

2025 HUNTER VALLEY HORSE & WINE “STALLION” TOUR

30 March to 3 April, 2025



Presented by:



JOIN US

Ontrack Racing Tours is proud to present our 2025 Hunter Valley Horse & Wine "Stallion" Tour.

The Hunter Valley is home to the finest stallions and studs in the Southern Hemisphere. Join us on our annual Hunter Valley Horse & Wine Tour.

The tour will be based at the perfectly located Mercure Hunter Valley Gardens, Pokolbin Valley. This lovely property is a short walk from numerous cellar doors, shops, cafes and the beautiful Hunter Valley Gardens.

The group will enjoy private tours of the Hunter Valley's best studs including Arrowfield Stud, Coolmore Stud, Vinery Stud, Darley Stud, Yarraman Park, Newgate Farm & Kia Ora Stud.

We will inspect a host of world class stallions on the tour including Snitzel, I am invincible & So You Think.

I hope you can join us on this wonderful tour.

Grant Morgan

Tour Host, Ontrack Racing Tours

TOUR HOSTS & CO-ORDINATORS

GRANT MORGAN

(Tour Host, Ontrack Racing Tours)

Grant is one of Australia's bright young racing professionals. The Managing Director of Ontrack Thoroughbreds, Grant has held a number of prominent roles within the racing and breeding industry as a bloodstock agent, marketing manager, business manager and racing manager. Grant has been hosting popular racing and breeding tour groups since 2005.



JENNY MORGAN

(Director, Accounts & Admin Ontrack Racing Tours)

Jenny is the administrative backbone of the business handling administration and accounts for Ontrack Thoroughbreds from the companies offices at Bundall. Before co-founding Ontrack Thoroughbreds with Grant, Jenny had extensive work experience in the Superannuation and Life Insurance industries after completing a Bachelor of Arts.



BRIAN LAWLOR

(Sales Consultant, Ontrack Racing Tours)

Brian Lawlor is widely experienced in the New Zealand racing industry and now resides on the Gold Coast. Brian's racing resume includes roles with Radio New Zealand, New Zealand Truth and the Wellington Jockey Club. He was also extensively involved in New Zealand Central Districts clubs in various positions. Holding a lifelong passion for racing and breeding, Brian has been working with Ontrack Thoroughbreds since 2009.



GOURMET MEALS & WINE TASTING

FEATURE DINNERS

During the tour the group will experience two feature dinners (2+ courses & beer, wine, inclusive):



The Wood, Brokenwood Wines

The Wood Restaurant, by renowned local hospitality duo, Andrew and Janet Wright, offers a contemporary fine dining experience with a strong focus on seafood. The 90 seat restaurant features a large display of fresh seafood from the Sydney Fish Markets, all of which is available for retail along with condiments, Normandy fish stew, oyster knives and a verjuice made by Brokenwood. The Wood is located at the new Brokenwood Wines cellar door. Established in 1970 Brokenwood Wines is one of Australia's most reputable premium wine labels and a must-visit in the Hunter Valley. Consistently listed as a 5 star winery, Brokenwood is home to the famous Graveyard Vineyard Shiraz, the highly acclaimed ILR Reserve Semillon, and the popular Cricket Pitch Range.

Private Dinner, Mercure Hunter Valley Gardens



On the final night of the tour the group will enjoy a private dinner and beverage package in a very cosy private room. This will give the group an opportunity to relive a fabulous tour and plan for your next horse adventure!

WINE TASTING

Enjoy Cellar Door tasting at several wineries located within walking distance of your accommodation including:

McGuigan



Brokenwood



ACCOMMODATION



The Mercure Resort Hunter Valley Gardens is situated in the heart of the Hunter Valley Wine Country and is located on the most prominent corner within the Hunter Valley.

MERCURE RESORT HUNTER VALLEY GARDENS

Comprising of 72 guest rooms, the Mercure Resort Hunter Valley Gardens offers an indulgent selection of 4½ star accommodation designed to allow our guests to enjoy the ambience of relaxed luxury. Each room is beautifully appointed and opens out to a private balcony or courtyard, taking in the wonderful valley views and magnificent gardens surrounding the property.

Guests can avail themselves of our tennis courts, resort-style swimming pool, sauna, spa, the Lodge library and many other facilities including the Hunter Valley Gardens Village and the spectacular display gardens. All rooms have reverse cycle air-conditioning, refrigerator, mini bar, tea and coffee making facilities, remote controlled television, in-house videos, iron and ironing board, hair dryer and international direct-dial telephones.



Studio Rooms

(Twin Share & Single Share)

The tour package offers accommodation in Studio Rooms (twin share and single share).

Beautifully appointed and spacious, the Studio Room boasts contemporary design with natural, muted colour tones. Studio Rooms are available in king or twin bedding configurations and also feature a private balcony.

Room Upgrades

Room Upgrades are available to Superior Rooms, Deluxe Rooms and Suites. Contact us for further information on room upgrades.



STUD TOURS & STALLION PARADES

NEWGATE FARM

The new force in the Hunter Valley. Newgate Farm was founded by the youthful Henry Field (ex Coolmore & Darley Flying Start) in 2010 with only a handful of mares on a 250 acre leased property. Today, Newgate is one of the leading farms in Australia encompassing 1,000 acres of prime Hunter Valley land. With a foundation based upon quality bloodstock and quality people, Newgate has flourished.

COOLMORE STUD

The Irish owned Coolmore Stud has been a dominant force in stallions throughout the world. Coolmore Stud is located at Jerry's Plains, close to the town of Denman in the upper Hunter Valley. Whilst many of its stallions shuttle from the Northern Hemisphere, its leading commercial stallion is the homebred Fastnet Rock (by Danehill).

