



RAILWAY ADVENTURES IN 2021



THE CHRISTMAS TRAIN TO MUDGE



With Scott McGregor and friends
4 - 6 DECEMBER 2021

A WINE AND HERITAGE CHRISTMAS FILLED WEEKEND ESCAPE, ON YOUR OWN PRIVATE PARTY TRAIN





OVERVIEW

A journey by private train on the scenic Mudgee branch line is a rare and beautiful thing. Adding the celebration of Christmas Cheer after a tough year has the makings of a wonderful Weekend Escape. To be wined and dined in true Mudgee-style over a long weekend away is a treat to remember! Your hosts are passionate Mudgee locals who also have the love of rail travel in their bones and can hold their own with the best in any Christmas Carol sing along! Your special train, the retro-restored Capertee Valley Explorer (also known as The Blue Zephyr), made up of carriages and the Dining and Bar cars from the iconic Newcastle Flyer, is an ideal vehicle for relaxing rail travel, long lunches and on-board celebrations. Roll over the Blue Mountains while morning tea is served, skirt the magnificent Capertee Valley while your three-course lunch, matched with Mudgee wines is presented. Culminating at the current terminus of the line, with time to graze and shop, in the historic rural idyll of Rylstone.

It's then off on our comfortable coaches to the food and wine lovers' paradise of Mudgee, where the fun begins. Staying in the best accommodation available, your weekend kicks off with an evening of retro music and fine food and wines and Christmas Cheers at the famous Lowe Family Winery with catering by the award-winning restaurant, The Zin House. The next day is devoted to exploring the region with tours of Mudgee, the heritage Gold Rush town of Gulgong and tastings at the finest wineries of the Cudgegong Valley. We cap off the day with a mid-summer sunset cocktail reception at Scott's private Rail-themed retreat, Ruwenzori.

Your return to Sydney by private train via the historic 'Cement' town of Kandos on the Monday completes a very special weekend of Christmas fun and good cheer, including; excellent rail travel, delicious dining and wine tastings and plenty of eye-opening exploration of the rural heritage of one of NSW's most appealing and popular regions.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy an all inclusive long-weekend Christmas themed celebration
- Exclusive private charter of the iconic Capertee Valley Explorer cruise train
- Train Travel over the Blue Mountains and scenic Mudgee line to Rylstone
- A rare rail trip down the spectacular Capertee Valley
- Morning tea and lunch in the heritage Dining Cars
- Two nights in the charming heritage town of Mudgee
- Special entertainment and dinner in Mudgee's premier winery venue
- A full day touring wineries, museums, towns and gold rush villages
- Exclusive sunset cocktail reception at the outlandish Ruwenzori Retreat
- Services of your tour leaders, wine presenters and train managers throughout



MEET YOUR TOUR LEADER

SCOTT MCGREGOR

A Mudgee native, has been involved in the media for over 30 years as an actor, presenter, writer and producer, but sharing his love of travel, and particularly railway travel, is where his passion now lies. Graduating from NIDA in 1979, he appeared in a wide range of stage, film and TV roles and presented and hosted numerous prime-time ratings winners like *Better Homes and Gardens* and *Room for Improvement*. He presented two series of his own *Railway Adventures* for Channels 7 and 10 and a number of programs for The History Channel. He established Railway Adventures in 2012 and has hosted and lead more than 60 tours all over the world. His life's work, which he owns and operates, is RUWENZORI RETREAT—an Orient Express-style resort on the Great Dividing Range near Mudgee.



TOUR MAP



Day 1 • Saturday 4 December: SYDNEY - RYLSTONE - MUDGEE

Waiting at Central Station in Sydney will be your heritage train, “The Capertee Valley Explorer” made up of vintage carriages from the golden days of rail travel in the 1920’s (including lounge and sitting cars). Departing at 8.00am, you’ll head west over the Blue Mountains to Lithgow and Wallerawang where you will swing onto the historic and scenic Mudgee branch line. All the while, the vistas of the spectacular Capertee Valley will be on show. In Rylstone you’ll swap your private train for a chartered coach for the short trip to Mudgee, where you’ll check in to your hotel, your home for the next 2 nights.

After a quick freshen-up, we head to dinner at one of Mudgee’s favourite establishments for a fun evening of wine, food and music.

