy Crestani, located on the grounds of <u>Robert Stein Winery</u>. Andy's menus are created to pay homage to the surrounds and the produce it provides. Andy uses simple techniques that accentuate the freshness of the produce; including matched wines.



## DAY THREE // NATURE + (ULTURAL IMMERSION

#### MORNING

Today is all about discovery. You'll meet passionate locals on your travels who will add to your story, keen to share tips on how to enrich your experience in their beloved town.

Join Mudgee Horse Riding Centre for a relaxing two-hour morning horse ride in the beautiful Mudgee heartland where you are likely to spot native wildlife; kangaroos, wombats and goannas. Rides are supervised and accompanied by your trail guide leader, ideal for couples looking to immerse themselves in a stunning Australian landscape.

After farewelling your new horse buddies, head into Mudgee to wander heritage streets and visit charming cafes in your own time.





#### AFTERNOON

For lunch, you'll find Alby + Esthers tucked down a cobblestone alleyway under a vine that changes with the seasons. The circa 1873 stone terrace Alby + Esthers calls home is packed with character and charm, friendly staff and a mouth—watering menu inspired by local produce. Choose a spot in the shaded courtyard for alfresco ambience or in the eclectic welcoming interiors of their art gallery with share tables. Sip coffee, kombucha, or local wines from an extensive list whilst dining on progressive fare.

You'll find a fabulous <u>boutique shopping trail</u> in Mudgee, with shops stocking a curated collection of designer clothing, wardrobe essentials, accessories, art items and supplies, homewares and lifestyle pieces.

Time to relax back at your accommodation, soaking in all you've discovered so far about Mudgee.

#### EVENING

Immerse yourself in the beauty of Australian native foods, botanicals, culture and rituals at Warakirri by Indigiearth with a 5-course degustation dining experience.

Over four magical hours, enjoy Australian native food and beverages, prepared in a unique fusion of modern techniques and traditional methods.

Be transformed by authentic cultural entertainment, musical and cultural storytelling, and in-depth knowledge of Aboriginal culture and food, pioneered by owner and Ngemba Weilwan woman, Sharon Winsor.

Warakirri means to 'grow with us'.

This is bush tucker dining at its finest and showcases the beauty of 60,000 years of culture. Warakirri is 100% Aboriginal owned and operated, it champions the development and employment of Indigenous people.

After your indulgent bushtucker dining experience you may not want the night to end, and if that's the case head over to NSW's oldest wine bar Roth's Wine Bar & Cellar for a night cap, live music and guaranteed chill local vibes.



## DAY FOUR // LASTING LOVE



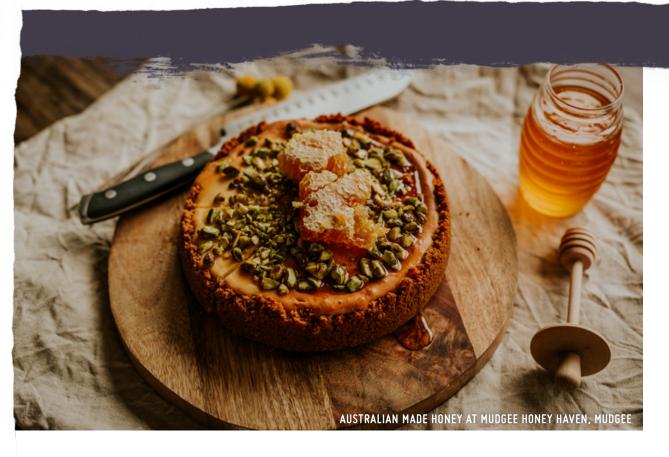
#### morning

Pack your bags and bid farewell to your hosts — you know you've made lifelong friends at Evanslea.

No need for breakfast as you'll take in a private cooking class with Tamara at The Little Cooking School — an informal, relaxed, creative space located on the outskirts of town. Offering casual cooking classes suited to all skill levels, this is a fabulous opportunity to roll up your sleeves and explore a passion for food — ending your class with an early lunch, indulging in what you've made from the best of the region's local produce, paired with a glass of local wine.

#### AFTERNOON

Time to head home to Sydney, but not before you take a short detour to the gorgeous heritage village of Gulgong, just a 20-minute drive from Mudgee.



Arrive in Gulgong and fall in love with this historic goldmining town, circa 1870, it's sure to enchant and enrich your Mudgee experience. Known for its fascinating museums and heritage streetscapes, you'll instantly feel as though you've stepped back in time. Stroll through the original and narrow bent streets with high footpaths; be amazed by the traditional craftsmanship of the gorgeous heritage buildings.

Discover the heritage of the area at interactive spaces like the <u>Gulgong Holtermann Museum</u>. The volunteers who graciously give up their time to host this museum are all too eager to share their passion and knowledge.

Classically country and a little quirky, <u>Prince of Wales Hotel Gulgong</u> is the place to drop in for a cold beverage, live music and a local yarn. This place exudes old world charm and character.

On the way, you'll find Mudgee Honey Haven — worth stopping in to explore one of the things Mudgee is most famous for. They stock the widest selection of honeys that you're welcome to taste before you decide on your favourites to take home. Watch bees hard at work through a special glass window, offering a glimpse of all the action that takes place in a working beehive. Think honey mead, honey ice cream and even honey infused beauty and personal care goods.



#### EVENING

When you arrive home, unpack your Mudgee Region goodies (pencil in a dinner party to share with friends) and take a moment to reflect on your incredible Aussie backyard road trip. Give your squeeze a squeeze and know that the Mudgee locals, your newfound friends, can't wait to welcome you again soon.



