



**MEDIA RELEASE**

**JANUARY 10, 2011**

## **YARRA VALLEY AND THE DANDENONGS: FIVE STAR EXPERIENCES**

Whether for a day trip, weekend or extended getaway, the Yarra Valley & Dandenongs is the place to escape the hustle and bustle of city life.

Home to stunning scenery, abundant wildlife, cultural attractions, acclaimed wineries and fantastic food, the Yarra Valley and the Dandenongs has a vast array of five-star experiences on offer which include:-

### ***CHATEAU YERING: ACCOMMODATION AND RESTAURANT***

Located less than an hour's drive from Melbourne in Victoria's picturesque Yarra Valley, Chateau Yering is a stunningly restored, beautiful 1854 Victorian Mansion which sits grandly on a 250 acre estate in the heart of the Yarra Valley.

The onsite award winning Eleonore's Restaurant offers diners the creative choice of ingredients and their daring combinations will ensure your fine dining experience will be long remembered.

Set in the heart of the Yarra Valley, Victoria's premier wine region, the heritage listed property - Chateau Yering - immediately impresses with a sophisticated European ambience.

***For more information please visit: [www.chateauyering.com.au](http://www.chateauyering.com.au)***

### ***ABSOLUTE LIMOUSINES***

Absolute Limousines have winery and scenic tours packaged to include tastings and lunch and even offer the opportunity for visitors to create their own tour. Their current limousine tours are based around the world renowned Yarra Valley, a journey that is guaranteed to excite the senses.

***For more information please visit: [www.absolutelimousines.com.au](http://www.absolutelimousines.com.au)***

### ***PIRIANDA DINNERS***

Set on the former estate of the Ansell family and surrounded by 25 acres of magnificent countryside, these private dinners are a wonder to behold. With a full seven course meal provided by ***Cream at Sassafras*** accompanied by a superb selection of wines there is scarcely a better meal to be enjoyed in the region.

Mark and Leenah at ***Cream at Sassafras*** have only been operating for one year but have already begun to establish themselves as an excellent provider of gourmet foods and produce and bring their unique talents to this fantastic evening.

***For more information please visit: [www.creamatsassafras.com.au](http://www.creamatsassafras.com.au)***

### ***DOMAINE CHANDON***

Domaine Chandon was established by French champagne house Moët & Chandon in 1986 and is dedicated to the production of Méthode Traditionnelle sparkling wine and premium quality, cool-climate still Victorian wines.

Offering a fascinating insight into the world of wine production, Domaine Chandon's tour is one of the most outstanding wine-tourism experiences in the world. Guests can see winemaking in progress, visiting the barrel cellar and the riddling hall.

Domaine Chandon also offers a two-hour "wine discovery" class designed to give both beginners and wine enthusiasts the chance to experience the wine behind the wines.

Set in the verdant hills of Victoria's beautiful Yarra Valley, just a short drive from Melbourne, the winery attracts more than 110,000 visitors a year.

***For more information please visit: [www.domainechandon.com.au](http://www.domainechandon.com.au)***

### ***DOMINIQUE PORTET***

The Dominique Portet Winery features tours, tastings and a cellar door. With its Mediterranean feel the tenth generation winery has become a household name in Victorian wine industry.

The Portet family holds possibly an unmatched record in the Australian wine industry. Dominique is the tenth generation in his family to be committed to winemaking, yet he is the first to establish a winery and label bearing the family name.

***For more information please visit: [www.dominiqueportet.com](http://www.dominiqueportet.com)***

### ***AMETHYST LODGE: BOUTIQUE BED & BREAKFAST***

Situated a mere one hour drive from the centre of Melbourne and nestled amongst 10 acres of rolling hills, **Amethyst Lodge** is a five star Bed & Breakfast in the quiet area of **Dixon's Creek**.

With four amazing private suites in the guest wing of the lodge as well as a guest lounge, dining hall, separate games room and spa room. Each suite is themed around the gems **Opal, Amethyst, Sapphire** and **Aquamarine** and is equipped with spacious rooms and large balconies with stunning views of the Yarra Valley.

