

# A Taste of Yass Valley



Yass Valley is bursting with amazing experiences so we've put together a sampler, 'A Taste of Yass Valley', for all to enjoy. Most activities can be interchanged, so have fun tailor making your perfect getaway!

Please note that this is just a small selection of many amazing experiences on offer in Yass Valley. Please visit [www.yassvalley.com.au](http://www.yassvalley.com.au) for plenty more options to make your visit to Yass Valley a memorable one.

## Saturday

### Murrumbateman Village Market

At the Murrumbateman Village Market you are sure to discover a new favourite among the abundant fresh local produce, local handicrafts, art work and quality goods. From local wines, beautiful jams, delicious sauces, oil, baked goods, great coffee and juices you will be spoiled for choice. Also available are locally grown vegetables and plants, make sure you have lots of room in your boot!

Saturday (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> of month) 9am – 1pm  
Recreation Grounds, Barton Highway, Murrumbateman  
[www.mvmarket.com](http://www.mvmarket.com)

### Robyn Rowe Chocolates

After filling your bags at the markets, take your wares on a picturesque drive along Murrumbateman road, turning right onto on Nanima Rd, to discover the delights of lovingly hand crafted chocolates made with fresh, natural ingredients at Robyn Rowe's purpose built chocolate shop. Made with the highest quality imported Belgian Callebaut Fair Trade couverture, Robyn Rowe chocolates are deliciously smooth, glossy and creamy. Take a peek through the two way glass between the shop and the factory and watch the skilled technicians create these moreish delicacies. Enjoy a coffee or hot chocolate while sampling the delights, a perfect start to an indulgent weekend.

Thurs-Mon 10am-5pm  
1153 Nanima Rd, Murrumbateman  
[www.robynrowechocolates.com.au](http://www.robynrowechocolates.com.au) Ph 02 6227 0550

## Lunch

### Four Winds Vineyard

Before heading to Gundaroo, your destination for the evening, travel a few minutes back towards Murrumbateman to Four Winds Vineyard for lunch. After a wine tasting or two, pull up a chair over-looking the beautiful vineyard and enjoy the view with a glass of handcrafted wine in one hand and slice of wood-fired pizza in the other.

Saturday & Sunday  
10am – 5pm Wine tasting  
12-3pm Wood-fired pizzas  
9 Patemans Lane, Murrumbateman  
[www.fourwindsvineyard.com.au](http://www.fourwindsvineyard.com.au) Ph 0432 060 903

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## Afternoon

### Travel to Gundaroo

The beautifully preserved village of Gundaroo has become a significant and unique tourist attraction in recent years. Lying in a fertile valley of rich grazing land on the upper reaches of the Yass River, Gundaroo retains all the elements of a typical 19th Century Australian township. First explored by Charles Throsby in the early 1820s, white settlement soon followed and by the end of the 1830s most of the better land in the district, particularly that fronting the Yass river, was occupied.

[www.yassvalley.com.au/towns-and-villages/gundaroo.aspx](http://www.yassvalley.com.au/towns-and-villages/gundaroo.aspx)

### Old St Luke's Studio

Old St Luke's Studio is situated in an historic stone building constructed in 1848 as a church and school and displays the wood-fired ceramics of Ian Jones and Moraig McKenna. Works are fired in a 9 metre long "anagama" style wood-fired kiln. The kiln is fired three times per year, each firing lasting for 5 days. Twice each year the firings are followed by a garden exhibition in which the new work is presented. Workshops in wheel throwing technique are offered during the NSW school term. Classes are on Tuesdays and Saturdays and run from 10am to 2pm.

By appointment

Ian Jones

Shingle Hill Way, Gundaroo

Ph 0413 301 918

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

### Explore Gundaroo

Among Gundaroo's major attractions are a number of historic buildings still in use today. Most of the older buildings were constructed during the period 1860-1890 and are generally in good condition, displaying a range of building styles and materials including slab huts, wattle and daub, stone and locally fired brick. [The Royal Hotel](#) (built 1865) now houses the multi award-winning Grazing Restaurant, while the old Commercial Hotel (1872) now trades as the [Gundaroo Colonial Inn](#). Fully restored and recognised as one of the country's best historic hotels, this establishment has remained in continuous operation, holding its colonial wine licence for the past 130 years. Other notable buildings include the Police Station (1852), Gundaroo's oldest building now housing arts and crafts, and the police stables and lock up (1870), now the [Cork St Café](#). [Link to Heritage Walk](#)

## Dinner

### Gundaroo Colonial Inn

Also known as Matt Crowe's Wine Bar, the Colonial Inn has had continuous operation since it was established in 1872 during the gold rush period, known as the Commercial Hotel. Enjoy dinner while you relax, unwind and take in the peace and tranquillity of a country inn.