ARROWFIELD STUD

Arrowfield Stud is located in the heart of breeding country near Scone. It is home to leading sire Redoute's Choice. The Arrowfield racing colours have been carried to glory on numerous occasions at the top level. Arrowfield Stud is headed by the influential John Messara.

YARRAMAN PARK STUD

Yarraman Park has been owned by the Mitchell family since 1968 and is managed by brothers Arthur and Harry Mitchell. Both Arthur and Harry are hands on all year round and are both highly experienced horsemen who bring a lifetime of international and local experience to the stud along with vast worldwide contracts.

VINERY STUD

Vinery Stud is managed by expert horseman Peter Orton, a former right hand man to John Messara at Arrowfield Stud. Vinery Stud is owned by a consortium of businessmen which includes Gerry Harvey. The property was formerly known as Segenhoe Stud, and is the Southern Hemisphere home to top stallion More Than Ready.

DARLEY STUD

Owned by Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Darley is one of the world forces in breeding in racing; it stands stallions in six countries of the world. The home of the Darley stallions in the Hunter Valley is the historic Kelvinside property at Aberdeen. In 2008 the Darley operation purchased the massive Woodlands Stud operation from the Ingham family, signalling its intention to dominate racing and breeding in the Southern Hemisphere.

KIA ORA STUD

Kia Ora Stud boasts a rich heritage in the Hunter Valley and has been reborn in more recent times. First established in 1914, the property was run by the three Miller brothers. The Kia Ora brand still pays homage to the Millers today. Kia Ora re-entered the stallion business in 2020, whilst it set about developing a showpiece stallion farm across from the original property.



Capitalist



Snitzel



Farman



So You Think



I Am Invincible



All To Hard

SUMMARY ITINERARY

Sunday 30 March 2025 (Day 1)

Afternoon: Arrive Mercure Hunter Valley Gardens Check in 2pm
Free Time for wine tasting, shopping etc
Dinner: The Wood, Brokenwood Wines
2 course & house beverages inclusive



Monday 31 March 2025 (Day 2)

Breakfast: Mercure Hunter Valley Gardens
Morning: Yarraman Park Stud - Stallion Parade & Stud Tour
Lunch: Belmore Hotel, Scone
Afternoon: Arrowfield Stud - Stallion Parade & Stud Tour
Wine Tasting & Chees Boards – Two Rivers Wines, Denman
Evening/Dinner: Free Time – Own Arrangements



Tuesday 1 April 2025 (Day 3)

Breakfast: Mercure Hunter Valley Gardens
Morning: Kia Ora Stud – Stallion Parade & Stud Tour
Vinery Stud – Stallion Parade & Stud Tour
Lunch: The Thoroughbred, Scone
Afternoon: Darley Godolphin Kelvinside, Aberdeen
Evening/Dinner: Free



Wednesday 2 April 2025 (Day 4)

Breakfast: Mercure Hunter Valley Gardens
Morning: Newgate Farm – Stallion Parade & Stud Tour
Lunch: Vines at Hollydene Estate, Jerrys Plains
Afternoon: Coolmore Stud – Stallion Parade & Stud Tour
Evening: Private Room Dinner, Mercure Hunter Valley Gardens
2 Course meal & house beverages

Thursday 3 April 2025 (Day 5)

Breakfast: Mercure Hunter Valley Gardens
Morning: Check out



WINE TASTING & FEATURE LUNCHES

Belmore Hotel, Scone (Lunch)

The beautiful Belmore Hotel in Scone dates back to 1866. Scone's oldest operating hotel, we will enjoy lunch at this character filled pub. Of course if you need a bet, the Belmore comes well equipped with Sky Channel and Pub Tab !



The Thoroughbred, Scone (Lunch)

As the name suggests, The Thoroughbred is all about the horse. Our group enjoys a light lunch at The Thoroughbred, which is located in the heart of Scone. The Thoroughbred boasts a rich collection of racing and breeding memorabilia which will keep you fascinated whilst taking in a cold beer or wine over lunch.



Vines at Hollydene Estate (Lunch)

Located next door to Coolmore Stud, the group will enjoy lunch at the beautiful Vines at Hollydene Estate. You can also sample the lovely wines available at the cellar door which also includes a wide range of craft beer.



Two Rivers Wines, Denman (Wine Tasting & Cheese Boards)

Boasting a lovely range of locally sourced wines, Two Rivers Wines at Denman is always a popular end to a day of horse watching. Our group will enjoy tasting of the full Two Rivers range, together with some delicious local cheese and nibbles as the sun goes down over the scenic Hunter Valley



PRICES

We offer guests Fly or Drive Yourself Land Only Packages for the Hunter Valley Horse & Wine Tour.

Arrange Your Own Flights

Arrange your own flights flying to Newcastle Airport. Regular daily flights are available from major commercial carriers including Virgin, Jetstar and Qantas. This enables guests to take advantage of frequent flyer points. You can also add your own personal itinerary before or after our tour to make the most of your visit to the Hunter Valley. Ask us about recommended flights and transfer options to fit with the tour.

Drive Yourself

A popular way of seeing more of the Hunter Valley is by driving yourself. Pokolbin Valley is located around hours from Sydney (or approximately 165km).

PRICES

Fly or Drive Yourself Packages – Land Only.

Twin Share	\$2,274 pp inc GST
Single Share	\$2,724 pp inc GST

BOOKING

This tour is subject to the terms and conditions stated on the 2025 HUNTER VALLEY HORSE & WINE "STALLION" TOUR booking form. To reserve your place on this special tour please complete and sign the booking form and forward to:



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