

HUNTER VALLEY

SUGGESTED FAMILY ITINERARY

Day 1 - Day of Discovery

Arrive in Pokolbin by 9am.

Pokolbin is a two-hour drive from Sydney and 50 minutes west of Newcastle Airport, connecting to Regional NSW, Queensland, Victoria, and New Zealand.

STAY

Once you arrive in Pokolbin, we suggest you visiting the accredited Hunter Valley Visitor Information Centre, located opposite the Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley. It is the premier gateway to all information about the Hunter Valley.

You can book accommodation, tours and experiences, attractions, tickets, services, dining, wineries, and cellar doors, as well as browse and purchase a range of local produce.

Pick up a copy of our regional guide and map to help ensure you discover all there is to see and do.



Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley

Crowne Plaza is a great choice for a family-friendly adventure. Centrally located with a dedicated kids club, teen lounge, games room, and a range of family-friendly facilities available.

Recently opened to guests of the resort is the new water park - the only one in the Hunter - ensuring you can keep cool during the warmer months.



PLAY

Hunter Valley Zoo

10am-1pm

A 5 minute drive from your accommodation finds you in the wilds of the Hunter Valley Zoo. Get up close and personal with favourite little friends at daily shows, and animal encounters, including the new meerkat encounter. The koala talk is at 10:30am and the lion talk at 11:30am.

Don't miss the petting farmyard and native animals and birds enclosure.





The Mighty Hunter Valley

1:30-3pm

Discover Nulkaba for lunch. Just down the road from the Hunter Valley Zoo is the newly renovated and popular, The Mighty Hunter Valley. With wide-open spaces, lots of grass for the kids to run around on, and outdoor dining, this is the perfect spot for lunch with the family. Plus, if you're travelling with your furry friend, dogs are welcome.

3-5pm

Unpack the car (we know this can take a while!) and enjoy the grounds at the resort. Take time to explore the Water park, kid's activities, or take a stroll around the grounds while taking in the views.

Grab a drink at the Lovedale bar before dinner, sit back, and relax to watch the sunset over the Brokenback Mountain Range. Choose from award-winning wines, espresso martinis on tap, and beer and cider from the Sydney Brewery Hunter Valley.



Redsalt Restaurant

6pm

The hatted onsite restaurant at Crowne Plaza provides the perfect setting for a special dinner. The a la carte and 5-course degustation menus showcase the finest local produce, perfectly paired with an extensive list of Hunter Valley wines for unparalleled taste experiences.



Day 2 - Food and Wine, Child-Friendly Style!

Wine and food does not have to be the destination of adults only. Explore more of the Hunter Valley today and discover wine-tasting that can be fun for the whole family. Eat your body weight in treats at one of the Hunter Valley's sweet spots - including Sabor Dessert Bar, Cocoa Nib Chocolates, Hunter Valley Chocolates, and Hunter Valley Cheese

PLAY

Balloon Aloft

5-10am

Looking for a very special treat to enjoy with the children?

Balloon Aloft will meet you for a sunrise balloon tour at the premier sparkling wine house in the Hunter Valley, Peterson House. Following the flight, you can enjoy a delicious breakfast, teamed with sparkling wines, on the deck of Restaurant Cuvee at Peterson House.



Tulloch Wines

10-11am

A 10 minute drive from Crowne Plaza finds you deep in the heart of the vineyards. For over four generations and 125 years, Tulloch have been crafting wines and experiences that entertain and educate. Join one of the Hunter Valley's original wine families for a tasting of 6 of their current release wines.

Let the kids get involved and keep them entertained whilst you enjoy your Tulloch Wines tasting experience. A specially prepared Kids tasting menu with 4 different soft drinks and 4 matching snacks (nut and gluten-free) will be presented. ** Bookings are essential

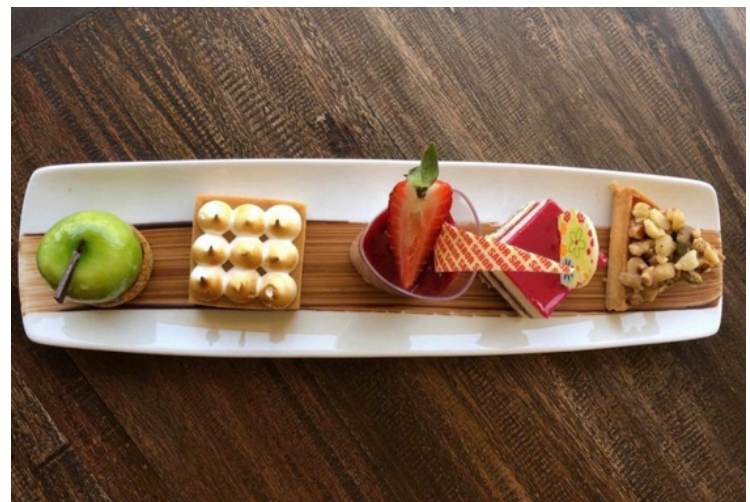


Sabor Dessert Bar

11:30am-12:30pm

In search of a morning tea fix?

Over the last 3 years, Sabor have grown their dessert menu to include over 50 different desserts, each one created individually as nothing is served by the slice. Indulge in multi-award-winning Portuguese Chocolate Mousse, decadent cakes, pastries, hand-made chocolates, Portuguese tarts, and gourmet ice-cream.





Enzo Hunter Valley

Enzo offers excellent coffee and food, open for breakfast and lunch 7 days a week. Sit outside in the lovely courtyard and enjoy something delicious from the menu that features homemade and locally grown produce.



