

MEDIA RELEASE

SUNNY WINTER ESCAPES

TEN NEW WINTER EXPERIENCES IN SYDNEY AND REGIONAL NSW

Sydney shines in the latest time-lapse video, from renowned videographer Rob Whitworth, which showcases Sydney's stunning winter weather.



While winter in Sydney kicks off with Vivid Sydney, it continues to shine even when the lights are switched off, with the city on average experiencing 221 sunny days each year*. Whitworth's latest video highlights some of Sydney's top winter experiences, from exploring the harbour, to shopping and exploring the beaches and tourist attractions.

According to Destination NSW Chief Executive Officer Ms Sandra Chipchase, "Sydney has a year round temperate climate, making winter an ideal time to visit our stunning harbour city. Winter in Sydney brings with it crystal clear water at our city beaches, beautiful sunrises and sunsets, and the perfect opportunity to indulge in the state's great food and wine experiences."

"Both Sydney and Regional NSW have some fantastic winter experiences, including an impressive range of new things to do, places to dine and accommodation."

Destination NSW has round-up some of the newest things happening this Winter in NSW. Here is just a small selection of what's on offer, for more inspiration go to visitnsw.com

Ten new and exciting winter experiences in NSW:

1. [Spicers Potts Point](#), due to open 30 June, is Sydney's newest hotel to open this Winter. A boutique inner city hotel in the uber stylish Potts Point, this luxury boutique hotel is set to deliver art deco design with a mix of modern architecture. Also new in Sydney, is the [Veriu Broadway](#), which opened in April 2017. This warehouse conversion offers self-contained

studio and apartment accommodation with a big focus on local and authentic experiences, from providing local food and drinks to using local artists to create designs for the building. Not to miss over Winter in Sydney is the [CALYX](#) in the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney which is running a series of Winter events, including morning yoga classes, live music performances, art workshops, astronomy lessons complemented with mulled wine, and the awe-inspiring All About Flowers exhibition which runs til the end of July.

2. The renowned [Devil Ark](#) in the Upper Hunter is now offering accommodation in the Barrington Tops. A stay at this cosy self-contained cottage includes a private guided tour of the Devil Ark, a one of a kind breeding facility for the endangered Tasmanian Devil, as well as a tour to see platypus in the wild.
3. Port Stephens is celebrating all things seafood with its **Love Seafood** festival throughout August. From prawns, fish and oysters to crabs, lobsters and shell-fish tuck into mouth-watering fresh seafood straight from the trawler or at one of the region's local restaurants or cafes, where seafood is always the hero this August.
4. For a gourmet winter escape that covers off fresh produce, markets, vineyards and more then make **Port Macquarie** your next destination. New foodie experiences include wholegrain artisanal bakery **Urban Grain** which has opened in the heart of town offering winter warmers such as sourdough, pastries and doughnuts. Experience the best of hinterland produce at monthly event **Sundays at Near River**, where a new Farming Chef will be cooking up a feast from the paddock at this pristine farm in Hastings. Join in farming activities and pick your lunch from field grown vegetables
5. Book the family in for a luxury stay at the newly opened **Yellow Box Cottage**, the newest cottage at Elm Cottage in Tumut. Totally wheel chair accessible, this luxury two bedroom cottage offers fantastic views of the stunning surrounding country side from its private balcony, to the river below and the Snowy Mountains beyond.
6. With only 400 visitors allowed on the island at any given time, winter walking on **Lord Howe Island** will see you traverse untouched beaches, coral platforms, ancient forest and epic peaks. A highlight is the **Seven Peaks Walk by Pinetrees**, the first NSW walk to join Great Walks of Australia
7. Tamworth is the capital of country music all year around, with the annual **Hats Off To Country Festival** a winter festival well worth travelling for. On 7 July grab your cowboy boots, belts and buckles and join the **Cowboy Crawl** which sees guests visit Tamworth's best country music destinations over one evening to hear some of Australia's top country music acts
8. For cosy New England charm, coupled with colonial heritage, delicious food and wine, museums and galleries – think **Armidale** for your winter break. Recently opened luxury B&B **Loloma** is ideal as a home base, just minutes away from the city's highlights. Spend your days exploring the new **UNE Natural History Museum** which houses everything from Lightning Ridge dinosaur skeletons to Madagascar and Antarctica collections
9. **Byron Bay** delights all year but the cooler months of winter are a great time of year to explore the Northern Rivers' lush hinterland and whale watch from the Cape Byron walking track. If you're looking for new luxury accommodation you'll be spoiled for choice - **Rae's on Wategos** has recently undergone a refurbishment and **Elements of Byron** is soon to open 99 new villas including two bedroom deluxe beach houses perfect for travelling groups of family and friends
10. The Snowy Mountains has a new boutique luxury chalet, [The Eastern](#) in Thredbo. Set amongst Australian silver gums on the foothills of Mount Kosciuszko this architecturally designed studio offers a gun barrel view of High Noon. While the new **Field House**, which comprises six eco-friendly cabins in Crackenback and is set to open in August.

Share your favourite winter holidays in Sydney and NSW with us on social media by using the hashtag #ILoveSydney, #NewSouthWales and #ILoveNSW. For more information visit www.sydney.com and www.visitnsw.com

*On average Sydney has 144 days of rain each year.
<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/current/annual/nsw/sydney.shtml>

ENDS

Note to editors:

A selection of images is available on request.

Media contact: Marsha Rodrom, Destination NSW, 02 9931 1167, marsha.rodrom@dnsw.com.au