**For more information please visit: [www.amethystlodge.com.au](http://www.amethystlodge.com.au)**

### ***TARRAWARRA MUSEUM OF ART***

Set in an ideal location with breathtaking views - **TarraWarra Museum of Art** - is without a doubt, one of the Yarra Valley's and Victoria's premier attractions

A not-for-profit venture, owners Marc and Eva Besen established the TarraWarra Estate in 1983 and had a vision to chart the development of Australian Modern Art in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

The result is an exceptional museum that acknowledges this exceptional period in Australian Art, whilst complementing the award winning winery, maximising the magnificent views and blending harmoniously with the surrounding landscape.

**For more information please visit: [www.twma.com.au](http://www.twma.com.au)**

### ***LIFT AIR HELICOPTER FLIGHTS***

Operating over several destinations, of which the Yarra Valley is one, **Lift Air** offers an amazing view of one of the most picturesque regions in Victoria. With incredibly competitive rates and first class service, Lift Air will take you over some of the region's natural jewels.

Whether it be the 50 plus wineries dotted throughout the region, the magnificent Yarra River trailing its way through the valley floor or the stunning Mt Dandenong and Yarra Ranges rising far above it to grace the horizon, an amazing time is ensured for anyone.

**For more information please visit: [www.liftair.com.au](http://www.liftair.com.au)**

## *HELI EXPERIENCES*

Take in the Yarra Valley in aerial luxury with any of **Heli Experiences** first class helicopters, designed to transport you to where you want to go in ultimate style.

Experience the best the Yarra Valley has to offer by stopping off at one of the exclusive Dominique Portet Winery, Bella Vedere Restaurant, Restaurant De Bortoli and Chateau Yering. Treat yourself to wine tastings, winery tours and the fine local produce available in the region. Then board your helicopter for the return flight to Melbourne.

**For more information please visit: [www.heliexperiences.com.au](http://www.heliexperiences.com.au)**

## *YARRA VALLEY CONCIERGE*

Sandy Coull of Yarra Valley Concierge describes herself as the encyclopedia of the Yarra Valley. She prides herself on her attention to detail and ability to be able to find a match between people and what they are looking for in the Yarra Valley.

Yarra Valley Concierge offers a range of services to visitors to the region including, luxury travel arrangements, corporate services and weddings.

Sandy tailors each package to each individual requirement and always exceeds expectations. Not everyone is looking for the same thing. Some people love classic country cottages, whilst others love the slick lines and symmetry of a modern dwelling. Some people are looking for a weekend of food and wine whilst others would prefer to stroll through the temperate rainforest and experience local art galleries.

The service that Yarra Valley Concierge provides is of a high standard and aims at those searching for the ultimate in luxury. Sandy works closely with each client, really listening to what it is they are looking for and in turn, creates an outstanding product.

**For more information please visit: [www.wordpress.yarravalleyconcierge.com.au](http://www.wordpress.yarravalleyconcierge.com.au)**

## *WICKEDLY DELICIOUS - High Tea Service*

Those that want to tuck into something sweet the **Wickedly Delicious Patisserie** must get a mention! Book in for High Tea and enjoy some delectable hand made sweet and savoury treats. Situated in the heart of the beautiful Dandenong Ranges in Monbulk this specialty cake shop will amaze and tempt you to try delicious cakes and superb coffee.

**For more information please visit: [www.wickedlydeliciouspatisserie.com.au](http://www.wickedlydeliciouspatisserie.com.au)**

## **IMMERSE**

Imagine experiencing your favourite treatment, immersed among the vines and far away from the pressures of city life. Giving yourself up to the luxury of spa treatments is a blissful experience; doing so in the tranquil environs of the Yarra Valley, with the highly trained Indulge Spa Retreat staff, ensures you will be transported to a heavenly state.

***For more information please visit: [www.immerseyourself.com.au](http://www.immerseyourself.com.au)***

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