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Victoria's High Country the total Winter package

With snow covered peaks and picture perfect valley villages offering some of Australia's best food, wine, craft beer and cycling experiences, Victoria's spectacular High Country is the perfect destination to get away, indulge and rejuvenate.

A High Country getaway is about the simple pleasures best enjoyed when the temperature heads south... getting toasty by a blazing fire or sinking into a big, hot bath (like the amazing *Onsen Spa* at Dinner Plain Alpine Village *pictured above*). Or tucking into a piping hot plate of freshly made gnocchi in the King Valley or fine, Japanese-inspired fare at *Provenance* in Beechworth. Warming up with a house-roasted coffee in Mansfield, a cracking fortified in Rutherglen or a seriously good botanical-infused Gin distilled in Bright.

Choose from a fantastic range of accommodation, from five star luxury to cosy lodges and cottages. On and off-mountain the region's famous locally grown produce, wine and craft beer is on the menu at Chef's Hatted restaurants, excellent gastropubs, funky eateries, award-winning breweries and cellar doors offering internationally awarded fortifieds to ward off the winter chill.

This Winter, check out a range of **new and must-do High Country experiences on and off-mountain**, including:

IN THE VALLEYS RUTHERGLEN

Winter Wanders, a curated festival program celebrating Rutherglen's amazing gourmet offerings
throughout July. Features exclusive behind-the-scenes tours with winemakers, special Winter
menus, masterclasses in cooking and winemaking and even a Winter Wanders 'fire map' visitors
can follow from one blazing fire to the next. Full details announced soon.

BEECHWORTH

- <u>Beechworth Barrel Tours</u>. A brand new, exclusive small group tour of five of Beechworth's artisan wineries normally closed to the public. Includes a progressive lunch with matched wines created by new Beechworth foodie guru, <u>Taste Trekkers</u>, at each winery stop and tastings with the makers.
- A <u>Winter Beer Soiree</u> at Bridge Road Brewers on Saturday 26 August offering a warming winter feast teamed with Bridge Road's own craft ales and wines from the Beechworth vignerons

KING VALLEY

• <u>Lusso KV</u> - sleek new self-contained accommodation opening soon in the heart of Whitfield in the King Valley

BRIGHT

- The new <u>Billy Button Cellar Door</u> offering tastings and sale of award-winning Billy Button wines, a deli featuring a selection of cheese and small goods and gourmet pizzas available weekends.
- The national release of Remedy Gin by <u>Reed & Co Distilling</u> in June by Rachel Reed and Hamish Nugent, (formerly of Tani Eat and Drink which closed its doors in April.) The couple are teaming with renowned Bright coffee roasters, <u>Sixpence</u>, on the winter launch of the <u>All-In-One Distillery & Roaster</u>, encompassing both a Distillery and Roastery Door, a bar, tasting and retail space as well as an expanded area for production of the new lines of <u>Reed & Co's Remedy Gin</u>.
- <u>Darker Days</u> at the **Bright Brewery**, a new mid-winter family-friendly event on **Saturday 1 July** featuring dark beers from craft brewers of the High Country Brewery Trail, mulled cider, warming foods, roasted chestnuts, live music and a ceremonial bonfire.

ON THE PEAKS

MOUNT HOTHAM

- Launching late June, Frenchman, Jean-Francois Rupp's new <u>Alpine Nature Experience</u> Comprising a snowshoe adventure through the snow gums to a beautiful, secluded tipi tucked where guests will learn how to prepare their own French cheese fondue.
- <u>Hotham 365</u>, a new all-season indoor downhill gravity slope, perfect for beginners who can learn to ski and snowboard in a safe and controlled environment though to racers who can focus on pre-season training for the upcoming winter.
- The welcome return of <u>Yama Kitchen & Bar</u> Michael Ryan (Provenance, Beechworth) and Rachel Reed & Hamish Nugent's winter collaboration at Mount Hotham.

DINNER PLAIN ALPINE VILLAGE

- <u>Ice skating comes to Dinner Plain</u> for the first time with a pop-up rink in the village centre for the mid-winter school holidays, from 8 16 July.
- <u>Alpine Laser Skirmish</u>, a fun new way to play team laser-tag...in the snow! This new experience is being offered by Great Alpine Adventures (founders of Howling Husky Sled Dog Tours - also returning this season) at Dinner Plain and Mount Hotham.

FALLS CREEK

• Luxe new boutique accommodation offerings available this season at Astra Lodge and Elk at Falls

MOUNT BULLER

- <u>TechnoAlpin Snowfactory</u>, Mount Buller's \$1.6m snowmaking investment guaranteeing skiing and snowboarding on Bourke Street from Opening Weekend and throughout the season.
- <u>Twilight Sessions</u> on weekends during July and August the Village Snowplay Park will stay open for tobogganing under lights and the Village will hum with live entertainment. From 15 July 27 August Burke St lights up until 8:30pm for skiing and boarding and beginner lessons.

To arrange Winter cocooning stories, access fantastic images or to discuss media famil opportunities, contact Sue Couttie, PR Manager, Tourism North East - 0419 522 064 or sue.couttie@tourismnortheast.com.au