23 Cork Street, Gundaroo

Ph 02 6236 8155

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

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OR

## **Grazing Restaurant**

Treat your senses at Grazing. Located in the historic Royal Hotel in Gundaroo, GRAZING is an award winning restaurant with a focus on the best of the districts food and wine. At Grazing they aim to serve good size portions of great food, made with the freshest possible ingredients, combinations of flavours and textures that appeal to the senses.

Lunch Fri - Sun and Most Public Holidays

Dinner Thu - Sat

Cork Street, Gundaroo

Ph 02 6236 8777

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

## **Accommodation**

### **The Nest**

Rest easy at 'The Nest' at Gundaroo. Soak in the atmosphere of this charming village and enjoy luxurious accommodation. With five generous self-contained luxury villas, The Nest serves as a home away from home. Whichever room you stay in you will be sure to love the spacious and luxurious spaces of The Nest.

56 Cork Street, Gundaroo

Ph 02 6236 8460

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

### **Gundaroo Colonial Inn**

The Gundaroo Colonial Inn is the perfect place to enjoy the country tranquillity. Relax, unwind and enjoy a weekend away from the hustle and bustle. Quality hotel accommodation, in country cottage style rooms, which are tastefully furnished with individually controlled air-conditioning/heating.

23 Cork Street, Gundaroo

Ph 02 6236 8155

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

## **SUNDAY**

### **Breakfast**

#### **Cork Street Cafe**

Enjoy a beautiful setting with scrumptious food among the historic 1870's police stables and lock up, which is now The Cork Street Café. From toast to pancakes, free range eggs and bacon to eggs benedict, a delicious breakfast awaits you.

Fri Lunch – Sun Dinner

Breakfast until 11am Sat & Sun

Cork Street, Gundaroo

Ph 02 6236 8217

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

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## Drive to Yass (35mins)

Drop past the Yass Information Centre, say hi to the friendly, knowledgeable staff and collect a copy of the Visitors Guide, town walk, town drive and Tourist Drive 7 maps. At the Information centre you will discover a vast range of delicious produce, beautiful wines and merchandise showcasing the local area.

Mon-Fri 930am– 430pm

Sat & Sun 10am-3pm – hours extended to 4pm during daylight savings

259 Comur Street, Yass

Ph 02 6226 2557

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

Pick up pre-arranged hamper from Thyme to Taste before leaving Yass if enjoying a picnic lunch at the reserves in Wee Jasper. Alternative Wee Jasper based option listed below (Duck 'n' Fishes Café)

## Thyme to Taste

In the days prior to your weekend in Yass Valley, arrange to collect a delicious hamper from Andrew at Thyme to Taste in Yass, before heading out to Wee Jasper. Enjoy a hamper derived of local produce, cheese and beautiful wines.

60 Comur St, Yass

Ph 0403 999 899

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

## Drive to Wee Jasper (1 Hour)

Wee Jasper is a beautiful little village in the Goodradigbee Valley at the western foot of the Brindabella Ranges, about an hour from Yass. A winding drive through the hillsides and the spectacular views ensure a stimulating start to your adventurous afternoon at Wee Jasper. Thought to be named after tiny green gemstones found by an early Scots resident which he called 'Wee Jaspers' this is a natural wonderland made 400 million years ago for exploring, camping, picnicking, bird-watching and outdoors enjoyment.

When you take in the landscape around Wee Jasper, it's not hard to imagine the prehistoric days when megafauna such as giant kangaroos and wombat-like creatures roamed the hills. The meandering river through the Wee Jasper reserve is the perfect place to 'waste away' the hours fishing, canoeing, swimming or enjoying a picnic by the water.

**Note:** There is no fuel at Wee Jasper and no store. Please make sure you leave Yass with a full tank and take all your necessary supplies with you. After arriving at Wee Jasper, travel through the village and at the T intersection turn left to access the Wee Jasper Reserves (then follow signs to Billy Grace reserve), or turn right to access the Caves and Ducks 'n' Fishes Café.

Wee Jasper Reserves

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

## Lunch

Pre-arranged hamper from Thyme to Taste in Yass, to enjoy a picnic at the Wee Jasper reserves or enjoy lunch at the newly opened Ducks 'n' Fishes Café.

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## **The Duck 'n' Fishes Café**

Enjoy panoramic views of the Wee Jasper Valley and peaceful waterside ambience while enjoying a menu full of country charm. The Duck 'n' Fishes Café can be found at the Coodradigbee Homestead, which was built in 1909 and made of pise (rammed earth). With its original timber ceilings, floors and cedar architraves, the homestead itself will delight not only the budding historians, but everyone who visits.

