

Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa Fact Sheet

Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa is Australia's first luxury conservation-based resort.

A scenic three-hour drive from Sydney, Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa is located on Australia's Great Dividing Range between two national parks, and borders the Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. The resort forms the centerpiece for unique experiences and insights into Australia's wildlife, history and cultural heritage.

Occupying just two per cent of a 4,000-acre conservancy reserve, Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa combines the expectations of the high-end traveller with a commitment to broader social, ecological and environmental sustainability. Heralding a new era of luxury travel in the country, the resort actively protects its surrounding habitat and indigenous wildlife species while delivering the first-class standards and quality expected from luxury resorts.

This secluded resort features 40 individual suites surrounded by wide, private verandahs, each with its own indoor / outdoor swimming pool, separate living and bedroom areas, separate walk-in wardrobe, luxurious en-suite bathroom and double-sided fireplace. Its architecture is progressive but classic, reminiscent of traditional rural Australian homesteads.

Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa is the only resort in recent history to receive permission to be built adjacent to a World Heritage Area.

The resort is a proud member of Leading Hotels of the World, the world's largest luxury hospitality organisation, representing more than 450 of the finest hotels, resorts and spas.

Conservation and Environment

As Emirates Hotels & Resorts' first hospitality development outside Dubai, the A\$125 million project was built on the same principles as Emirates' acclaimed Al Maha Desert Resort & Spa, fully integrated into its environment, and supporting wide-ranging conservation practices, focusing on endangered species protection.

With approximately 4,000 acres of land dedicated as a wildlife reserve, the Wolgan conservancy project re-establishes and secures a future for many of the region's indigenous and endangered species, which were under critical pressure from introduced flora and feral predators – the major cause of species extinction in Australia.

This comprehensive conservation programme includes the regeneration of the Wolgan Valley reserve through the planting of thousands of native trees indigenous to the area, including one of the world's rarest trees, the Wollemi Pine. The Pine belongs to a 200 million year plant family and has been called 'the botanical find of the century' since it was thought to be extinct until discovered in the Blue Mountains region in 1994.

Cultural Heritage

A central focus of the resort is its 1832 farmhouse – the Heritage Homestead - which has been meticulously restored to its original state.



This specialist work was commissioned to Ian Kiernan. An Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) and former Australian of the Year, Ian is the Chairman and Founder of Clean Up Australia and Clean Up the World, projects which inspire global communities to clean up, fix up and conserve their local environment. In 1998, he was awarded the prestigious United Nations Environment Programme Sasakawa Environment Prize. By trade, Ian is a builder specialising in the stabilisation and restoration of endangered and historic buildings, with over 40 years of experience under his belt.

The history of the Homestead is significant. The original land grant was given to European settler William Walker, who built the Homestead in the early 1830s. There is a strong link to Charles Darwin visiting the Homestead in 1836 during his trip to Australia. Darwin stayed as a guest of the Walker family at their nearby Wallerawang Estate before visiting Wolgan Valley the next day.

Architecture and Design

From an architectural perspective, the resort was built with respect to the Australian identity and local rural history. Its design, inspired by original Federation style, is reminiscent of traditional rural Australian homesteads.

The architecture defers to its spectacular natural context. The range of materials, which consists predominantly of timber and sandstone under traditional steel roofing, has been chosen to blend harmoniously into the landscape. The colour palette is strongly inspired by the natural colours of the stunning landscape backdrop of Wolgan Valley.

Built on the same principles as Emirates' acclaimed Al Maha Desert Resort & Spa in Dubai, Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa incorporates as many Ecologically Sustainable Design principles as possible, including rainwater collection, full recycling of all domestic water, heat exchange technology to reduce electricity consumption and the use of solar panels for all hot water systems. Additional measures aimed at reducing the resort's carbon footprint include efficient room orientation to reduce heating and cooling requirements, modern insulation envelopes, and wide traditional verandas which increase airflow around and through the buildings. The resort even makes use of traditional windmills instead of electrical pumps.