Pukara Estate Tasting Room

Sample a complete range of distinctive regional olive oils, vinegars, and condiments. The full Pukara Estate range is available to purchase as well as other quality Australian gourmet foods and related homewares.

Comyns & Co

Family vibes aplenty! Scott and Missy Comyns are the husband and wife team behind the bold and edgy Hunter Valley wine brand. A fresh and relaxing way to sample more local drops, including a corner for the kids to play in.



Fetch Gift & Homewares

Fetch is an unexpected little treasure that is home to all sorts of goodness for your home, for your loved ones, or even yourself. Owners Sarah and Joel present a beautiful lifestyle store that has a collection of homewares, fashion, toys, children's clothes and gifts and handmade furniture made by Joel himself.





Saddler's Creek Wines

3-6pm

Saddlers Creek Wines have an array of child-friendly experiences at their Cellar Door. While the parents enjoy a wine tasting, the kids can have a tasting of their own. Plus, their on-site food van has snacks and a children's menu available from Friday to Sunday to keep the little ones happy until dinner time.

Baumé Restaurant

6pm

This is a casual family dining experience, located at the Ben Ean Winery. It offers a strong welcome for families and an appealing menu, including house made pizza and large sharing dishes.



Day 3 - Activities Aplenty

Searching for something a little different? Time to get the whole family active. Plenty of options - saddle up and soak in the views with a gentle horse ride take or a segway tour along a historic 1880s stock route.

STAY



With so much to see and do just in Pokolbin, it is easy to forget there are dedicated food and wine trails taking in all parts of Wine Country. In the north-west area of Pokolbin, the Around Hermitage trail boasts some of the best scenery and most awarded boutique wineries and restaurants.

The drive from Crown Plaza to Hunter Valley Resort is an easy 20 minute drive and is the perfect base for activities aplenty.

Hunter Farm

Hunter Farm is located on the picturesque Hermitage Road. The 100-acre site boasts a taproom and bistro - 4 Pines at the Farm - a 3km walking trail, tennis, pool, adventure centre, with horse riding, segway tours, and electric bike all nestled within their own vineyard.



11am - 4pm

Check into your 2 bedroom cottage and follow the children as they explore the resort. Nestled on your doorstep, the Adventure Centre at Hunter Farm provides the perfect family-friendly activity schedule.

PLAY

Segway Tours

Not just any segway tours... this one is a Kangaroo spotting/nature tour.

This amazing adventure starts off at the brewery at Hunter Valley Resort before entering the off-road tracks/trails of this vast bushland property and travelling along an old 1880s stock route. No cars on this part of the trip!



Bicycle Hire & Horse Riding

Come and see the Hunter Valley by motor-assisted electric bike, courtesy of Sutton Estate Bicycle hire. Peddle if you like, or don't peddle up those hills if you need a break! Picture-perfect views galore as you pedal the dedicated cycleway that links more than a dozen wineries.

Horse rides also run daily from Hunter Farm. Catering to children and adults in all levels of experience, from none at all to horse riding extraordinaire. Have fun with the whole family on an adventure together.

Older children will also enjoy the challenge of the Wine Escape Room at Sutton Estate or the chocolate and candy making classes at the Resort.

Brokenback Bar - Estate Tuscany

6pm

Good food, good wine, and good times to be had at the Brokenback Bar at Estate Tuscany, a short walk down Mistletoe Lane. Brokenback offers tapas and wood-fired pizza, as well as a Movenpick ice cream cart. No doubt, a child-friendly menu option!



Day 4 - Gardens and Golf

STAY

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast at the resort before the 10 minutes drive to the Hunter Valley Gardens - your base for this morning and lunch.

PLAY



Hunter Valley Gardens

11am-1pm

Built over 4 years with a dedicated team of over 40 landscape gardeners, architects, and engineers, the Hunter Valley Gardens comprises 8 kilometres of walking paths, winding through 14 hectares of gardens, consisting of over 6000 trees, 600,000 shrubs, and over 1 million ground cover plants, plus waterfalls, statues, murals, and so much more.

The 10 individually themed gardens showcase the artistry of gardens around the world and use both native and exotic varieties of plants.

The storybook garden is a delight for children - featuring timeless nursery rhyme characters and taking visitors on a journey through childhood dreams, memories, and fantasies.

Visitors in June will love Snow Time, Christmas Lights Spectacular in December, and Mega Creatures in April.



Lunch

Hunter Valley Gardens Shopping Village, located at the gardens, is a collection of bespoke shops offering everything from delicious meals, lunchtime treats, coffee, and wine, to a range of boutique shops.

You will also find a picnic area and children's playground. Don't miss children's favourite 'The British Lolly Shop' for an afternoon sugar fix!

Hunter Valley Aqua Golf & Putt Putt

2-4pm

The whole family can get into the swing of things at Aqua Golf; the aim of the game is to hit a golf ball into the lake in front of you. If your ball lands in the floating target net, you win a prize!

The further away the target, the better the prize! With vouchers for restaurants, cellar doors, hot-air balloon rides, golf games, bus tours, and cash jackpots. Finish off with a round of putt-putt.



Harrigan's Hunter Valley

Dinner

Child-friendly, the newly renovated bistro includes an open fireplace for extra warmth in the colder months, and in the summer months, a brand new spacious outdoor alfresco area is the perfect place for a relaxed meal.

STAY

If you wish to extend your stay, check into the family friendly Harrigan's Hunter Valley, offering a two-bedroom apartment and a 3 bedroom apartment, perfect for families.

