

bike

Breathe in the fresh air while cycling the Warburton rail trail, then soothe the body and soul at the Amaranth Yarra Valley. The Eco Stay & Cycle package, \$349 per person, includes one night's accommodation, bike hire, brekkie, dinner and a massage. Visit www.amarantyarra.com.au.



EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT...

LOCAL GEMS



kayak

Glide past pelicans and over shipwrecks on a Lazy Paddles kayaking tour of the Great Lakes region in northern NSW (www.lazypaddles.com.au). Overnight at the Bombah Point Eco Cottages, then make for the Gibraltar Range National Park further north. Visit www.bombah.com.au.



walk

Make your way to the NSW Central Coast to take on the picturesque, convict-built Old Great North Walk, which spans 43km over rolling green hills. Bed down at Price Morris Cottage in St Albans (www.pricemorris.com.au) or drift off on a houseboat on the Hawkesbury River (www.hawkesburyhouseboats.com.au).

see

Head to the Apple Isle to celebrate the January 22 opening of the much-anticipated Museum of Old and New Art (MONA). Located at Moorilla Estate, 15 minutes from Hobart, MONA will showcase owner David Walsh's private collection, including works by Sir Sidney Nolan, Jake and Dinos Chapman, and Jenny Saville. Stay on theme at The Henry Jones Art Hotel in Hobart. Call 1800 420 155.



See Deidre O'Callaghan's *Grinderman* at the MONA FOMA exhibition.

REVEL IN THE ENERGY OF SUMMER WITH AN ENTERTAINMENT-PACKED GETAWAY

Refresh and unwind before the Christmas madness with a weekend at the boutique Woodbyne hotel, just outside Berry in NSW. A converted schoolhouse, it's perfectly decorated in soothing, neutral tones. There's a plunge pool, landscaped gardens and you're a short skip from the popular Berry Woodfired Sourdough Bakery at 23 Prince Alfred Street. Or, pick up a gift or two at the beautiful Roots and Wings store on Queen Street. Visit www.woodbyne.com.au.



escape



eat

Head to Victoria's Phillip Island for a workshop at Spice Island cooking school. Upcoming classes include Spanish Tapas, Paella and Sangria (Dec 11) and Contemporary Chinese (Jan 15). Over the course of four hours, you'll prepare and enjoy a gourmet meal. Stay at the luxurious studios onsite. Call (03) 5956 7557 or visit www.spiceisland.com.au.