Overnight: Parklands Resort Mudgee 4 OR Winning Post 4*, (B, L, D)*

Day 2 • Sunday 5 December: MUDGEE

After a hearty breakfast at the hotel, we gather to begin a series of adventures. First up are a couple of short tours. One exploring the history and heritage of the town and another of the surrounding wine growing area. You’ll have some time for a wander around town and a coffee break before heading out on a choice of excursions: One to Gulgong, the home of a rich collection of museums and gold rush heritage buildings including the new Gulgong Holtermann photographic museum and the vast Gulgong Pioneer’s Museum. The other excursion will take you to a selection of Mudgee’s wineries to enjoy relaxed tastings from the winemakers.

In the late afternoon we will take a short excursion north to Cooks Gap on the Great Dividing Range for a sunset soiree reception at Scott McGregor’s private and unique railway themed retreat, Ruwenzori. Perched high on the mountains overlooking the valleys below, Ruwenzori is a collection of vintage railway carriages, restored in the Orient-express style, set amongst themed gardens and memorabilia. Featured in many travel articles and TV shows, it is a place that he loves to share with special friends. Here, on top of the mountain, you’ll enjoy a Mudgee sunset with canapes and local beer and wine before heading back to your hotel or into town. If you’re interested, you can kick on and enjoy the atmosphere at one of the many venues in Mudgee’s main street.

Overnight: Parklands Resort Mudgee 4 OR Winning Post 4*, (B, D)*

Day 3 • Monday 6 December: MUDGEE - KANDOS - SYDNEY

This morning we travel by coach to Kandos, a former industrial hub, famous for cement making in the early part of the 20th century. Here we explore the fascinating museum with its rural, colonial and industrial history before savouring a local morning tea at the old railway station where our train is waiting to depart back down the valley beyond. Once again, you’ll be served a lovely lunch on board as your heritage train rolls on down the scenic Capertee Valley and over the magnificent Blue Mountains arriving in Sydney in the early evening. (B, L)

WHAT’S INCLUDED

- 2 nights’ accommodation in quality 4* hotels
- Breakfast daily, 2 lunches and 2 dinners, including some drinks (limited to approx. a glass a meal)
- Comfortable chartered coaches
- Winery and Heritage tour(s) with guides
- Return train trip from Sydney on the Capertee Valley Explorer special heritage train

WHAT WE DON’T INCLUDE

- Transfers to and from Central Station in Sydney
- Meals and services not mentioned in itinerary
- All other personal expenses such as drinks, phone calls, laundry services, etc.

FITNESS RATING

 One ‘Loco’ - Reasonable Fitness



PRICE GUIDE

Per person, twin share	\$2,395
Single supplement.....	\$295
Deposit (Per Person).....	\$250
Final payment due by.....	20 October 2021



Parklands Resort Mudgee

HOW TO BOOK

Download a booking form from our website and follow the easy steps to getting on board. If you'd prefer a form be sent to you or make a booking over the phone please call 1300 800 977. Complete the form and submit it, along with your \$250 pp deposit to secure your place on the tour.

DETAILS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

We endeavour to have all the details of our tours correct at the time of printing. However, sometimes factors beyond our control may affect the final inclusions and prices. These factors may include, but not be limited to; significant fluctuations in currency exchange rates, individual hotel/restaurant decisions that may affect bookings; weather events forcing a change of itinerary; unexpected trackwork on rail lines, unexpected closure of site attractions and so forth. Therefore, items mentioned in the brochure such as quoted prices, hotels and inclusions are subject to change. If a change is imposed on us, we will endeavour to ensure the substitute is of the same quality that you've paid for.

TOUR PACE / LEVEL OF FITNESS:

While you don't need to be a 'gym junky', a reasonable level of fitness is required for most of our tours. The ability to manage your own luggage, get on and off the train and coaches, walk for extended periods, stand comfortably, and climb steps and stairs will ensure you get the maximum enjoyment from your adventure.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

For more information on factors such as travel insurance requirements, fitness levels, fees and charges, tour cancellations, payment schedules and so on, please refer to our Terms and Conditions, which accompany the booking form. They can also be found on our website or by calling 1300 800 977.

