



Canberra Region Two Day Itinerary

Base yourself in Canberra to explore the many treasures of the surrounding regions, which offers world-class arts and crafts, historic villages, stunning nature and gourmet delights, no more than an hours drive from Canberra.

Here you will discover Canberra region cool climate wines that are now receiving worldwide recognition. There are 140 vineyards with more than 30 cellar doors in the peaceful rural countryside around Canberra. The district's vineyards produce all the varieties you would expect from a premium wine region.

DAY 1

Crisp Galleries - Bowing near Yass

Visit the Crisp Galleries on the Hume Highway near Bowing. Set in beautiful gardens the gallery is about a 45 minute drive from Canberra. See the stunning work of world renowned glass artist Peter Crisp, whose tableware's are sold in Barneys New York. Explore the wonderful lavender gift gallery, which sells a range of special gifts and interesting antiques. www.petercrisp.com.au

Minimum time recommended: 30 minutes

Distance from city centre: 60km

Open: 10am-5pm daily

Free general admission

Helm Wines - Murrumbateman

Established in 1973 this winery has produced trophy winning Rieslings and some of the districts top Cabernets. The tasting room is an 1888 historic school house in a beautiful valley. Tour the cellar, barrel room and processing area. www.helmwines.com.au

Minimum time recommended: 30 minutes

Distance from city centre: 40km

Open: 10am-5pm Thursday to Monday including public holidays

Jeir Creek Wines - Murrumbateman

Winemaker Rob Howell is winemaker for 10 district wineries and has a 100 tonne winery producing 5000 cases of his own wines from a 10 hectare vineyard which he planted in 1984. Varieties produced include Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Cabernet Merlot, Shiraz, Pinot Noir and Botrytis Semillon Sauvignon Blanc. Winery Tours, picnic facilities and cellar door sales are all available at Jeir Creek Wines. www.jeircreekwines.com.au

Minimum time recommended: 30 minutes

Distance from city centre: 40km

Open: 10am-5pm Thursday to Monday including public holidays

Lunch at Poachers Pantry Smokehouse Café - Hall

Visit Poachers Pantry for a complete gourmet experience. On arrival, step up to the rustic tasting bar to try the large range of products smoked on the premises, including smoked chicken, kangaroo, emu, pork, tomatoes, garlic and more. You can also taste wines from their Wily Trout label as you try the smoked goods.

Spare the time to sit down to a delectable lunch in the Smokehouse Café, with a menu featuring smoked goods from the Poachers Pantry range. Located in a beautifully restored 1930s weatherboard farm cottage, Poachers Pantry is a must-see during a day spent exploring the surrounding wine region. www.poacherspantry.com.au

Minimum time recommended: 1.5 hours

Distance from city centre: 30km

Open: Brunch on Saturday and Sunday from 10am plus lunch on Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 12pm

Geranium House Sustainable Day Spa - Hall

Located a short drive from Canberra, Geranium House is set on 135 acres near Hall with magnificent views of the surrounding countryside. Geranium House, a sanctuary from the stresses of everyday life, has one simple goal - to improve the way you feel about yourself. Relax in the hydrotherapy tub with bath, steam and Vichy shower. Choose from intensive skin treatments, facials, masks and pedicures or you indulge yourself with an all over aromatherapy body massage or body polish. www.geraniumhouse.com.au

Minimum time recommended: 2 hours

Distance from city centre: 30km

Open: 9:30am-4:30pm Monday to Saturday. Sunday and public holidays by appointment only

Dinner at Café Schonegg - Murrumbateman

Enjoy innovative dishes produced fresh with flair by your hosts, Evelyn and Richard, both talented chefs. Cafe Schonegg is set on 8 rural hectares in the heart of the Murrumbateman wine region. Enjoy easy parking, wide open spaces, uninterrupted views and there's plenty of space for the kids to fly a kite or kick the footy.

www.schonegg.com.au/cafe.html

Distance from city centre: 40km

Open: Afternoon tea from 12pm-4pm on Saturday, Sunday and public holidays. Dinner from 7pm-11pm Friday and Saturdays.

DAY 2

Bison Australia Design Studio - Pialligo

Bison artisan's hand-craft beautiful home wares that are sold in galleries around the world and featured in magazines such as *Gourmet Traveller* and *Vogue Entertaining and Interiors*. Inspired by owner, Brian Tunks' work on ancient archaeological excavations in the Middle East, each Bison piece combines classic form, intelligent design, quality materials and careful hand-crafting.

www.bisonhome.com

Minimum time recommended: 30 minutes

Distance from city centre: 10km

Open: 10am-4:30pm daily

Explore Bungendore Village

The thriving village of Bungendore, a pleasant 40 minute drive from Canberra city, offers a surprising mix of delights, including small but eclectic markets at the weekends, bookstores, cafes, leatherworks, gift shops, antique stores and preserved heritage buildings.

Minimum time recommended: 1 hour

Distance from city centre: 35km

Bungendore Wood Works Gallery - Bungendore

Bungendore Wood Works Gallery specialises in exhibiting and promoting Australian made wood art, sculpture, craft and contemporary furniture of a very high standard from the country's foremost designer/makers in wood. The Gallery is a multi-tourism award winning attraction open every day situated just 30 minutes by road from Canberra, Australia's National Capital.

www.bwoodworks.com.au

Minimum time recommended: 30 minutes

Distance from city centre: 35km

Open: 9am-5pm daily

Lunch at Le Tres Bon - Bungendore

A taste of France in Bungendore. The menu takes you on a tour of France's gastronomic regions matched with local and imported wines. Take your time and enjoy the relaxed ambience.

www.letresbon.com.au

Distance from city centre: 35km

Open: Wednesday to Saturday lunch and dinner. Sundays dinner only.

Lambert Vineyards - Wamboin

This striking winery, cellar door and restaurant overlooks the vines from its raised location. There are lovely views over the vineyard from the outside deck, a cosy lounge area with open fire, a popular tasting bar and a viewing area of the working winery below.

Established in 1991, Lambert Vineyards has 18,000 vines over 7.5 hectares with varieties including Chardonnay, Riesling, Cabernet Merlot, Shiraz and a special reserve Shiraz.

www.lambertvineyards.com.au

Minimum time recommended: 30 minutes

Distance from city centre: 30km

Open: 10am-5pm Friday to Sunday including public holidays

Lerida Estate Wines - Lake George

Located alongside the mysterious Lake George, making it a good stopover on the journey from Sydney to Canberra, the tasting room and adjoining courtyard enjoy superb views over the often dry lake. The owners gained inspiration from larger wineries in Australia, France, and Italy, and have incorporated ideas from each country.

www.leridaestate.com

Minimum time recommended: 30 minutes

Distance from city centre: 45km

Open: Vineyard open 10am-5pm daily and the café is open Saturday, Sunday and public holidays

Dinner at Grazing - Gundaroo

Grazing resides in Gundaroo's Royal Hotel, a beautifully refurbished 1865 country pub. The chef, Tom Moore, brings bold and innovative flavours to the menu with an emphasis on seasonal and organic food, showcasing local produce such as yabbies, beef from nearby Bungendore and locally farmed silver perch. The extensive wine list features only Canberra labels.

www.grazing.com.au

Distance from city centre: 30km

Open: Dinner on Thursday to Saturday and lunch on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and public holidays