

# A WEEKEND IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

Your mini  
winter getaway  
from Sydney.



**GO FAR.**  
**STAY NEAR.**  
This Winter



## DAY 1 | FRIDAY

# THE PERFECT WEEKEND RESET

Just two hours from Sydney, the UNESCO World Heritage listed Blue Mountains are way too good to squeeze into a day trip. Spend a weekend chasing epic lookouts, waterfalls, quaint little towns and scenic bushwalks, with Katoomba, Leura and Blackheath all super easy to explore by train or bus. Pack your walking shoes & get ready for a weekend that'll give you a chance to pause and reset.

## AFTERNOON & EVENING

Jump on a train from Central Station after work and swap city skylines for mountain views, arriving in Katoomba about two hours later with zero traffic stress. Check into **YHA Blue Mountains**, a beautifully restored art deco stay right in the heart of town, then wind down with dinner, a game of giant chess, or a spot by the fireplace before your weekend starts.

**Best bites:** Cook something up in the YHA kitchen and by the communal fireplace, or head into town for woodfired pizza at **Station Bar** followed by a local brew at the legendary **Mountain Culture Beer Co.** Either way, it's the perfect excuse to kick back and unwind.

**Best nights:** Wrap up the night with cocktails at the hidden **Bootlegger Bar**, or amp things up with dinner and drinks inside the stunning Art Deco surrounds of **Avalon Restaurant & Cocktail Bar.**

**Can't miss:** Claim a spot on the couch by the fire at **YHA Blue Mountains** and settle in for a movie night or get lost in a good book.





## DAY 2 | SATURDAY

### A DAY OF ADVENTURES

**The vibe:** There's lots to choose from today, but it's not a race. See the iconic lookouts in the morning before the tour buses arrive, plan for a gentle cliff walk after lunch, then explore nearby **Leura** with a coffee.

### MORNING & AFTERNOON

Have a slow start, grab a pastry and coffee in **Katoomba**, then head to **Echo Point** for those iconic **Three Sisters** views before the crowds roll in. Spend the morning exploring the stunning valleys via the **Giant Stairway** at **Scenic World** and ride the world's steepest passenger railway back to the top... or take on the 800 steps if you're feeling ambitious.

**Best bites:** Fuel up with a coffee and pastry from local favourites **Hominy Bakery** or **Black Cockatoo Bakery**, both just a few minutes from YHA and well worth the hype. If you're after something more filling, grab brunch at **Common Ground Cafe** or **Basil Nut Cafe**.

**Best sites:** Don't miss Honeymoon Bridge on the easy Three Sisters Walk for a slower pace walk, and take in epic valley views from **Cahill's Lookout**. Through town, take a leisurely walk to see the **Beverly Place street art**, or if the weather turns, slow down and warm up with a book and panoramic views at the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre.

**Can't miss:** Explore the **Prince Henry Cliff Walk**, stopping at the lookouts as you go. Allow around 3 to 4 hours if you want to do the whole route, which is mostly flat and easy. You can also turn around and head back whenever you like.



## DAY 3 | SUNDAY

### CLIFFS, CANYON & CAVES

**The vibe:** Your last day to keep relaxing. Decide what kind of day you're after. Go big with a guided canyoning adventure, or keep things slow with a gentle valley wander, an art gallery, and one more bakery stop before the train home.

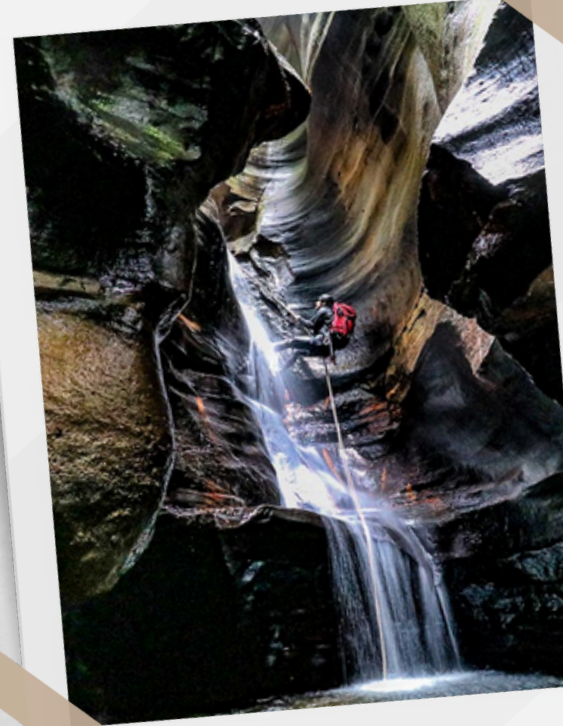
### MORNING & AFTERNOON

Today you check out. After fuelling up with a continental breakfast at **YHA Blue Mountains** (and caffeinating as needed), saddle up for an adrenaline-pumping day of canyoning with **High and Wild**. This long-running Blue Mountains staple offers abseiling, canyoning, rock climbing and more, and offers YHA members a 10% discount.

### EVENING

After enjoying two or three adventurous days of cascades, cliffs, caves and canyons in the Blue Mountains, it's time to depart. Trains from Katoomba Station head back to Sydney in just 2 hours, and the drive is even shorter. As you settle in for your journey home, pat yourself on the back for having done this spectacular place justice across the weekend.

**Can't miss:** The Grand Canyon Walk is one of the Blue Mountains' best hikes, and is a 6km loop taking you through lush rainforest, towering cliffs and fern-filled canyons from Evans Lookout near Blackheath. Check online for any track closures before you go.



# REFLECTIONS

Sit back, slow down & reflect on the moments, memories and favourite spots from your trip.





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