Fri 3pm – 8:30pm

Sat 9am – 8:30pm

Sun 9am – 4pm

Caves Rd, Wee Jasper

Ph 02 6277 9686

## **Afternoon**

### **Carey's Caves**

Described as one of the most beautiful and fascinating tour cave systems in Australia, Carey's Caves offers opportunities not found on conventional cave tours. There are a total of seven beautiful chambers of Crystal formations which are visited on tours. Geoff, who will guide you through your underground experience is one of the most passionate and knowledgeable guide you may ever meet. Booking are not necessary, please see website for tour cost, and cash payments only.

Tours

12pm & 130pm Fri – Mon

3pm tour operates Sat, Sun and public holidays

Caves Road, Wee Jasper

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

Ph 02 6227 9622

## **Accommodation**

Opt to stay the night at Wee Jasper or return to Yass.

### **Coodravale Homestead**

Once a major sheep, horse and cattle station of some 30,000 acres Coodravale was formerly the home of A.B. 'Banjo' Paterson. He lived and wrote a number of his poems on the property. This iconic Australian Homestead, built by the Lindeman family, has undergone extensive renovation and restoration work by its new owners. 'The Garden Wing' at Coodravale Homestead is furnished to a very high standard and comprises a self-contained accommodation suite which includes a fully equipped kitchenette and ensuite. In a private and established garden setting, it is the perfect place to relax and unwind for a weekend or longer.

140 Coodravale Road, Wee Jasper

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

Ph 02 6227 9631

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## **Cooradigbee Homestead**

Choose from the newly renovated homestead with ensuite bedrooms, a sunset terrace and alfresco dining or back to basics at the shearer's quarters and cabins. Mix and match any of the facilities to suit your needs.

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

Ph 02 6227 9680

## **Wee Jasper Station**

Located on the banks of the Goodradigbee River and offering 3 types of accommodation with breathtaking views. The Garden Cottage can accommodate up to 8 people and the Jackaroo Cottage up to 6. Both are suitable for a romantic getaway or a family trip. Our Shearers Quarters can sleep up to 34 plus there are camping options when you book the Quarters which make it suitable for any large group gatherings.

Wee Jasper Road, Wee Jasper

[bookings@weejasperstation.com.au](mailto:bookings@weejasperstation.com.au)

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

## **OR in Yass**

### **Kerrowgair B&B**

Set on 1.25 acres of tranquil gardens, with towering trees, rose gardens, ponds and gravel walks; Kerrowgair is a beautiful place to unwind. Boasting classically decorated sitting and dining rooms, with warm open fires which are complimented by fine china, decorated with antiques and books. The covered garden terrace is a perfect place for morning coffee or a drink at sundown, while the shady verandas offer a quiet place to relax.

24 Grampian Street, Yass

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

Ph 02 6226 4932

### **Globe Inn**

Enjoy a wine on the spacious verandah before heading out to dinner at a local award winning restaurant. Complete the evening relaxing in the guest lounge before retiring to your room for a blissful night's sleep. Awake to a sumptuous cooked breakfast.

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

Ph 02 6226 3680

There are so many great places to stay in Yass, way too many to list individually. Please refer to Yass Valley website for more options. Don't forget to explore the town and villages section for more options close by!

<http://www.yassvalley.com.au/accommodation-in-yass-town.aspx>

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## **Breakfast**

If you opted to stay at Wee Jasper, pop down to the previously mentioned Duck 'n' Fishes Café for a home-style breakfast. Or if you stayed in Yass enjoy a delicious breakfast at one of the many local. Please visit [Yass Valley Website](#) for more information, don't forget our friends in the neighbouring villages!

## **Morning**

Spend the morning immersed in local heritage and arts either in Yass or one of the beautiful neighbouring villages.

## **Yass Town Walk**

Stroll the streets of Yass with the town walk map as your guide. As you witness the beautiful architecture of buildings that are over 150 years old, give thought to our ancestors and the pride they felt when constructing such masterpieces.

## **Railway Museum (Part of town walk)**

Walk the shortest platform in Australia and wander through the 100 year old station building. The original station building was erected way back in 1891; The Yass Railway Museum is home to the steam locomotive 1307 and NSW's shortest platform, it also exhibits a host of railway memorabilia housed in the original station, boasting static displays of original period steam engines, carriages and goods vans.