Wherever possible, natural and recycled materials such as sandstone and timber were sourced within a 100-km radius around the property. Most of the resort's interior-design features were in fact milled on-site from fallen giant eucalypts and the many original wooden fencing posts, all sanctioned by ecologists. Most tradesmen, craftsmen and sub-contractors were also employed from within the region, making use of skilled local artisans, including glass-blowers, stained-glass window-makers, carpenters, blacksmiths and iron-workers. This approach not only assisted the growth of the local economy at a time when this was most needed, but it also significantly reduced the construction's carbon footprint.

Food and Wine

A major focus of the guest experience at the Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa is the quality of Australia's finest fresh produce – enhanced by the resort's regional, seasonal and organic food philosophy. Calling on regional producers and the talented 'new world' vintners of Australia, the local and international culinary experiences offered by Executive Chef Dwane Goodman will refresh and delight the most discerning palates.



The Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa boasts a wide range of dining settings; both in the resort and at various locations within the surrounding reserve. Breakfast and dinner are served in the magnificent Wolgan Dining Room in the Main Homestead. This Federation-styled building also features The Country Kitchen, a providore-style casual dining room serving lunch and light meals throughout the day; the Valley Bar & Terrace, which offers commanding panoramic views of the spectacular Wolgan Valley below; a walk-in wine cellar; and Creekside Room – a private dining room seating up to 12 guests, perfect for board meetings.

Additional dining options include poolside drinks and light meals, private deck-dining within the individual suites, intimate wine tastings in the walk-in cellar, picnics at idyllic locations on the 4,000-acre property and refreshments served at the Timeless Spa.

The resort will offer regular 'alfresco' dining on the Wolgan Dining Room verandah, outside the Creekside Room, as well as traditional Australian barbecues held under the stars at the 1832 Heritage Homestead and Kitchen Garden.

Also on offer are cooking master-classes, where regional and international cooking techniques are taught by our specialist chefs.

Timeless Spa

As with Al Maha, Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa incorporates the 'Timeless Spa' branded facility, which is an integral part of the Emirates Hotels & Resorts experience. Timeless Spa is committed to offering guests the finest in holistic treatments, aimed at reducing stress and enhancing relaxation, all within a luxurious setting that echoes its locality and embodies the culture of the region.

Wolgan Valley Timeless Spa includes six double treatment rooms and offers a distinct range of relaxation, rejuvenation and beauty therapies drawn from techniques used traditionally in various parts of the world. It also includes a beauty salon and a relaxation lounge where guests can enjoy a range of herbal teas whilst enjoying the views. Designed to provide utmost privacy and comfort, the spa caters to the most discerning travellers.

To perfect the wellbeing experience, Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa features tennis courts and a pool building which includes a fully-equipped gymnasium, a steam room and sauna, a plunge pool and an indoor / outdoor relaxation deck.

A 25-metre outdoor infinity swimming pool and adjoining Jacuzzi are also available to guests, with poolside service and lounge areas offering commanding views of the spectacular Wolgan Valley below.

Nature-based Activities

Activities at Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa are aimed at guests wishing to explore the surroundings, its unique wildlife, habitats, ecology, and both this continent's ancient and more recent history. Activities are offered at various skill and fitness levels as well as personal interests, and are suitable for older guests, families, and highly active, more adventurous visitors. They include guided walks; four-wheel drive safaris; horse-riding and mountain bike excursions;



spotlight wildlife spotting and stargazing; history and Aboriginal interpretative tours; visits to the Wollemi Pine Grove; and guided photographic excursions.

Efforts have been taken to expose younger guests to the outdoors. Daily activities are conducted to responsibly and safely educate children of various ages, and foster in them an appreciation of the natural world. The resort even features a dedicated indoor / outdoor play area for younger children, out of the way of adults, but within the Main Homestead.