THE RAILWAY ADVENTURES STORY

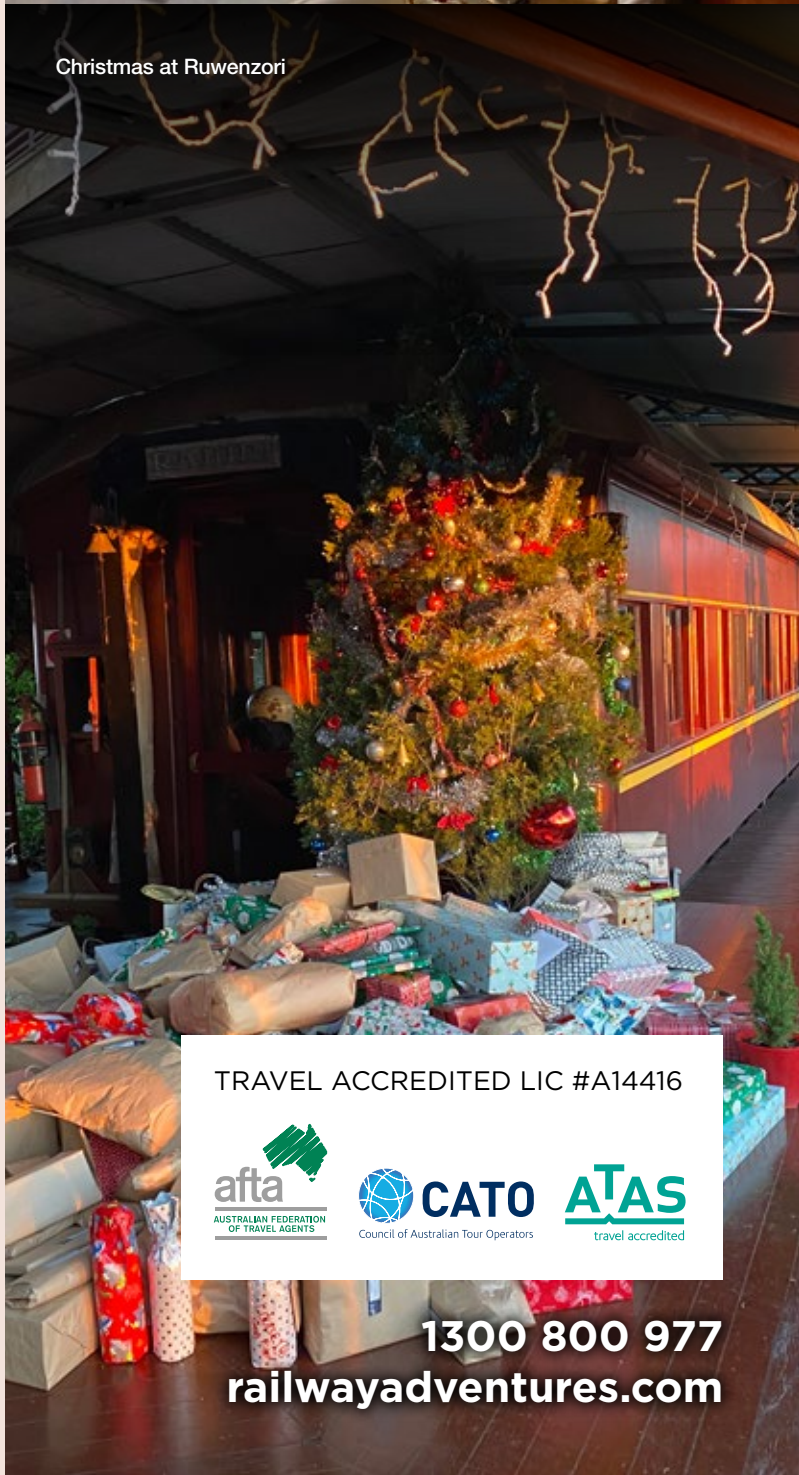
Railway Adventures was launched in 2012 by well-known Australian TV personality and self-confessed rail fan, Scott McGregor. A lifelong passion for travel has taken Scott to scores of countries and his preference for rail has seen him exploring many of the world's great train journeys, confirming his belief that the most relaxing, romantic and engaging way to see a country is by rail. He even has his own life-sized, fully-restored opulent train accommodation atop the Great Dividing Range near Mudgee, offering guests a rare and special bush retreat experience.

Since 2012 Railway Adventures has thrilled and delighted more than 1200 travellers on over 100 tours from Sweden to Sri Lanka, Tasmania to Transylvania, Britain to Burma, Venice to Vietnam and all manner of shorter adventures in our own wonderful country. Scott's numerous rail-themed TV documentaries, his ongoing involvement in rail heritage and his extensive connections with private train owners around the world, guarantee that every Railway Adventures tour is exclusive, entertaining and authentic. 25 August 2021.

Dining car during sunset



Christmas at Ruwenzori



TRAVEL ACCREDITED LIC #A14416



1300 800 977
railwayadventures.com