Sunday and public holidays 10am-4pm

[railway.yass.com.au](http://railway.yass.com.au)

## **Yass & District Historical Museum (Part of town walk)**

From its formation in 1961 the Society has been actively collecting objects of historical interest related to Yass and District. The Museum features a special exhibition of '50 Years-50 Treasures' The collection is varied to say the least- everything from Koerts wool press to a tiny trouser button stamped 'Bracken' used by a local tailor, wedding finery, local cordial bottles and exercise equipment contrast with a coin and badge collection, a collection of trophies for champion merino sheep and a miniature farm.

Sat – Sun & Public Holidays 10am – 4pm

247A Comur Street, Yass

Ph 02 6226 4966

[www.yasshistory.org.au/museum.htm](http://www.yasshistory.org.au/museum.htm)

## **Cooma Cottage**

Visit Cooma Cottage to enjoy a tour and the unique surroundings of this important heritage property on the original 100 acres. The great Australian explorer Hamilton Hume lived here from 1840 until his death in 1873. Hume is famously known for his exploration from Gunning to Corio Bay with William Hovell in 1824-5. Hume ran three fine merino wool properties in the district from here, extending Cooma Cottage into this now fine example of a Palladian Style bungalow.

10am – 4pm Sat & Sun

756 Yass Valley Way, Yass

Ph 0488 963 492

[Cooma Cottage](#)

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## **Tootsie Fine Art and Design Studio**

Tootsie provides a friendly and funky atmosphere with awesome coffee and cakes - something a little different from the usual gallery. The Studio has been created to suit handcrafted works of creation by artists and artisans and provide unique exhibition spaces, restored workshop space for hire and sculpture garden for artists and art lovers of many mediums to present their work and their passions to the public. Tootsie was originally The Hume Service Station, the first service station between Sydney and Melbourne.

Wed-Sat 930am – 4pm

Last Sun of each month 930am – 2pm

289 Comur Street, Yass

Ph 0447 225 524

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

## **Bowning**

### **Mayfield Mews**

Walk in the footsteps of Henry Lawson at his historic precinct, now home to Mayfield Mews. With the old coach house next door, the stables from the mews harbour a unique shopping experience where you can enjoy a coffee among as a broad range of local art. Home décor is of the highest quality and gift lines are quirky and different. The garden centre sources regional plants and seedlings hardened to local conditions along with rustic garden décor by regional artists.

Wed - Sun 10am-4pm

4 Leake Street Bowning

Ph 02 6227 6572

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

### **Bowning Antique Centre**

When visiting Bowning drop into the Aladdin's Cave better known as the Bowning Antique Centre. Items range from beautiful antique furniture, light fittings, glassware, china, ceramics, restorable furniture and heaps of collectables to retro jewellery (1920's - 1970's), tools, sports cards, bar and hotel ephemera, badges, Coca Cola memorabilia and much more.

Wed - Sun 10am-4pm

4 Leake Street Bowning

Ph 02 6227 6527

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

### **The Crisp Galleries**

The Crisp Galleries are set in a magical three hectare garden of purpose designed plant themed 'rooms' which is sure to enchant all visitors, not just the avid gardener. Over fifteen years in the making, the gardens contain wonderful surprises around every corner. In addition to the stunning gardens, within the grounds there is a gallery, working studio, a gift shop with a selection of giftware and gourmet food gifts and a nursery hosting an extensive collection of Geraniums & Pelargoniums.

Fri – Mon 10am – 5pm

Gap Range, Hume Highway (14kms south of Yass Service Centre) Bowning

Ph 02 6227 6073

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



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## **Binalong**

### **Peter Minson Gallery**

Located in the quiet village of Binalong, Peter is a third generation glass blower. Unique products such as glasses, teapots, flowers and necklaces can be admired and purchased. At his Binalong workshop Peter also teaches glass to those who want to experience the magic of his everyday world.

Sat – Mon 930am-5pm

21 Queen Street, Binalong

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

Ph 02 6227 4312

## **Lunch**

### **Poachers Pantry**

Located along Nanima Road you will discover the pleasures of Poachers Pantry. Surrounded by both red and white grape varieties used to produce the elegant cool climate wines at Wily Trout Vineyard, these two gems deliver a rewarding experience. The delicate yet complex white wine is a lovely contrast to the soft, spicy Shiraz, which can be sampled onsite at the cellar door and then enjoyed as part of alluring lunch menu. Smoked produce is the specialty at Poachers Pantry, which is showcased by fresh, seasonal produce purchased where possible from local suppliers.

See website for opening hours

431 Nanima Rd, Murrumbateman

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

Ph 02 6230 2487

Too much to do? Easily solved, come back for another 'Taste of Yass Valley' real soon!