Conference Facilities

Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa also offers impeccable service to business travellers, combining utmost privacy with high-end conferences facilities. These include a fully equipped business centre, complimentary wireless and hardwire Internet access through fast fibre-optic network and a private boardroom, the Creekside Room, for up to 12 guests. Work spaces are also available in the suites.

The William Walker Room is the resort's conference room (84 square metres). This stunning room, equipped to handle the latest audio / visual technology, can accommodate up to 90 guests for cocktails, 60 guests in banquet or classroom setting, 36 guests in hollow-square setting and 27 guests in u-shape configuration. The main break-out area opens onto an expansive deck set in native Australian gardens, with stunning views of the escarpment backdrop.

Child Policy

Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa accepts children. However, facilities for children under 8 years of age are limited. A range of nature-based activities have been developed for older children, and these can be conducted either as a family group or for a group of children under supervision.

Accommodation Rates (valid from July 2010 to 31st March 2012)

	Units	Nightly Rate (up to 2 nights)	Nightly Rate (minimum 3-night stay)
Heritage Suite	36	\$1,950	\$1,560
Wollemi Suite	3	\$3,500	\$2,800
Wolgan Suite	1	\$5,500	\$4,400

All above rates (Australian Dollars) are per suite per night, and inclusive of gourmet breakfast, lunch and dinner as well as two nature-based activities per person daily.

A select range of regional wines as well as beer are included with meals and all non-alcoholic beverages are complimentary throughout the day.

Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa is also offering a special **promotion for honeymooners**.

Honeymooners staying at the Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa will be offered a complimentary in-suite private deck dining experience on one night of their stay. A gourmet dinner will be served by a personal waiter in the romantic setting of a private deck under the stars.



“A WINTER ESCAPE AT WOLGAN VALLEY”

Escape the winter chill with this exclusive two-night package valid from 1st May 2010 until 31st August 2010.

Take advantage of rates of AUD 1,365.00 per person (based on two people sharing) for the Heritage Suite or AUD 1,225.00 per person (based on of four people sharing) for the Wollemi Suite.

During your stay, daily gourmet breakfast, lunch and dinner, all non-alcoholic beverages and a select range of regional alcoholic beverages with meals, a wine and cheese tasting, two on-site nature-based activities per day, and port wine (or hot chocolate/marshmallows) on turndown each evening, are included in the package.

“INDULGE YOUR SENSES AT WOLGAN VALLEY”

Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa is offering an indulgent three-night package from July 2010 until 31st March 2012.

Take advantage of rates of AUD 2440 per person (based on two people sharing) for the Heritage Suite or AUD 2200 per person (based on four people sharing) for the Wollemi Suite and discover a whole host of rejuvenating benefits.

During your stay, your breakfast, daily lunch, dinner, all non-alcoholic beverages and selected regional alcoholic beverages are included in the package. You can also enjoy two on-site nature-based activities per day, a nine course degustation dinner on one night of stay and a one hour Signature Mountain Aroma massage (or treatment of the same value).

Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa

Tel.: +61 2 9290 9733 – Fax: +61 2 6350 1801

Street Address: 2600 Wolgan Road, Wolgan Valley, Lithgow 2790 NSW, Australia

Postal Address: PO Box 390, Lithgow 2790 NSW, Australia

Visit www.wolganvalley.com - Email: info@wolganvalley.com

Global media contact

Smita Natalia Deans/ Maria Elena Alba, Emirates Corporate Communications

P: (+9714) 708 4470 / 3976 - M: (+9715 6) 684 8972 / (+9715 0) 950 9630

E-mail: smita.deans@emirates.com - maria.elena@emirates.com

Australian media contact

Annikie Jarvis/Christine Nguyen, Professional Public Relations (PPR)

P: (02) 9818 0983 / 0915 – M: 0411 425 549/ 0415 129 630

E-mail: annike.jarvis@ppr.com.au – christine.nguyen@ppr.com.au